

HSPS Tripos – Part IIA, Soc2

Social Theory

(2017-18)

Paper Coordinator

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Lecturers

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Aims and Objectives

- To provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the major traditions and key contributions to contemporary social theory.
- To enable students to read the work of major authors in some depth.
- To develop analytical skills and intellectual understanding so that students can engage in an analysis of theoretical debates in an informed and rigorous manner.
- To explain the relevance of contemporary social theory for substantive problems of social and political analysis.

Course content

This paper introduces students to a range of well-defined topics, from the Frankfurt School to the most recent work on risk, identity, difference, sexuality and feminist theory. Students should acquire a firm grasp of key theoretical approaches enabling them to read the work of contemporary social theorists in some depth. The period covered runs from 1920 to the present day, but the emphasis is on recent (post-1960) developments. The traditions and orientations are situated in their social and intellectual context, and the writings of key thinkers are examined textually in detail. The strengths and limitations of different perspectives are discussed and, where appropriate, their relevance to social research explored. Among the perspectives and authors covered are the following: Mead; symbolic interactionism and ethnomethodology; hermeneutics and theories of interpretation; the development of Marxist thought in the twentieth century; the Frankfurt School and critical theory; Habermas; Foucault; Bourdieu; Bauman; Giddens; Beck; functionalism; structuralism, post-structuralism; theories of modernity and postmodernity; theories of subjectivity, identity and 'race'; theories of power and resistance; feminist theory; theorising sexuality.

Modes of teaching and assessment

The paper is taught by lectures, supervisions and revision classes around themes and texts. Lectures will provide an overview of issues and debates and detailed discussions of key texts. Supervision is essential for this paper and should be arranged in consultation with a Director of Studies. Supervisions will be directly concerned with the general concepts, texts and theories that have been covered in the lectures. It is essential for students to write six or eight essays over the course of the year. There are classes and lectures in the Easter term both for revision and to make connections between the different components of the paper. The exam paper is undivided and covers the lecture programme. Students should attempt three questions.

Supervision

Supervisions will be organised by the course organiser in the first lecture.

How does this paper relate to others?

This paper builds further on Part I, Paper 2: it elaborates on the contemporary relevance of the sociological classics, in particular Marx, Weber and Durkheim. For example, this paper discusses Marx's and Weber's influence on Sartre and the Frankfurt School, or Durkheim's impact on structuralist thought. The paper is an ideal stepping stone towards some of the debates in Soc 2 (for example, the work of Giddens, Beck and Bauman is directly relevant to current debates on globalization), Soc 4 (for example, Bourdieu's theory of fields, Adorno and Horkheimer's notion of the culture industry and Habermas's theory of the public sphere), Soc 10 (for example, Foucault's writings have informed recent work on the body), Int 5 (the lectures on feminist theory are directly relevant to this paper) and Int 6 (again, Foucault's work has had a profound impact on the study of crime, deviance and social control). This paper also goes well with Pol 2 (for example, the legacy of Marx) and Pol 6 (for example, The Frankfurt School). This paper is a prerequisite for students wishing to take Soc 6, the Advanced Social Theory paper, in their final year.

Outline of Lectures

Michaelmas 2017

Development of Social Theory (I) Dr Filipe Carreira da Silva

The aim of this course is to explain key developments in modern social theory and explore the link with sociology, psychology and political science. The lectures can be divided into four sections. The first section (lectures 2-4) explores the tradition of American micro-sociology, in particular, G.H.Mead, Goffman's dramaturgical approach and Garfinkel's ethnomethodology. The second section (lectures 5-8) introduces the French tradition of social theory and philosophy, focusing on existentialism, structuralism, Bourdieu's genetic structuralism and Latour's actor-network theory. The third section (lectures 9-10) deals with critical rationalism and 'analytical' social theory, focusing on rational choice theory. The final section (lectures 11-12) discusses the relationship between politics and social theory by exploring the Frankfurt School and the origins of the German tradition of critical theory.

