Centre for Applied Philosophy, Politics and Ethics  
Second Research Seminar Series in Contemporary Critical Theories

2010/11: Critical Theorists on Capitalism, the Financial Crisis and Political Responses: 2008-10

Venue: TO BE CONFIRMED

This research seminar, hosted by CAPPE and the Faculty of Arts and Architecture, is aimed at PhD students and staff interested in contemporary politics, philosophy and critical theory. Every year we focus on a different theorist or topic. For the 2010/11 academic year we read theorists who have attempted to interpret the most recent crisis of capitalism. Each session will have a lecture of one hour followed by a seminar discussion, with a half hour break. The aim of the course is to stimulate discussion between PhD students, and staff across the institution. We will also explore the possibility of completing research bids for further work in this area. The course will be coordinated by Dr Mark Devenney. If you have any enquiries please email Mark on md17@brighton.ac.uk. The readings listed are indicative, but each week there is at least one reading that everyone participating on the course should read. This course does not require that you have economic knowledge at all. Those attending will have to grapple with some of the complexities of finance, but sessions are intended to open up discussion between colleagues who have done some preparation.

All sessions will be held between 10.00 and 13.00 on Wednesday Mornings (see dates in course outline.) VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED

COURSE OUTLINE

Topic 1: Introduction to the Financial Crisis

Session 1: What Happened: A Brief Introduction to the Financial Crisis

Wednesday 17th of November 2010

Reading


Session 2: Neo-liberalism and the Financial Crisis: Competing Approaches

Wednesday the 24th of November 2010


**Topic 2: ‘Accounting for Life’ in Capitalist Society**

**Session 3: The Financialisation of Everyday Life**

**Wednesday 7th of December 2010**


**Session 4: The Body as Capital: Bio-economies of Property**

**Wednesday 12th of January 2011**


Session 5: The Body as Capital: The Politics of Life Itself  
Wednesday 26th of January

Marx, Capital Volume 1 Chapter 16/17 and 23/24. pp 711-761.

Topic 3: The Global Geography(ies) of Capitalism

Session 6: Outsourcing after Colonialism: Assessing the New Imperialism Thesis  
Wednesday the 9th of February 2011

Marx, Capital Volume 1 Chapter 25 pp 762-870.

Session 7: Capitalism and Warfare: Iraq, Afghanistan, PrivateContractors and the War on Terror  
Wednesday 23rd of February 2011

Session 8: **Post-Colonialism and Capitalism**  
**Wednesday 9th of March 2011**

International Peace Information Service (IPIS). (2002) *Supporting the War Economy in the DRC: European companies and the Cobalt trade*, Brussels. (available online)

Session 9: **Land Grab and Primitive Accumulation**  
**Wednesday 23rd of March 2011**


**Topic 4: Resistance to Capitalism**

Session 10: **Waiting for the Revolution? Exploring the Limits of Marxist Accounts of Political Change**  
**Wednesday 27th of April 2011**


Session 11: The Politics of the Event: Zizek and Badiou on politics
Wednesday 4th of May 2011


Session 12: Hardt and Negri on the Multitude
Wednesday 11th of May 2011

Reid, Julian ‘Biopolitical Life: the ‘war against war’ of the Multitude’ in The Biopolitics of the War on Terror’ Manchester University Press, pp. 102-144.

Session 13: Aesthetics of Resistance or Art for Capital?
Wednesday 8th of June 2011