



**CITY UNIVERSITY
LONDON**

IP3033 Cultural Political Economy

Department of International Politics
Spring Term, 2019-2020



Dr Amin Samman
Amin.Samman.1@city.ac.uk

Lectures: Friday 13.00 in DLG09
Tutorials: Friday 14.00/15.00 in DLG09

Introduction

Cultural Political Economy is an interdisciplinary field of study that focuses on the cultural logics of economic practices and processes, with a particular emphasis on the ways in which these shape the dynamics of contemporary capitalist economies. The purpose of this module is to introduce the key concepts, approaches, and debates in this field, and to provide an opportunity for in-depth study of the cultural logics at work in one or more aspect of contemporary capitalism. You will consider questions such as:

- Why do people want money?
- How does storytelling shape the dynamics of economic crisis?
- What is the political significance of popular films, documentaries, and novels about finance?
- Does contemporary art reflect, reveal, or challenge the financialisation of everyday life
- In what way does cultural struggle shape the development and deployment of new economic technologies?

The first part of the module provides a survey of competing theoretical approaches to questions of culture in economy, drawing on new developments in the fields of political economy, cultural economy, and the economic humanities. These include attempts to theorise the role of discourse, ideology, ideas, narrative, and emotion in contemporary economic life.

The second part of the module uses these approaches to explore in depth a variety of cultural products, practices, and processes in the contemporary context. These include questions related to the cultural transmission of greed; the role of the media during times of crisis; the political significance of popular literature and films on finance; the intersections between financial logics and the contemporary art world; and the imagined economic futures associated with new advancements in technology.

Aims and objectives

In this module you will be introduced to a range of key concepts and debates that have developed in the burgeoning field of cultural political economy. Our core objective is to use these concepts and debates to study the concrete issues and problems that define the contemporary cultures of global capitalism.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, a student will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Identify and analyse key theoretical debates associated with the cultural turns in political economy
- Recognise and understand the differences between competing strands of cultural political economy
- Account for the strengths and weaknesses of different research agendas associated with the cultural foundations of contemporary capitalism

Skills

- Critically assess major shifts in the money cultures of advanced economies
- Analyse the role of ideas, narratives, and popular culture during times of crisis
- Identify key intersections between global finance and the contemporary art world
- Critically analyse discourses associated with new economic technologies

Values and attitudes

- Engage with the central arguments around the cultural logics of capitalism
- Appreciate the theoretical and political challenges posed by new cultures of money, finance, and crisis
- Further develop analytical skills to comprehend and reflect upon the significance of emerging cultures of global capitalism

Teaching methods

The course is taught through a series of 10 lectures and 10 seminars. Core ideas and debates will be presented in the lectures and you will have the opportunity to ask questions and develop your thinking in the discussion-based seminars. It is vital that you read deeply and widely for the course in preparation for the seminars, as they will be student-led discussions. **You are expected to attend all the lectures and all the seminars.** It is also vital that you attend your assigned seminars, as your classmates will be depending on you to contribute to class discussion.

Assessment

The form of assessment for this module is one **3,000-word essay**. For this you must choose and answer one from a list of possible questions, which cover the entire module content. It is possible to develop your own essay question with the module convenor, but it is vital that have your question approved before you prepare your essay. In order to pass the module and acquire the associated credit, you must achieve a module mark of no less than 40%. Coursework deadline is **14 April 2020**.

Reflective learning week

Please note that there will be no lectures or tutorials this week. There will be department wide activities for students this week. It also provides you an opportunity to catch-up on readings and to begin thinking about your assessed essay topic.

Module literature

Each week you will be expected to read the two required readings fully and closely in advance of your tutorial. Further readings are provided to guide your research on each topic and feed into your coursework project.

Office hours

Dr Amin Samman holds two office hours per week during term time in Room D515, on **Thursdays from 14.00-16.00**.

