

# Transforming Creative Practice through Diffractive Methodologies

Summer School



Eina Obra

2025–2026  
Academic year

Academic Direction: Pilar Cortada  
Format: Intensive (two weeks)  
Dates: From July 7 to July 18, 2026  
Schedule: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Language: English / Spanish / Catalan  
Location: Eina Bosc – B0  
Tuition: €1400

Transforming Creative Practice through Diffractive Methodologies is a program conceived as a practice-based laboratory for transforming participants' own creative and research work.

Guided by the thought of Karen Barad, the course engages diffraction as both an epistemological and methodological framework for reconfiguring and articulating ongoing practice, while reflecting on the ethical and political implications of specific ways of working.

The program explores situated and relational approaches to creativity and research, emphasizing co-creation, attentiveness to materialities, and more-than-human perspectives. Materials, data, and contexts are understood not as neutral resources, but as active participants in the work.

Who is aimed at	<p>This course is primarily addressed to artists, designers, and creative practitioners working through practice-based research; researchers in art, design, architecture, and related fields interested in reflecting on and transforming their own practice; PhD candidates and early-career researchers engaged in artistic or practice-based research; and educators and facilitators interested in situated, relational, and experimental methodologies.</p> <p>No prior expertise in diffraction is required; an interest in experimental, interdisciplinary, and situated approaches is expected.</p>
Field of knowledge	Art, Design, Creative Practices, Philosophy, Quantum Physics, Science, Technology, Research
Dynamics	<p>The course combines diffractive practices, sessions with invited guests from the fields of art, design, science, and philosophy, experimentation with materialities and data, shared readings and collective discussion, collaborative work and co-creation processes, field-based activities, and situated practice. Participants work throughout the course with their own ongoing project or practice as a point of reference.</p>
Course prerequisites	<p>Participants are asked to bring a project, material process, system, or research question they are currently working with (at any stage). This will function as a situated entry point to analyze apparatuses, produce diffractive readings, and develop relational interventions throughout the course.</p>
About Summer School '26	<p>Eina Obra Summer School 2026 is dedicated to the study and experimentation of diffractive methodologies as critical and creative tools for contemporary practice. Structured around two complementary programs, the Summer School explores how diffraction can operate both as a framework for transforming creative practices and as a method for intervening in technoscientific knowledge production.</p> <p>The first program focuses on the transformation of artistic and design practices, emphasizing relationality and reconfiguration across disciplines. Participants will work from within their own ongoing projects, engaging diffractive methodologies as tools to question, shift, and rearticulate their processes.</p> <p>The second program examines technoscientific systems, investigating how knowledge is produced and how it can be critically and materially intervened from within. Participants will develop conceptual and methodological tools to read, analyze, and intervene in these contexts.</p> <p>The first three sessions are shared across both programs, establishing a common conceptual and methodological foundation before the courses diverge. The Summer School concludes with a shared lunch and a collective exchange between both groups. Together, the two programs position diffraction not only as a theoretical concept, but as an operational methodology for rethinking how we create, research, and engage with the systems that shape contemporary reality.</p>

— Karen Barad

PhD in Quantum Physics and Philosophy, one of the leading voices in material feminism and new materialisms. Introduces agential realism, merging quantum physics and feminist theory to rethink matter, knowledge and ethics.

— Pep Vidal

Artist and scientist, PhD in Physic Sciences, whose research-based practice examines measurement, scientific systems, and the limits of knowledge.

— Lara García Díaz

PhD in Social Sciences, specializing in cultural criticism and art and design theory, focused on academic and artistic research, cultural mediation, and pedagogy.

— Blanca Pujals

Architect and researcher examining borders, techno-scientific infrastructures, and spatial politics through film and installation.

— Pilar Cortada

Eina Obra director and PhD in Philosophy, artist and researcher exploring creativity as a relational, situated and distributed process.

— Julia Nueno

Researcher and computer designer, exploring digital infrastructures with a critical and speculative approach, working at Forensic Architecture.

— Júlia Lull Sanz

Art theorist and historian, PhD in Image Theory, researcher and feminist activist.

— Albert Barqué-Durán (TBC)

Artist and researcher, PhD in Cognitive Science, investigating creative technologies and digital art, focused on artificial intelligence and perception.

— Silvia Zayas

Artist and researcher, PhD in Arts and Humanities, working on embodiment, affect, and relational practices as forms of situated knowledge.

— Claudia Claremí

Artist and filmmaker, he explores memory and the body, and delves into the relationships between the personal and the collective, coloniality and phytoculture.

— Antonio Gagliano

Artist and researcher whose work intertwines drawing, writing, and visual projects to explore how human knowledge emerges, is organized, and circulates.

M1. Introduction: Intra-action, Diffraction, Apparatuses and Agential Cuts  
(How knowledge is produced. Intra-action, responsibility)

— Session 1: Reflection or diffraction?  
Wave or particle?

07/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Karen Barad & Pep Vidal

— Session 2: Apparatuses and Agential Cuts: How Phenomena Emerge

08/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Karen Barad & Pep Vidal

M2. (Reading the Cut in Practice  
Examining how tools, protocols, and working conditions shape what can appear within one's own creative or research practice)

— Session 1: Differences That Matter  
09/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Julia Nueno — Forensic Architecture  
& Lara García

— Session 2: Relational Mapping and Apparatus Reading

10/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Lara García & Pilar Cortada

M3. Material, Object, and Data Agencies  
(Working with materials, objects, and data as co-agents in practice-based research and creation)

— Session 1: Material and Object Agencies in Practice

13/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Júlia Lull Sanz & Lara Díaz

— Session 2: Data as Emerging from  
Situated Practices  
14/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Albert Barqué-Durán & Blanca Pujals

#### M4. Diffractive Methodologies

(Using diffraction as a mode of attention and making, through interference, crossings of perspectives, and productive displacement)

— Session 1: Diffractive Encounters and Affect

15/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Silvia Zayas & Lara García

— Session 2: Attention as an Agential Cut

16/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Claudia Claremi & Pilar Cortada

#### M5. Situated Interventions

(Articulating situated processes and interventions that respond to material, ethical, and political conditions)

— Session 1: Diffractive articulation

17/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Antonio Gagliano & Lara García

— Session 2: Tracing the transformation

18/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Blanca Pujals, Lara García & Pilar Cortada

— *Bring and share* lunch

From 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Faculty and participants from Summer School (Technoscience & Creative Practice)

Payment methods	<p>There are two ways to complete the payment:</p> <p>— Online – via the following registration link:</p> <p><a href="https://buy.stripe.com/14AcN55ff2SoeFDdiNf3a06">https://buy.stripe.com/14AcN55ff2SoeFDdiNf3a06</a></p> <p>— Bank Transfer – to one of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arquia Bank – IBAN: ES80 3183 0800 8710 0086 6424</li><li>• CaixaBank – IBAN: ES50 2100 0808 1702 0073 9229 (Entity Code: 0456635)</li><li>• Banc Sabadell – IBAN: ES66 0081 0150 5500 0132 1537</li><li>• Banco Santander – IBAN: ES44 0049 1806 9726 1199 4641</li></ul> <p>Account Holder: Fundació Eina Payment reference: “Your full name + S.S.Creative”</p>
Discounts	- 10% discount for members of the Eina community
Registration period	Open from February 27 to June 15, 2026
Questions	<a href="mailto:eina.obra@eina.cat">eina.obra@eina.cat</a>
Organization	Eina Obra

