



THE CEU SUMMER UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES THE COURSE

*“Cultural Learning, Imitation, and Articraft Understanding:
A Comparative Perspective”*

July 4 - 15, 2005

Budapest, Hungary

Course Director:

György Gergely, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Developmental Research Institute for Psychological Research, Budapest, **Joseph Call**, Max-Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology

Faculty:

Paul Bloom, Yale University, Department of Psychology, **Malinda Carpenter**, Max-Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, **Gergely Csibra**, Centre for Brain and Cognitive Development, School of Psychology, Birkbeck College, **Tim German**, University of California, Department of Psychology, **Ádám Miklósi**, ELTE, Department of Ethology, **Csaba Pléh**, University of Szeged, Department of General Psychology, **Johannes Roessler**, University of Warwick, Department of Philosophy, **Luca Surian**, University of Trieste, Department of Psychology, **József Topál**, ELTE, Department of Ethology

BRIEF COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of the summer school is to survey recent theoretical models (coming from memetics, cultural theory, evolutionary psychology, developmental psychology of social and causal cognition, comparative ethology, cognitive neuroscience and philosophy of mind) and empirical work on imitative learning vs. emulation learning in humans as well as in different animal species (such as non-human primates, birds, domesticated dogs, and wolves). The course will provide an interdisciplinary overview of some of the puzzles raised by cultural phenomena and the related empirical and theoretical considerations that led to different theoretical proposals concerning the nature and role of imitation vs. other forms of social learning in the transmission and stabilization of cultural forms in humans versus other animal species.

The other major focus of the course will be on the origins and nature of understanding artifacts in terms of functions and physical-causal affordances in non-human versus human cultures and development, the development of understanding the 'design stance' and its relation to naive essentialism in categorization, and to naive teleo-functionalism in understanding goal-directed actions and artifact use in early childhood.



The Summer University was established in 1996 and is aiming to involve a high-level international faculty (including CEU faculty), and excellent advanced doctoral students, junior or post-doctoral researchers, teachers and professionals as participants. While application from all over the world is encouraged, continued priority is given to applicants from Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union and countries experiencing emerging democracies worldwide. Applicants from these countries, when admitted on merit, will be eligible for scholarship, while those from developed countries will usually be expected to pay fees.

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Application deadline: February 14, 2005.

Further information on the course (detailed course description, faculty CVs, etc.), on eligibility criteria and funding options available at <http://www.ceu.hu/sun>

Non-discrimination policy statement

Central European University does not discriminate on the basis of – including, but not limited to – race, color, national and ethnic origin, religion, gender or sexual orientation in administering its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.