In order to avoid unnecessary waiting please book an appointment in advance:

http://supersaas.com/schedule/Amin_Samman/Office_Hours

Module structure

Week 1	Economism and beyond
Week 2	Constructivist and cultural political economy
Week 3	Cultural economy and the economic humanities
Week 4	Gender and feminist political economy
Week 5	Libidinal political economy
Week 6	Reflective learning week
Week 7	Money and desire
Week 8	Representing and mediating crisis
Week 9	Contemporary capitalism in popular culture
Week 10	Money and finance in contemporary art
Week 11	Cultures of cyber-capitalism

Recommended books

- Abdelal, R., Blyth, M., and Parsons, C. (2010) *Constructing the International Economy*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- Aitken, R. (2007) *Performing Capital: Toward a Cultural Economy of Popular and Global Finance*. Basingstoke: Macmillan.
- Best, J., and Paterson, M. (eds.). (2010) *Cultural Political Economy*. London: Routledge.
- Cameron, A., and Palan, R. (2004) *The Imagined Economies of Globalization*. London: Sage.
- Crosthwaite, P., Knight, P., and Marsh, N. (2014) *Show Me the Money: The Image of Finance, 1700 to the Present*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- De Goede, M. (ed.) (2006) *International Political Economy and Poststructural Politics*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Du Gay, P. and Pryke, M. (eds.) (2002) *Cultural Economy: Cultural Analysis and Commercial Life*. London: Sage.
- Dufresne, T. and Sacchetti, C. (eds.) (2012) *The Economy as Cultural System: Theory, Capitalism, Crisis*. London: Bloomsbury.
- Haiven, M. (2018) *Art After Money, Money After Art: Creative Strategies Against Financialization*. London: Pluto.
- Moeran, B. and de Waal Malefyt, T. (eds.) (2018) *Magical Capitalism: Enchantment, Spells, and Occult Practices in Contemporary Economies*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Montgomerie, J. (ed.) (2017) *Critical Methods in Political and Cultural Economy*. London: Routledge.
- Peterson, V.S. (2003) *A Critical Rewriting of Global Political Economy: Integrating Reproductive, Productive, and Virtual Economies*. London: Routledge.
- Samman, A. (2019) *History in Financial Times*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Sum, N. L. and Jessop, B. (2013) *Towards a Cultural Political Economy: Putting Culture in its Place in Political Economy*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Woodmansee, M. and Osteen, M. (eds.) (1999) *The New Economic Criticism: Studies at the Intersection of Literature and Economics*. London: Routledge.

Week 1 – Economism and beyond

Questions

1. What is 'economism'?
2. Has the critique of economism gone too far?

Essential readings

- Nutter, G.W. (1979) On economism. *Journal of Law and Economics*, 22(2): 263-68.
- De Goede, M. (2003) Beyond economism in international political economy. *Review of International Studies*, 29(1): 79-97.

Further readings

Examples of economism

- Frieden, J. (1991) Invested interests: The politics of national economic policies in a world of global finance. *International Organization*, 45(4): 425-51.
- Lake, D.A. (2009) Open economy politics: A critical review. *Review of International Organizations*, 4(3): 219-44.
- Marx, K. (1970) Preface. In: *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*, New York, NY: International Publishers. Available at: <<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1859/critique-pol-economy/index.htm>>.
- Rogowski, R. (1987) Political cleavages and changing exposure to trade. *American Political Science Review*, 81(4): 1121-37.

The debate in IPE

- Ashley, R.K. (1983) Three modes of economism. *International Studies Quarterly*, 27(4): 463-96.
- Bieler, A. and Morton, A.D. (2008) The deficits of discourse in IPE: Turning base metal into gold? *International Studies Quarterly*, 52(1): 103-28.

- Laffey, M. (2004) The red herring of economism: A reply to Marieke de Goede. *Review of International Studies*, 30(3): 459-68.
- Samman, A. and Seabrooke, L. (2017) International political economy. In: Guillaume, X., and Bilgin, P. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of International Political Sociology*, London: Routledge, 46-59.

Critical versus cultural IPE

- Kranke, M. (2014) Which ‘C’ are you talking about? Critical meets cultural IPE. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 42(3): 897-907.
- Best, J. and Paterson, M. (2015) Towards a cultural political economy – not a cultural IPE. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 43(2): 738-40.
- Shields, S., Bruff, I., and Macartney, H. (2015) Critical international political economy and the importance of dissensus. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 43(2): 735-37.
- Kranke, M. (2015) Of gardens and gates in (international) political economy: A rejoinder. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 43(2): 741-42.

