PROGRAM

DIGITAL <DIS>ORDERS

7th ANNUAL GRADUATE CONFERENCE
OF THE CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE “THE FORMATION OF NORMATIVE ORDERS”

17-19 NOVEMBER 2016
GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT / CAMPUS WESTEND
INTRODUCTION

In the popular and academic discourses, computers and their networks seem to be in a state of perpetual novelty and chaos. This is evident in the proliferation of buzzwords and new technologies that are constantly about to overthrow existing orders. Discourses about Big Data, social media, cloud computing or the Internet of things present digitalization as a social revolution without end.

There are, however, several reasons to doubt this air of novelty. Worldwide Internet penetration is over 40%, and mobile broadband penetration in the OECD is over 80%. Many scholars consider Internet access to have become a basic human right. Computer assisted fraud has been a criminal practice for four decades, and the incident best approximating international cyber warfare occurred almost ten years ago. So-called digital natives are aging rapidly, and their aesthetic imperative has become mainstream. Whatever their revolutionary potential in the longue durée, computers, their data and their networks have become a mundane, ubiquitous and assumed feature of everyday life.

We welcome you to reflect with us on our arrival in digital normality so as to better understand the dynamics of digital order and disorder. We will touch upon such topics as the features and production of space in a digital society, the political economy of media and artistic production, the politics and modes of rule in the digital/posthuman age, the diffusion of responsibility in algorithmically controlled processes, and the social practices and subjectivities produced and assumed in a world of ubiquitous connections and computers. Beyond these more academic engagements with the subject matter, we are happy to host a number of artistic interventions that challenge intuitive understandings of the forms of digital society and present alternative, creative representations of digital realities. These range from interactive demonstrations of textual data-mining; live, choreographed web design; and more. We have included other unconventional events in the program, like the minisaloons and party, to provide time and opportunity to converse about these topics, the questions they provoke and the ideas they inspire.

Finally, it is our privilege to welcome two keynote speakers who have indelibly marked our thoughts on and appreciation of digital culture. On Thursday evening Louise Amoore, Professor of Geography at Durham University, will present her thoughts On Intuition: Machine Learning and Posthuman Ethics, exploring what the ‘agency’ and ‘intelligence’ of machines implies for ethics. And on Friday evening Zach Blas, renowned Artist and Lecturer in the Department of Visual Cultures at Goldsmiths University, will elaborate his thoughts on Contra-Internet, a project that explores subversions of and alternatives to the Internet.
## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY**  
**17.11.2016**  
**CAMPUS WESTEND, BUILDING “NORMATIVE ORDERS”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:30-15:30</td>
<td>Lobby</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30-16:00</td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>Welcome Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Christopher Daase (Coordinator of the International Graduate Program, Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00-16:30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30-18:30</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PANEL SESSION 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>THE ECONOMICS OF THE DIGITAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natalie Rauscher (Heidelberg):</td>
<td>Digital Inequality: The United States and the Rise of the Sharing Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Philipp Staab (Hamburg):</td>
<td>The Consumption Dilemma of Digital Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yannick Schütte (Lüneburg):</td>
<td>Digital Data Dispossession and Capitalisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.01</td>
<td>DIGITAL SPACIALITIES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jakob Claus (Lüneburg):</td>
<td>On Questions of Environmental Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moritz Ahlert (Hamburg):</td>
<td>The Order of Visual Maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lila Athanasiadou (Delft):</td>
<td>Just a Simulation: Limitations and Potentiality of Modelling Urban Processes Digitally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gian Luigi Scarpa (Berlin):</td>
<td>Remnants and Revenants Part II: Hauntings of the Digital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:30-19:00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00-20:00</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>ON INTUITION: MACHINE LEARNING AND POSTHUMAN ETHICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Louise Amoore (Durham)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-12:00</td>
<td>Devices of Digital Rule</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Janosik Herder (Osnabrück):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is Information? From</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cryptography to a Regime of Truth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Order from Noise? Reflections on the Cybernetic Condition of Digitality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nikos Voyiatzis (Rotterdam/Athens):</td>
<td>The Effect of the List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00-15:30</td>
<td>Artistic Intervention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.01</td>
<td><em>I-COULD-HAVE-WRITTEN-THAT</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manetta Berends (Rotterdam) (max. 30 participants)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Conference Schedule

