

Information, Communication & Power

A Graduate Workshop with Manuel Castells

Friday April 9th, 10:30-3:00

Deadline for Proposals: March 22nd 2010

Manuel Castells, one of the most cited contemporary scholars and author of *The Rise of the Network Society* (1996) and *Communication and Power* (2009), will be a 2010 Walker-Ames Lecturer. His campus visit is organized by the Graduate School, and will include a large public lecture on April the 8th at 6:30 in Kane Hall (Room 120). In addition, the Information School and the Department of Communication of the University of Washington will host a workshop for advanced graduate students working on questions of technology, information, media and society. The workshop will be an opportunity for students to present research that is in development, including dissertation chapters, fieldwork observations, and drafts of article-length manuscripts. The event will involve core technology and society faculty from both the Information School and the Department of Communication, along with visiting scholar Manuel Castells.

The workshop will be held between 10:30 and 3:00, on April 9th 2010. Lunch will be provided. Six applicants will be selected to join the workshop with Castells. Students will be selected on the basis of fit with workshop themes and the progress towards completing their graduate research.

Overview. The aim of this event is to advance scholarship on networks, communication, society and power through focused discussions of ideas and research strategies with scholars who are innovative thinkers in the area of technology and society. The workshop will allow for research strategizing around questions of inequalities and power, politics and networks, institutions and work, sociopolitical movements, and organizing processes and practices—in relation to technology and culture.

Logistics. The workshop will comprise approximately six faculty and six graduate students from UW, along with visiting scholar Manuel Castells. In preparation for the workshop, participants will be asked to share a draft manuscript one week prior to meeting. Eventually, powerpoint slides or other digital artifacts can also be shared in an online workspace. The workshop will take place at the Simpson Center, and lunch will be provided at the University of Washington Club. Graduate students will be expected to make a 20 minute presentation about their research questions, the progress of their work, and some reflection on the remaining challenges they face in their project. The workshop will be a great opportunity for substantive feedback from both Castells and UW faculty.

Selection. To be considered for participation in the workshop, please email a copy of your CV to either Karine Barzilai-Nahon (karineb@uw.edu) or Phil Howard (pnhoward@uw.edu); the deadline is March 22nd. In your cover email, briefly introduce your project and describe where you are in the research process. Invitations will be extended to graduate students, so in your email to us please describe where you are in the process of completing a graduate degree. Selection will be based on several factors, including the quality and innovation of your work, progress towards completing the graduate degree, the ideas articulated in your letter, the fit between your research interests and the likely contribution of your research to scholarship on technology and society, understanding communication networks and power.