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Studying Cultural Studies in Asia

The session is conceived as a discussion comprising of students currently enrolled in Cultural Studies programmes in higher institutions of learning in Asia, as a platform for dialogue on the study of Cultural Studies.

The scope of discussion takes the academic institutionalisation of Cultural Studies as its starting point, in an attempt to investigate and debate the implications and assumptions of the systematisation of Cultural Studies (if it indeed has been systematised). Involving students currently engaged in and desiring to enter into the field of Cultural Studies, the discussion acknowledges the varied backgrounds from which these students approach the field, and explores the extent of their shared goals and expectations. Issues that arise from this discussion include the identity of the Cultural Studies student and the definition of academic practice and its production, but intends to focus on two key questions: 1) location/geography - the significance of one’s origins/background and intended locale of study; and 2) the role of radicalism in Cultural Studies today, the forms of contestation that are expected and/or accepted.