

Faculty of Human, Social and Political Sciences  
PART II A  
2020-21

## SOC3, Modern Societies II Global Social Problems and Dynamics of Resistance

### Course Organiser

Dr Mónica Moreno Figueroa (mm2051@cam.ac.uk)

### Lecturers in Order of Teaching

Dr Jeff Milley (tjm52@cam.ac.uk)

Prof Jennifer Gabrys ([jg899@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jg899@cam.ac.uk))

Dr Mónica Moreno Figueroa (mm2051@cam.ac.uk)

Dr Ella McPherson (em310@cam.ac.uk)

### *Aims and Objectives*

- To introduce and explore a selection of global social problems and dynamics of resistance from a sociological perspective;
- To develop a critical understanding of key sociological concepts, approaches and analyses to social problems such as inequality, neoliberalism, development, nationalism, globalisation, social movements, protest, transnationalism, democracy, discourse, political economy, control and pluralism.
- To introduce the sociological notion and methodological tool of intersectionality – bringing gender, race and class to the fore – to understand social problems and dynamics of resistance in a critically imbricated way and not as one-dimensional struggles upheld by one-dimensional subjects (simply men, simply women, etc.)
- To think and raise questions about the current climate crisis across a range of social problems and dynamics of resistance.

### *Structure of the Paper*

The paper starts with a one-hour Introduction (week 1), delivered by the course organiser and the lecturers. Following this, SOC3 has two sections. Each section has two modules, and each module consists of three two-hour lectures, for a total of 12 lectures over 24 hours as follows:

#### *Section One:*

1. Global Social Problems (Dr Jeff Miley)

Lecture 1: Inequalities

Lecture 2: Borders  
Lecture 3: The COVID-19 Pandemic

2. Environmental and Social Justice (Prof Jennifer Gabrys)

Lecture 4: Sociology of Environmental Crisis  
Lecture 5: Environmental Justice and Social Justice  
Lecture 6: Environmental Participation and Community Knowledge

***Section Two***

3. Global Body Projects (Dr Mónica Moreno Figueroa)

Lecture 7: Sex Tourism, and the Tensions of Development  
Lecture 8: Bodies, Beauty Work and Cosmetic Surgeries in Neoliberal Times  
Lecture 9: Inequalities and Fashion

4. Control and Resistance in Digital Societies (Dr Ella McPherson)

Lecture 10: Critical Approaches to the Information Society  
Lecture 11: Social Media and Social Movements  
Lecture 12: Representation and Resistance: The Problematics of Big Data and the Politics of the Selfie

***Supervisions***

Supervision will be organised centrally by the Teaching Associate for Soc3, Dr Rachell Sanchez (rs871@cam.ac.uk), in relation to student's interests.

The course is taught by means of 12 two-hour lectures and eight supervision sessions. Students should plan to have three substantive supervisions in Michaelmas and three in Lent, and then two revision supervisions in Easter term.

In Michaelmas and Lent, students should choose one of the two parts of that term's module and have all three supervisions on the three topics of that part. As a result, they will cover two of the four parts over the year in their supervision. One of the revision supervisions should be on their Michaelmas topics, and the other should be on the Lent topics.

Lecturers will give some supervisions on their modules, but due to the size of the student cohort, cannot give all of them. The teaching team therefore also consists of a selected group of supervisors whose expertise matches the supervision topics. Students will have one supervisor per part (topics and revision supervision), so two supervisors for the duration of the paper. This supervisor allocation policy aims to balance supervisor expertise and consistency of supervision for students.

Students will be expected to produce a minimum of four essays over the six substantive supervisions, according to Department of Sociology policy. Students may write essays for the

other two supervisions, but they also have the option to prepare for this supervision in other ways. Students taking the latter option should consult their supervisor in advance, who will assign an alternative preparation assignment, such as a short presentation, a case study or a book review.

In general, individual supervisors can decide to use some supervision sessions to read and discuss an article, ask students to present on a topic, or find other ways to address the topic in ways that are stimulating and provide a learning experience for students.

Lectures are central to this paper, and students are strongly advised to attend all of them. The reading lists below are meant to provide guidance for students and supervisors. In their supervision essays, students should answer the specified supervision question provided for each topic.

Students will receive instructions about how to sign up for supervisions at the start of the academic year, with the expectation to have this settled by the first week of Michaelmas.

### ***Mode of Assessment***

This paper will be examined by one three-hour examination paper, divided into two sections according to the two sections of the paper. You will be required to answer three questions, including at least one from each section.

### ***Timetable***

<b>Michaelmas</b>	<b>Lent</b>	<b>Easter</b>
Dr M Moreno Figueroa and all lecturers <b>Introduction</b> Wed. 1pm, week 1 (14 Oct)	Dr Mónica Moreno Figueroa <b>Body Projects around the Globe</b> W. 4-6, weeks 1-3, beginning 27 Jan	All lecturers <b>Revision Session</b> M. 2, week 2 (10 May)
Dr Jeff Milley <b>Global Social Problems</b> W. 4-6, weeks 1-3, beginning 14 Oct	Dr Ella McPherson <b>Control and Resistance in Digital Societies</b> W. 4-6, weeks 4-6, beginning 17 Feb	
Prof J Gabrys <b>Environmental and Social Justice</b> Wed. 4-6, weeks 4-6, beginning 4 Nov		

***Online version of this paper for this academic year 2020-21***

This year all lectures of this paper will be online, according to the paper's timetable, as follows:

1. Students will first meet for an hour with the paper organiser, Dr Monica Moreno Figueroa, to go over the paper's organisation.
2. All lectures will include an approximately 50-60 min pre-recorded lecture that will be available ahead of time (usually Friday before the lecture) and that you can watch in the first hour of the timetabled slot.
3. The second hour of the lectures slot will be synchronous and interactive, that is, an online live session using the Zoom platform, which might include Q&A and other online activities. Students can write their questions in the chat, and the lecturers will answer them live. These sessions will be recorded and available on the SOC3 Moodle sites.

## SECTION ONE

### Section One, Module One: Global Social Problems

Thomas Jeffrey Miley

#### *Overview*

This module will apply an intersectional approach to understand and analyse three major social problems that are global in scope: (1) poverty and inequality; (2) borders; and (3) pandemics. In the process, it will use the intersectional approach to each of these three major global social problems to illuminate debates about respective key contested concepts in contemporary social science. In this regard, the intersectional approach to the problem of poverty and inequality will be used to illuminate debates about the nature and dynamics of capitalism and neoliberalism. Likewise, the problem of borders will be related to debates about the nature and dynamics of nationalism; and the problem of pandemics will be related to debates about biopower and surveillance.

