

## Call for Applications: Lucerne Master Class for PhD Students 2019

When: September 23<sup>rd</sup> – September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Where: University of Lucerne, Switzerland | Hotel Seeburg  
Language: English  
Application Deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

### Prof. Dr. Eva Illouz

Rose Isaac Chair of Sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

## The Paradoxes of Capitalism and Emotions

### The Scholar

EVA ILLOUZ was born in Morocco, educated in France, and received her higher degrees from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. She is Rose Isaac Chair of Sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a member of the Center for the Study of Rationality, and holds a Chair of Excellence at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences in Paris. Her groundbreaking oeuvre on capitalism and emotions includes her monograph *Why Love Hurts: A Sociological Explanation* (2012), a book she edited titled *Emotions as Commodities: Capitalism, Consumption and Authenticity* (2018) and her forthcoming monograph *Unloving: A Sociology of Negative Relations* (first published in German under the title *Warum Liebe endet – Eine Soziologie negativer Beziehungen* [2018]).

### The Topic:

For economists capitalism is the organization of economic exchange in a marketplace regulated by supply and demand in which actors plan their moves rationally. For traditional sociologists it is a social organization which disentangles the economy from normative systems and creates a vast process of rationalization of the economy and of ordinary action. But capitalism has proved to be – and curiously so – a fantastic machine to produce, control, and commodify emotions. The process of commodification of emotions is pervasive and endemic to the history and sociology of capitalism. This Lucerne Master Class will examine the ways in which emotions were made into intrinsic dimensions of the workplace and of the consumer sphere. It examines this process by studying paradoxes produced by this historical juncture of emotions and capitalism. For a list of the five main paradoxes identified that will be discussed, please consult the longer version of the topic's abstract on [www.unilu.ch/masterclass](http://www.unilu.ch/masterclass).

### The Class

The class will begin on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at 1 p.m. and end on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 1 p.m. The daily schedule will be from 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. and from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. and on one evening (lecture & dinner) from 6 – 9 p.m. One of the afternoons will be devoted to a joint excursion in the Lucerne area. Participants will discuss Eva Illouz's recent work but also present and discuss their own projects.

### Participants

The Master Class addresses doctoral students from sociology, cultural studies, philosophy, psychology, and economics as well as other fields from within the humanities and social sciences. Applications from international and EU doctoral students and doctoral students from Switzerland are welcome.

### Costs

Tuition fee: 350 CHF

The organizing body of the Master Class, the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (GSL) at the University of Lucerne, will cover catering and accommodation expenses. The GSL will also reimburse parts of participants' travel expenses in proportion the distance they are traveling (for details please send an e-mail to [christina.cavedon@unilu.ch](mailto:christina.cavedon@unilu.ch) [managing director GSL]). Applicants mustering financial support from their home institution is greatly appreciated.

### What Former Participants Say

*It was a great opportunity to exchange our theoretical concerns with different people around the globe, while being guided by the intuitions and orientations of an important thinker of our time.*  
(Bárbara Buriel, Department of Philosophy at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil)

*What was most fascinating for me was how the Master Class allowed us to witness theory in its very making – the development of complex theoretical conceptions and political analysis of our current situation at the same time. Both is essential to develop strategies for revolutionizing our thoughts and our practices in transcending the sharp border between the inside and the outside of academia.*  
(Marcus Döller, Universität Erfurt, Max-Weber-Kolleg)

*The 2018 Lucerne Master Class was an intense and immensely rewarding academic journey. The combination of formal and informal discussions fostered a wonderful dynamic among participants, and Lucerne provided an ideal setting for the gathering.*  
(Olivier Ruchet, University of Zurich, Department of Political Science)

### Applications

Send your application by **May 1<sup>st</sup>** to the following email-address: [christina.cavedon@unilu.ch](mailto:christina.cavedon@unilu.ch)

Please provide a short statement of motivation (no more than one page), a CV and a short description (no more than one page) of your current dissertation project. Postdocs may be admitted on the basis of individual decision.

More information: [www.unilu.ch/masterclass](http://www.unilu.ch/masterclass)

### Support

The Master Class is supported by the Mercator Foundation Switzerland.