CES Summer School
Art and Science: Relationships of knowing, doing, and being

July 10-15, 2015
In the foothills of the Serra da Estrela
Café Cultura Kapingbdí, 3420-402 Tábua, Portugal

...And forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet
and the wind longs to play with your hair. – Kahlil Gibran

Artists/Researchers
Community/University

Arts-Informed Research / Performative learning /
Collaborate / Practice / Outdoors

Cost: Early bird 300€ (until March 24) Regular 450€
Price includes accommodation (communal and camping), tuition, all materia
and lunches for 6 days, 3 dinners, river excursion, hike and social events.

Details and Registration:
http://www.ces.uc.pt/cessummerschool/?id=11283&id_lingua=1

Contact: General Questions cessummerschool@ces.uc.pt
Course specific: Alison Neilson aneilson@ces.uc.pt
Objectives:

1. Engage with issues of power related to knowledge construction in research and higher education by exploring the nexus of arts and science.
2. Experiment with and discuss creative research and teaching methods for participation, collaboration and justice.

Description: The course will use performative learning and participatory, adult-education processes to engage participants in exploring the use of various arts-based methods (images, meditation, poetry, song, dance, etc.) in their work. Participants will explore the theoretical groundings of these approaches while engaging actively to learn specific facilitation skills and ways to collaborate with artists or other creative professionals when needed. The course will build a community of practice to support one another particularly where these methods challenge the norms of their disciplines, institutions and colleagues.

We will have internet, computer projectors and other technology in order to present multiple art forms but we will use the out-of-doors in much of the learning exchanges in order to be fully in the local place including walking in the mountains, and being on the water. We will learn about the local issues with Baldios (common lands) for example, and have visits from art workers.

Language: primarily English with Portuguese as needed

Draft Programme

Final program will be published in June.

Thursday Evening – arrival at Quinta da Encavalada
- Registration and “check in” to quinta

Day 1 (Friday) – Café Cultura Kapingbdí
- Introductions, overview and invitation to co-construct the programme
- Coffee break
- Tastings and trials of diverse arts as investigation: participants will experiment with multiple ways to express their own narratives of their research and their specific interests and objectives for taking part in this summer school. This will begin the process of participants forming collaborations for group projects and communicating what they can share as well as what they hope others can share with them about arts and research.
- Lunch
- Afternoon on the Montego River - A “waking-up” of critical thinking and creative skills while flowing on the river by kayak and canoe.
- Dinner under the stars
- Evening bat interpretation

Day 2 (Saturday) – beginning in Oliveira do Hospital (transportation from Quinta)
- A “grounding” to the earth while walking from urban to rural and through history (Roman ruins in the civil parish of Bobadela), natural history, culture, economics and other social issues of the area including those on the baldios
- Lunch and “pool and shade” break at Quinta
- Issues of power, knowledge, empire, representation and research
- Project planning
- Open space – no dinner planned* (options include café and restaurants within walking distance, or make own dinner at quinta)

Day 3 (Sunday) - Café Cultura Kapingbdí
- Exploration of sound and lack of sight (guest instructor – to be confirmed)
• Coffee break
• More sound and lack of sight
• Lunch
• Movement and our bodies making art and meaning
• Coffee break
• University degree issues: how can dance, painting, novels and other creative formats meet the requirement of a dissertation within a social science faculty? ethical issues of arts practices (How do we evaluate the “rigor” of the scholarship? What are the implications of using normative academic measures of evaluation?)
• Dinner

Day 4 (Monday) - Café Cultura Kapingbdi and Quinta* Participant initiatives
This day will be primarily reserved for initiatives from participants. Inscription feedback will be used to set the schedule of this day
• Coffee break
• Lunch
• Coffee break
• Open space – no dinner planned* (options include café and restaurants within walking distance, or make own dinner at quinta)

Day 5 (Tuesday) - Café Cultura Kapingbdi
• Creative prose (poetry, fiction, other)
• Coffee break
• Continuation of creative prose
• Lunch
• plastic arts (painting, college, sculpture)
• Coffee break
• plastic arts (painting, college, sculpture)
• Dinner (Moroccan vegetarian feast – to be confirmed)
• Art and Community Evening - open evening session with local musicians and other artists

Day 6 (Wednesday) - Café Cultura Kapingbdi
• Research, knowledge and power: Do arts have to be “translated” into or explained by linear text to use in “academic” scholarship? Is this possible? What are the critical issues and the implications of attempts at translation and explanation? Indigenous knowledges (respecting and allying or appropriating?)
• Coffee
• Guerrilla art making and protest, activist-researchers
• Lunch
• Arts and science outside of the academy (community practices, professional and amateur artist)
• Coffee
• Evaluations, schedule for receiving written reports and project elements
• Closing and leaving

Assignments: Participants will engage in individual or group projects based on their specific needs and interests, including refining their methodologies for their research projects, refining an arts practice, or tackling conceptual questions relating to arts and sciences. Participants will be invited to share their work with the local community during evening cafés. Participants will also be invited to co-create with facilitators and any interested community members, a collection of both creative and analytical work in the form of written text as well as audio-visual presentations.
Summer school activities will take place in the large sala of Café Cultura Kapingbdi home to an active program of live music, wave dance, Tai chi, Djembi lessons, belly dancing amongst other things and an every changing gallery of paintings, sculpture and other works of art by a multitude of local artists.

