

***Text, Image, Sound, Space (TBLR). Norwegian Researcher Training School –
Analysis, Interpretation, and the Exchange of Theories and Ideas***

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology, The Arctic University of Norway, Nord University, The University of Agder, The University of Bergen, The University of Oslo, and The University of Stavanger.

Call for papers, Joint PhD-Seminar, *Copenhagen Doctoral School in Cultural Studies* and *Text, Image, Sound, Space, Norwegian Researcher School in the Humanities*

May 8th–10th 2018, New York City

Venue: The Norwegian Church, 317 East 52nd Street

Application must be submitted before: 19th of March

[Situated knowing: The economies of representing/representations](#)

Knowledge is situated. In the wake of the critical epistemologies of the 1960s – such as Jürgen Habermas' *Knowledge and Human Interests*, Michel Foucault's *The Order of Things* or Thomas Kuhn's *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* –, it became commonplace to consider that whatever is known is known by ways of representations. Moreover, that these are bound to be relative to where, when, how and who, in other words to specific epistemological economies.

Henceforth, knowing something about something inevitably comes with a caveat introducing both an attentiveness and a reflexivity to the specificity of forms and protocols of knowledge and their internal and external dynamics. In order to gauge what might condition, facilitate or impose such knowledge critical attention focuses on *how* knowledge is known. Critical notions of class, gender and ethnicity have served to provide frameworks for such reflections, making the forms of knowledge less self-evident by mapping it onto larger economic, political and cultural maps. One of the powerful lessons of Critical Theory is the imperative to reflect not only upon the content of knowledge (what we know) or its protocols (how we know it), but also upon its affordances (what does it make possible) and politics (what does it serve).

This reflexive turn has entailed that we consider knowing less in propositional terms, as in traditional epistemology, than in the terms of systems of representations and their specific economies. To know is to partake in an economy of representations where the establishment of epistemological objects cannot be disentangled from the subjective positions they make possible, from where they can be experienced, apprehended, and problematized.

Contemporary cultural analysis has contributed widely to contextualize and historicize forms of knowledge over a broad range of topics, from medicine to law, from religion to economy, from geography to philosophy. It has also, and not less notably, thoroughly elaborated the social and epistemological frameworks underpinning the forms of knowing something about the world inherent in artistic representations produced in literature, art, performance and music.

In this seminar, we will revisit some of the theoretical and methodological discussions about how to unpack the different aspects of the situatedness of knowledge by analytically constructing the economies of representing formatting and permeating everyday life, scientific discourses and art.

By focusing on representations, we will moreover discuss how to overcome the traditional gap between *epistémé* and *techné*, between “knowing what” and “knowing how”, as Ryle had it. We will work with situations of knowledge in both of the two, related, senses: how we can construe the contexts in which knowledge production is situated, and how we analyse the practices through which knowledge emerges from situations where representations are enacted.

Taking these concepts as a starting point, participants are invited to reflect on situations of knowledge pertaining to their dissertation subjects, and on the relationship between contextual situatedness and poetological situations in selected representations.

Following keynotes are invited:

Emily Apter: <http://as.nyu.edu/french/people.emily-s-apter.html> (confirmed)

Devin Fore: <https://scholar.princeton.edu/dfore/home> (confirmed)

Ben Kafka: https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/faculty/Ben_Kafka (confirmed)

PhD students from TBLR member universities are invited to attend and present their work. In addition, the course will be open to a limited number of students from other universities. The number of participants is limited to 20.

TBLR participants (confirmed): Knut Ove Eliassen, NTNU; and Frederik Tygstrup, Københavns universitet.

Application Process: Due to the venue and the cooperation with Copenhagen university a limited number of places are available. Those who would like to attend should fill in the application form and submit a short draft of their paper by the 19th of March latest (roughly 300 words). If the total number of applicants from TBLR and Copenhagen University exceeds 18, a selection will be made on the basis of relevance, previous participation in the TBLR program, affiliation and status of PhD training; beyond that, early applications will be prioritized.

Program: The program will consist of plenary key-note lectures (45-minute presentation, 45-minute discussion) and group work. Participant papers will be presented in a conventional conference setting (15-minute presentation, 15-minute discussion). In addition, there will be text reading sessions. Participants can choose between presenting their own work or a theoretical text for a text session.

Working language: English.

Credits: 2/5 ECTS. Participation and presentation will result in 2 ECTS, working over and submitting and editing version of the presentation (10-12 pages) after the seminar, will yield an additional 3 ECTS.

Signed and authorized course diplomas will be bestowed upon each PhD student participant on completion of the course.

Hotel: Hotel reservations will be made by the participants themselves. Up to five nights will be reimbursed (up to 200 US\$ per night) for students from the institutions participating in TBLR.

Meals: Lunches all three days are covered by TBLR, so is the dinner of Thursday night.

Travel: PhD students are expected to cover their own travel expenses.

Texts: Reading materials will be made available to the participants by Dropbox no later than a month before the seminar. The reading list will include texts by: **(yet to be specified)**