Lectures

1. Introduction: varieties of theorising, and relevance to sociology, politics and psychology.
- 2-4. American contributions to the study of social interaction
 2. The self and interaction (I): American pragmatism, G.H. Mead and symbolic interactionism.
 3. The self and interaction (II): Erving Goffman and the sociology of everyday life.
 4. The self and interaction (III): Harold Garfinkel and the sociology of everyday life.
- 5-12: French social theory
 - 5-6. Existentialism: Sartre, de Beauvoir.
 - 7-8. Structuralism: applications in history, linguistics, anthropology and semiotics.
 - 9-10. Pierre Bourdieu.
 - 11-12. Redefining the social: Bruno Latour and actor-network theory (lecture by Josh Booth)
- 13-14. Falsificationism and rational choice theory
 13. Falsificationism and sophisticated falsificationism..
 14. Falsificationism and the rediscovery of *homo economicus*
- 15-16. Politics and social theory
 15. Frankfurt School and the notion of critical theory.
 16. Adorno, Horkheimer and the critique of Enlightenment.

Readings

- 1.

Baert, P. and F.Carreira da Silva 2010. *Social Theory in the Twentieth Century and Beyond*. Cambridge: Polity.

Delanty, G. & S. Turner 2011 (eds.) *Routledge International Handbook of Contemporary Social and Political Theory*. London: Routledge.

Inglis, D. & C. Thorpe 2012. *An Invitation to Social Theory*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Seidman, S. 2012. *Contested Knowledge; Social Theory Today. 5th Edition*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Turner, B.S.(ed.) 2009. *The New Blackwell Companion to Social Theory*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Stones, R. (ed.) 2017. *Key Sociological Thinkers*, 3rd ed. London: Palgrave-Macmillan.

2.

Blumer, H. 1969. *Symbolic Interactionism; Perspectives and Method*. New York: Prentice Hall.

Carreira da Silva, F. 2007. *G.H. Mead; A Critical Introduction*. Cambridge: Polity.

Carreira da Silva, F. 2008. *Mead and Modernity; Science, Selfhood, and Democratic Politics*. Lanham, Md: Lexington Books.

Joas, H. 1995. *G.H. Mead*. Cambridge: Polity.

*Mead, G.H. 1934. *Mind, Self and Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Mead, G.H. 2011. *Mead. A Reader*. London/New York: Routledge.

Plummer, K. 1991. *Symbolic Interactionism* (volumes 1 & 2). Aldershot: Edward Elgar.

Rock, P. 1979. *The Making of Symbolic Interactionism*. London: MacMillan.

Essay question: What's distinctive about G.H. Mead's account of the self?

3.

Burns, T. 1992. *Erving Goffman*. London: Routledge.

Drew, P. and A.Wootton (Eds.) 1988. *Erving Goffman; Exploring the Interaction Order*. Cambridge: Polity.

Giddens, A. 1987. *Social Theory and Modern Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity, chapter 5.

*Goffman, E. 1959. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

*Goffman, E. 1961. *Asylums*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

*Goffman, E. 1964. *Stigma*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Goffman, E. 1972. *Encounters; Two Studies in the Sociology of Interaction*. London: Penguin.

Manning, P. 1992. *Erving Goffman and Modern Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity.

Smith, G. (ed.) 1999. *Goffman and Social Organization*. London: Routledge.

Essay question: critically assess Goffman's views on the role of stigma in modern society.

4.

Benson, D. and J.A.Hughes 1983. *The Perspective of Ethnomethodology*. London: Longman.

Coulon, A. 1995. *Ethnomethodology*. London: Sage.

Giddens, A. 1976. *New Rules of Sociological Method*. London: Hutchinson.

Giddens, A. 1984. *The Constitution of Society; Outline of the Theory of Structuration*. Cambridge: Polity.

*Heritage, J. 1984. *Garfinkel and Ethnomethodology*. Cambridge: Polity.

Schutz, A. 1967. *The Phenomenology of the Social World*. Evanston, Ill.: Northwestern University Press.

Schutz, A. 1962. *Collected Papers, Volume 1*. The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff.