Our host Barbara Beyer welcomes the CES Summer School into this beautiful stone building equiped with wifi, computer projector, stage, and large open space to allow us to sit and discuss or dance and paint while we explore art and science and knowledge. We also have outdoor seating in the sun as well as under trees in order to enjoy the weather in July. Attached to the main sala where we can base our daily work, is a cozy bar with sofas and small tables. Barbara has been cultivating a community space which particularly invites a mingling of long time Portuguese residents with newer immigrants as well as artists passing through to create a warm environment of international cultural exchange. She invites us to actively invite collaboration with artists from the area throughout the program of the school as well as help her create a public evening of music and art and sharing on our last evening together.
Excursions:

Afternoon on the Montego River - A “waking-up” of critical thinking and creative skills while flowing on the river by kayak and canoe.

Kayaks and canoes along with life jackets, paddling instructions and transportation to and from the river by Rock and River www.rockandriver.com.pt

Hike from Oliveira do Hospital through the countryside including visit to Roman ruins in Bobadela also organized by Rock and River
Communal accommodations are on a beautifully restored Portuguese quinta where participants will have full use of the two holiday houses (wifi, airconditioning, bathrooms, showers, fully equipped kitchens, inside dining areas and sitting areas). Participants will sleep in large family tents or are welcome to use their own tents (some spaces will be available in shared bedrooms inside villas as well).

The atmosphere is rural, diverse and “green” with a lot of trees on the 3.5 hectare estate offering relaxing spaces for group interactions and individual peace for reading, writing and engaging in art practices. The pool with deck and two outside patio areas offer additional comfort for outdoor learning activities.

The quinta lies 300 meters above sea level just outside the village Senhor das Almas, near Oliveira do Hospital in the district “Beira Alta” (Central Portugal). This completely secluded terrain gives absolute privacy by the walls on the road side and the tall trees on the other sides. The views over the Dão valley with the Caramulo mountains at the horizon are spectacular. A lovely place to relax in a natural, verdant surrounding.
Bios of Instructors/Facilitators

Alison Neilson is a researcher at the Centre for Social Studies in the Science, Economy and Society (NECES) group. She holds a PhD in Comparative, International and Development Education from the University of Toronto, an MSc on bat ecology and conservation (York University, Canada) and a BES in environmental studies (University of Waterloo, Canada). She conducts narrative and arts-informed research on the way sustainability is understood and manifest in education and policy. Her current research is about the ways that people who live on islands, the Azores, learn to be part of the governance system related to life on the sea. She studies the processes of education, including informal, nonformal and formal, to understand how people are enculturated into governance structures and how the issues and structures are constructed.

Alison Neilson has taught creative and outdoor teaching methods and arts-informed research methodology in Canada, Portugal, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Ecuador. Her PhD dissertation and subsequent book Disrupting Privilege, Identity, and Meaning: A Reflexive Dance of Environmental Education (2006/2008) used arts-informed research to explore power and privilege, and to deal with questions of equity and social justice within environmental practice and involved educators from Iran, Tanzania, Brazil, Paraguay, Columbia, Canada and First Nations.

Maria Paula Meneses is a researcher at the Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra. She is also a member of the Centre for Social Studies Aquino de Bragança, in Mozambique. Among the research topics which she currently works on are postcolonial debates, legal pluralism, with particular emphasis on the relations between the State and the ‘traditional authorities’ in the African context, and the role of official history, memory and ‘other’ stories in the rescue of a broader sense of belonging in the field of contemporary identity processes, especially in the African geopolitical context.

Maria Paula Meneses has taught at the University Pablo Olavide (Spain), SOAS (UK), Bayreuth (Germany), Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil), among others.

Among her published works are: O Direito por fora do Direito: as instâncias extra-judiciais de resolução de conflitos em Luanda (co-edited with Julio Lopes, Almedina, 2012); Epistemologias do Sul (co-edited with Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Cortez, 2012); and Law and Justice in a Multicultural Society: The Case of Mozambique (co-edited with Boaventura de Sousa Santos and João Carlos Trindade, CODESRIA, 2006).

Guest artists/facilitators to be announced