



Re-Thinking Humanities and Social Sciences Pre-Conference Activities (RHSS-SS)

Summer School: the Politics of Difference

September 1 – September 5, 2013, **Zadar**

The University of Zadar's English Department organizes Summer School: the Politics of Difference, which is part of the Globalization and Politics of Cultural Difference Project. The aim of the GPCD is to investigate cultural diversity through interdisciplinary focus on cultural policies related to diversity issues and the representation of these issues in media, film and literature: <http://politicsofdifference.com/>. Additionally, the Summer School is organized as part of the Re-Thinking Humanities and Social Sciences pre-conference activities and looks to become a regular annual gathering during which topics relevant to the issues investigated during the RHSS Conference will be covered and further developed.

Eligible participants include students (masters level and above), researchers and academics who want to advance in contemporary discourse theory and explore current politics of diversity over the course of a five-day summer school program.

The Summer School is open to everyone with academic work (or any other form of scholarly analysis) within the previously mentioned research areas. Participants are obliged to express their interest in the summer school in a motivation letter in which they should state whether they are interested in presenting their work or just want to participate in the summer school through group discussion and lectures.

Summer School: the Politics of Difference will include morning and afternoon sessions consisting of informal lectures, mini presentations of individual projects, and group discussions.

Please send your application for participation (a concise motivation letter, short CV and short summary of your work for presentation at the Summer School) to our school coordinators (gpcdsommerschool@gmail.com) by August 15th 2013.

The Summer School will be hosted at the University of Zadar.

There is no registration fee.

Keynote speakers: Mark Devenney (University of Brighton) and Mario Vrbančić (University of Zadar)



Globalization and Politics of Cultural Difference
Globalizacija i politika kulturne različitosti

University of Zadar



English Department

Mark Devenney is a Principal Lecturer in politics and philosophy, and leads the Humanities Programme degrees at the University of Brighton. His main research interests are in contemporary Political Philosophy, with research expertise on Critical Theory (Adorno and Habermas), contemporary Continental philosophy (notably Agamben, Hardt and Negri, Laclau, Ranciere, Derrida, Zizek and Badiou). He uses this theoretical work to research different ways of valuing life, in a research project that focuses on the uses and abuses of human bodies (torture; patening; suicide bombing; genetic engineering and the ethics of life/death decisions).

Mario Vrbanić works in Department of English at the University of Zadar. He holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He has worked in Croatia, New Zealand, Ukraine and Australia. He has written a number of academic articles and essays on psychoanalysis, postmodern literature, performance and cinema. His work has been published in various journals, including Performance Research, Comparative Literature and Culture, and New Literary History. His book is entitled *The Lacanian Thing: Psychoanalysis, Postmodern Culture and Cinema* (New York: Cambria Press 2011). He has also been involved in film projects and published one novel, *Lab* (2011), and several radio and theatrical plays.