#### *Lecture 1: Inequalities*

#### Essential Readings

- Boatca, M. (2015). *Global Inequalities beyond Occidentalism* (Ashgate).
- Federici, S. (2004). "Introduction," and "The Accumulation of Labor and the Degradation of Women. Constructing 'Difference' in the Transition to Capitalism," *Caliban and the Witch. Women, the Body, and Primitive Accumulation* (Autonomedia).
- Harvey, D. (2003). "Accumulation by Dispossession," *The New Imperialism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003), pp.137-182.
- Melamed, J. (2015). "Racial Capitalism," *Critical Ethnic Studies*, vol. 1, No. 1, pp.76-85.
- Patel, R. and J. Moore. (2017). "Introduction," *The History of the World in Seven Cheap Things. A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet* (University of California Press), pp.1-43.

#### Additional Readings

- Aung, G. (2018). "Postcolonial Capitalism and the Politics of Dispossession. Political Trajectories in Southern Myanmar," *European Journal of East Asian Studies*, Vol. 17, pp.193-227.
- De Angelis, M. (2007). "Marx and the Enclosures We Face," "Enclosures with No Limits," *The Beginning of History. Value Struggles and Global Capital* (Pluto).
- Bhattacharya, R. and I. Sedra-Irizarry. (2017). "Primitive Accumulation," in D. Brennan, et. al., *Routledge Handbook of Marxian Economics* (Routledge).
- Bhattacharya, G. (2018). *Rethinking Racial Capitalism. Questions of Reproduction and Survival* (Rowman and Littlefield).
- Coronil, F. (1996). "Beyond Occidentalism: Toward NonImperial Geohistorical Categories," *Cultural Anthropology*, Vol. 11, No. 1, pp.51-87.
- Coulthard, G. (2014). "Karl Marx, Settler Colonialism, and Indigenous Dispossession in Post White-Paper Canada," *Red Skins, White Masks. Rejecting the Colonial Politics of Recognition* (University of Minnesota Press), pp.6-15.

- Gonçalves, G. L. and S. Costa. (2020). ["From Primitive Accumulation to Entangled Accumulation: Decentering Marxist Theory of Capitalist Expansion,"](#) *European Journal of Social Theory*, Vol. 23, No. 2, pp.146–164.
- Holton, R. J. (2014). *Global Inequalities* (Palgrave MacMillan).
- Korzeniewicz, R.P. and T.P. Moran. (2009). *Unveiling Inequality: A World-Historical Perspective* (Russell Sage Foundation).
- Kabeer, N. (2015). ["Gender, Poverty, and Inequality: a Brief History of Feminist Contributions in the Field of International Development,"](#) *Gender & Development*, Vol. 23, No. 2, pp.189-205.
- Mies, M. and V. Bennholdt-Thomsen. (2000). [The Subsistence Perspective. Beyond the Globalized Economy](#) (Zed Books).
- Milanovic, B. (2016). *Global Inequality. A New Approach for the Age of Globalization* (Harvard University Press)
- Moore, J. (2018). ["The Capitalocene, Part II: Accumulation by Appropriation and the Centrality of Unpaid Work/Energy,"](#) *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol. 45, No. 2, pp.237-279.
- Perelman, M. (2000). [The Invention of Capitalism. Classical Political Economy and the Secret History of Primitive Accumulation](#) (Duke University Press).
- Roberts, W. C. (2017). ["What Was Primitive Accumulation? Reconstructing the Origin of a Critical Concept,"](#) *European Journal of Political Theory*, pp.1-21.
- Roth, J. (2017). ["Occidentalism,"](#) *InterAmerican Wiki. Terms-Concepts-Critical Perspectives.*
- Sanyal, K. (2007). [Rethinking Capitalist Development. Primitive Accumulation, Governmentality, and Post-Colonial Capitalism](#) (Routledge).
- Sassen, S. (2010). ["A Savage Sorting of Winners and Losers: Contemporary Versions of Primitive Accumulation,"](#) *Globalizations*, Vol. 7, Nos.1-2, pp.23-50.
- Singh, N. (2016). ["On Race, Violence, and So-Called Primitive Accumulation,"](#) *Social Text* 128, Vol. 34, No. 3, pp.27-50.
- Therborn, G. (2013). *The Killing Fields of Inequality* (Cambridge: Polity).

### Supplementary Videos

- Federici, S. (2019). ["Women, the Body, and 'Primitive Accumulation'."](#)
- Gilmore, R.W. (2020). ["Geographies of Racial Capitalism."](#)
- Goldstein, A., et. al. (2020). ["Racial Capitalism and the U.S. Colonial Present."](#)
- Harvey, D. (2019). ["Anti-Capitalist Chronicles: Primitive or Original Accumulation."](#)
- Harvey, D. (2019). ["Anti-Capitalist Chronicles: Accumulation by Dispossession."](#)
- Kelley, R. (2017). ["What is Racial Capitalism and Why Does it Matter?"](#)
- Melamed, J. (2019). ["Operationalizing Racial Capitalism: Administrative Power and Ordinary Violence."](#)
- Milanovic, B. (2016). ["The Evolution of Global Inequalities."](#)
- Patel, R. (2019). ["On Cheapness in the Age of Capitalism."](#)
- Singh, N. (2018). ["Primitive Accumulation."](#)

### Supervision Questions:

- In what ways does "Occidentalism" pervade mainstream analyses of social inequalities?
- How is "primitive accumulation," or "accumulation by dispossession," implicated in the production and reproduction of global inequalities?

## Lecture 2: Borders

### Essential Readings

- Balibar, E. (2009). [“Europe as Borderland,”](#) *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, vol. 27, pp. 190-215.
- Brown, W. (2017). “Waning Sovereignty, Walled Democracy,” *Walled States, Waning Sovereignty* (MIT Press), pp.7-42.
- Jones, R. (2017). “The Global Border Regime,” *Violent Borders: Refugees and the Right to Move* (Verso), pp.48-69.
- Jones, R., et. al. (2017). [“Interventions on the State of Sovereignty at the Border,”](#) *Political Geography* 59, pp.1-10.
- Mignolo, W. and M. Tlostanova. (2006). [“Theorizing from the Borders. Shifting to Geo- and Body Politics of Knowledge,”](#) *European Journal of Social Theory*, Vol. 9, No. 2, pp.205-221.
- Walia, H. (2013). “What Is Border Imperialism?,” [“Undoing Border Imperialism](#) (AK Press), pp.35-80.

