

# International Summer University 2009

July 6th to August 14th 2009

## Montaigne and the Making of the Modern Self

Each summer 40 students from 20 different countries meet in Berlin to live and study together. They attend the *International Summer University* at ECLA, an intellectual adventure for undergraduates and recent graduates interested in fundamental questions about politics, morality art and knowledge. Students are taught in small classes and one-to-one tutorials by a select faculty from disciplines like philosophy, literature, political theory, and art history. They share the facilities of a wonderful, green residential campus and the cultural riches of one of the most vibrant capitals in Europe. The language of instruction is English.

The themes of the 2009 ISU are taken from Michel de Montaigne's *Essays*. During the 6 week programme, students and faculty will explore the impact of Montaigne's moral, religious, cultural and political ideals on our understanding of the modern self. Concrete topics include: the birth of the modern self in Renaissance Europe, the discovery of the New World and its consequences for the self-understanding of European cultures, Montaigne's criticism of human presumption and pride as root causes of the Wars of Religion in 16<sup>th</sup> century France, the relation between morality and politics in modern statecraft, and the place of pleasure friendship, sexuality and death in the care of the self. Along with Montaigne's *Essays*, students will study a variety of philosophical, literary, and historical texts, including Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Machiavelli's *The Prince*, Nietzsche's *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Dostoevsky's *Notes from Underground*, Camus' *The Fall*, and Plato's *Apology*. Films and museum visits will complement the readings.

<b>Dates:</b>	July 6 <sup>th</sup> to August 14 <sup>th</sup> 2009
<b>Location:</b>	ECLA Campus in Berlin, Germany
<b>Title:</b>	The Mantle of the Prophet: Demons, Saints and Terrorists
<b>Application Deadline:</b>	April 14 <sup>th</sup> 2008
<b>Costs:</b>	ECLA charges a comprehensive fee of 4500 Euros for the ISU programme. This fee covers tuition, campus accommodation and meals, books (on loan) and reading materials, class excursions, and emergency medical insurance
<b>Financial Aid:</b>	Philanthropic grants allow ECLA to have a need-blind admissions policy and no qualified student is turned away for lack of funding.
<b>Further information:</b>	Please check the ECLA website <a href="http://www.ecla.de">www.ecla.de</a> or contact the Admissions Office at <a href="mailto:admissions@ecla.de">admissions@ecla.de</a>