*Garfinkel, H. 1967. *Studies in Ethnomethodology*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

Heritage, J. 1984. *Garfinkel and Ethnomethodology*. Cambridge: Polity.

Heritage, J. 1987. 'Ethnomethodology', in Giddens, A. and Turner, J (Eds.) *Social Theory Today*. Cambridge: Polity, pp. 224-272.
Leiter, K. 1980. *A Primer on Ethnomethodology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Essay question: In what sense should we take the trivialities of everyday life seriously?

5-6.

*Baert, P. 2015. *The Existentialist Moment; The Rise of Sartre as a Public Intellectual*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
Davies, H. 1987. *Sartre and Les Temps Modernes*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
*de Beauvoir, S. 1972. *The Second Sex*. London: Penguin.(originally: 1949)
Sartre, J-P. 1973. *Existentialism and Humanism*. London: Methuen. (originally: 1946)
*Sartre, J-P. 1976. *Anti-Semite and Jew*. New York: Schocken. (originally: 1948)
Sartre, J-P. 1963. *The Problem of Method*. London: Methuen. (originally: 1960)
*Sartre, J-P. 1983. *Between Existentialism and Marxism*. London: Verso. (originally: 1962)
Judt, T. *Past Imperfect; French Intellectuals, 1944-1956*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
Boschetti, A. 1988. *The Intellectual Enterprise: Sartre and 'Les Temps Modernes'*. Evanston: Northwestern University Press.

Essay question: Is Marxism compatible with existentialism?

7.

*Benoist, J-M. 1978. *The Structural Revolution*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson.
Glucksmann, M. 1974. *Structuralist Analysis in Contemporary Social Thought*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.
Harland, R. 1988. *Superstructuralism; The Philosophy of Structuralism and Post-structuralism*. London: Routledge (introduction, chapters 1 & 2).
Kurzweil, E. 1980. *The Age of Structuralism: Levi-Strauss to Foucault*. London: Tavistock.
Pettit, P. 1975. *The Concept of Structuralism: A Critical Analysis*. Dublin: Gill & Macmillan.
Sturrock, J. (ed.) 1979. *Structuralism and Since; From Levi-Strauss to Derrida*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (introduction, chapter 1).

8.

*Barthes, R. 1972. *Mythologies*. London: Cape. (originally: 1957)
*Braudel, F. 1980. *On History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (originally: 1967)
Braudel, F. 1973. *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Phillip II*, Volume 1. Glasgow: William Collins (preface). (originally: 1966)
Burke, P. 1990. *French Historical Revolution: The Annales School, 1929-89*. Cambridge: Polity.
Culler, J. 1986. *Ferdinand de Saussure*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
Culler, J. 1990. *Roland Barthes*. London: 1983.
Holdcroft, D. 1991. *Saussure: Signs, System and Arbitrariness*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
*Levi-Strauss, C. 1993. *Structural Anthropology, Part 1*. London: Penguin. (originally: 1963)
*Levi-Strauss, C. 1994. *Structural Anthropology, Part 2*. London: Penguin. (originally: 1973)
Levi-Strauss, C. 1985. *The View from Afar*. London: Penguin. (originally: 1983)
Leach, E. 1970. *Levi-Strauss*. London: Fontana/Collins.
Saussure, F. 1959. *Course in General Linguistics*. London: Peter Owen. (originally: 1915)

Essay question: Critically assess the structuralist revolution in EITHER history, OR linguistics, OR anthropology, OR semiotics.

9-10.

*Bourdieu, P. and L.J.D. Wacquant. 1992. *An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity.

*Bourdieu, P. 1977. *Outline of a Theory of Practice*. Cambridge: CUP. (originally, 1972)

Bourdieu, P. 1990. *The Logic of Practice*. Cambridge: Polity. (originally, 1980)

*Bourdieu, P. 1984. *Distinction; A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*. London: Routledge.

Bourdieu, P. 1999. *The Weight of the World. Social suffering in contemporary society*. Cambridge: Polity.

Calhoun, C., LiPuma, E. and M.Postone (Eds.) 1993. *Bourdieu; Critical Perspectives*. Cambridge: Polity.