### Additional Readings

- Anderson, B. (2013). *Us and Them? The Dangerous Politics of Immigration Controls* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).
- Andersson, R. (2014). *Illegality Inc.: Clandestine Migration and the Business of Bordering Europe* (University of California Press).
- Bauder, H. (2017). *Migration, Borders, Freedom* (London: Routledge).
- Casas-Cortes, M. et. al. (2015). [“New Key Words: Migration and Borders,”](#) *Cultural Studies*, Vol. 29, No. 1, pp.55-87.
- Chattopadhyay, S. (2018). [“Borders Re/make Bodies, and Bodies Are Made to Make Borders: Storying Migrant Trajectories,”](#) *ACME: An International Journal of Critical Geographies*, pp.1-24.
- De Genova, N. ed. (2017). *The Borders of “Europe”: Autonomy of Migration, Tactics of Bordering* (Duke University Press).
- Gahman, L., and E. Hjalmarson. (2019). [“Border Imperialism, Racial Capitalism, and Geographies of Deracination,”](#) *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*, Vol. 18, No.1, pp.107-129.
- Grosfoguel, R. (2008). [“Transmodernity, Border Thinking, and Global Coloniality,”](#) *Eurozine*.
- Loyd, J.M., et. al., eds. (2012). *Beyond Walls and Cages. Prisons, Borders, and Global Crisis* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press).
- Mbembe, A. (2018). [“The Idea of a Borderless World,”](#) *Africa Is a Country* (November).
- Mbembe, A. (2019). [“Bodies as Borders,”](#) *From the European South*, Vol. 4, pp.5-18.
- Mezzadra, S. and B. Neilson. (2013). [Border as Method, or, the Multiplication of Labor](#) (Duke University Press).
- Miller, T. (2019). *Empire of Borders. The Expansion of the U.S. Border around the World* (Verso).
- Mohanty, C. (2003). [Feminism without Borders. Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity](#) (Duke University Press).
- Newman, D. (2006). [“Borders and Bordering: Towards an Interdisciplinary Dialogue,”](#) *European Journal of Social Theory*, Vol. 9, No. 2, pp.171-186.
- Paasi, A. (2014). [“The Shifting Landscapes of Border Studies and the Challenge of Relational Thinking,”](#) in Bufon, M., J. Minghi, and A. Paasi, eds. *The New European Frontiers: Social and Spatial (Re)integration Issues in Multicultural and Border Regions* (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars).

- Pack, A.N. (2020). *Bans, Walls, Raids, Sanctuaries. Understanding U.S. Immigration for the Twenty-First Century* (University of California Press).
- Vaughan-Williams, N. (2015). *Europe's Border Crisis. Biopolitical Security and Beyond* (Oxford Scholarship Online).
- Vickers, T. (2019). *Borders, Migration, and Class in an Age of Crisis. Producing Workers and Immigrants* (Bristol University Press).

### Supplementary Videos

- Balibar, E. (2020). ["Migration and Contemporary Capitalism."](#)
- Brown, W. (2010). ["Walled States, Waning Sovereignty. Keynote Lecture."](#)
- Jones, R. (2019). ["Border Walls and Violent Borders."](#)
- Mezzadra, S. (2012). ["Keywords Lecture: Borders."](#)
- Mbembe, A. (2018). ["The Idea of a World without Borders."](#)
- Mbembe, A. (2019). ["Bodies and Borders."](#)
- Walia, H. (2017). ["Undoing Border Imperialism."](#)

### Supervision Questions

- Are border walls and fences but a last vestige of a dying system of territorially bounded sovereignty?
- Critically assess the concept of "border imperialism."

## Lecture 3: The COVID-19 Pandemic

### Essential Readings

- Chakrabarty, D. (2020) ["On Zoonotic Pathogens, Human Life, and Pandemic in the Age of the Anthropocene,"](#) *Toynbee Prize* (June 17).
- Davis, M. (2020). *The Monster Enters. COVID-19, Avian Flu, and the Plagues of Capitalism* (OR Books).
- Foucault, M. (2004). ["Society Must Be Defended: Chapter 11 \(17 March, 1976\),"](#) in A. Fontana, et. al., eds., *Society Must Be Defended. Lectures at the Collège de France, 1975-1976* (Penguin), pp.239-263.
- Gardiner, R. and K. Fulfer. (2020). ["Virus Interruptus: An Arendtian Exploration of Political World-Building in Pandemic Times,"](#) *Gender, Work & Organization* (July).
- Mbembe, A. (2020). ["The Universal Right to Breathe"](#) *Critical Inquiry* (April 13).
- Mezzadri, A. (2020). ["A Crisis Like No Other: Social Reproduction and the Regeneration of Capitalist Life during the Pandemic,"](#) *Developing Economics: A Critical Perspective on Development Economics* (April 20).
- Szendy, P. (2020). ["Viral Times,"](#) *Critical Inquiry* (April 15).
- Zizek, S. (2020). *Pandemic! COVID-19 Shakes the World* (Polity).



## Additional Readings

- Agamben, G., et. al. (2020). [“Coronavirus and Philosophers,”](#) *European Journal of Psychoanalysis* (March).
- Bailey, R. (2020). [“The Coronavirus Looks like Neoliberalism. Part 1. The Spiky Blob,”](#) and [“Part 2: Images and Counterimages,”](#) *Inhabiting the Anthropocene* (June).
- Bhambra, G. (2020). [“COVID19 is Deepening Postcolonial Inequalities”](#) (May 26).
- Bhattacharya T. and G. Dale. (2020). [“COVID Capitalism,”](#) *Rs21. Revolutionary Socialism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (May 5).
- Bieber, F. (2020). [“Global Nationalism in Times of the COVID-19 Pandemic,”](#) *Nationalities Papers*, pp.1-13.
- Brenner, R. (2020). [“Escalating Plunder,”](#) *New Left Review*, Vol. 123, pp.5-22.
- D’Eramo, M. (2020). [“The Philosopher’s Epidemic,”](#) *New Left Review*, Vol. 122, pp.23-28.
- Foster, J. (2020). [“Catastrophe Capitalism: Climate Change, COVID-19, and Economic Crisis,”](#) *Monthly Review* (April 1).
- Foucault, M. (1995). “Panopticism,” [Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison](#) (New York: Vintage Books).
- Foucault, M. (2008). [The Birth of Biopolitics. Lectures at the Collège de France, 1978-1979](#) (Palgrave MacMillan).
- Freshour, C. and B. Williams. (2020). [“Abolition in the Time of Covid-19,”](#) *Antipode Online* (April 9).
- Fuchs, C. (2020). [“Everyday Life and Everyday Communication in Coronavirus Capitalism,”](#) *Triple C. Communication, Capitalism & Critique*, Vol. 18, No. 1.
- Hanafi, S. 2020. [“Post COVID-19 Sociology,”](#) *Global Sociology and the Coronavirus. ISA Digital Platform*. (April).
- Harvey, D. (2020). [“Anti-Capitalist Politics in the Time of COVID19,”](#) *Jacobin* (March).
- Hirschfeld, K. (2019). [“Microbial Insurgency: Theorizing Global Health in the Anthropocene,”](#) *The Anthropocene Review*, Vol. 7, No. 1, pp.3–18.
- Horton, R. (2020). *The COVID-19 Catastrophe. What’s Gone Wrong and How to Stop It Happening Again* (Polity).
- Laster Pirtle, W.N. (2020). [“Racial Capitalism: A Fundamental Cause of Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic Inequities in the United States,”](#) *Health, Education, and Behavior*, Vol. 47, No. 4, pp.504-508.
- Lorenzini, D. (2020). [“Biopolitics in the Time of Coronavirus,”](#) *Critical Inquiry* (April 2).
- McClure, E., et. al. (2020). [“Racial Capitalism within Public Health. How Occupational Settings Drive COVID-19 Disparities,”](#) *American Journal of Epidemiology*, kwaa126.
- Nossem, E. (2020). [“The Pandemic of Nationalism and the Nationalism of Pandemics,”](#) *UniGR-CBS Working Paper*, No. 8, (April).
- Saad Filho, A. (2020). [“From COVID-19 to the End of Neoliberalism,”](#) *Critical Sociology*, Vol. 46, No.4-5, pp.477-485.
- Shah, S. (2017). *Pandemic. Tracking Contagions from Cholera to Ebola and Beyond* (Picador USA).
- Snowden, F. (2019). *Epidemics and Society. From the Black Death to the Present* (Yale University Press).
- Sotiris, P. (2020) [“Against Agamben. Is a Democratic Biopolitics Possible?”](#) *Viewpoint Magazine* (March).
- Taylor, R. (2013). [“The Politics of Securing Borders and the Identities of Disease,”](#) *Sociology of Health & Illness*, Vol. 35, No. 2, pp.241-254.

