

**November 2022 –
July 2023**

**All talks start
at 19:30**

**and will
be in English.**

ICI Lecture Series

A model can be an object of admiration, a miniature or a prototype, an abstracted phenomenon or applied theory, a literary text – practically anything from a human body on a catwalk to a mathematical description of a system. It can elicit desire, provide understanding, guide action or thought. Despite the polysemy of the term, models across disciplines and fields share a fundamental characteristic: their effect depends on a specific relational quality. A model is always a model of or for something else, and the relation is reductive insofar as it is selective and considers only certain aspects of both object and model. Critical discussions of models often revolve around their restrictive function. And yet models are less prescriptive and more ambiguous than codified rules or norms. What is the critical purchase of models and how does their generative potential relate to their constitutive reduction? What are the stakes in decreasing or increasing, altering or proliferating the reductiveness of models? How can one work with and on models in a creative, productive manner without disavowing power asymmetries and their exclusionary or limiting effects?

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**28 November 2022
Mara Mills**

**23 January 2023
Tarja Knuuttila**

**27 March 2023
Orit Halpern**

**15 May 2023
Hans-Christian Dany**

**30 May 2023
Mary S. Morgan**

**19 June 2023
Xiaowei Wang**

**3 July 2023
Thomas Harrison**