



**EXPERICE**  
Centre de Recherche Interuniversitaire  
Expérience Ressources Culturelles Education  
EA 3971



**LIRTES**  
Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire de recherche  
sur les transformations des pratiques éducatives  
et des pratiques sociales



**Freie Universität Berlin**



## **Centre de recherche interuniversitaire EXPERICE Université Paris 13 Sorbonne Paris Cité**

### **Biographical research in situations and dialogues Issues and perspectives**

#### **International Congress**

**June 12-13-14, 2019**

**Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Paris Nord  
20, avenue Georges Sand  
93210-La Plaine Saint-Denis  
Métro Ligne 12. Front Populaire**

**co-organized by**

Laboratoire EXPERICE centre interuniversitaire - Paris 13 Sorbonne Paris Cité  
Revue *Le sujet dans la Cité. Revue internationale de recherche biographique*  
Collège International de Recherche Biographique en Education

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**in association with**

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Le Vent se lève ! Tiers Lieu

## **Presentation**

Following the Lille symposium (May 2011) dedicated to the "issues and perspectives" of biographical research, this conference aims to continue the exploration of a paradigm of the biographical in education, understood as much in the contextual and situational diversity of empirical research that it generates as in the epistemological and methodological questions the creation of a "science of the singular" keeps raising.

This project justifies the chosen perspective: through the various territories and the individual and collective situations in which biographical research in education develops its work, it is a matter of deepening its epistemological and methodological foundations, as well as its ethical and political stance.

This project goes along with approaches in different scientific fields which sharing with biographical research the study of the constitution and individual experience, question the conditions, terms and effects of this "knowledge of the singular".

This proposal could be divided into five main parts, each of which focuses on burning question pertaining to today's biographical research tackled through the notions of "biographical condition", "biographical mediality" and "biographical education", "collective action" and "epistemology of the singular". In the title of each part the choice of the plural in the use of these notions responds to the desire to subject them to the test of the dialectical relationship between singularization and pluralization of the individual and collective experiences they encompass. The papers submitted will fall into these different parts according to the entry and perspective chosen.

### **Axis 1. Biographical conditions and experiences of the subject Christophe Niewiadomski, Augustin Mutuale, Valérie Vine Vallin (coordination)**

If the biographical condition refers to a configuration of the relationship of the individual to society in which the biography, as a process of construction of individual existence, plays a major role in the reproduction / production of society, this generic definition encompasses plural experiences whose variability must be grasped along with intersectionality. Depending on the age (childhood, adolescence, adulthood, old age), gender (assignments and choices it gives rise to), states of existence (and what threatens or alters it: illness, disability, mental disorders), social space-time (family, school, professional, etc.) and the "hardships" they present, the contextualisation of experiences (ethnicities, mobilities globalities), regimes and registers of power (biopolitics, "conduct of conduct", biographical politics) ... - the "biographical condition" corresponds for each subject actor to appropriations and singular constructions of processes of individuation / socialization.

## **Axis 2. Biographical medialities and self-practices**

**Christine Delory-Momberger, Camila Aloisio Alves & Anne-Sophie Jurion  
(coordination)**

The notions of "mediality", "automediality", "medial practices" bring about a very fertile change in the way of thinking mediations of the relation to oneself. By showing the important role of the medium, its material and its specific forms in the relation to oneself (self-fashioning), they convey the message that the subject develops himself or herself through practices which, far from being mere « supports » are by what and through what a subjectivity finds its form. In addition, the notion of "automedial practices" can encompass all forms of expression and language: spoken and written, photographic, audiovisual, graphic, plastic, digital, bodily and gestural, theatrical, etc. Among other consequences, the reflection related to "mediality", while broadening the scope of practice, leads to training procedures for new approaches more aware of the interpenetration of the medial structure, the subjective reflection and self-help work during the processes constructing the subject.