Jenkins, R. 1992. *Pierre Bourdieu*. London: Routledge.

Harker, R., Mahar, C. and C. Wilkes (Eds.) 1990. *An Introduction to the Work of Pierre Bourdieu*. London: MacMillan. (esp. intro, chapters 1 and 2)

Essay question: Critically assess Bourdieu's explanation for the role of culture in the reproduction of inequality.

11-12.

Hassard, J. and J. Law (eds.) 1999. *Actor Network Theory and After*. Oxford: Blackwell. (esp. chapters 1, 2 and 10)

Latour, B. and S. Woolgar. 1986. *Laboratory Life: The Construction of Scientific Facts*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (esp. chapters 1-3 and postscript)

*Latour, B. 1993. *The Pasteurization of France*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. (esp. Introduction)

*Latour, B. 1993. *We Have Never Been Modern*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

Latour, B. 2001. *Pandora's Hope; Essays on the Reality of Science Studies*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

*Latour, B. 2005. *Reassembling the Social: an Introduction to Actor-Network Theory and After*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Essay question: In what sense does Latour want to redefine the nature of the social? Do you agree?

13.

Baert, P. 2005. *Philosophy of the Social Sciences: Towards Pragmatism*. Cambridge: Polity, chapter 3.

*Kuhn, T. 1970. *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Chicago:University of Chicago Press.

Lakatos, I. and A. Musgrave (eds.) 1970. *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Feyerabend, P. 1975. *Against Method; Outline of Anarchistic Theory of Knowledge*. London: Humanities Press.

* Popper, K. 1991. *The Poverty of Historicism*. London: Routledge.

* Popper, K. 1991. *Conjectures and Refutations*. London: Routledge, chapters 15-20.

Essay question: Do theories need to be falsifiable?

14.

Coleman, J. 1990. *Foundations of Social Theory*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
 Coleman, J. & Fararo, T. (ed.) 1992. *Rational Choice Theory; Advocacy and Critique*. London: Sage
 Elster, J. 1979. *Ulysses and the Sirens; Studies in Rationality and Irrationality*. Cambridge: CUP.
 Elster, J. 1983. *Sour Grapes; Studies in the Subversion of Rationality*. Cambridge: CUP.
 Elster, J. (ed.) 1986. *Rational Choice*. New York: New York University Press.
 Elster, J. 2007. *Explaining Social Behaviour; More Nuts and Bolts for the Social Sciences*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 Friedman, J. (ed.) 1996. *The Rational Choice Controversy; Economic Models of Politics Considered*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
 Green, D. and Shapiro, I. 1994. *Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
 *Hedström, P. 2005. *Dissecting the Social; On the Principles of Analytical Sociology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Essay question: What type of rational choice theory is most effective for the social sciences?

15-16.

Arato, A. and E. Gebhardt (eds.) 1978 *The Essential Frankfurt School Reader*. Oxford: Blackwell.
 Bronner, S.E. 1994. *Of Critical Theory and its Theorists*. Oxford: Blackwell.
 Calhoun, C. 1995. *Critical Social Theory*. Oxford: Blackwell.
 Held, D. 1990. *Introduction to Critical Theory*. Cambridge: Polity.
 Wiggershaus, R. 1994. *The Frankfurt School: Its History, Theories, and Political Significance*. Trans. Michael Robertson. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press.
 * Jay, M. 1973. *The Dialectical Imagination: A History of the Frankfurt School and the Institute of Social Research, 1923 - 1950*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company.

Essay question: see 12.

12.

Adorno, T. 1994. *The Stars Down to Earth and Other Essays on the Irrational in Culture*. Ed. Stephen Crook. London and New York: Routledge.
 Adorno, T. 1991. *The Culture Industry: Selected Essays on Mass Culture*. Ed. J.M. Bernstein. London: Routledge.
 * Horkheimer, M. 2005. *The Eclipse of Reason*. London: Continuum.
 * Horkheimer, M. and T. Adorno. 1973. *The Dialectic of Enlightenment*. London: Allen Lane.
 Jay, M. *Adorno*. London: Fontana.
 Rose, G. 1978. *The Melancholy Science: An Introduction to the Thought of Theodor W. Adorno*. London: Macmillan.

