

Call for Papers

**SCIENCE AND CULTURE IN THEORY AND HISTORY:  
LATIN AMERICA, FRANCE, AND THE ANGLOPHONE WORLD**

University of Cambridge  
2-3 July 2016

This international symposium will be the fourth and final event of the AHRC-funded *Science in Text and Culture in Latin America* research network. It will bring together leading figures working on the relationship between science and culture in Latin America and establish a set of critical dialogues with researchers in similar fields in French, British, and North American contexts. In keynote presentations and roundtable discussions to be held on the first day of the symposium, invited scholars working on Anglophone, Francophone, and Latin American culture will trace both convergences and divergences in theoretical and historical approaches to the study of science and culture across different regions. Confirmed speakers so far include María Blanco (Oxford), Jimena Canales (Illinois), Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra (Texas, Austin), Martin Crowley (Cambridge), Ian James (Cambridge), Peter Middleton (Southampton), Gerald Moore (Durham), Gabriela Nouzeilles (Princeton), Brais Outes-León (CUNY), Joanna Page (Cambridge), and David Trotter (Cambridge).

For the second day of the event, we **invite proposals** from Latin Americanists for 10-minute position papers to generate discussion in a series of themed workshops, designed to reflect further on the direction of current research on science and culture within Latin American studies, to set possible agendas for the future, and to explore potential collaborations.

The workshop themes are the following:

**(1) The history of science and culture in Latin America: new paradigms, new periodizations**

In what ways does the periodization of the relationship of science and culture in European history map successfully onto Latin American history, and where does it fail to account for regional difference? How might we construct a genealogy of thought on science and culture emerging from within Latin America? What work has been/is being done on the history and theory of the relationship between science and culture in Latin America?

**(2) Theories of biopolitics, discipline and control in Latin America: moving beyond Foucault?**

How have recent thinkers working on science, technology and culture (e.g. Stiegler, Latour, Barad, Malabou, Serres, Braidotti, Hayles) furthered and/or challenged the philosophical projects of an older generation (particularly Foucault)? Thinking beyond the society of discipline or control, what kind of affordances, forms of liberation or constraint, or new perspectives on embodiment and meaning emerge from the work of science and technology in contemporary society? What political projects associated with Latin American societies or cultural discourses are enabled or disabled by recent insights in science and culture studies?

**(3) The exploration of scientific ideas in Latin American art and literature**

How have Latin American cultural texts advanced or contested scientific ideas and practices? How have Latin American theorists, artists and writers engaged with wider contemporary debates on science and culture staged in other parts of the world? How is this engagement marked in historical, cultural or geopolitical terms?

**(4) New theories of technology, human evolution, and post-anthropocentrism and their place in studies of science and culture in Latin America**

What has been the contribution of recent trends in post-anthropocentric and post-human thought, ecology, and new materialism to the study of science and culture? What problems

arise in translating these and other European/North American theories of science, technology and culture to the Latin American context? What work is currently being done in these fields within Latin America?

**Applicants should submit (a) a title for their position paper, (b) a short (150-word) abstract, (c) the title of workshop in which they would like to participate, and (d) a brief CV.**

Submissions should be sent to Geoffrey Maguire ([gwm23@cam.ac.uk](mailto:gwm23@cam.ac.uk)), the Research Network Coordinator, by **31 January 2016**.

As the symposium brings together scholars working in a number of different fields, the most practical lingua franca is English. Papers should therefore normally be delivered in English, but if prospective participants have a strong preference for presenting in Spanish or Portuguese, we ask that they provide English translations of their papers for the benefit of other workshop participants.

A modest conference fee of around £40 will be charged to cover catering costs over the two days of the symposium (exact figure to be confirmed), with a discounted student rate.

Please direct any questions to Geoff Maguire, Joanna Page ([jep29@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jep29@cam.ac.uk)), or María del Pilar Blanco ([maria.blanco@trinity.ox.ac.uk](mailto:maria.blanco@trinity.ox.ac.uk)). For more information about the *Science in Text and Culture* research network, please visit our website: <http://www.latin-american.cam.ac.uk/science-text-culture>.