Week 2 – Constructivist and cultural political economy

Questions

1. What do constructivists mean when they say that ‘ideas matter’?
2. What are the key differences between the constructivist and cultural political economy traditions?

Essential readings

- Blyth, M. (2003) Structures do not come with an instruction sheet: Interests, ideas, and progress in political science. *Perspectives on Politics*, 1(4): 695-706.
- Jessop, B. (2004) Critical semiotic analysis and cultural political economy. *Critical Discourse Studies*, 1(2): 159-74.

Further readings

- Abdelal, R., Blyth, M., and Parsons, C. (eds.) (2010) Introduction. In: *Constructing the International Economy*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1-19.
- Broome, A. (2013) Constructivism in international political economy. In: Palan, R. (ed.) *Global Political Economy: Contemporary Theories*. Second edition. London: Routledge, 193-204.
- Chwioroth, J.M. and Sinclair, T.J. (2013) How you stand depends on how we see: International capital mobility as social fact. *Review of International Political Economy*, 20(3): 457-85.
- Hay, C. (1999) Crisis and the structural transformation of the state: Interrogating the process of change. *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 1(3): 317-44.
- Jessop, B. and Sum, N.-L. (2006) Towards a cultural international political economy: Poststructuralism and the Italian school. In: De Goede, M. (ed.) *International Political Economy and Poststructural Politics*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 157-76.
- Konings, M. (2015) What is constructivism for? *Progress in Political Economy* [Blog], 18 February. Available at: <<http://ppesydney.net/what-is-constructivism-for/>>.

- Samman, A. (2015) Crisis theory and the historical imagination. *Review of International Political Economy*, 22(5): 966-95.
- Samman, A. and Seabrooke, L. (2016) International political economy. In: Guillaume, X. and Bilgin, P. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of International Political Sociology*. London: Routledge, 46-59.
- Sum, N.-L. (2009) The production of hegemonic policy discourses: 'Competitiveness' as a knowledge brand and its (re-) contextualizations. *Critical Policy Studies*, 3(2), 184-203.
- Wang, Q.K. and Blyth, M. (2013) Constructivism and the study of international political economy in China. *Review of International Political Economy*, 20(6): 1276-99.
- Widmaier, W. (2003) The Keynesian bases of a constructivist theory of the international political economy. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 32(1): 87-107.
- Widmaier, W., Blyth, M. and Seabrooke, L. (2007) Exogenous shocks or endogenous constructions? The meanings of wars and crises. *International Studies Quarterly*, 51(4): 747-59.

Week 3 – Cultural economy and the economic humanities

Questions

1. How does the concept of ‘performativity’ relate to the subject matter of economics?
2. What can literary theory and criticism offer to economic analysis?

Essential readings

- Callon, M. (2007) What does it mean to say that economics is performative? In: Mackenzie, D., Muniesa, F., and Siu, L. (eds.) *Do Economists Make Markets? On the Performativity of Economics*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 311-57.
- Knight, P. (2019) Economic humanities: Literature, culture, and capitalism. In: Coste, J.-H. and Dussol, V. (eds.) *Representations of Capitalism in American Realism*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, in press.

Further readings

- Butler, J. (2010) Performative agency. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 3(2): 147-61.
- Callon, M. (1999) Actor-network theory: The market test. *The Sociological Review*, 47(S1): 181-95.
- Cameron, A. and Palan, R. (2004). *The Imagined Economies of Globalization*. London: Sage.
- Clover, J. (2014). Retcon. *Representations*, 126(1): 9-30.
- Christophers, B. (2014) From Marx to market and back again: Performing the economy. *Geoforum*, 57: 12-20.
- Hardin, C. (2017) The politics of finance: Cultural economy, cultural studies and the road ahead. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 10(4): 325-38.
- La Berge, L.C. (2016) How to make money with words: Finance, performativity, language. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 9(1): 43-62.
- Marsh, N. (2012) Money’s doubles: Reading, fiction and finance capital. *Textual Practice*, 26(1): 115-33.

