

# INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL THEORY CONSORTIUM 2018

## MODERNITY BETWEEN THE DAMAGED LIFE AND THE SANE SOCIETY: SOCIAL THEORY IN THE AGE OF URGENCY

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, CHICAGO  
CORBOY LAW CENTER (CLC)  
25 E Pearson St, Chicago, IL 60611

---- Final Program ----

Thursday, May 17, 2018

12:00-1:30 Regular Sessions

(1) THEORIZING FROM THE EDGE OF THE SOCIAL – CLC 301

*Alexander Stoner*, Global Climate Change, Ideology Critique, and the Environment-Society Problematic

*Brittany Page Brake*, Why so Disparaging? A Recalculation of the Value of Utopian Thought in Political Thought

*Josiah Solis*, Reflections from a Damaged Religion: Critique from the Culture Industry to the Christian Question

(2) ON CAPITALISM, DEMOCRACY, AND AUTHORITARIANISM – CLC 323

*Marzouq Alnusf*, A Reconstruction of Nancy Fraser's Approach to Global Justice

*David Purucker*, Beyond the Crisis of Democracy: Capitalist Expropriation of the Political

*Chris Altamura*, Dialectic of Dominance: Authoritarianism(s) and the 2012 Election

(3) CONTROL GALORE: TRUMP AND SILICON VALLEY – CLC 421

*Steven Panageotou*, The United States of Trump Corp: When a Personal Brand Becomes President

*Tony Feldman*, MAGA and the Masses: The Socio-historical Roots of Trumpism

*Thomas Bechtold*, Silicon Imaginary: Intelligence and Ideology in Silicon Valley

Thursday, May 17, 2018

**1:45-3:45** WELCOME – Anne Figert, Department Chair, Department of Sociology, Loyola University

**Opening Plenary** – **Kasbeer Hall**

THE DAMAGED LIFE AND THE SANE SOCIETY

Moderator: Stephen Turner

*Lauren Langman and George Lundskow*, Fromm and the Sane Society

*Harry F. Dahms*, Adorno and the Damaged Life

*Stephen Eric Bronner*, More Damaged Life

**4:00-5:30** **Regular Sessions:**

(1) THE PERSISTENT RELEVANCE OF ADORNO – **CLC 301**

*Fabian Arzuaga*, Adorno on the Forgotten Socio-Economic Conditions of Authoritarianism

*Christina LoTempio*, Beyond Pessimism: Politicizing Adorno in our Contemporary Moment

*Robert Leonard*, Go Where You Don't Belong: The Contradiction of Consuming 'Nature'

(2) PERSPECTIVES ON THE NEW ACTIVISM: WHAT ROLE FOR YOUTH AND STUDENTS? – **CLC 412**

*James Block*, Youth Activism and the Reawakening of Radical Theory

*Adnan Selimovic*, Youth of the World Unite! Youth Politics and the Dynamic of Transformation

*Sam Signorelli*, Rediscovering the Utopic Vision: The Necessity of Returning from Fantasies of Mars and Renewing Faith in the Human Project on Earth

(3) CLIMATE CHANGE AND ECOLOGY – **CLC 323**

*Jerry Harris*, Green Capitalism and the Chinese Challenge

*Michael J. Sukhov*, Herbert Marcuse, Radical Subjectivity, and Climate Breakdown: Toward a New Ecological Politics

*Nikhil Deb*, Slow Violence and Negative Dialectics in the Age of Ecological Urgency

**5:45-6:45** **Keynote** – **Kasbeer Hall**

THOUGHT IN A TIME OF ACADEMIC CHOLERA -- *Stephen Turner*

Moderator: James Block

**7:00-** **Dinner at Local Restaurants**

Friday, May 18, 2018

**8:30-10:00** Regular Sessions

(1) THE PERSISTENT PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE: RACE AND GENDER – CLC 301

*Rose M. Brewer*, Reading Race, Class, and Gender as Integrated Theory

*Mary Ryan*, The Kerner Commission, White Supremacy, and Lingering Democratic Dystopia

*Steven Tuttle*, Towards a Lefebvrian Theory of the Racialization of Space

(2) CRITICAL THEORY/THEORY OF SOCIETY: HABERMAS, LUHMANN, FRASER – CLC 421

*Theodore Lai*, Taking More by Returning Less: Productivity and Exploitation in Capitalism

*Keunchang Oh*, The End of Progress? Habermas's Theory of Social Norms and the Question of Social Evolution

*Anthony J Knowles*, Luhmann's Theory of Society and the Social Crisis of Labor

(3) BEFORE (AND AFTER) CAPITALISM: RELIGION AND OTHER MATTERS – CLC 323

*Pauline Fu*, On 'Before Money' and Its Experimental Thoughtworld

*Whitney Johnson*, Concept and Sensation in Auditory Culture: The Emancipated Spectator in Simulated Utopia

*Jeremiah Morelock*, Disease and Madness as Gender Allegories in *I Am Legend* Remakes

**10:15-12:15** Thematic Session – Kasbeer Hall

HISTORICAL SPECIFICITY, THE DISPLACEMENT OF LABOR AND THE PERSISTENCE OF SOCIAL DOMINATION: A RECONSIDERATION OF MOISHE POSTONE'S CRITICAL THEORY

Moderator: Fabian Arzuaga

*John Abromeit*

*Mark Loeffler*

*Chris O'Kane*

*William Sewell*

**12:15-1:30** Lunch

**1:30-2:15** Keynote – Kasbeer Hall

RELEARNING LIBERATION: CRITICAL THEORY IN OUR TIME AND PLACE --

*Nancy Hanrahan*

Moderator: Harry F. Dahms

Friday, May 18, 2018

**2:30-4:00** Regular Sessions

(1) INSTANCES OF THE WORKINGS OF CAPITALISM – **CLC 301**

*Berch Berberoglu*, Toward a Theory of Wealth and Income Inequality: Research on One Hundred Years of Data on the United States

*Torsten Menge*, Self-determination, Foreign Land Acquisitions, and the Ontology of Political Communities

*Aaron Crowe*, Why Are We Really Talking About Universal Basic Income?

