

Training School
Quantitative Methods in the Study of Conspiracy Theories
Canterbury, UK
July 30th – August 3rd 2018

The COST Action “Comparative Analysis of Conspiracy Theories (COMPACT)” currently has over 120 members from 36 countries and over a dozen academic disciplines. The Action aims to synthesize and move forward European research on conspiracy theories.

One of its goals is to train the next generation of researchers. For this purpose, the Action is organizing two Training Schools. The first was geared toward scholars employing qualitative methods (e.g., history, ethnology, cultural studies, literary studies) and took place in Tübingen, Germany in July-August 2017. We are delighted to be hosting the second Training School focusing on quantitative methods (e.g., psychology, political science, sociology) at the University of Kent, Canterbury, UK.

Applicants do not need to be Action members or be affiliated with Action members. The Training School will consider all applications from Masters and PhD students who are working on projects directly related to conspiracy theories, and who work in COST countries.

Successful applicants will receive a stipend to partly cover the costs of travel, which will be determined on an individual basis by the committee for each successful applicant. Applicants who have no funds of their own and could otherwise not attend the Training School will be eligible for a stipend of up to €1,000. There will be space for approximately 20 students in the Training School.

Please send your application in a single PDF file to the local organizer, Karen Douglas (k.douglas@kent.ac.uk). The application must include a letter of motivation and a short CV. Applicants should also include a description of their current project in no more than two pages.

The deadline for applications is March 5th 2018. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of March.

Programme:

The Training School will combine a variety of different formats. There will be a series of lectures by the Trainers, all of them established scholars in the field. They will take their own research as a point of departure for more general reflections on questions of theory and methodology in their particular field, as well as opportunities for future projects. There will also be reading groups that will address foundational studies from various disciplines. Finally, the participants will have the opportunity to discuss their projects and plans with the group, and on an individual basis with the Trainers.

Confirmed Trainers are:

Aleksandra Cichocka (Psychology, United Kingdom)
Karen Douglas (Psychology, United Kingdom)
Andre Krouwel (Political Science, The Netherlands)
Turkay Nefes (Sociology, United Kingdom)
Robbie Sutton (Psychology, United Kingdom)
Joseph Uscinski (Political Science, USA)
Jan-Willem van Prooijen (Psychology, The Netherlands)

Contact:

Karen Douglas
School of Psychology, University of Kent
Canterbury, CT2 7NP, UK, k.douglas@kent.ac.uk