

Intervening in Technoscientific Knowledge Production 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

Intervening in Technoscientific Knowledge Production through Diffractive Methodologies explores how knowledge is produced within contemporary technoscientific contexts and what it means to intervene in these processes.

Engaging with Karen Barad's work on diffraction, intra-action, apparatus, and agential cuts, the course understands knowledge as a relational and performative process rather than as representation.

The program functions as a laboratory for critical reading and intervention, attentive to the ethical, material, and social implications of technoscientific systems, including artificial intelligence, scientific infrastructures, algorithms, data practices, models, and research protocols.

Who is aimed at	<p>This course is addressed to researchers, designers, artists, and professionals working with technoscientific systems, including AI, data, scientific research, and digital infrastructures. It is particularly relevant for those interested in critical, relational, and non-representational approaches to science and technology.</p> <p>No prior knowledge of diffraction is required; an interest in experimental and interdisciplinary practices is expected.</p>
Field of knowledge	Science, Technology, Philosophy, Quantum Physics, Research
Dynamics	The course combines diffractive practices, experimentation with data and systems, shared readings and critical discussions, collaborative work, sessions with invited experts, field visits to scientific infrastructures, and the development of a final relational intervention.
Course prerequisites	Participants are asked to bring a project, dataset, 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.
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.

— Blanca Pujals

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

— 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.

— 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.

— Albert Barqué-Durán (TBC)

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

— Mario Santamaría

Visual artist working with installation, photography, video, and performance to investigate how technical and media devices shape contemporary perception and representation.

— Estampa

(Roc Albalat, Pau Artigas, Marc Padró, Marcel Pié and Daniel Pitarch)
An artistic collective of programmers, filmmakers, and researchers with a critical and archaeological approach to audiovisual and digital technologies.

— Jara Rocha (TBC)

Develops her practice in remediation, editing, action research and in(inter)dependent curating, focused on technology for regenerative justice.

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
(Through which configurations it is produced. Apparatus, phenomenon)

— Session 1: Differences That Matter

09/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Julia Nueno & Lara García

— Session 2: Configuring and Reading Apparatuses

10/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Mario Santamaría & Blanca Pujals

M3. AI as a Sociomaterial Assemblage
(How systems work and decide)

— Session 1: AI as a Distributed Assemblage

13/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Estampa & Blanca Pujals

— Session 2: Data as Emerging from Situated Practices

14/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Albert Barqué-Durán & Blanca Pujals

M4. Scientific Infrastructures as Co-Agents (How scientific infrastructures amplify these dynamics)

— Session 1: Situated Observation: Visiting the Barcelona Supercomputing Center

15/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Blanca Pujals & Pep Vidal

— Session 2: Diffractive Reading of Infrastructures

16/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Blanca Pujals & Pep Vidal

M5. Relational Interventions and Diffractive Articulation

(How to intervene and articulate without breaking the relational logic)

— Session 1: Consolidating Relational Interventions

17/07 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Jara Rocha & Blanca Pujals

— Session 2: Tracing the transformations

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>https://buy.stripe.com/3cl00jazz2So9ljdiNf3a05</p> <p>— Bank Transfer – to one of the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arquia Bank – IBAN: ES80 3183 0800 8710 0086 6424• CaixaBank – IBAN: ES50 2100 0808 1702 0073 9229 (Entity Code: 0456635)• Banc Sabadell – IBAN: ES66 0081 0150 5500 0132 1537• Banco Santander – IBAN: ES44 0049 1806 9726 1199 4641 <p>Account Holder: Fundació Eina Payment reference: “Your full name + S.S.Science”</p>
Discounts	- 10% discount for members of the Eina community
Registration period	Open from February 27 to June 15, 2026
Questions	eina.obra@eina.cat
Organization	Eina Obra

