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REGULAR SESSION INFORMATION

Title of Session: Contemporary alienation in the light of classical interpretations

Name of Session Convener(s): Lauren Langman; Pirkkoliisa Ahponen

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Comments: -

Session Abstract (up to 250 words): Foundations of alienation theory were established in the 19th C. when Marx turned the critique of domination from idealism to materialism. With the rise of sociology in the early 20th C., Weber completed the critique of modernity by the entrapment into the iron cage, arguing for the ideological power in the spirit of capitalism. Then Durkheim noted how the transition from traditionality to modernity meant that anomie was increased when old values were no longer valid and new values were not yet emerged and shared together. Have these classical interpretations remained relevant in our current global age. Advanced technologies, used to support creative production and make the liquid information efficient, have radically transformed our everyday life and cultural identities. Are popular interpretations of cultural materialism connected with increased instrumentalism? Critical analyses are needed to understand alienation which is included in the creative utilisation of innovative productivity in the name of culturalism.

General information

During each afternoon of the congress, there will be room for a large number of parallel regular sessions. Each session is 90 minutes long and consists of an oral presentation of 4 to 6 papers. Session conveners are expected to administer and chair their session at the 2009 IIS World Congress.

Starting in mid-December, calls for papers to participate in approved sessions will be posted on the website. Interested participants will contact the session convener (you) directly with an abstract no later than February 28, 2009. The session convener should take in all submissions and select the best 4 to 6 papers to be presented and forward this information, including e-mail addresses of accepted authors, to the IIS Secretariat no later than March 15, 2009.