- McCloskey, D.N. (1984) The literary character of economics. *Daedalus*, 113(3): 97-119.
- Muniesa, F. (2014) *The Provoked Economy: Economic Reality and The Performative Turn*. London: Routledge.
- Toscano, A. (2016) Structured by cows. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 9(3): 304-309.
- Woodmansee, M. and Osteen, M. (1999) Taking account of the new economic criticism: An historical introduction. In: Woodmansee, M. and Osteen, M. (eds.) *The New Economic Criticism: Studies at the Intersection of Literature and Economics*. London: Routledge, 3-50.

Week 4 – Gender and feminist political economy

Questions

1. How does feminist political economy relate to other critical approaches?
2. What are ‘gendered subjectivities’ and how do they shape economic realities?

Essential readings

- Griffin, P. (2007) Refashioning IPE: What and how gender analysis teaches international (global) political economy. *Review of International Political Economy*, 14(4): 719-36.
- Hozić, A. and True, J. (2017) Brexit as a scandal: Gender and global trumpism. *Review of International Political Economy*, 24(2): 270-87.

Further readings

- Adkins, L. (2018) Money: A feminist issue. *Australian Feminist Studies*, 33(96): 167-71. See also Adkins, L. (2018) *The Time of Money*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Bedford, K. and Rai, S. (2010) Feminists theorize international political economy. *Signs: Journal of women in Culture and Society*, 36(1): 1-18.
- Brassett, J. and Rethel, L. (2015) Sexy money: The hetero-normative politics of global finance. *Review of International Studies*, 41(3): 429-49.
- Clarke, C. and Roberts, A. (2016) Mark Carney and the gendered political economy of British central banking. *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 18(1): 49-71.
- De Goede, M. (2000) Mastering ‘lady credit’. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 2(1): 58-81.
- Elias, J. (2013) Davos woman to the rescue of global capitalism: Postfeminist politics and competitiveness promotion at the World Economic Forum. *International Political Sociology*, 7(2): 152-69.
- Gibson-Graham, J.K. (1996) *The End of Capitalism (As We Knew It): A Feminist Critique of Political Economy*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

- Griffin, P. (2016) Feminist political economy. In: Steans, J. and Tepe-Belfrage, D. (eds.) *Handbook on Gender in World Politics*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 345-53.
- Griffin, P. (2017) Masculinities and financial capitalism. In: Armengol, J., Vilarubias, M., Carabí, A. and Requena, T. (eds.) *Masculinities and Literary Studies: Intersections and New Directions*. London: Routledge, 155-67.
- Hozíć, A. and True, J. (eds.) (2016) *Scandalous Economics: Gender and the Politics of Financial Crises*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- LeBaron, G. (2010) The political economy of the household: Neoliberal restructuring, enclosures, and daily life. *Review of International Political Economy*, 17(5): 889-912.
- Prügl, E. (2011) Diversity management and gender mainstreaming as technologies of government. *Politics and Gender*, 7(1): 71-89.

Week 5 – Libidinal political economy

Questions

1. How does libidinal political economy depart from the traditional assumptions of economics?
2. Why has the libidinal approach proved so difficult to operationalise?

Essential readings

- Amin, A. and Palan, R. (2001) Towards a non-rationalist international political economy. *Review of International Political Economy*, 8(4): 559-77.
- Gammon, E. and Palan, R. (2006) Libidinal international political economy. In: De Goede, M. (ed.) *International Political Economy and Poststructural Politics*, Basingstoke: Palgrave, 97-114.

Further readings

- Bataille, G. (1991/1949) *The Accursed Share: An Essay on General Economy, Volume I*. Translated by R. Hurley. New York, NY: Zone Books.
- Cooper, B. and Murphy, M. (1999) 'Libidinal economics': Lyotard and accounting for the unaccountable. In: Woodmansee, M. and Osteen, M. (eds.) *The New Economic Criticism: Studies at the Intersection of Literature and Economics*. London: Routledge, 229-42.
- Crosthwaite, P. (2013) Animality and ideology in contemporary economic discourse: Taxonomizing homo economicus. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 6(1): 94-109.
- Deleuze, G. and Guattari, F. (2007/1984) *Anti-Oedipus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*. Translated by R. Hurley, M. Seem and H.R. Lane. London: Continuum.
- Gammon, E. (2008) Affect and the rise of the self-regulating market. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 37(2): 251-78.
- Gammon, E. (2013) The psycho- and sociogenesis of neoliberalism. *Critical Sociology*, 39(4): 511-28.
- Goux, J.-J. (1990) General economics and postmodern capitalism. *Yale French Studies*, 78: 206-24