## Supplementary Videos

- Bhattacharya, T. (May 2020). ["COVID and Social Reproduction Theory: Feminism in the Age of the Pandemic."](#)
- Chakrabarty, D. (June 2020). ["COVID Calls: Dipesh Chakarabarty."](#)
- Davis, M. (March 2020). ["Capitalism is the Disease: Mike Davis on the Coronavirus."](#)
- Mbembe, A. (July 2020). ["The Universal Right to Breathe: Colonialism and the Ethics of Memory."](#)
- Prashad, V. (July 2020). ["The World after COVID."](#)
- Robinson, W. (April 2020). ["Pandemic of Capitalism?"](#)
- Saad Filho, A. and N. Al-Ali. (April 2020). ["Neoliberalism, Inequalities, and COVID-19."](#)
- Sealy-Harrington, J. (April 2020). ["What COVID-19 Tells Us about Racial Capitalism."](#)
- Spivak, G., et. al. (May 2020). ["The Left Reflects on the Global Pandemic."](#)
- Szendy, P. and T. Bewes. (May 2020). ["Viral Times: COVID-19, Sovereignty, and Biopolitics"](#)
- Zizek, S. (June 2020). ["Coronavirus, Black lives Matter, and Revolution."](#)

## Supervision Questions

- How useful is the concept of "biopolitics" for understanding the social and political dynamics surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Critically evaluate the claim that COVID-19 is a plague of capitalism.

## Section One, Module Two: Environmental and Social Justice

Jennifer Gabrys

### *Lecture 4: Sociology of Environmental Crisis*

#### Lecture Overview

Environmental crises--whether in the form of climate breakdown, biodiversity collapse or pollution--are now events of considerable concern worldwide. The narration and experience of these crises occurs in different ways across social groups. At the same time, the resources for addressing environmental crises are unevenly distributed. This lecture will investigate the sociology of environmental crises. We will explore how sociological approaches address environmental breakdown as a problem of social and environmental justice. We will also examine texts that deal with the designation of the Anthropocene, and consider how or whether this concept is helpful for addressing climate breakdown.

#### Essential Readings

- Haraway, Donna. (2016) *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene*. Durham, London: Duke University Press. [especially Chapter 2, also available in edited form at: <https://www.e-flux.com/journal/75/67125/tentacular-thinking-anthropocene-capitalocene-chthulucene>.]
- Lövbrand, Eva, et al. (2015) "Who Speaks for the Future of Earth? How Critical Social Science Can Extend the Conversation on the Anthropocene." *Global Environmental Change* 32: 211–218.
- Pulido, Laura. (2018) "Racism and the Anthropocene." In *Future Remains: A Cabinet of Curiosities for the Anthropocene*, edited by Gregg Mitman, Marco Armiero and Robert Emmett, 116-128. Chicago University Press.
- Saldanha, Arun. (2020) "A Date with Destiny: Racial Capitalism and the Beginnings of the Anthropocene." *EPD: Society and Space* 38 (1): 12–34.
- Whyte, Kyle Powys. (2018) Indigenous Science (Fiction) for the Anthropocene: Ancestral Dystopias and Fantasies of Climate Change Crises, *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* 1 (1-2): 224-242.

#### Additional Readings

- Callison, Candis. (2014) *How Climate Change Comes to Matter: The Communal Life of Facts*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press.
- Lidskog, Rolf and Claire Waterton. (2016) "Anthropocene – A Cautious Welcome from Environmental Sociology?" *Environmental Sociology* 2 (4): 395–406.
- Lorimer, Jamie. (2017) "The Anthro-scene: A Guide for the Perplexed." *Social Studies of Science* 47 (1): 117-142, doi: 10.1177/0306312716671039.
- Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt. (2015) *The Mushroom at the End of the World: On the Possibility of Life in Capitalist Ruins*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Vergès Françoise (2017) "Racial Capitalocene." In: *Futures of Black Radicalism*, Johnson GT and Lubin A (eds). London, UK: Verso. Available at <https://www.versobooks.com/blogs/3376-racial-capitalocene>.
- Williams, Raymond. "Ideas of Nature," in *Problems in Materialism and Culture*. London: Verso, 1980.

Yusoff, Kathryn and Jennifer Gabrys. (2011) "Climate Change and the Imagination." *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews, Climate Change (WIREs)* 2, no. 4: 516-534, doi: 10.1002/wcc.117

### Supervision Question

- How do different characterizations of environmental crises inform possibilities for addressing these problems through social practices?

## ***Lecture 5: Environmental Justice and Social Justice***

### Lecture Overview

Environment is a topic that is often studied in the sciences, but its relevance within sociological study is just as significant and essential. This lecture will look specifically at how sociological approaches attend to important questions of environmental justice and social justice. We will explore how pollution, climate breakdown, and land use changes emerge as critical events that inform possibilities for collective and social life. We will also look at examples of grassroots projects that attempt to realize environmental and social justice for communities, and consider how justice emerges as social discourse and social practice.