Essay question: According to the Frankfurt School, what is problematic about the Enlightenment project?

Lent 2018

Development of Social Theory (II)
Prof John Thompson

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to various perspectives and debates in contemporary social theory. I'll be focusing on modern European thought and I'll discuss the work of a variety of authors and traditions. I'll seek to provide both a systematic introduction to the work of key theorists and a balanced assessment of their contributions. Throughout the course, the critical discussion of major texts will be used as a basis upon which to raise some of the key issues and problems of social theory today.

The following list cites some of the literature to which I'll refer. No-one will be expected to read all or even most of this literature, but a detailed list may be helpful to students who wish to pursue particular topics in depth. I've starred the writings which are highly recommended. You may also find the following paperbacks helpful throughout the course:

R. Bernstein, *The Restructuring of Social and Political Theory*
P. Baert and F. Carreira da Silva, *Social Theory in the Twentieth Century and Beyond*
A. Elliott, *Contemporary Social Theory*

I've provided one or more essay questions for each topic, but exam papers from previous years are also a very good source of essay questions.

The course will consist of eight sessions of two hours each. I'll aim to deal with one of the following topics during each session, allowing time for questions and discussion at the middle and the end of each session.

1. Hermeneutics and Social Theory (I)

Introduction to the course: the Enlightenment and its legacy. Hermeneutics and the problem of understanding; Dilthey's theory of historical understanding; Heidegger's analysis of the structure of understanding; Gadamer's account of the effective-historical consciousness.

W. Outhwaite, *Understanding Social Life*
W. Dilthey, *Selected Writings*, esp. Part IV
M. Heidegger, *Being and Time*, esp. Part I
*H-G. Gadamer, *Truth and Method*, esp. Part II, section 2.
H.-G. Gadamer, *Philosophical Hermeneutics*, esp. ch. 2.
R. Palmer, *Hermeneutics*
*R. Bernstein, *Beyond Objectivism and Relativism*, Part III
*G. Warnke, *Gadamer*
*J. Habermas, *On the Logic of Social Sciences*, esp. pp.143-75

Essay question: Is Gadamer's analysis of tradition inherently conservative?

2. Hermeneutics and Social Theory (II)

Interpretation and method in social inquiry; the idea of depth hermeneutics; Ricoeur's account of action as a text; Geertz's analysis of culture as a text; problems of interpretation in the analysis of popular culture.

P. Ricoeur, *The Conflict of Interpretations*, esp. Part I
 *P. Ricoeur, *Hermeneutics and the Human Sciences*, esp. ch. 8
 *C. Geertz, *The Interpretation of Cultures*, esp. chs. 1 and 15
 J. Thompson, *Studies in the Theory of Ideology*, ch. 5
 J. Thompson, *Ideology and Modern Culture*, esp. chs. 3 and 6
 *J. Clifford and G. Marcus (eds.), *Writing Culture*, esp. V. Crampanzano, 'Hermes Dilemma'
 J. Radway, *Reading the Romance*

Essay question: Is interpreting cultures a matter of reading texts?

3. Habermas and Critical Theory (I)

The philosophical orientation of Habermas's critical theory; knowledge and human interests; the theory of practical discourse; problems of critique and justification in social analysis.

*J. Habermas, *Knowledge and Human Interests*
 J. Habermas, 'A Postscript to *Knowledge and Human Interests*', *Philosophy of the Social Sciences* (1973)
 *J. Habermas, 'What is Universal Pragmatics?', in *Communication and the Evolution of Society*
 J. Habermas, *The Theory of Communicative Action*, esp. vol.1, ch. 3
 *J. Habermas, 'Discourse Ethics', in *Moral Consciousness and Communicative Action*
 J. Habermas, *The Philosophical Discourse of Modernity*
 T. McCarthy, *The Critical Theory of Jurgen Habermas*
 *T. McCarthy, 'Practical Discourse', in his *Ideals and Illusions*
 S. Benhabib, *Situating the Self*, esp. ch. 1
 J. Thompson & D. Held (eds), *Habermas: Critical Debates*, esp. chs. 3-7
 R. Bernstein (ed.), *Habermas and Modernity*
 R. Geuss, *The Idea of a Critical Theory*

Essay question: Does Habermas's theory of practical discourse provide a sound basis for dealing with the normative problems of critical theory?