**Friday**
**18.11.2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:30-16:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00-17:30</td>
<td>Panel Session 3</td>
<td>**EG.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30-18:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:00-19:00</td>
<td>Keynote Address</td>
<td>**EG.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00-23:00</td>
<td>5th Floor</td>
<td>Dinner &amp; Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:45</td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>ARTIST TALK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-12:30</td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>PANEL SESSION 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-13:00</td>
<td>5th floor</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:30</td>
<td>EG.01</td>
<td>ARTISTIC INTERVENTION &amp; MINI-SALOONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5TH FLOOR</td>
<td>TOPICAL MINI-SALOONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ON INTUITION: MACHINE LEARNING AND POSTHUMAN ETHICS

PROF. DR. LOUISE AMOORE

Whether in Intuitive Surgical’s Vinci surgical robots or in the geopolitics of automated weaponry, drones, and intelligence gathering, machine learning algorithms and operatives are trained for future action via the patterns of ingested past data. What kind of ethics is possible in the context of the intuitive learning of a posthuman composite? Can this form of cognition and action be meaningfully held accountable? As Katherine Hayles has written, “what is lethal is not the posthuman as such, but the grafting of the posthuman onto a liberal humanist view of the subject.” Thus, as contemporary legal cases proliferate, they persistently seek an identifiable human subject to call to account—a specific surgeon who made a mistake, a particular drone pilot or analyst who wrongfully targeted—who is often called the “human in the loop” of semi-supervised machine learning. Yet, machine learning is precisely changing the nature of what it means to be human, so that the errors of a neural net must involve an expanded and distributed sense of ethics. In this work I propose an alternative mode of ethics capable of responding to the intuitive learning of human and algorithm.

Louise Amoore is a Professor at the Department of Geography at Durham University. She researches and teaches in the areas of global geopolitics and security, and has particular interests in how contemporary forms of data, analytics and risk management are changing the techniques of border control and security. Amoore has been awarded a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship (2016-18) for work on her upcoming monography, 'Ethics of Algorithm'. Her previous book projects include ‘Algorithmic Life: Calculative Devices in the Age of Big Data’ (2015) and ‘The Politics of Possibility: Risk and Security Beyond Probability’ (2013).
Despite the recent proliferation of critical surveillance studies, which aims to explicate the endless tools and techniques of today’s surveillance infrastructures, few scholars take seriously—let alone make their focus—practices and imaginaries of counter—surveillance, often relegating them as mere anecdotes, spoofs, or bloopers. Yet, in the aftermath of so much critiquing and diagnosing of the contemporary surveillance landscape, counter-surveillance practices are exactly what is needed to actualize the intellectual and political frustrations at the core of critical surveillance studies, even if such practices are difficult and challenging to implement, create, and sustain. Notably, it is artistic practice that has been at the forefront of such counter surveillance activities and imaginaries.

With this in mind, my talk will introduce a body of artwork I am currently developing, titled “Contra-Internet.” Contra-Internet broadly addresses the emerging militarizations and subversions of the internet as a site of global surveillance and control. Amid rampant dataveillance and social media monoculture, “the internet” has become something that is extremely difficult to articulate an outside or alternative to. Conversely, Contra-Internet gives a theoretical consistency to the practical and imaginative work being done to create network alternatives to the internet.

