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Cultural Studies and their Theoretical Currencies under the Neo-liberal Humanities Education: Institution, Appropriation and Translation

This panel consists of 3 papers concerned with the current situation of Cultural Studies and its problematic relationship with Critical Theory in general, Area Studies, and Humanities education, which has globally been under considerable financial and institutional pressure in many universities around the world influenced by the dominant trend of neo-liberalism since the 1980s. This paper session has a close conceptual and practical link with a film session also organized by Ted Motohashi, screening Nishiyama Yuji's groundbreaking documentary film *The Right to Philosophy: The Traces of the International College of Philosophy* (*Le droit a la philosophie: les traces du College international de Philosophie*, 2009; 90 minutes). Taking several hints from by Nishiyama's film, the 3 papers will respectively try to problematize the concept of institution, appropriation and translation, through re-examining politico-economic situations surrounding the introduction of Cultural Studies and their theoretical legacies. The geographic focus will be somewhat centered on Japan and its current conditions regulating neo-liberal humanities education, but this panel will hopefully provoke incisive questions regarding the current status of Cultural Studies in universities in other geographic areas, and what roles Cultural Studies and their theoretical discourses might play in the age of neoliberal institutionalization of Humanities in general.