



Memory, Cognition, Literature Workshop

An Interdisciplinary workshop by the Centre for Memory Studies, IIT Madras, in association with the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) IIT Madras, Indian Network for Memory Studies (INMS), and the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia University

9-12 November 2021

Keynote Speakers

Prof Astrid Erll (Goethe University, Frankfurt Memory Studies Platform)
Prof Fritz Breithaupt (Indiana University Bloomington)
Prof Alexander Easton (Durham University)
Prof Simon James (Durham University)

This interdisciplinary workshop aims to examine the entanglements of memory, cognition, and literature in their respective representational, affective, and social-discursive dimensions. While memory will be read as an act of encoding which also constitutes erasure, shaping private and collective experiences, cognition will be studied as an activity that is embedded as well as extended and enactive in quality. The medium of literature and fiction will be examined in this workshop as a liminal space-time between reality and possibility, one which can accommodate and articulate ambivalence and, in the process, foreground the interplay between memory and forgetting, cognition and mis-cognition, informing as well as re-forming selves and their social identities. The workshop also aims to study the other complex vectors informing memory and cognition, including medical states and technology, and will thus draw on a number of disciplinary interests including medical humanities, cognitive and clinical psychology, philosophy of mind, machine studies, critical theory, posthumanism, and memory studies.

The workshop invites 250-word abstracts (with brief bio notes) on topics including, but not limited to

- Memory, cognition, and affect
- Memory, cognition, and machines
- Memory, cognition, and medical conditions
- Memory, cognition, and (mis)representation
- Memory, cognition, and the medium of fiction
- Memory, cognition, and materiality
- Memory, cognition, and social action
- Memory, cognition, and critical theory
- Memory, cognition, and production of identities

All abstracts and enquiries should be emailed to memorycognitioniitm@gmail.com.

The last date for submission of abstracts is 15 October 2021.

Selected participants will be notified by 22 October 2021.

Selected participants will need to register through an online payment of INR 3000 or 40 USD by 30 October 2021, details of which will be shared subsequent to selection.

Registered participants will be given joining details for the workshop.

The workshop will be formally inaugurated through a launch event at 6 PM IST on 9 November 2021.

Workshop timings are from 12 Noon to 5 PM IST, 10-12 November 2021.

All workshop participants will receive certificates.

Faculty Coordinators

Dr. Avishek Parui and Dr. Merin Simi Raj
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