Zach Blas is an artist and writer whose practice engages technics and minoritarian politics. Currently, he is a Lecturer at the Department of Visual Cultures at Goldsmiths, University of London. Blas has exhibited and lectured internationally. His recent works respond to technological control, biometric governmentality, and network hegemony. He earned a Ph.D. in Literature at Duke University and his Master degree in Design Media Arts at University of California, Los Angeles.
ARTISTIC INTERVENTIONS AND WORKSHOPS

*I-COULD-HAVE-WRITTEN-THAT*
Friday, 18.11.2016
Normative Orders 5.01, 14:00-15:30
Manetta Berends

This workshop is an examination of the reading power of text mining software. It challenges the image of text mining as a modern algorithmic oracle. The participants walk through the steps of a text mining process to make their own personal oracles. By departing from a customary binary opposition, the group dismantles how large sets of written documents are transformed into useful/meaningful/truthful information. The collected training data is used to write between the lines and activate their key-value combinations. The workshop aims to closely engage with a text mining process and a text mining software package. This is an attempt to get an understanding of the computational attitudes that lie behind such buzzy terms that cause disorder.
(Note: the workshop is limited to 30 people)

BLACKLISTS
Normative Orders 5.02, permanent art installation
Nicolas Maigret and Maria Roszkowska

Blacklists is a project inspired by the “forbidden libraries” also known as Inferno (Index Librorum Prohibitorum). It is a directory of the forbidden Internet: a collection of websites and banned keywords for the detection and automatic filtering of illegal or threatening Internet contents. Just as the practice of the Inferno in libraries, Blacklists draws attention to the sidelining of content that could be “dangerous for the survival of the system”. This collection reveals a cultural, social and ideological model of our society through what we should not see. These site collections are deployed here as a magic circle, a form of pagan ritual protection, isolating the subject from evil external influences. Blacklists reveals the impact of parental filters, ISP filters, states blacklists, Deep Web contents and other unwanted or filtered contents on the Internet.
Tech companies claim that this software gives an objective view into consumers’ feelings. In my talk, I interrogate the language that is used to translate feelings into seemingly objective & delineated labels. The original video work consists of three video projections in an infinite loop. The small, life-size projection of a face is based on conversations in which I asked people to describe a situation in which they had to express an emotion that was not consistent with how they felt at the time. Subsequently, the large projection shows the steps involved in the algorithmic processing of the face: visualizing the reductions that take place to translate facial expressions into data points that are usable for a computer. It is an invitation to open up the box of expression analysis to reveal the assumptions that underlie this technology.

A WEBPAGE IN THREE ACTS
Saturday, 19.11.2016
Normative Orders EG.01, 13:00-14:30
Joana Chicau

This is an assemblage of graphic experiments into a new hybrid form of composition, combining principles of choreography within the formal structures of coding. While the computer interprets the code, the readers/audience will be interpreting and start wondering about the relationship between the “choreographic vocabulary” in the code and its immediate outcome. The page, originally filled with information, will be deconstructed, with elements being moved and removed, ending with a minimal layout.

REMNANTS AND REVENANTS
Normative Orders 5.02, permanent exhibition of prints
Gian Luigi Scarpa
THE CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE “THE FORMATION OF NORMATIVE ORDERS”

The Frankfurt Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders” researches societal transformations from the perspective of the emergence and validity of normative orders. These are understood as historically grounded “orders of justification” that determine the establishment and stabilization of rule and the distribution of opportunities. The research cluster further probes into the norms upon which such orders rest, how they emerge and change, and how they are and can be criticized or legitimized. Researchers from a wide variety of disciplines, such as philosophy, history, political science and legal studies, as well as anthropology, economics, theology and sociology cooperate within this research consortium. The Cluster also hosts an International Graduate Program. For more information, please visit: www.normativeorders.net

INTERNET TBD – TO BE DISCUSSED/DEFINED/DELETED

Internet TBD is an open theoretical collective of young artists and academics. It addresses socio-critical and philosophical questions related to the Internet from an artistic point of view. Together we organise open discussion rounds, lectures, workshops and symposia to create experimental and intimate spaces for critical thinking. The aim of this project is to build bridges between theory and practice, combining these two essential elements of education in order to transgress traditional systems. Internet TBD also works as a library: in response to the overwhelming mass of information on the internet, we have built an online archive of essays and articles that map current processes, movements, and alterations. www.internet-tbd.com

ORGANIZING TEAM

This conference was organized by young academics, researchers and artists from the Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders”, the Goethe University Frankfurt, the University for Art and Design (HfG) in Offenbach and the Internet TBD collective.