- Goux, J.-J. (2012) Pleasure and pain: At the crossroad of psychoanalysis and political economy. In: Bennett, D. (ed.) (2012) *Loaded Subjects: Psychoanalysis, Money, and the Global Financial Crisis*, London: Lawrence & Wishart, 181-96.
- Jenkins, B. (2013) Erotic economics. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 6(2): 168-83.
- Lyotard, J.F. (1993) *Libidinal Economy*. Translated by I.H. Grant. London: Athlone.
- Pedersen, M. and Kristensen, A.R. (2016) 'Blowing up the pylon': The limitations to Lacanism in organization studies, seen from the perspective of Deleuze and Guattari. *Culture and Organization*, DOI: 10.1080/14759551.2016.1230855
- Yuran, N. (2016) A moralistic failure: Mandeville and the obscene origin of economic thought. *Social Research: An International Quarterly*, 83(3): 573-95.

Week 6 – Reflective learning week



Department-wide events during reading week to be announced

Week 7 – Money and desire

Questions

1. Why do we want money?
2. Why do we waste money?

Essential readings

- Hart, K. (2007) The persuasive power of money. *The Memory Bank*, 12 January. Available at: < <http://thememorybank.co.uk/2007/01/12/the-persuasive-power-of-money/>>.
- Crosthwaite, P. (2010) Blood on the trading floor: Waste, sacrifice, and death in financial crises. *Angelaki*, 15(2): 3-18.

Further readings

- Belk, R.W. and Wallendorf, M. (1990) The sacred meanings of money. *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 11(1): 35-67.
- Bjerg, O. (2014) *Making Money: The Philosophy of Crisis Capitalism*. London: Verso.
- Cameron, A. (2016) Money's unholy trinity: Devil, trickster, fool. *Culture and Organization*, 22(1): 4-19.
- Dodd, N. (2016) *The Social Life of Money*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Chapters 4 and 5.
- Gammon, E. and Wigan, D. (2015) Veblen, Bataille and financial innovation. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 32(4): 105-31.
- Henwood, D. (1989) Money, mind and matter. *Grand Street*, 9(1): 237-246.
- Keating, N. (1994) Rioting and looting: As a modern-day form of potlatch. *Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed*, 39. Available at: <<https://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/neal-keating-rioting-looting-as-a-modern-day-form-of-potlatch/>>.
- Konings, M. (2015) *The Emotional Logic of Capitalism: What Progressives Have Missed*, Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

- Maurer, B. (2002) Repressed futures: Financial derivatives' theological unconscious. *Economy and Society*, 31(1): 15-36.
- Maurer, B. (2006) The anthropology of money. *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 35: 15-36.
- Wolfenstein, E.V. (1993) Mr. Moneybags meets the Rat Man: Marx and Freud on the meaning of money. *Political Psychology*, 14(2): 279-308.
- Yuran, N. (2014) *What Money Wants: An Economy of Desire*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

Week 8 – Representing and mediating crisis

Questions

1. In what sense is there a narrative dimension to crisis?
2. How can media coverage contribute to crisis dynamics?

Essential readings

- Jessop, B. (2015) Crisis construal in the North Atlantic financial crisis and the Eurozone crisis. *Competition and Change*, 19(2): 95-112.
- Brassett, J. and Clarke, C. (2012) Performing the sub-prime crisis: Trauma and the financial event. *International Political Sociology*, 6(1): 4-20.