(2) CRITICAL THEORY AND CULTURE INDUSTRY – **CLC 421**

*Todd Hedrick*, Has “the culture industry” been refuted? Ontogenesis and the instrumental orientation toward culture

*Anthony Mansueto*, Resuming Critical Theory: Why Engaging the Problem of Decommodification is the Condition for Creating a Renewed Humanistic (and Spiritual) Left

*Mark Amiradakis*, The Culture Industry - Consideration, Corroboration and Continuation

(3) THE CONDITION OF THE PSYCHE IN MODERNITY – **CLC 323**

*Eugene Halton*, From Affirmative Mind to Rational Madness

*Jerome Braun*, Hysteria and Personal Identity

*Helge Kminek*, Education for maturity and responsibility in the beginning of the 21st century

**4:15-5:45** Regular Sessions

(1) ETHICS, ACTIVISM AND PROTEST – **CLC 301**

*Hille Haker*, Towards an Ethics of Vulnerable Agency

*Claude Barbre*, The Cost of Activism and the Wages of Sacrifice: Self-Love, Selfish Love, and the Sane Society in Turbulent Times

*Joel Crombez*, Dialectic of Anxiety: Socioanalysis and the Damaged Life

(2) THEORIZING POLITICS IN THE AGE OF TRUMP– **CLC 421**

*Alessandro Bonanno*, Populist Protest and the Legitimation Crisis of Neoliberalism and Authoritarian Capitalism

*Jeffrey Halley*, Adornoian Sociology and Trump in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election

*Francis Shor*, Trumpism and the Dystopian Social Matrix

Friday, May 18, 2018

**4:15-5:45** Regular Sessions

(3) FRACTURE AND FRAGMENTATION IN MODERN SOCIAL LIFE – **CLC 323**

*Daniel Sullivan*, The Internalization of Social Fracture: Tracing the ISR's  
Critical Research on Authoritarianism

*Reha Kadakal*, The Return of the Fragmented Subject: Critical Realism, False  
Ontology, and the Regression of Social Theory

*William H. Burr*, Failures of Consciousness and the Commodity Aesthetic under  
Consumer Capital

**6:00-7:00** Thematic Plenary – **Kasbeer Hall**

THE FUTURE OF FUTURE(S)

Moderator: James Block

*James Block*

*Adnan Selimovic*

*Michael Thompson*

**7:00** **Dinner at Lao She Chuan** (520 North Michigan Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> floor –  
contribution: \$35)

Saturday, May 19, 2018

**8:45-10:15** Regular Sessions

(1) PROTEST, PERFORMATIVITY, MEANING AND VIOLENCE IN MODERNITY –  
**CLC 301**

*Carlton Clark*, The Future of Social Protest: When symbolism, rhetoric, and  
discourse are not enough

*Dean Curran*, Representation as Intervention: Re-thinking Performativity in a  
Post-Crisis World

*Helen-Mary Cawood*, The Murder of God: Man, Meaning and Modernity

(2) CAPITALISM AS A CYPHER FOR SOCIAL RELATIONS– **CLC 421**

*William Sipling*, Platform as "Estranged Labor"- Social Capitalism, Influencers,  
and Mediated Communities as Agents of Public Opinion Crystallization

*Kirstin Munro*, The Artisan Economy and the New Spirit of Capitalism

*Ilaria Riccioni*, On Late Modern Urgency for Sociological Knowledge

Saturday, May 19, 2018

**10:30-12:00** Thematic Plenary – Kasbeer Hall

AFTER CAPITALISM

Moderator: Lauren Langma

*David Schweikart*, A Viable Alternative to an Insane Society: What's Standing in the Way?

*Dan Swinney*, Inclusion & Industry 4.0: Rising from the Ashes.

**12:00-1:00** Lunch

**1:00-2:30** Regular Sessions

(1) MODERNITY BETWEEN RECOGNITION AND REVOLUTION – **CLC 301**

*Lisa Smyth*, Rethinking Social Roles: Conflict and Modern Life

*David Ingram*, A Micro-logical Critique of Gendered Micro-Finance: Recognition and the Subordination Paradox

*Sarah L. MacMillen*, The “Difficult Path” of Revolution: Karl Marx via Rosa Luxemburg

(2) AXEL HONNETH AS CRITICAL THEORIST– **CLC 421**

Moderator: Daniel Krier

*Harry F. Dahms*

*Hille Haker*

*Lauren Langman*

*Volker Schmitz*

*Michael Thompson*

**2:45-4:15** Closing Plenary – Kasbeer Hall

SOCIAL THEORY IN THE AGE OF TRUMP

Moderator: Michael J. Thompson

*Peter Kivisto*, What Does Nationalism Mean for Trump Supporters?

*Black Hawk Hancock*, Alternative Facts and the Enemy of the State: Can there be a Politics of Truth in the Trump Era?

*Daniel Krier*, Capital Irrepressible: On the Political Economy and Political Psychology of Trumpism