The organizing team would like to thank all discussants and colleagues at the Cluster and its partner institutions who made this conference possible through their continuing support.

CONFERENCE VENUE

Goethe University Frankfurt – Campus Westend
Normative Orders Building
Max-Horkheimer-Str. 2
60323 Frankfurt/Main
**HOW TO GET THERE**

**BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**
Arriving at Frankfurt Airport, take the S-Bahn lines 8 or 9 and get off at Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof (central station). From Hauptbahnhof take the S-Bahn lines 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5 / 6 / 8 / 9 to “Hauptwache”, change to U-Bahn (Metro) lines 1 / 2 / 3 / 8 to “Holzhausenstraße”, walk 10 minutes. Or take U-Bahn (Metro) line 4 to “Bockenheimer Warte” and continue with Bus line 36 (direction Hainer Weg) or 75 to University Campus Westend.

**BY CAR**
At highway junction “Nordwestkreuz Frankfurt” (A5/A66) exit onto A66, direction Stadtmitte/Miquelallee. The freeway ends at the city border and transitions onto Miquelallee. Turn right at the first traffic light onto Hansaallee.

**ON CAMPUS**
The conference will take place at the “Normative Orders” building on Max-Horkheimer-Str. 2 in the North-East corner of the campus (1).
THE CLUSTER

The Frankfurt Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders” explores the development of normative orders with a focus on contemporary conflicts concerning the establishment of a “new world order”. The network is funded by the national “Excellence Initiative” and combines a series of research initiatives in Frankfurt and the surrounding area. The Cluster is based at Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main.

THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Normative orders play a decisive role in conflicts over a just and fair economic order and the realisation of peace, human rights and democracy. These orders serve to justify a system of political rule and a specific distribution of goods and life chances. The Cluster investigates how such orders are handed down, modified, institutionalised and practised over long periods of time. In the second funding phase, researchers from the fields of philosophy, history, political science, legal studies, anthropology, economics, theology and sociology will focus greater attention on the question of how justifications assert themselves in the reality of social power relationships. The Cluster is divided into three research areas:

I THE NORMATIVITY OF NORMATIVE ORDERS:
Origins, Vanishing Points, Performativity

With the onset of modernity, the formation of normative orders itself becomes normative – that is, it becomes reflexive and produces critical standards and procedures for examining normative orders. As a result, normative orders become exposed to persistent revision which compels them to change from within. At the same time, normative orders, viewed from a dialectical perspective, produce one-sided justifications or justifications that immunise themselves against criticism and likewise generate discursive power. This is the core idea of the first research area which examines the ‘Normativity of Normative Orders’ with regard to its reflexivity, the genesis of normativity and how it is constituted through narratives, art and the media.

II THE DYNAMICS OF NORMATIVE ORDERS:
Rupture, Change, Continuity

The projects of the second research area deal with the transformation of normative orders, whether it be long-term change or change brought about by conflicts between competing orders. On the one hand, the goal here is to develop possible models of transformation; on the other hand, the focus is on the consolidation of normative orders following periods of crisis and radical change. On the programme are case studies on postrevolutionary situations in antiquity up to the transformations currently taking place in North Africa. A further focus is on historical and contemporary constellations in which revitalised religious and nonreligious discourses engage in negotiation over normative orders. A special point of interest is the broad spectrum of Islamic movements.