Further readings

- Baker, A. (2015) Varieties of economic crisis, varieties of ideational change: How and why financial regulation and macroeconomic policy differ. *New Political Economy*, 20(3): 342-66.
- Cameron, A., Nesvetailova, A., and Palan, R. (2011) Wages of sin? Crisis and the libidinal economy. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 4(2): 117-35.
- Clarke, C. (2012) Financial engineering, not economic photography: Popular discourses of finance and the layered performances of the sub-prime crisis. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 5(3): 261-78.
- Crosthwaite, P. (2012) Is a financial crisis a trauma? *Cultural Critique*, (82): 34-67.
- De Cock, C., Baker, M. and Volkmann, C. (2011) Financial phantasmagoria: Corporate image-work in times of crisis. *Organization*, 18(2): 153-72.
- Griffin, P. (2015) Crisis, austerity and gendered governance: A feminist perspective. *Feminist Review*, 109(1): 49-72.
- Hay, C. (2011) Pathology without crisis? The strange demise of the Anglo-Liberal growth model. *Government and Opposition*, 46(1): 1-31.
- MacKenzie, D. (2011) The credit crisis as a problem in the sociology of knowledge. *American Journal of Sociology*, 116(6): 1778-1841.

- Konings, M. (2015) The spirit of austerity. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 9(1): 86-100.
- Samman, A. (2012) The 1930s as black mirror: Visions of historical repetition in the global financial press, 2007–2009. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 5(2): 213-29.
- Stanley, L. (2014) ‘We’re reaping what we sowed’: Everyday crisis narratives and acquiescence to the age of austerity. *New Political Economy*, 19(6): 895-917.
- Widmaier, W. (2010) Emotions before paradigms: Elite anxiety and populist resentment from the Asian to subprime crises. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 39(1): 127-44.

Week 9 – Contemporary capitalism in popular culture

Questions

1. How might popular film and television reinforce the dynamics of contemporary capitalism?
2. In what sense do specific genres, such as comedy, science fiction, and documentary, provide possibilities for resistance to capitalism?

Essential readings

- Brassett, J. (2016) British comedy, global resistance: Russell Brand, Charlie Brooker and Stewart Lee. *European Journal of International Relations*, 22(1): 168-91.
- Wagner, K. (2016) Giving form to finance culture: Neoliberal denizens in *Wall Street* (1987), *Boiler Room* (2000), and *Margin Call* (2011). *Journal of Film and Video*, 68(2): 46-60.

Further readings

- Burnham, C. (2016) *Fredric Jameson and the Wolf of Wall Street*. London: Bloomsbury, Chapter 2.
- Clarke, C. and Brassett, J. (2015) Popular documentaries and the global financial crisis. In: Van Munster, R. and Sylvest, C. (eds.) *Documenting World Politics: A Critical Companion to IR and Non-Fiction Film*. London: Routledge, 43-57.
- Haiven, M. (2012) Can Pikachu save Fannie Mae? Value, finance and imagination in the new Pokéconomy. *Cultural Studies*, 26(4): 516-41.
- Jameson, F. (1997) Culture and finance capital. *Critical Inquiry*, 24(1): 246-65.
- King, A. (2016) Documenting financial performativity: Film aesthetics and financial crisis. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 9(6): 555-69.
- King, A. (2017) Film and the financial city. *Studies in European Cinema*, 14(1): 7-21.
- Kinkle, J. and Toscano, A. (2011) Filming the crisis: A survey. *Film Quarterly*, 65(1): 39-51.

- La Berge, L.C. (2015) Fiction is liquid: States of money in *The Sopranos* and *Breaking Bad*. *Journal of American Studies*, 49(4): 755-74.
- Marsh, N. (2014). 'Paradise falls: A land lost in time': Representing credit, debt and work after the crisis. *Textual Practice*, 28(7): 1181-98.
- Osteen, M. (2014) The currency of DeLillo's *Cosmopolis*. *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction*, 55(3): 291-304.
- Shonkwiler, A. (2017) *The Financial Imaginary: Economic Mystification and the Limits of Realist Fiction*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.
- Yuran, N. (2016) Meaningful objects or costly symbols? A Veblenian approach to brands. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 33(6): 25-49.

Week 10 – Money and finance in contemporary art

Questions

1. In what ways does contemporary art reflect deeper economic dynamics?
2. What possibilities does contemporary art offer that social science does not?