### Essential Readings

- Bullard, Robert. (1990) *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class, and Environmental Quality*. Boulder: Westview Press. [especially Chapter 1, "Environmentalism and Social Justice" and Chapter 7, "Action Strategies for the Twenty-First Century"]
- Dillon, Lindsey and Julie Sze. (2016) "Police Power and Particulate Matters: Environmental Justice and the Spatialities of In/Securities in U.S. Cities." *English Language Notes* 54 (2): 13-23.
- Martinez-Alier Joan et al. (2014) "Between Activism and Science: Grassroots Concepts for Sustainability Coined by Environmental Justice Organizations." *Journal of Political Ecology* 21: 19-60.
- Nixon, Rob. (2013) *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor*. Harvard University Press. [especially Chapter 3, "Pipedream: Ken Saro-Wiwa, Environmental Justice and Micro-Minority Rights," and Chapter 4, "Slow Violence, Gender, and the Environmentalism of the Poor"]
- Pulido, Laura and Juan De Lara. (2018) "Reimagining 'Justice' in Environmental Justice: Radical Ecologies, Decolonial Thought, and the Black Radical Tradition." *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* 1 (1-2): 3-23; doi: 10.1177/2514848618770363.
- Schlosberg, David and David Carruthers. (2010) "Indigenous Struggles, Environmental Justice, and Community Capabilities." *Global Environmental Politics* 10 (4): 12-35.

### Additional Readings

- Nishime, Leilani and Kim D. Hester Williams, eds. (2018) *Racial Ecologies*. Seattle: University of Washington Press. [especially "Introduction: Why Racial Ecologies?" and Chapter 2, Haymes, "An Africana Studies Critique of Environmental Ethics"]

- Principles of Environmental Justice. Adopted at the People of Color Conference on Environmental Justice, Washington, D.C. (1991)  
<http://www.ejnet.org/ej/principles.html>.
- Pulido, Laura. (2016) "Flint, Environmental Racism, and Racial Capitalism." *Capitalism Nature Socialism* 27 (3): 1-16, doi: 10.1080/10455752.2016.1213013.
- Shiva, Vandana. (2005) *Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace*. Berkeley, CA: South End Press.
- Sze, Julie. (2007) *Noxious New York: The Racial Politics of Urban Health and Environmental Justice*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.
- Walker, Gordon. (2012) *Environmental Justice: Concepts, Evidence and Politics*. London: Routledge. [especially Chapter 1, "Understanding Environmental Justice," and Chapter 5, "Breathing Unequally: Air Quality and Inequality"]

### Supervision Question

- How does attention to environmental justice and social justice inform or change the way in which environmental problems are addressed?

## ***Lecture 6: Environmental Participation and Community Knowledge***

### Lecture Overview

Environmental problems are increasingly now documented and addressed not just by scientific 'experts' but also by diverse communities undertaking different environmental participation practices. This lecture will investigate the multiple forms of participation that are now becoming more established, from citizen science and citizen sensing to community knowledge and decolonized research methods. We will consider how or whether these different practices of environmental participation offer potential strategies for addressing environmental crises through more democratic and equitable forms of social organization.

### Essential Readings

- Bishara, Amahl et al. (2020) "The Multifaceted Outcomes of Community-Engaged Water Quality Management in a Palestinian Refugee Camp," *EPE: Nature and Space*; doi: 10.1177/2514848620921856
- Corburn, Jason. (2005) *Street Science: Community Knowledge and Environmental Health Justice*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. [especially Introduction and Chapter 1, "Local Knowledge and Environmental Health Policy"]
- Gabrys, Jennifer. (2017) "Citizen Sensing, Air Pollution and Fracking: From 'Caring about Your Air' to Speculative Practices of Evidencing Harm." *The Sociological Review* 65 (2): 172-192, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0081176917710421>.
- Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. (1999) *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. London: Zed Books. [especially Introduction and Chapter 8, "Twenty-five Indigenous Projects"]
- Tuck, Eve et al. (2013) "Geotheorizing Black/Land: Contestations and Contingent Collaborations." *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research*, 3 (1): 52-74.

## Additional Readings

- Chilvers, Jason and Matthew Kearnes, eds. (2016) *Remaking Participation: Science, Environment and Emergent Publics*. London: Routledge. [especially Preface and Chapter 1, "Science, Democracy and Emergent Publics"]
- Gabrys, Jennifer et al. (2016) "Just Good Enough Data: Figuring Data Citizenships through Air Pollution Sensing and Data Stories." *Big Data & Society* 3 (2): 1-14, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2053951716679677>.
- Felt, Ulrike and Maximilian Fochler. (2008) "The Bottom-up Meanings of the Concept of Public Participation in Science and Technology." *Science and Public Policy* 35 (7): 489–499; doi:10.3152/030234208X329086.
- Gomez-Barris, Macarena. (2017) *The Extractive Zone: Social Ecologies and Decolonial Perspectives*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. [especially Chapter 3, "An Archive for the Future: Seeing through Occupation"]
- Jasanoff, Sheila. (2003) "Technologies of Humility: Citizen Participation in Governing Science." *Minerva* 41 (3): 223-244.
- Wynne, Brian. (1996) "May the Sheep Safely Graze? A Reflexive View of the Expert-Lay Knowledge Divide." In *Risk, Environment and Modernity: Towards a New Ecology*, edited by Scott Lash, Bronislaw Szerszynski, and Brian Wynne, 44–83. London: Sage.

## Supervision Question

- How do citizen engagement and community participation generate different approaches to environmental problems?

## SECTION TWO

### Section Two, Module One. Global Body Projects

Monica Moreno Figueroa

#### *Module Overview*

This module interrogates the body as a site of production of inequalities. Through the critical exploration of instances of cosmetic surgery, beauty pageants and sex tourism, the module will consider the ways intersectionality, as a methodological strategy, can help us develop our sociological imagination. Inequality, embodiment, sexism, racism, class distinctions and nation building will be key concepts.

#### *Section Two*

#### *Lecture 7: Sex Tourism and The Tensions of Development*

#### **Lecture overview**

After an introduction to the module, we will discuss the dilemmas of sex tourism from a transnational perspective. We start by a historical analysis that allow us to consider how colonialism and the racist and sexist logics that developed thereafter have had major consequences to how bodies are understood and occupy space. We will look at the idea of 'pornotropics' to then explore, using examples of Latin America and the Caribbean, how the representations of the colonized have impacted the experience and practice of sex tourism. We then explore the political economy of the shifting distinction between sex and romance tourism. We will also experiment thinking together about the issue of the climate crisis and sex tourism, and more broadly about the issue of sustainability, travel and tourism and how these are gendered and racialised enquiries crossed by neoliberal logics of inequality.

