

CRIMT DOCTORAL SCHOOL 2011

Dear Student,

Thank you for enrolling in the 2011 CRIMT Doctoral School, which will start on Monday 6 June at 11:00 (Louis Laberge room, 1st Floor, Red section of HEC Montréal's main building, 3000 Côte-Sainte-Catherine) and will finish on Wednesday 8 June at 16:00, at the same time as the Conference (for which you are registered) on multinational companies, global value chains and social regulation (www.crimt.org/mncs2011.html). **NOTE:** If there are still any outstanding questions relating to the logistical aspects of your stay in Montreal, please contact Karine Drolet (karine.drolet.1@umontreal.ca).

PROGRAM

Monday 6 June 2011

11:00 - 12:15 (Louis Laberge Room / Simultaneous interpretation ⓘ)

Session 1 : *Introduction and presentation of participants*

Chair : **Nicolas Roby** (University of Montreal)

So we may learn more about where you are in your work, please prepare a 3 to 4 minute presentation (please make good use of the allotted time – without being too short – I will ask you to elaborate further – nor too long – or you run the risk that I will cut you) about the state of your research project (for those who will be starting their studies next fall, it will be a matter of taking a few minutes to make a presentation on what you are intending to work on), the proposed (or actual) methodology, your progress to date and, where appropriate, some preliminary results. We would also like you to situate your work within the context of the Centre's research matrix (to do so, please refer to our new Website at www.crimt.org, under the 'CRIMT' heading. Not all links are currently working on the English version of the site, but the one pertaining to students is).

12:15 - 13:15 (Louis Laberge Room)

Lunch

13:15 - 14:45 (Louis Laberge Room / Simultaneous interpretation ⓘ)

Session 2 : *Finding your field...*

Chair : **Michel Coutu** (University of Montreal)

The second session focuses on fieldwork. It will look at two aspects: 1) access and 2) the social responsibility of the researcher. Access and management of fieldwork must be carefully considered. The researcher must think about the way in which (s)he will initially introduce him/herself, on the consequences that will stem from his/her introduction into the organization (directly by him/herself or by a member of the organization), and on the relationships that will be maintained throughout the research and beyond. In order to successfully undertake fieldwork, it is not just a question of having the administrative authorisation to do so, one also has to build confidence with the participants. How do you do this? How much critical distance should be maintained? What types of relationships should be nurtured?

We ask you to please think about the two following questions, and get ready to participate in the discussion. In order to frame the debate and stimulate exchange between researchers and students participating in the workshop, we have invited a few students and researchers (**Martin Dumas** - Université Laval, **Raoul Gebert** - Université de Montréal, **Peter Fairbrother** - Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, **Ian Robinson** - University of Michigan, **Francisco Villanueva** - Université du Québec à Montréal et **Ania Zbyszewska** - University of Victoria) to prepare short, informal contributions (of about 5 minutes).

Q1. Finding your field

On the basis of your own experience, a) how do you find and negotiate access to the field/your research subjects in order to undertake your study? b) what advice can you share as regards the "DO's" and "DON'Ts"?

Q2. The researcher's social responsibility : managing your fieldwork relationships

On the basis of your own experience of fieldwork, what are the ethical issues that you have faced (in your interactions with labour market actors, in relation to legal instances and administrative tribunals, in administering questionnaires, in your relations with research ethics committees)? We identify a few issues that you might want to tackle (but you will have to be selective in relation to relative importance in your view): the relationship between researcher and subject/participant; the idea of researcher neutrality; the trade-offs between engagement and distance on key issues for participants; the place for researcher subjectivity with regard to actor strategies and their continuing participation in your research; your responsibilities and your relation with the field at the end of your research and beyond a particular study?

15:00 - 17:00 (Louis Laberge Room / Simultaneous interpretation 🗣️)

Session 3 : Researching Multinationals and Global Value Chains

Chair : **Gregor Murray** (University of Montreal)

Making a first link with the conference, the third session focuses on research on multinational companies, global value chains and social regulation. What models and methodologies are most appropriate? What should be the research priorities?

We ask you to please think about the two following questions, and get ready to participate in the discussion. In order to frame the debate and stimulate exchange between researchers and students participating in the workshop, we have asked prominent researchers (**Jennifer Bair** - University of Colorado, **Rachel Beaujolin-Bellet** - Reims Management School, GREGOR-IAE de Paris, Chaire M-A-I, **Jorge Carrillo** - El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, **Isabelle Daugareilh** - Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV, **Tony Edwards** - King's College London, **Nick Hammer** - University of Leicester) to prepare short, informal contributions (of about 5 minutes).

Q1. Research Methods: How to Study MNCs and Global Value Chains?

In a context where firms are increasingly multinational and production is organized in transnational networks, and drawing on your own research experience, do we need to rethink our methodological approaches for the understanding of work and employment? Are certain research methods and designs better suited to particular types of questions?

Q2. Research Agenda

What are the bigger social science questions (including law, management, public policy, etc.) that researching multinationals and global value chains and their social regulation can help us to address? What should be the research priorities for studying work and employment in multinational firms and global value chains?

Wednesday 8 June 2011

12:50 - 14:20 (Tata Communications Room)

Session 4 : *The Emerging Architecture of Social Regulation*

Chair : **Nicolas Roby** (University of Montreal)

In this second session linking to the conference, we invite students from the doctoral school to have an open discussion (during the lunch break; lunch boxes provided) around the issues that will face the participants at the last plenary session of the conference. By considering the observations and discoveries made throughout the course of the workshops (more than half of the conference workshops focus on the social regulation of multinational companies and value chains), we would like you to have an exchange on the mechanisms of 'social regulation' (resulting, notably, from some combination of national and international political institutions, direct or indirect ("hard" or "soft") legislative framing, the actions of trade unions and civil society groups and, indeed, the direct pressure exercised by consumers, etc.) that are best able to control the actions of multinationals in Canada and abroad.

Looking forward to seeing you in Quebec,

Nicolas Roby
Scientific Coordinator
CRIMT