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DEADLINE
22 MAR 2021

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Central European Summer University - Commoning Art and Culture - apply now



The Central European Summer University in Budapest announces the 'Commoning Art and Culture' summer course (to be held online, 19-29 June 2021) and invites applications from academics, students and professionals engaged in commoning practices in the field of culture.

This course asks how and why art and open societies have sustained each other across history, and how they may continue to do so beyond the crisis they jointly undergo in the current context of rapid technological, economic and political transformation. While focusing more specifically on artistic production, on its present crisis, and its possible futures, this course puts art in the broader perspective of the history of cultural production, and of its social, political and economic conditions of possibility at the modern intersection of state and market. Instrumental in this project is the conceptual lens of the “common(s),” a notion that has always been defining cultural production in the modern era in one way or another (as a common good, as a public good, as a human right, e.g.); one, however, that has recently gained new meanings and dramatic currency since the digital turn in media and the financial turn in economics. Digitization and financialization, commodify, segment, and often alienate ever larger segments of our private lives and democratic public spheres. In response to these threats, theories of the commons and practices of commoning coming from the digital and art worlds are transforming the goals and means of art, politics, and economics on the margins of the old state-market infrastructure.

The course represents a unique endeavor to illuminate the social origins and history, the symbolic meanings, the achievements, and the sustainability of practices and theories of cultural commons and commoning, old and new, collecting knowledge both from scholarship that is well established but scattered across academic niches (media, law, art, critical theory), and from recent advances of practical knowledge, real but poorly known, debated and publicized. The course is based on the involvement of researchers and practitioners and aims to collect a pool of knowledge on practices and theories of commoning and commons in the field of culture with the active participation of the students and teachers of the summer university.

We invite applications from academics (graduate students, postdocs, researchers, junior faculty) as well as from professionals (artists, entrepreneurs, community activists, civil society organizers) engaged in commoning practices in the field of culture. We also encourage applications from advanced undergraduate students who have adequate prior study or engagement experience on the subject and make a compelling case in their

application/statement of interest.

Deadline for applications: 22 March 2021

Pre-requisites

Knowledge in substantive issues in the professional world of art & culture & social activism / background in social science.

Language requirement

The language of instruction is English, thus all applicants have to demonstrate a strong command of spoken and written English to be able to participate actively in discussions at seminars and workshops. Some of the shortlisted applicants may be contacted for a telephone interview.

Please see website/contact organisers for details of fees payable by selected participants.

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