#### **Essential Readings**

- Brennan, D. (2007) 'Love Work in a Tourist Town: Dominican Sex Workers and Resort Workers Perform at Love' in Mark Padilla et al. (eds) [Love and Globalization](#) (Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press). 203-225.
- Cabezas, A. (2004) '[Between Love and Money: Sex, Tourism, and Citizenship in Cuba and the Dominican Republic](#)' in *Signs*, 29(4): 987-1015.
- Carrier-Moisan ME (2018) "[I Have to Feel Something](#)": [Gringo Love in the Sexual Economy of Tourism in Natal, Brazil](#). *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 23(1): 131-151.
- Carrier-Moisan, M.-E. (2015) "'[Putting Femininity to Work](#)': [Negotiating Hypersexuality and Respectability in Sex Tourism, Brazil](#)", *Sexualities*, 18 (4); 499-518.
- de Jesus DSV (2020) [The Boys of Summer: Gay Sex Tourism in Rio de Janeiro](#). *Advances in Anthropology* 10(2): 125-146.
- Fletcher, R. (2011). "[Sustaining Tourism, Sustaining Capitalism? The Tourism Industry's Role in Global Capitalist Expansion](#)." *Tourism Geographies* 13(3): 443-461.
- Hofmann, S. (2013) 'Aesthetic Labor, Racialization, and Aging in Tijuana's Cosmopolitan Sex Industry' in A. Jafar & Masi De Casanova, E. (eds) [Global Beauty, Local Bodies](#) (New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan); 23-50.
- Kelman, I. (2019). "[Critiques of island sustainability in tourism](#)." *Tourism Geographies*: 1-18.

- Padilla, M. B. (2007) '[Western Union Daddies' and Their Quest for Authenticity: An Ethnographic Study of the Dominican Gay Sex Tourism Industry](#)', *Journal of Homosexuality*, 53 (1-2); 241-275.
- Rivers-Moore, M. (2010) '[But the Kids Are Okay: Motherhood, Consumption and Sex Work in Neo-Liberal Latin America](#)', *The British Journal of Sociology*, 61 (4); 716-736.
- Rivers-Moore M (2016) The Place of the Gringo Gulch: Space, Gender, and Nation in Sex Tourism. [New sociologies of sex work](#). Routledge, pp.135-148.
- Sánchez Taylor, J (2010) Sex tourism and inequalities. [Tourism and inequality: Problems and prospects](#). 49-66.
- Smith, V. L. (1998). "[War and tourism: An American ethnography](#)." *Annals of Tourism Research* 25(1): 202-227.

### Additional Readings

- Bishop, R. (2008) '[The Tele-Technics of Agency, the Net, the Urban and Sex Tourism](#)', *Social Identities*, 14 (3); 349-361.
- Brennan, D. (2004) [What's Love Got to Do with It? Transnational Desires and Sex Tourism in the Dominican Republic](#). (Durham and London: Duke University Press).
- Carlsen, J. and R. Butler (2011). [Island tourism: sustainable perspectives](#). Wallingford, Oxfordshire, [England], Cambridge, MA: CABI.
- Carrier-Moisan M-E (2020) *Gringo Love: Stories of Sex Tourism in Brazil*. University of Toronto Press.
- Chow-White, P. A. (2006) '[Race, Gender and Sex on the Net: Semantic Networks of Selling and Storytelling Sex Tourism](#)', *Media, Culture & Society*, 28 (6); 883-905.
- Clancy, M. (2002) '[The Globalization of Sex Tourism and Cuba: A Commodity Cahins Approach](#)', *Studies in Comparative Development*, 36 (4); 63-88.
- Gezinski, L. B., S. Karandikar, A. Levitt, et al. (2016) '[Total Girlfriend Experience': Examining Marketplace Mythologies on Sex Tourism Websites](#)', *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 18 (7); 785-798.
- Gregory S (2014) [The devil behind the mirror: Globalization and politics in the Dominican Republic](#). Univ of California Press. (Chapters 4 and 5)
- Harcourt, W. (2009) [Body Politics in Development: Critical Debates in Gender and Development](#). (London: Zed).
- Kempadoo, Kamala (2004) 'For Love or Money? Fantasies and Realities in Sex Tourism' in [Sexing the Caribbean: Gender, Race, and Sexual Labor](#) (New York: Routledge). 115-140.
- Mendoza, C. (2013) '[Beyond Sex Tourism: Gay Tourists and Male Sex Workers in Puerto Vallarta \(Western Mexico\)](#)', *International Journal of Tourism Research*, 15 (2); 122-137.
- O'Connell Davidson, J. (1996) '[Sex Tourism in Cuba](#)', *Race & Class*, 38 (1); 39-48.
- Ocha W and Earth B (2013) [Identity diversification among transgender sex workers in Thailand's sex tourism industry](#). *Sexualities* 16(1-2): 195-216.
- Omondi R and Ryan C (2020) "[Romantic Entertainers" on Kenya's Coastal Tourism: A Case of Sex Tourism](#)". *Leisure Sciences* 42(3-4): 358-374.
- Padilla, M. (2007) 'Me la busco: Looking for Life in the Dominican Pleasure Industry' in [Caribbean Pleasure Industry: Tourism, Sexuality, and AIDS in the Dominican Republic](#) (Chicago: University of Chicago Press). 46-75.
- Piscitelli, A. (2007) '[Shifting Boundaries: Sex and Money in the North-East of Brazil](#)' in *Sexualities*, 10(4): 489-500.
- Pope, C. (2005) '[The Political Economy of Desire: Geographies of Female Sex Work in Havana, Cuba](#)', *Journal of International Women's Studies*, 6 (2); 99-118.
- Rivers-Moore, M. (2016) [Gringo Gulch: Sex, Tourism, and Social Mobility in Costa Rica](#). University of



- Chicago Press.
- Rivers-Moore, M. (2012) '[Almighty Gringos: Masculinity and Value in Sex Tourism](#)', *Sexualities*, 15 (7); 850-870.
- Sánchez Taylor, J. (2001) '[Dollars Are a Girl's Best Friend? Female Tourists' Sexual Behaviour in the Caribbean](#)', *Sociology*, 35 (3); 749-764.
- Sánchez Taylor, J. (2006) '[Female Sex Tourism: A Contradiction in Terms?](#)', *Feminist Review*, (83); 42-59.
- Stončikaitė I (2020) '[On the Hunt for Noble Savages: Romance Tourism and Ageing Femininities](#)'. *Societies* 10(3): 47.
- Williams, E. L. (2014) '[Sex Work and Exclusion in the Tourist Districts of Salvador, Brazil](#)', *Gender, Place & Culture*, 21 (4); 453-470.
- Yokota, F. (2006) '[Sex Behaviour of Male Japanese Tourists in Bangkok, Thailand](#)', *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 8 (2); 115-131.

### Supervision question

- According to Rivers Moore, sex tourism can be understood as a strategy for 'getting ahead'. What are the contradictions and complexities that this argument pose? Discuss in relation to at least two other authors.

### Thinking and Talking Question

- What are the implications for sex tourism if tourism is not environmentally sustainable?