III THE PLURALITY OF NORMATIVE ORDERS:
Competition, Overlapping, Connection

A variety of competing patterns of order exists at the supranational level. A possible global security order is also an inherently plural construct whose realisation is being pursued by a variety of means. Companies and international organisations are involved in this endeavour in addition to states. The aim of the third research area is to engage in empirical research and normative reflection on new types of legitimation of transnational orders. This also involves the recognition that different types of legitimation and legitimacy of supranational orders compete with each other. Thus a political order is often legitimised by recourse to democratic participation, though also with reference to public interests or social development.
PEOPLE
Directors of the Cluster:
Prof. Dr. Rainer Forst
(Chair in Political Theory and Philosophy)

Prof. Dr. Klaus Günther
(Chair in Legal Theory, Criminal Law and Law of Criminal Procedure)

Managing Director:
Rebecca Caroline Schmidt

Contact:
office@normativeorders.net

Partners
› Goethe University Frankfurt (applicant – speaker)
› Technische Universität Darmstadt
› Peace Research Institute, Frankfurt/Main
› Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, Frankfurt/Main
› Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg
› Institute for Social Research, Frankfurt/Main
› Frobenius Institute, Frankfurt/Main
› Point Sud, Centre for Research on Local Knowledge, Bamako, Mali

Principal and Partner Investigators:
› Prof. Dr. Armin von Bogdandy
› Prof. Dr. Christoph Burchard
› Prof. Dr. Christopher Daase
› Prof. Dr. Nicole Deitelhoff
› Prof. Dr. Mamadou Diawara
› Prof. Dr. Thomas Duve
› Prof. Dr. Moritz Epple
› Prof. Dr. Andreas Fahrmeir
› Prof. Dr. Rainer Forst
› Prof. Dr. Nicola Fuchs-Schündeln
› Prof. Dr. Klaus Günther
› Prof. Dr. Gunther Hellmann
› Prof. Dr. Axel Honneth
› Prof. Dr. Bernhard Jussen
› Prof. Dr. Stefan Kadelbach
› Prof. Dr. Rainer Klump
› Prof. Dr. Karl-Heinz Kohl
› Prof. Dr. Hartmut Leppin
› Prof. Dr. Dr. Matthias Lutz-Bachmann
› Prof. Dr. Christoph Menke
› Prof. Dr. Darrel Moellendorf
› Prof. Dr. Alexander Peukert
› Prof. Dr. Thomas M. Schmidt
› Prof. Dr. Luise Schorn-Schütte
› Prof. Dr. Susanne Schröter
› Prof. Dr. Martin Seel
› Prof. Dr. Jens Steffek
› Prof. Dr. Annette Warner
› Prof. Dr. Marcus Willaschek
› Prof. Dr. Klaus Dieter Wolf

Board of Advisors
› Prof. Dr. Seyla Benhabib (Yale University)
› Prof. Dr. Samantha Besson (Université de Fribourg)
› Prof. Dr. Kathleen Canning (University of Michigan)
› Prof. Dr. Olivier Jouanan (Université Panthéon-Assas, Paris)
› Prof. Dr. Charles Larmore (Brown University)
› Prof. Dr. Katharina Michaelowa (Universität Zürich)
› Prof. Dr. Thomas Pogge (Yale University)
› Prof. Dr. Claudia Rapp (UCLA)
› Prof. Dr. Hartmut Zinser (Freie Universität Berlin)
› Prof. Dr. Michael Zürn (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung, WZB)
CONTACT

Cluster of Excellence
The Formation of Normative Orders
Goethe University Frankfurt/Main

POSTAL ADDRESS:
Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders”
HPF EXC 5
60629 Frankfurt/Main
Germany

OFFICE ADDRESS:
Building “Normative Orders”
Max-Horkheimer-Str. 2
60323 Frankfurt/Main

www.normativeorders.net
graduateconference@normativeorders.net