RUTGERS
School of Arts and Sciences

Colin Jager, Director

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October 23, 2019

Dear Colleagues and Graduate Students:

I write to encourage you to apply for a position as a Faculty or Graduate Fellow at the Center for Cultural Analysis for 2020-2021. We plan to devote our annual seminar to the topic: "What is Photography?" Please read the following pages and consider joining us for what promises to be an exciting year.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact us at 848-932-7750 or admin@cca.rutgers.edu.

Sincerely,

Colin Jager

Director
Center for Cultural Analysis
Rutgers Academic Building
15 Seminary Place
Sixth Floor, West Wing
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Center for Cultural Analysis
Call for Applications, 2020-2021

<u>What is Photography?</u>

What is photography? In the time of its origins photography had no word and the thing we call photography continues to be one of the most conceptually unstable and self-conscious media with no fixity in site. An enquiry, first and foremost, into the problem of photography's identity, the seminar aims to explore the diverse fields of knowledge that have defined the medium and put it to use. What have changes in technology and platform done to shift our understanding of the medium's character? What role have social, cultural and scientific disciplines played in forging these numerous photographies? How has a regularly transforming and, ultimately, fluid photographic object of photography arisen from and provoked developments in social interaction, communication, culture, politics, news, technology, art and perception itself? Why has photography's identity, including the referential power historically invested in the medium, regularly drawn the intense interest of scholars and critics, particularly in the West? And how do conceptions and uses of photography outside North America and Europe challenge its reigning definitions? In addressing these questions, the seminar will call on a diverse number of disciplines, including Art History, History, Science Studies, Communications, English, Comparative Literature, Area Studies, Philosophy, Anthropology, Criminal Justice and more.

"What is Photography?" will focus on teasing out the current meanings of photography that have gathered the most currency and will then—in readings, workshops, invited presentations and symposia--set these understandings into dialogue and, when necessary, debate.

The seminar, led by Andrés Zervigón (Art History) and William Galperin (English), will meet approximately once every two weeks for three hours on Wednesday afternoons over the course of the 2019-20 academic year. We will read and discuss scholarship related to our topic, and members will circulate and present work-in-progress. In addition, distinguished guests will visit the seminar to discuss current projects and share insights and expertise.

Structure of Awards and Application Procedure

FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty members may apply for a fellowship in connection with the annual theme of "What is Photography?" The CCA will grant up to five faculty fellowships awarded in connection with the seminar, in the form of a course-release in either the Fall 2020 or Spring 2021 semester (course-releases are supported by funding for instructional replacement arranged through the Fellow's department and paid by CCA, generally at the amount of $5000). Faculty who will hold other fellowships (NEH, Guggenheim, sabbatical, etc.) are not eligible to receive funded fellowships from the CCA, but faculty who will be on fellowship or sabbatical may apply to be appointed as unfunded fellows. Applications from regular, full-time faculty members should be submitted for approval to their department chairs, who will in turn forward completed applications to the CCA. Department chairs must indicate their willingness to accept the terms of support for a course release. Chairs may support more than one application.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Five graduate student fellowships will be awarded by the CCA to students who are in the process of writing their dissertations (i.e. coursework has been completed). Graduate Fellowships grant $23,000 and tuition remission for up to 3 research credits per semester for the year. Graduate Fellows will be expected to attend all events related to the main seminar and to participate actively in the public functions of the CCA. Graduate Fellows may not hold any other teaching positions, long-term fellowships, or administrative appointments during their CCA year. However, students who will hold other year-long fellowships may apply to be appointed as unfunded Fellows, provided their application clearly indicates the relevance of the seminar topic to their dissertation work. Graduate Fellowships will ordinarily be awarded only to students who have received 5 or fewer years of funding from Rutgers University at the time of application. Students who have already received 6 or more years of support may apply if the seminar theme is particularly suited to their dissertation projects, but they will require a waiver from SAS to take up the CCA Fellowship.

Fellows will have access to the resources of the CCA and staff support, within the limits allowable by the CCA's budget.

PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION

Faculty and graduate students should submit application forms to department chairs/graduate directors no later than December 2, 2019 (see deadlines below). The application package must include:

1) Letter of Application (2-3 single-spaced pages)

2) Information Form (see pages 4-5 below)
3) Brief Project Abstract (250-400 words)
4) Curriculum Vitae
5) **GRADUATE STUDENTS ONLY:** 2 Letters of Recommendation

Applications for Graduate Fellowships should be forwarded first to the appropriate graduate director, then on to CCA.

Applications from regular, full-time faculty members should be submitted for approval to their department chairs, who will in turn forward completed applications to the CCA. Department chairs must indicate their willingness to accept the terms of support for a course release. Chairs may support more than one application.

All applications will be evaluated by a subcommittee of the CCA's Executive Committee that includes the faculty directors of the annual seminar.

DEADLINES

Monday, December 2, 2019: Faculty members and graduate students should submit their applications to Chairpersons or Directors (or Deans, if no departmental structure exists).

Monday, December 9, 2019: Chairs and Directors should submit all endorsed applications to the CCA.

For ease of submission, each complete, endorsed application packet can be sent as a single PDF file to admin@cca.rutgers.edu.

Friday, December 13, 2019: All applicants will receive email acknowledgments for received applications. If you have not received an email acknowledgment by Monday, December 16, please contact us immediately.

Monday, February 24, 2020: Selections will be made, and successful candidates will be informed by email. Formal letters to all applicants will follow.

If you have any questions, please call us at 848-932-7750 or send an email to admin@cca.rutgers.edu.

CCA Fellowship Information Form

Faculty ☐   or Graduate Student ☐   (please check one)

Full Name:

Email Address:

Department:

Department Address:

Department Phone:

Home Address:

Home/Cell Phone:

[GRADUATE STUDENTS ONLY]

Year of Matriculation:

I have finished coursework and am working on the dissertation: YES ☐ or NO ☐

How many years of graduate student support (fellowships or TA-ships) have you received from Rutgers University (excluding grants and fellowships from outside funding agencies)?

<u>Administrative Endorsements</u>

Department Chair ☐   Graduate Director ☐

I endorse this application: I do not endorse this application:

————   ————
_____   _____
Please print your name here   Please print your name here

_____   _____
Please sign here   Please sign here

————
_____
Date

In endorsing this application, department chairs are signifying not only that the candidate's application is meritorious, but also that the department is willing to accept the terms of support for course release.