## ***Lecture 8: Colorism, Beauty Work and Cosmetic Surgeries in Neoliberal Times***

### Lecture overview

In this lecture we explore the issue of colorism and cosmetic surgeries in relation to the concerns with issues of beauty and normality. We will reconsider the use of skin as a supposed biological marker that delineates difference along lines of race, class and gender. We will also explore the racialisation of the cosmetic procedures as well as the arguments for the decolonisation of beauty studies. We will link the concern for surveillance and control over our bodies as a logic of neoliberalism, the entrenchment of post-feminism alongside the urge for renewed forms of aesthetic work. Through this discussion we will seek to understand conceptions of skin that are framed by neoliberal discourse concerning self-help and self-responsibility. We will think through issues related to branding, racial and social passing, trauma and labour in order to understand how skin informs ways of seeing, and we will then consider how ways of seeing inform ways of being for people who are, because of their skin, marginalised and demonised by dominant groups.

### Essential Readings

- Ahmed, S. and Stacey, J. (2001) [Thinking Through The Skin](#). (London: Routledge). [Introduction and chapters 3, 6, 12]
- Edmonds, A. (2007) '[The Poor Have the Right to Be Beautiful': Cosmetic Surgery in Neoliberal Brazil](#)', *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 13; 363-381.

- Henderson, Carol E. (2002) [\*Scarring the Black Body: Race and Representation in African American Literature\*](#). (Columbia: University of Missouri Press). [Chapter 2]
- Holliday, R., D. Bell, O. Cheung, et al. (2015) '[Brief Encounters: Assembling Cosmetic Surgery Tourism](#)', *Social Science & Medicine*, 124; 298-304.
- Menon, A. V. (2019). "[Cultural gatekeeping in cosmetic surgery: Transnational beauty ideals in multicultural Malaysia](#)." *Poetics*: 101354.
- Sanchez Taylor, J. (2012) '[Fake Breasts and Power: Gender, Class and Cosmetic Surgery](#)', *Women's Studies International Forum*, 35 (6); 458-466.
- Thomas LM (2020) [\*Beneath the Surface: A Transnational History of Skin Lighteners\*](#). Duke University Press (Introduction).
- Yousaf, F. N. and Purkayastha, B. (2016) '[Beyond Saving Faces: Survivors of Acid Attacks in Pakistan](#),' *Women's Studies International Forum*, 54; 11-19.

### **Additional Readings**

- Avilés-Santiago, M. G. (2018). "[Mapping Beauty, Fashion, and Femininity: Recent Contributions by Blain Roberts, Marcia Ochoa, and Vanita Reddy](#)." *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*, 46(1): 46-50.
- Hurd Clarke, L. & M. Griffin (2008) '[Visible and Invisible Ageing: Beauty Work as a Response to Ageism](#)', *Ageing & Society*, 28 (05); 653–674.
- Cepeda, M. E. (2018). "[Putting a "Good Face on the Nation": Beauty, Memes, and the Gendered Rebranding of Global Colombianidad](#)." *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*, 46(1): 121-138.
- Liao, S. X. (2016) '[Precarious Beauty: Migrant Chinese Women, Beauty Work, and Precarity](#)', *Chinese Journal of Communication*, 9 (2); 139-152.
- Ochoa, M. a. (2014) [\*Queen for a Day: Transformistas, Beauty Queens, and the Performance of Femininity in Venezuela\*](#). (chapter 5)
- Pérez-Rosario, V. (2018). "[On Beauty and Protest](#)." *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*, 46(1): 279-285.

### **On Colorism**

- Ahmed, S. (1998) 'Animated Borders: Skin, Color, and Tanning' in *Vital Signs: Feminist Reconfigurations of the Bio/Logical Body* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press) 45-65.
- Ahmed, S. (1999) "["She'll Wake Up One of These Days and Find She's Turned into a Nigger" Passing through Hybridity](#)' *Theory, Culture & Society*, 16(2); 87-106.
- Dawkins, M. A. (2012) [\*Clearly Invisible: Racial Passing and the Color of Cultural Identity\*](#) (Waco: Baylor University Press).
- Jablonski, N. (2012) [\*Living Color: The Biological and Social Meaning of Skin Color\*](#). (Berkeley: University of California Press). [Chapters 6, 13, 14]
- Hunter, M. (2002) "["If You're Light You're Alright" Light Skin Colour as Social Capital for Women of Color](#)' *Gender & Society*, 16(2); 175-193.
- Hunter, M. (2007) '[The Persistent Problem of Colorism: Skin Tone, Status, and Inequality](#)' *Sociology Compass*, 1(1); 237-254.
- Hunter, M. (2011) '[Buying Racial Capital: Skin-Bleaching and Cosmetic Surgery in a Globalised World](#)' *The Journal of Pan African Studies*, 4(4); 142-164.
- Tate, S. (2007) '[Black beauty: Shade, hair and anti-racist aesthetics](#)' *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 30(2); 300-319.
- Vandenberg, A. (2018). "[Toward a Phenomenological Analysis of Historicized Beauty Practices](#)." *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*, 46(1): 167-180.

- Wald, G. (2000) [\*Crossing the Line: Racial Passing in Twentieth-Century U.S. Literature and Culture\*](#) (Durham: Duke University Press).
- Walker, C. and Papadopoulos, L. (2005) [\*Psychodermatology: The Psychological Impact of Skin Disorders\*](#) (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). [Chapters 1 and 4].
- Yoo, Jeong-Ju. and Kim, Hye-Young. (2014) '[Perceived Negative Health Effect of Tanning](#)', *Clothing and Textiles Research Journal*, 32(1); 6-19.

## On Cosmetic Surgery

- Aizura, A. Z. (2009). "[Where Health and Beauty Meet: Femininity and Racialisation in Thai Cosmetic Surgery Clinics](#)." *Asian Studies Review*, 33(3): 303-317.
- Davis, K. (1995) [\*Reshaping the Female Body: The Dilemma of Cosmetic Surgery\*](#). (London and New York: Routledge).
- Edmonds, A. (2010) [\*Pretty Modern: Beauty, Sex, and Plastic Surgery in Brazil\*](#). (Durham, NC: Duke University Press).
- Edmonds, A. & E. Sanabria (2014) '[Medical Borderlands: Engineering the Body with Plastic Surgery and Hormonal Therapies in Brazil](#)', *Anthropology & Medicine*, 21 (2); 202-216.
- Elliott, A. (2011) '[I Want to Look Like That!': Cosmetic Surgery and Celebrity Culture](#)', *Cultural Sociology*, 5 (4); 463-477.
- Garnham, B. (2014) '[A Cutting Critique: Transforming 'Older' through Cosmetic Surgery](#)', *Ageing and Society*, 34 (8); 1356-1379.
- Gilman, S. L. (1999) *Making the Body Beautiful: A Cultural History of Aesthetic Surgery*. (New Jersey: Princeton University Press).
- Gimlin, D. L. (2013) "'[Too Good to Be Real](#)': The Obviously Augmented Breast in Women's Narratives of Cosmetic Surgery", *Gender & Society*, 27 (6); 913-934.
- Gordon, D. (2013) '[A Beleza Abre Portas: Beauty and the Racialised Body among Black Middle-Class Women in Salvador, Brazil](#)', *Feminist Theory*, 14 (2); 203-218.
- Holliday, R. & J. Elfving-Hwang (2012) '[Gender, Globalization and Aesthetic Surgery in South Korea](#)', *Body & Society*, 18 (2); 58-81.
- Jones, M. (2008) *Skintight: An Anatomy of Cosmetic Surgery*. (Oxford: Berg).
- Masi de Casanova, E. & B. Sutton (2013) '[Transnational Body Projects: Media Representations of Cosmetic Surgery Tourism in Argentina and the United States](#)', *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 19 (1); 57-81.
- Sanchez Taylor, J. (2012) '[Buying and Selling Breasts: Cosmetic Surgery, Beauty Treatments and Risk](#)', *The Sociological Review*, 60 (4); 635-653.
- Taussig, M. T. (2012). *Beauty and the beast*. Chicago; London, The University of Chicago Press, (pages 1-58).
- Viladrich, A. & R. Baron-Faust (2014) '[Medical Tourism in Tango Paradise: The Internet Branding of Cosmetic Surgery in Argentina](#)', *Annals of Tourism Research*, 45; 116-131.