4. Habermas and Critical Theory (II)

The background to Habermas's substantive social theory; the crisis tendencies of contemporary capitalism; the theory of rationalization and the colonization of the life-world; modernity as an unfinished project; the postnational constellation.

*J. Habermas, *Legitimation Crisis*
 *J. Habermas, *The Theory of Communicative Action*, esp. vol.2, ch. 8
 J. Habermas, *Between Facts and Norms*, esp. ch. 7
 *J. Habermas, 'Modernity: An Unfinished Project', in S. Benhabib & M. Passerin D'Entreves (eds), *Habermas and the Unfinished Project of Modernity*
 J. Habermas, *The Philosophical Discourse of Modernity*
 J. Habermas, 'Three Normative Models of Democracy', *Constellations*, 1 (1994)
 *J. Habermas, 'The Postnational Constellation and the Future of Democracy', in *The Postnational Constellation*
 J. Habermas, 'Does the Constitutionalization of International Law Still have a Chance?', in *The Divided West*
 A. Honneth & H. Joas (eds), *Communicative Action*

A. Honneth, *The Critique of Power*, esp. chs. 7-8

*N. Fraser, *Unruly Practices*, esp. ch. 6

Essay question: Is Habermas right to think of modernity as an unfinished project?

5. Foucault and Social Theory (I)

The idea of an archaeology of knowledge; the history of madness and the birth of the asylum; the archaeology of the human sciences; methodological problems of historical epistemology.

*M. Foucault, *Madness and Civilization*

M. Foucault, *The Birth of the Clinic*

M. Foucault, *The Order of Things*

*M. Foucault, *The Archaeology of Knowledge*

A. Sheridan, *Michel Foucault*

*H. Dreyfus & P. Rabinow, *Michel Foucault*

M. Cousins & A. Hussain, *Michel Foucault*

L. McNay, *Foucault*

G. Gutting, *Michel Foucault's Archaeology of Scientific Reason*

Essay question: Is Foucault's archaeology of knowledge an intellectually coherent enterprise?

6. Foucault and Social Theory (II)

The genealogy of power; the birth of the prison; punishment, discipline and surveillance in modern societies; the history of sexuality and practices of the self; problems of knowledge, power and critique.

*M. Foucault, *Discipline and Punish*

*M. Foucault, *The History of Sexuality*, vol. 1

M. Foucault, *The Use of Pleasure*

M. Foucault, *Care of the Self*

*M. Foucault, *Knowledge/Power* (ed. C. Gordon)

*M. Foucault, *Politics, Philosophy, Culture* (ed. L. Kritzman)

M. Foucault et al., *Technologies of the Self*

*D. Hoy (ed), *Foucault: A Critical Reader*

P. Dews, *Logics of Disintegration*, esp. chs. 5-7

N. Fraser, *Unruly Practices*, esp. chs. 1-3

A. Honneth, *The Critique of Power*, esp. chs. 4-6

L. McNay, *Foucault and Feminism*

Essay question 1: Do we live in a 'society of surveillance'?

Essay question 2: What can the history of sexuality tell us about the formation of the modern subject?

7. Modernity and Postmodernity (I)

The ideas of modernity and postmodernity; Lyotard on the postmodern condition; Bauman on modernity, ambivalence and the Holocaust; the idea of liquid modernity; the significance of postmodernism.

