The CEU Summer University announces the course

CULTURE AND COGNITION

JULY 4 – 12, 2007, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

Course Director:
György Gergely, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Developmental Research;
Dan Sperber, Institut Jean Nicod, CNRS, EHESS and ENS, France

Faculty:
Rita Astuti, Reader in Social Anthropology, London School of Economy, Department of Anthropology; Maurice Bloch, Professor in Anthropology, London School of Economy, Department of Anthropology; Pascal Boyer, Henry Luce Professor of Individual and Collective Memory, Sociocultural Anthropology and Psychology, Washington University; Susan Carey, Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, Harvard University; Gergely Csibra, Professor of Psychology, Birkbeck, University of London; Daniel M. T. Fessler, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles; Lawrence Hirschfeld, Professor of anthropology and psychology, New School for Social Research, New York; Pierre Jacob, Directeur de Recherche, Institut Jean Nicod, CNRS/EHESS/ENS, Paris; Deborah Kelemen, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Boston University

Course Discussants:
Ned Block, Professor of Philosophy, NYU Department of Philosophy; Mihály Bródy, Dsc., Research Professor, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Research Institute for Linguistics, Department of Theoretical Linguistics; Farkas Katalin, Assistant Professor, Central European University, Department of Philosophy; Csaba Pléh, Chair, and founder, Department of Cognitive Science, Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BUTE)

BRIEF COURSE DESCRIPTION

The summer course is aimed at providing a state-of-the-art cutting-edge scientific and research-oriented training for post-doctoral young researchers and highly promising pre-doctoral students from European and overseas universities and research institutes on the nature of the relationship between culture and cognition.

The course will concentrate on recent theoretical and empirical advances in the scientific study of the role that evolved domain-specific cognitive adaptations such as peripheral and central modular and core knowledge systems of the mind play in explaining the emergence, transmission, and stabilization as well as the variability and universal aspects of cultural phenomena across different societies and cultural environments.

These issues will be explored from an interdisciplinary perspective that integrates several different, but partially overlapping fields of knowledge and scientific inquiry including anthropology, ethnology, evolutionary and developmental psychology, cognitive science, linguistics, theories of communication, cross-cultural and comparative approaches to human and nonhuman culture and cultural learning, philosophy of mind, cognitive archeology, etc. The course will be taught by a faculty consisting of internationally acknowledged leading experts of these fields of inquiry from a variety of European countries (France, England, Hungary) as well as from the United States.

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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Further information on the course and on eligibility criteria and funding options is available at
http://www.sun.ceu.hu

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