

Workshop

Dis/ability History in Dialogue with Literary Studies and Language History / Dis/ability History, Literaturwissenschaft und Sprachgeschichte im Dialog

Creative Unit „Homo debilis. Dis/ability in Pre-Modern Societies“

Host: Creative Unit „Homo debilis. Dis/ability in Pre-Modern Societies“; under the direction of: PD Dr. Sonja Kerth; Dr. Heiko Hiltmann (University of Bremen)

Date, Location: October 10th/11th 2014, Bremen

Deadline: October 1st 2014

Note: The language of the workshop will be German

The interdisciplinary research network „Homo debilis“ aims on establishing Dis/ability History as a new approach focusing systematically on pre-modern societies. The project examines phenomena of physical and mental difference especially concentrating on the question to what extent “dis/ability” respectively “impairment” constituted categories of social difference and order in pre-modern societies. In accordance with Anne Waldschmidt et al., “dis/ability” is spelled with diagonal slash, indicating that “disability” and “ability” cannot be analysed separately.

The workshop tends to develop a broad interdisciplinary and diachronic perspective on the history of “dis/ability”. Thereby, the latter is seen as part of an overall socio-cultural history of the ‘corporeal’. Concepts and methodologies of current Dis/ability History, which mainly concentrates on modern societies, will be reflected and tested on pre-modern societies. The workshop program includes keynote addresses as well as discussion based presentations of selected primary sources. Contributing disciplines are Classical Philology, Language History, Old Norse Studies, Literary Studies, History, and Disability Studies/Studies in Inclusive Education. Further disciplines such as Archaeology, Ancient Near Eastern Studies and English Studies will also be involved. The workshop focuses on linguistic, literary, and iconographic representations. Prior to the workshop all participants will be provided with a reader containing the most important primary sources. Subjects of discussion will be general problems and perspectives; language(s) of pre-modern sources; age and aging; intersectionality/diversity, taking into account several categories of difference, such as gender, age, and social status, as well as their respective interrelations.

The workshop program is completed. No further papers are required, but interested participants are most welcome. Participation is free of charge. Please register as soon as possible: last deadline is October 1st 2014. Unfortunately expenses for traveling, accommodation etc. cannot be refunded. Please note that the language of the workshop will be German.

Registration and Contact:

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