## **Axis 3. Biographical educations and empowerment**

**Béatrice Mabilon-Bonfils, Valérie Melin & Anne Dizerbo  
(coordination)**

The concept of "biographical education" can be understood in several ways : while emphasizing the biographical dimension inherent in any learning or training process, one seeks to explore its consequences in terms of educational institutions and the forms of education they take (for example the "school form") and to foster alternative pedagogies; or while recognizing the training dimension present in any experience, one seeks to understand (for research purposes) or to mobilize (for intervention training purposes) the formative or transformative effects of the experience in the constitution of the subjects. This aspect therefore leads us to continue the reflection and the work undertaken in these areas on the relationship between biography and learning, biography and training, experience and training, in relation to the dimension of a "power to act" (empowerment) that can as well as interpreted as "power to learn", "subject-effects" (G. de Villers), power of "emancipation" (Freire), emergence of a "political subject" (Foucault).

## **Axis 4. Collective actions in the territories and stakeholder of actors**

**Christophe Blanchard, Jean-Jacques Schaller & Mike Gadras  
(coordination)**

The study of the representations and forms that individuals give to their existence inevitably meets questions of the forms of individual and collective action and the capacity of stakeholder to act on their contexts. The approaches carried out in this respect in the fields of professional environments (education, training, social work, health) and / or social involvement (social and professional integration, handicaps, migrations, urban marginalities)

aim to explore the resources and the potential of the stakeholder to foster the emergence of horizontal dynamics on the territories, to support professional and social practices open to action and collective intelligence. This part will therefore be able to focus on both empirical research oriented towards the observation and exploration of a territory and its inhabitants, a profession or a category of actors defined by a common situation, and papers reflecting upon training and involvement structures aiming at developing forms of individual and collective power of action.

**Axis 5. Epistemologies of the singular**  
**Martine Janner Raimondi, Izabel Galvaõ & Pierre Machemie**  
**(coordination)**

The biographical research never ceases to question the core of its project and its approach in order to identify its specificity. This epistemological questioning and the methodological perspectives that it generates equally concern the object of knowledge targeted by biographical research and its ways of investigation and the conditions of its constitution. By making the biographical, as a constitutive dimension of the genesis and the socio-individual future, the specific approach adopted in the study of the processes of individuation / socialization (biographization), biographical research questions the possibility of an "epistemology" suitable for building a knowledge of the individual captured in his/her singularity. Caught between the somewhat definitional singularity of its object and the need for scientific formalization, biographical research has to develop instruments and approaches that allow to respond methodologically to the question it raises theoretically, namely the fabrication, which is always unique, "of the inner world of the outside world" (Alheit & Dausien, 2000) and the resource that it represents in terms of production / reproduction of the social world. The epistemology of knowledge also takes into account the distinction between lived body and living body, capacity, the place of the infraconscious (Andrieu, 2016) where the process of empathy takes place (Janner-Raimondi, 2017). How can this knowledge of the singular be defined? What "materials" and what specific processes are involved? In what way does it require particular modes of investigation, analysis and writing of research? In what way can this ambition to reach the sources and modes of realization of individual singularity pave the way for "hermeneutics of speech" and an "ethics of the relationship" where researchers and individuals with whom they investigate are engaged together to build in common that constitutes between them the work of knowledge?

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## **Modalities**

Each communication proposal must fit into one of the five axes of the conference.

### **Communication**

Each presentation (4 000 characters, spaces and bibliographer included) will include:

- the title of the chosen axis
- the title of the communication
- the link with the biographical research, the explanation of the theoretical framework, presentation of the general problem
- keywords
- bibliographical references

### **Symposium**

Each proposal will be based on at least three research studies (4 000 signs, spaces and bibliography included) and will include:

- the title of the chosen axis
- the title of the symposium
- the coordinator and the contributors (name, institution)
- the presentation of the general problem, the link with the biographical research
- keywords
- bibliographical references

### **Publications**

Publications are planned in the form of books (conference proceedings) and files in qualifying journals

**Beginning of the submission of communications: January 6, 2019**

**End of submission of communications: March 3, 2019**

**Return of expertises: May 3, 2019**

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