Essential readings

- Cameron, A. (2014). Modelling 'Headless': Finance, performance art, and paradox. *Journal of Critical Globalisation Studies*, 7: 102-121.
- Haiven, M. (2015) Art and money: Three aesthetic strategies in an age of financialisation. *Finance and Society*, 1(1): 38-60.

Further readings

- Booth, P. (2016) The speculative social role of art and finance. *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, 21(2): 130-47.
- Crosthwaite, P. (2012) What a waste of money: Expenditure, the death drive, and the contemporary art market. In: Bennett, D. (ed.) (2012) *Loaded Subjects: Psychoanalysis, Money, and the Global Financial Crisis*, London: Lawrence & Wishart, 111-28.
- Gilligan, M. and Holert, T. (2012) Subjects of finance: Melanie Gilligan interviewed by Tom Holert. *Grey Room*, 46(Winter): 84-98.
- Groys, B. (2011) Art and money. *e-flux*, 24(4): 1-9.
- Holmes, B. (2007) The speculative performance: Art's financial futures. *European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies*, January. Available at: <http://eipcp.net/transversal/0507/holmes/en/>.
- La Berge, L.C. and Hannah, D. (2015) Debt aesthetics: Medium specificity and social practice in the work of Cassie Thornton. *Postmodern Culture*, 25(2): n.p.
- Mattick, P. and Siegel, K. (2004) *Art Works: Money*. London: Thames and Hudson.
- Rectanus, M.W. (2016) Artists, debt, and global activism. *Finance and Society*, 2(1): 2-24.

- Ressler, O. and Sholette, G. (eds.) (2013) *It's the Political Economy, Stupid: The Global Financial Crisis in Art and Theory*. London: Pluto Press.
- Stallabrass, J. (2004) *Art Incorporated: The Story of Contemporary Art*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Taylor, M.C. (2011) Financialization of art. *Capitalism and Society*, 6(2): 1-19.
- Thompson, D. (2008) *The \$12 Million Stuffed Shark: The Curious Economics of Contemporary Art*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Week 11 – Cultures of cyber-capitalism

Questions

1. How are digital technologies transforming the dynamics of capitalism?
2. Do these technologies offer a pathway beyond capitalism?

Essential readings

- Dyer-Witheford, N. (2013) Red plenty platforms. *Culture Machine*, 14: 1-27.
- Geiger, S. (2019) Silicon Valley, disruption, and the end of uncertainty. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, OnlineFirst. Available at: <<http://doi.org/10.1080/17530350.2019.1684337>>.

Further readings

- Berry, D. (2011) The relevance of understanding code to international political economy. *International Politics*, 49(2): 277-96.
- Cooper, M. (2011) Complexity theory after the financial crisis. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 4(4): 371-85.
- Dean, J. (2005) Communicative capitalism: Circulation and the foreclosure of politics. *Cultural Politics*, 1(1): 51-74.
- De Cock, C. (2009) Jumpstarting the future with Fredric Jameson: Reflections on capitalism, science fiction and utopia. *Journal of Organizational Change Management*, 22(4): 437-49.
- Lange, A.C., Lenglet, M. and Seyfert, R. (2016) Cultures of high-frequency trading: Mapping the landscape of algorithmic developments in contemporary financial markets. *Economy and Society*, 45(2): 149-65.
- Langley, P. and Leyshon, A. (2017) Platform capitalism: The intermediation and capitalisation of digital economic circulation. *Finance and Society*, 3(1): 11-31.
- Lanier, J. (2014) *Who Owns the Future?* London: Penguin.
- MacKenzie, D. (1984) Marx and the machine. *Technology and Culture*, 25(3): 473-502.
- Mason, P. (2015) *Postcapitalism: A Guide to Our Future*. London: Allen Lane.

- McClanahan, A. (2013) Investing in the future: Late capitalism's end of history. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 6(1): 78-93.
- Noble, D.F. (1999) *The Religion of Technology: The Divinity of Man and the Spirit of Invention*. London: Penguin.
- Srnicek, N. (2017) The challenges of platform capitalism: Understanding the logic of a new business model. *Juncture*, 23(4): 254-57.