

Summer Institute of the Historial Research Centre : Initiations? The Experience of Modern War (1853-2013)

INITIATIONS?

THE EXPERIENCE OF MODERN WAR (1853-2013)

Organized by:

- **International Research Center, Historial de la Grande Guerre (Péronne, France)**
- **Institut Historique Allemand (Paris, France)**
- **Université Blaise Pascal / CHEC (Clermont-Ferrand, France)**
- **EHESS (Paris, France)**
- **Université Picardie Jules Verne (Amiens, France)**
- **Université du Luxembourg (Luxembourg)**

In partnership with:

- **Université franco-allemande**
- **Mission du centenaire**

From June 30 to July 5, 2014, the Historial de la Grande Guerre will host both an international conference and a Summer Institute for young researchers at the masters and doctoral levels.

The conference, “Initiations? First Moments in the First World War,” will be held from June 30 to July 2. The Summer Institute will run from June 30 through July 5.

The conference welcomes 30 specialists of the First World War, and the Institute provides the opportunity for 30 young scholars to join them in Péronne.

The Summer Institute seeks to broaden the themes introduced by the conference by widening the temporal scope to include all modern conflicts, from the Crimea through the wars of the 21st century.

Beginnings, foundational experiences, initiations, inaugural practices—each of these terms opens different frames for possible interpretation. By encouraging analysis at both the individual and collective level, the goal of the conference—and, more broadly, of the summer institute—is to rethink wartime experiences. How do historical actors use their first experience in these “modern” conflicts to perceive, endure, and, later, “construct” their war?

We hope to encourage social and cultural histories that are intrinsically comparative and open to the influence of other fields in the social sciences—such as anthropology, psychology, and law.

Behind the question of the “initiation” to modern war, is thus an interrogation of the “power of beginnings.” The Institute will endeavor to place the Great War within the longer history of modern conflicts.

Provision schedule

Sunday, June 29

Afternoon: Welcome. Guided tour of the museum by the founding members of the research center.

Evening: Dinner buffet at the museum. Display of posters and workshop introducing the Summer Institute (1 hour). Working groups.

Monday, June 30

Morning and afternoon to 6:00PM: Conference: Sessions 1 and 2.

6:00-7:00PM: Award of Gerda Henkel research grants from the International Research Center of the Historial de la Grande Guerre.

8:30-10:00PM: Keynote lecture: Annette Becker, “The Great War and Extreme Violence Against Civilians: An Initiation?”

Tuesday, July 1

6:30AM-12:00PM: Commemoration of July 1 on the battlefields (La Boisselle and Thiepval or Beaumont-Hamel).

2:00-6:30PM: Conference: Session 3.

8:00-10:00PM: Screening of *La Cicatrice*, a new film by Laurent Veray (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3).

Wednesday, July 2

Morning and afternoon: Conference: Sessions 4 and 5

Thursday, July 3

Morning: Workshop and feedback: critique and discussion of the conference led by the students and the organizing committee. Working groups present and discuss their findings from the conference.

Afternoon: Session of posters, with the historians of the International Research Center.

Evening: Keynote lecture

Friday, July 4

Morning: “Literary” visit to the battlefields of the Somme, with Nicolas Beaupré (Université Blaise Pascal – Clermont-Ferrand)

Afternoon: seminar and workshops: “Digital humanities and the First World War”

Evening: Concluding workshop

Saturday, July 5

Departure of participants

Internet presence

The conference and the Summer Institute are supported by the International Research Center’s multilingual “research forum” on [hypotheses.org](https://www.hypotheses.org). Conference and Institute participants may find useful information there, and the forum also provides First World War news, links, documents, archives, brief articles, and editorials...

See: [1418.hypotheses.org](https://www.hypotheses.org)


Or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/crhistorial>

Or Twitter: @cr_historial

Organizing committee

Nicolas Beaupré (UBP Clermont-Ferrand, CIRHGG, IUF), Caroline Fontaine (CIRHGG), Franziska Heimburger (EHESS), Benoît Majerus (Université du Luxembourg), Nicolas Patin (Institut Historique Allemand, Paris), Manon Pignot (Université de Picardie-Jules-Verne, IUF), Emmanuel Saint-Fuscien (EHESS), Alexandre Sumpf (Université de Strasbourg), Gene Tempest (Boston University), Arndt Weinrich (Institut Historique Allemand, Paris).

Scientific committee

The scientific committee includes all the members of the board of the International Research Center. For more information please see: <http://www.historial.org/Centre-international-de-recherche/Presentation> .