D. Harvey, *The Condition of Postmodernity*

*J.-F. Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition*

*Z. Bauman, *Modernity and Ambivalence*

*Z. Bauman, *Modernity and the Holocaust*

*Z. Bauman, *Liquid Modernity*

Z. Bauman, *Globalization: The Human Consequences*

Z. Bauman, *Liquid Life*

Z. Bauman, *Liquid Times*

Z. Bauman and K. Tester, *Conversations with Zygmunt Bauman*

D. Smith, *Zygmunt Bauman*

S. Connor, *Postmodernist Culture*

S. Best and D. Kellner, *Postmodern Theory*

A. Callinicos, *Against Postmodernism*

Essay question 1: Is our condition 'postmodern', as Lyotard claims?

Essay question 2: 'Without modern civilization, without the whole assortment of achievements of which we are otherwise so proud, the Holocaust would have been unthinkable.' (BAUMAN)

Discuss.

8. Modernity and Postmodernity (II)

Beck on risk society and the second modernity; Giddens on modernity and its consequences; self and society in the late modern age; rethinking modernity and the tasks of social theory.

*U. Beck, *Risk Society*

*U. Beck, *World at Risk*

*U. Beck and E. Beck-Gernsheim, *Individualization*

U. Beck, *Power in the Global Age*

U. Beck and E. Beck-Gernsheim, *The Normal Chaos of Love*

*U. Beck, A. Giddens and S. Lash, *Reflexive Modernization*

U. Beck and J. Willms, *Conversations with Ulrich Beck*

B. Adam, U. Beck and J. van Loon (eds.), *The Risk Society and Beyond*

W. Atkinson, 'Beck, individualization and the death of class: a critique', *The British Journal of Sociology*, 58 (2007), pp. 349-66.

U. Beck, 'Beyond class and nation: reframing social inequalities in a globalizing world', *The British Journal of Sociology*, 58 (2007), pp. 679-705.

*A. Giddens, *The Consequences of Modernity*

*A. Giddens, *Modernity and Self-Identity*

A. Giddens, *The Transformation of Intimacy*

Essay question 1: What do Beck and Giddens mean by 'reflexive modernization'? Are they right to argue that this is fundamentally different from earlier forms of modernization?

Essay question 2: Assess Beck's thesis that in the conditions of the second modernity, 'how one lives becomes the biographical solution of systemic contradictions'.

Feminist Theory

Prof Linda Layne

These four one-hour lectures explore feminist social theories addressing knowledge, modernity, intimacy, the body, gender, sexuality and inequality.

Lecture 1: Feminist Science Studies

Readings:

- *Harding, Sandra ed. 2004 *Feminist Standpoint Theory Reader*. Routledge.
- *Haraway, Donna J. 2003 *The Haraway Reader*. Routledge.
- *Harding, S. 2008 *Sciences from Below: Feminisms, Postcolonialities, and Modernities*.
- Fox Keller, Evelyn 1983 *A Feeling for the Organism: The Life and Work of Barbara McClintock*. W H Freeman. Especially chapters 9 and 12.
- Layne, L. 1996 "'How's the Baby Doing?': Struggling with Narratives of Progress in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit" *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 10(4):624-656.

Essay Question: Assess the view that all knowledge claims are socially located.

Lecture 2: Feminist Technology Studies

Readings:

- *Layne, L. S. Vostral, K. Boyer eds. 2010 *Feminist Technology*. U. Illinois Press.
- *Foucault, M. et al., *Technologies of the Self*. U of Massachusetts Press, 1988.
- Layne, L. 2003 *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of Pregnancy Loss in America*. Routledge. Especially Chapter 5 "New Reproductive Technologies"
- Maines, Rachel 1988 *The Technology of Orgasm: Hysteria, the Vibrator and Women's Sexual Satisfaction*. Johns Hopkins.
- Barker, Jane and Hazel Downing 1985 "Word Processing and the Transformation of Patriarchal Relations of Control in the Office," in: MacKenzie and Wajcman, Eds., *The Social Shaping of Technology*. Open University Press. pp. 147-164.
- van Oost, Ellen 2003 "Materialized Gender: How Shavers Configure the Users' Femininity and Masculinity," in Pinch and Oudshoorn, Eds., *How Users Matter* MIT Press. pp.193-208.
- Schiebinger, Londa 2013 *Gendered Innovations: How Gender Analysis Contributes to Research*.
- Jain, S. 2006 *Injury: The Politics of Product Design and Safety Law in the United States*. Princeton University Press. Chapter 3 on keyboard design and repetitive strain injury.

