

PhD Position 2021

Subject: *The role of mediations in the circulation of images from the past of the European Union*

Location: Laboratoire Sic.Lab, EUR CREATES, Université Côte d'Azur, 86 bd Edouard Herriot - 06200 Nice

École Doctorale: Société, Humanités, Arts et Lettres

Duration of the contract: 36 months.

Start of the thesis: February/March 2021

Keywords

Media studies, digital studies, Europe, Television, Web, archives, digital humanities, documents, information and communication sciences, semiotics

Background

The PhD is part of the research project *Crossing Borders Archives. Les migrations des images du passé de l'Union Européenne* funded by ANR (2021-2024) in collaboration with the Institut national de l'audiovisuel, Rai Teche, Mediaset, the University of Luxembourg and the Catholic University of Milan.

Abstract

CROBORA studies how archive material circulates in the mediaspace. Digitization facilitates this flow of content among various states, technical, social and cultural contexts. Mediations act as borders in the migratory movement of contents: they allow circulation while bringing reshaping and adjustments. We will interrogate how semiotic reshaping occurs while crossing these borders. CROBORA will track and analyze the reuse of videos on TV and on the Web focusing on content dealing with European Integration. The objective is to understand the logics of authority and trust. In order to understand the symbolic force of certain images, we will question the importance of massive recurrences. Why are some images used instead of others? Where do they come from? Our fieldwork provides a transnational and transmedia corpus, while our methodology will implement video detection tools and will provide a Digital Atlas Mnemosyné of images about EU which will allow comparative analysis in order to understand how the videos are reshaped by different contexts.

Objectives of the thesis

The general objective of the thesis is to understand the logics governing the circulation of audiovisual archives in the media space (Web and television). Which archives are reused by the media in order to tell the construction of the European Union? Why do certain images circulate more than others? How do symbolic figures emerge? In order to understand the circulatory logics of Europe's visual memories, the first objective of the thesis is the constitution of a corpus of audiovisual archives. At the end of the collection, the results will have to be filtered and their metadata homogenized. Analyses based on digital methods will have to lead to a real update of media theories through the prism of the repetitive phenomena of audiovisual contents.

The research project is based on an interdisciplinary field, where the methods of collection and analysis of digital humanities will be used together with semiotic and aesthetic theories of the image.

The objectives of the thesis and the methods used will be adapted according to the profile of the candidate.

The candidate's activities will include the following:

- taking part in the doctoral training programme;
- contributing actively to the global research project;
- contribute actively to the scientific life of the department

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Methods

The candidate will collect data using textual research through international databases (Ina, Rai Teche, Web archives...) and will use a video detection software. Analyses will be based on quantitative methods using a visualization platform. An ethnographic research will have to determine the role of socioprofessional mediations in the paths of audiovisual contents.

Context

The PhD candidate will mainly work in Nice, France. Presence on site is required. Frequent travel is also required.

Profile

Master's Degree in Media Studies, Semiotics, Information and Documentation Sciences, Visual Studies, Aesthetics, History, Digital Humanities.

Excellent academic record.

Skills in the field of digital methods applied to human sciences. Ethnographic methodology may be a plus.

Application

The application consisting of a CV and a motivation letter must be sent before November 1st, 2020 to matteo.treleani@univ-cotedazur.fr (subject: CROBORA application).

Shortlisted candidates will be auditioned in December.

Contact

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