

Program Summer School

Perspectives on Cultural Pluralism. Canada and Beyond.

June 28 – July 3, 2015
University of Groningen

Participating Faculties and Centres

Faculty of Arts
Faculty of Spatial Sciences
Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies
Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences
Centre for Canadian Studies
Arctic Centre

Organizers

Dr. Jeanette den Toonder (academic coordinator)
Dr. Kim van Dam
Dr. Bettina van Hoven
Dr. Erin Wilson

Coordinator

Fjære van der Stok (BA)

Invited speakers

Prof. dr. Lori Beaman (University of Ottawa, Canada Research Chair in the Contextualization of Religion in a Diverse Canada, Department of Classics and Religious Studies)
Prof. dr. Lawrence Berg (University of British Columbia, Research Chair for Human Rights, Diversity and Identity)
Prof. dr. Sabine Otten (University of Groningen, Intergroup Relations and Social Integration)
Dr. Ira Wagman (Carleton University, Communication Studies program, School of Journalism and Communication)
Dr. Tamara Witschge (University of Groningen, Research Centre for Media and Journalism Studies)

Practical information

Application deadline: 1 May 2015
Fees: € 450 (including housing); € 250 (no housing included)
Credits/Certificate: 2 EC (+ certificate of attendance)
More information and application: www.rug.nl/summerschools
canstudy@rug.nl

Description

In today's plural societies, manifestations of cultural diversity are of great interest to many different academic disciplines. In this summer school, issues of diversity and equality, migration and minorities, intergroup relations and identities will be examined from different perspectives. Scholars from religious studies, cultural geography, social psychology, journalism, media studies and arctic studies will discuss the current state of affairs in their fields of study, resulting in comparisons between them.

Within these discussions, special attention will be paid to the Canadian case. Canada has considered diversity a national asset since the 1970s and is proud of its cultural mosaic. If the Canadian model is often used as an example for other plural societies, it has also been argued that it fails to address the structural inequalities inherited from Canada's colonial past, thus upholding white dominance. In the different sessions, we will also address these problems and consider new concepts for sustainable diverse societies.

DAY 1 – June 28

Arrival and welcome

14.00-16.00: City Tour

16.00-17.30: Welcoming reception (Feithhuis, Martinikerkhof 10, Groningen)

DAY 2 – June 29

10.00-10.30

Welcome by representatives of the University of Groningen and the Canadian Embassy in The Hague

10.30-12.00

Introduction: Perspectives on Cultural Pluralism in Canada by members of the Centre for Canadian Studies, University of Groningen

12.00-13.30

Lunch break

13.30-15.00

Dr. Erin Wilson - Key concepts in political philosophy and religious studies on religion and public life

15.00-15.30

Tea / coffee break

15.30-17.00

Discussion of key concepts in political philosophy and religious studies on religion and public life based on literature prepared by the students / student presentations (Dr. Erin Wilson and Prof. dr. Lori Beaman)

DAY 3 – June 30

9.00-10.30

Prof. dr. Lori Beaman – Religious diversity in Canada

10.30-11.00

Coffee / tea break

11.00-12.00

Prof. dr. Lori Beaman – Religious diversity in Canada

12.00-13.30

Lunch break

13.30-15.00

Discussion of Religious diversity in Canada based on literature prepared by the students / student presentations (Prof. dr. Lori Beaman and Dr. Erin Wilson)

15.00-15.30

Tea / coffee break

15.30-17.00

Documentary: Zarqa Nawaz, "Me and the Mosque", 2005

DAY 4 – July 1

9.00-10.30

Dr. Kim van Dam – Nunavut culture and identity: The creation of Nunavut and the role of Inuit culture and identity // 15 Years after: issues and challenges

10.30-11.00

Coffee / tea break

11.00-12.00

Dr. Bettina van Hoven – Place, Politics and Aboriginal People: The Northern Gateway Pipeline issue

Introduction and viewing of Video *SPOIL* (<http://vimeo.com/19582018>)

12.00-13.30

Lunch break

13.30-15.00

Students prepare and present case studies (Dr. Kim van Dam and Dr. van Hoven)

15.00-17.00

Excursion (Groninger Museum)

DAY 5 – July 2

9.00-9.30

Prof. dr. Lawrence Berg and Prof. dr. Sabine Otten: Introduction

9.30-10.30

Prof. dr. Lawrence Berg – Geography, Neoliberalism, and White Supremacy

10.30-11.00

Coffee / tea break

11.00-12.00

Prof. dr. Sabine Otten – Cultural diversity and social integration

12.15-13.30

Lunch break

13.30-15.30

Students prepare and present case studies

15.30-16.00

Coffee / tea break

16.00-17.00

Prof. dr. Lawrence Berg – Ethics, Hegemonic Whiteness, and the Contested Imagination of 'Aboriginal Community' in Social Science Research in Canada

18.00

Dinner

DAY 6 – July 3

9.00-10.30

Dr. Ira Wagman – Media industries in the digital age // Media and Minorities

10.30-11.00

Coffee / tea break

11.00-12.00

Dr. Tamara Witschge – Equality, diversity and the public debate on immigration in contemporary media

12.00-13.30

Lunch break

13.30-17.00

Multi media activities (Dr. Ira Wagman and Dr. Tamara Witschge)

17.00

Closure and departure