
Crète – September 17 – 21, 2007

Cultural Production and Symbolic Order

Nationalisation, colonisation, transnationalisation

Coordination: Johan Heilbron and Gisèle Sapiro

Processes of cultural production and diffusion play a major role in the construction of collective identities and social hierarchies. While these processes cement the unity of groups, whether classes or sub-classes, national or regional cultures, or religious communities, they also participate in exercising symbolic violence. The third summer school organised by the ESSE network will take up questions pertaining to the function of culture in the production and reproduction of the symbolic order. In a period of ‘globalisation’, these issues imply an analysis of the international circulation of cultural goods, as well as their participation in the construction of a global symbolic order. In order to bring to light the new modes of cultural production and circulation that are at stake, various contexts of cultural contact will be examined. These contexts include (but are not limited to) forced contacts such as territorial occupations and colonial situations, cultural exchanges within the framework of international relations between states, and commercial relations within and between markets for cultural goods (books, paintings, disks, etc.). What are the predominant modes of production and circulation of cultural representations and of classification systems within these different contexts? Which cultural goods are more likely to circulate and become dominant? How do they participate in the destruction of local cultures and the imposition of a new symbolic order? What forms of resistance do those who are excluded oppose to symbolic domination?

Languages: English and French

Application schedule:

December 15th, 2006: opening applications for the 2007 summer school

February 15th, 2007: closing applications

May 1st, 2007: applications selected