Essay Question: Are 'Feminist Technologies' 'Technologies of the Self'?

Lecture 3: Modern sexual experiences, identities, and power

Readings:

- *Mottier, V. 2008. *Sexuality* (A Very Short Introduction). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Mottier, V. 'Masculine Domination: Gender and Power in Bourdieu's Writings', *Feminist Theory*, vol.3(3): 345-359 (2002).
- *Butler, J. 2004. *Undoing Gender*. New York: Routledge.
- Goffman, I. 1988. *Gender Advertisements*
- *Brison, Susan J. 2003 *Aftermath: Violence and the Remaking of a Self*.
- Brownmiller, S. 1975. *Against our Will: Men, Women and Rape*. London: Secker & Warburg.
- Bourke, J. 2007. *Rape. A History from 1860 to the Present* (Chapter 15). London: Virago.
- Tiefer, Leonore 2004 *Sex is Not a Natural Act*. Westview.

- Carver, T. and V. Mottier (Eds.) 1998. *Politics of Sexuality: Identity, Gender, Citizenship*. London: Routledge.
- Duggan, L. & N. Hunter 1995. *Sex Wars: Sexual Dissent and Political Culture*. New York: Routledge.
- Dworkin, A. 1987. *Intercourse*. New York: Free Press.
- Dworkin, A. 1981. *Pornography: Men Possessing Women*. London: The Women's Press.
- Griffin, S. 1981. *Pornography and Silence: Culture's Revenge Against Women*. London: The Women's Press.
- Jackson, S. & S. Scott (Eds) 1996. *Feminism and Sexuality: A Reader*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Jeffreys, S. 1990. *Anticlimax: A Feminist Perspective on the Sexual Revolution*. London: The Women's Press.
- McKinnon, C. 2006. *Are Women Human? And Other International Dialogues*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Roberts, D. 1997. *Killing the Black Body. Race, Reproduction and the Meaning of Liberty*. New York: Vintage.

Essay question: Do you agree that sexuality and gender power are inextricably intertwined?

Lecture 4: Intimacy and Inequality

Readings:

- *Beck, U. and Beck-Gernsheim, E. 1995. *The Normal Chaos of Love*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- *Giddens, A. 1992. *The Transformation of Intimacy: Sexuality, Love and Eroticism in Modern Societies*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- *Faircloth and Twamley eds. 2015 special issue on 'Gender, Equality and Intimacy: (un)comfortable bedfellows?' *Sociological Research Online* 20(4)7.
- Pratt, Geraldine and Victoria Rosner (eds.) 2012. *The Global and the Intimate Feminism in Our Time*. NY: Columbia UP. Especially Introduction.
- Weston, Kath 2017 *Animate Planet: Making Visceral Sense of Living in a High-Tech Ecologically Damaged World*. Duke University Press. Especially the Introduction "Animating Intimacies, Reanimating a World" and Chapter 2, "The Unwanted Intimacy of Radiation Exposure in Japan."
- Meyer, Donald 1987 *Sex and Power: The Rise of Women in America, Russia, Sweden, and Italy*. Introduction.

Essay question: Why are intimate relationships a particular site of feminist claims?

Easter 2018

Revision Sessions

Dr Filipe Carreira da Silva and Prof John Thompson

Lecture 1:

Revision – Dr F Carreira da Silva's lectures.

Lecture 2:

Revision – Prof J Thompson's and Prof L Layne's lectures.

Student Feedback:

Your chance to put forward your opinions on the papers you take!

For Sociology Papers, student feedback is collected via hard-copy anonymous questionnaires distributed at various points in the academic year. It is crucial that you fill these out and give feedback on your papers. Getting good feedback from students makes the course better and shows the outside world how Cambridge degrees consider their students' views.

Course organisers take students' concerns and suggestions into consideration each year when preparing their paper outlines and selecting supervisors for the year. So please remember to fill out a form.