



## CRITICAL THEORY WORKSHOP ATELIER DE THÉORIE CRITIQUE

**Sorbonne**

**Paris, France**

**Summer Program**

**[www.criticaltheoryworkshop.com](http://www.criticaltheoryworkshop.com)**

**Villanova University, Department of Philosophy**

*in collaboration with*

Université Paris Descartes—Sorbonne

Laboratoire mixte de recherche “Sens et compréhension du monde

contemporain” (Université Paris Descartes/Institut Mines-Télécom)

Collège International de Philosophie

### **Program Director**

Gabriel Rockhill <[gabriel.rockhill@villanova.edu](mailto:gabriel.rockhill@villanova.edu)>

### **Overview**

The Critical Theory Workshop or Atelier de Théorie Critique is a research program that takes place every July in Paris, France. The primary objective of the Workshop is to provide an international forum for interdisciplinary and comparative work in critical theory, in the broadest sense of the term. Participants are exposed to the work of contemporary thinkers and engage with current debates in the Francophone world.

The Workshop, which takes place at the Sorbonne in central Paris, does not follow the traditional structure of a course, with exegetical lectures, assignments and grades. Instead, it functions as a collaborative platform for the sharing and perfecting of autonomous research projects. It is comprised of three components: *i*) a research forum on a specific topic in which “*recherches en cours*” are presented and discussed *ii*) a series of public *rencontres*, or debates and discussions with prominent or emerging intellectuals *iii*) working groups in which each participant workshops a specific research project in consultation with other participants. The last two components—unlike the research forum—are not organized around a specific yearly theme.

The language of instruction is English, but some of the activities take place in French with English summary translations. Therefore, it is highly recommended that applicants have a working knowledge of the French language, which will be important for analyzing original texts in the research forum and understanding the nuances of the activities that will take place in French with English translations.

### **Additional Information**

[www.criticaltheoryworkshop.com](http://www.criticaltheoryworkshop.com)

# CRITICAL THEORY WORKSHOP 2015

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Director: Gabriel Rockhill <gabriel.rockhill@villanova.edu>  
Dates: July 1-31, 2015  
Location: Sorbonne, 1 rue Victor Cousin, Paris, France  
Program Fee: \$450 for tenure-track and tenured faculty  
\$300 for applicants who are not tenure-track or tenured faculty  
Partial tuition remission is available in certain cases  
Languages: English and French (the program is organized for Anglophones, but at least minimal French will allow participants to engage more profoundly with the material)  
Eligibility: The program is open to anyone with the requisite background, including advanced undergraduates, graduate students, postdocs, autodidacts and faculty

## COMPONENTS

The Workshop will consist of three independent components:

### Research Forum

#### *Revolutions Past, Present, Future*

The research forum is a platform for exploring and discussing contemporary work on a specific topic. It will include research presentations in English by Gabriel Rockhill on the topic of "Revolutions Past, Present, Future," as well as two round tables in French with English translations: "*Qu'est-ce que la socio-philosophie?*" (Alice Canabate, Pierre-Antoine Chardel and Gabriel Rockhill) and "*Crise et critique aujourd'hui*" (Marie Goupy and Gabriel Rockhill).

### *Rencontres, or Encounters with Contemporary Thinkers*

The *Rencontres*, or Encounters series will provide an opportunity to publicly interview contemporary intellectuals on their work (which does not necessarily correspond to the theme of the Research Forum). As preparation, we will read select essays by the authors in question and collectively generate a series of questions for public discussion and debate. Invited guests will generally fall into three categories: prominent living philosophers, well-known specialists of contemporary Francophone thought, and important thinkers whose work has not yet been widely translated into English. The invited guests for 2015 include Amy Allen, Seloua Luste Boulbina, Geneviève Fraisse, Pierre Macherey and Judith Revel.

### Working Groups

Each participant will work on an independent research project during the month, which can be an article, a chapter, a lecture, a dissertation proposal, an artistic work or any other creative or intellectual project. Participants will then present their work and provide feedback on other projects in working groups. The overall goal will thus be to develop and potentially finalize an autonomous research project, which does not need to be related to the theme of the Research Forum.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

Website: <http://criticaltheoryworkshop.com>

The application form, which is due February 15, 2015, is available here:

<http://criticaltheoryworkshop.com/apply/>