



Kairouan le,13/03/2023

## Study Day

**May 25, 2023**

The Research Laboratory “Innovation in Research Methodologies and Pedagogy in Humanities” at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Kairouan, organizes a Study Day on “**Mutations**” on **May 25, 2023**.

The concept of mutation has been explored from different perspectives, showing the importance of evolution, flux, and innovation, which may affect the configurations of organisms over time.

Friedrich Nietzsche associates mutations with the “eternal return,” advocating that everything occurring in the past will happen again infinitely. In Jean-Paul Sartre’s philosophy, mutation is often associated with radical freedom. Thus, the subject mutates from the state of being into non-being. Other philosophers, such as Jacques Derrida and Michel Foucault, use the concept of mutation to describe how language, power, and knowledge are constantly changing and evolving. Mutations break with traditional modes of thinking and open up new spaces for creativity and innovation.

Gilles Deleuze advances mutations as radical modes to break down binary oppositions and hierarchies. He emphasizes the importance of becoming in the process of mutation. Becoming is not a fixed state or identity. Instead, it is a dynamic and continuous process of transformation and growth. Mutations occur when entities or systems become something new and different. They are not merely random variations or deviations from a norm. They are creative and productive forces that generate new possibilities and potentialities.

Indeed, mutations trace pathways towards transformation, conveying flows as free energies that underlie evolution, radical change, and *possibilization*. They underlie shifts in perspectives and perceptions, liberating the subject from the spectrum of fixed understanding of reality. Encounters between affects, sensations, and thoughts bring about phenomenological mutations, which may result in logical exhaustion. The mutational processes from the classical to the modern and postmodern ages represent a breakthrough in the world of knowledge and consciousness. Conceptual mutations in philosophy testify to innovative critical thinking and pertinent apprehension of the phenomenon.

The mutation from one theory to another, from one literary genre to another, from drama to fiction or vice versa is due to creativity, evolution, innovation, and necessity. For example, the mutation from text to screen testifies to the importance of the effects of image movements and sounds, in unrestrained space, on the audience's understanding and conviction. The study of filmed plays or filmed novels is an attempt to find out further implications.

Mutation in language acquisition manifests in evolution from one interlanguage to another, from one level to another. Indeed, in philosophy, literature, culture studies, and linguistics, the concept of mutation can be explored from various perspectives and prisms.

The study day will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at the Conference Room, Faculty of Humanities and Arts in Kairouan. Please, send a 250-word abstract to hyperlink [labo.flshk@gmail.com](mailto:labo.flshk@gmail.com) by April 10, 2023. Acceptance of papers will be sent out by April 13, 2023. **The Research Laboratory will publish peer-reviewed papers.**

**The topics might be related, but not limited, to the following issues:**

- Mutations and the evolution of language
- Mutations as necessities
- Mutation and gravity
- Mutations and postmodern notions of subjectivity and human agency.
- Existential Mutation and *possibilization*
- Sociopolitical upheaval as random Mutation
- Mutation as a subtle threat to systems and ideologies
- Mutation as the subversion of the myth of truth, validity, presence, macrocosmic oversight of reality
- Mutation from utopia to dystopia
- Mutations in genes and schemes
- Mutation in pedagogy and innovation in teaching methods
- Mutation in research methodology
- Transmutation of plays or novels into films
- Molecular Mutations and the reconfiguration of subjectivity

**Head of the Research Lab**

**Pr. Abdallah Bahloul**

**Coordinator**

**Dr. Adel Bahroun**