## Supervision question

- Resistance to and compliance with racialised beauty work co-exist. Discuss this tension in relation to intersectionality.

## Thinking and Talking Question

- To what extent does cosmetic surgery and/or beauty work relate to the belief that crude nature can and should be improved through human technology, chemicals, and tools (Taussig 2012: 53)?

## **Lecture 9: Inequalities and Fashion**

In this lecture we will explore how economic, environmental and social inequalities intersect with clothing and fashion. We will focus on everyday garments, the materiality of clothing, and forms of appropriation and exploitation.

### **Essential Readings:**

- Jackson LM (2020) *White Negroes: When Cornrows Were in Vogue and Other Thoughts on Cultural Appropriation*. Boston: Beacon. (Chapter 2. The Cover Girl: Blackness, Groundbreaking, pp 31-48).
- Jansen MA (2020) Fashion and the Phantasmagoria of Modernity: An Introduction to Decolonial Fashion Discourse. *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 815-836.  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1362704X.2020.1802098>
- Kleisath CM (2014) The Costume of Shangri-La: Thoughts on White Privilege, Cultural Appropriation, and Anti-Asian Racism. *Journal of Lesbian Studies* 18(2): 142-157.  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10894160.2014.849164>
- Knowles, C. (2015) 'The Flip-Flop Trail and Fragile Globalization', *Theory, Culture & Society*; 0263276415576217. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0263276415576217>
- Matthes EH (2016) Cultural Appropriation Without Cultural Essentialism? *Social Theory and Practice* 42(2): 343-366. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24871347>
- Miller D (2010) *Stuff*. Cambridge: Polity Press. (Ch 1. Why Clothing is not superficial, 12-41).  
<https://www.vlebooks.com/Vleweb/Product/Index/1358462?page=0>
- Niessen S (2020) Fashion, its Sacrifice Zone, and Sustainability. *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 859-877.  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1362704X.2020.1800984>
- Peirson-Smith A and Craik J (2020) Transforming Sustainable Fashion in a Decolonial Context: The Case of Redress in Hong Kong. *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 921-946.  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1362704X.2020.1800985>
- Shand P (2002) Scenes from the colonial catwalk: cultural appropriation, intellectual property rights, and fashion. *Cultural Analysis* 3: 47-88.  
<https://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~culturalanalysis/volume3/pdf/shand.pdf>
- Sutton, B. (2013) 'Fashion of Fear: Securing the Body in an Unequal Global World' in E. Masi De Casanova & Jafar, A. (eds) *Bodies without Borders: Migrating Discourses of Embodiment* (New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan); 75-99.  
<http://www.vlebooks.com/Vleweb/Product/Index/985548?page=0>
- Thomas D (2019) *Fashionopolis: The Price of Fast Fashion and the Future of Clothes*. Penguin.

### **Additional Readings:**

- Arvidsson, A., G. Malossi & S. Naro (2010) '[Passionate Work? Labour Conditions in the Milan Fashion Industry](#)', *Journal for Cultural Research*, 14 (3); 295-309.
- Bredin M (2008) [Cultural Appropriation](#). *The International Encyclopedia of Communication*.
- Cheang S and Suterwalla S (2020) [Decolonizing the Curriculum? Transformation, Emotion, and Positionality in Teaching](#). *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 879-900.
- Crane, D. (2000) *Fashion and Its Social Agendas: Class, Gender, and Identity in Clothing*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press). (Chapter 1, pp 1-25.)

- Cuthbert D (1998) [Beg, borrow or steal: The politics of cultural appropriation](#). *Postcolonial Studies* 1(2): 257-262.
- de Greef E (2020) [Curating Fashion as Decolonial Practice: Ndwalane's Mblaselo and a Politics of Remembering](#). *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 901-920.
- Femenias B (1998) [Ethnic artists and the appropriation of fashion: embroidery and identity in Caylloma, Peru](#). *Chungara: Revista de Antropología Chilena* 30(2): 197-206.
- Hladki J (1994) [Problematizing the issue of cultural appropriation](#). *Alternate Routes: A Journal of Critical Social Research* 11.
- Knowles, C. (2014) *Flip-Flop: A Journey through Globalisation's Backroads*. (London: Pluto).
- Miller, D. & S. Woodward (2011) *Global Denim*. (Oxford: Berg).
- Miller, D. & S. Woodward (2012) *Blue Jeans: The Art of the Ordinary*. Univ of California Press).
- Pedwell, C. (2011) ['The Limits of Cross-Cultural Analogy: Muslim Veiling and 'Western' fashion and Beauty Practices'](#), *New Femininities: Postfeminism, Neo-liberalism and Subjectivity*; 188-199.
- Rodriguez J (2006) [Color-Blind Ideology and the Cultural Appropriation of Hip-Hop](#). *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 35(6): 645-668.
- Slade T (2020) [Decolonizing Luxury Fashion in Japan](#). *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 837-857.
- Slade T and Jansen MA (2020) [Letter from the Editors: Decoloniality and Fashion](#). *Fashion Theory* 24(6): 809-814.
- Thi Nguyen C and Strohl M (2019) [Cultural appropriation and the intimacy of groups](#). *Philosophical Studies* 176(4): 981-1002.
- Thomas D (2007) *Deluxe: How luxury lost its luster*. Penguin.
- Young JO (2000) [The ethics of cultural appropriation](#). *The Dalhousie Review* 80(3).

### **Newspaper or magazine's articles**

The Kimono, The Catwalk & The Great Cultural Appropriation Debate

<https://www.vogue.co.uk/arts-and-lifestyle/article/kimono-kyoto-to-catwalk-v-and-a>

Nair L (2019) When Even Spirit Has No Place to Call Home: Cultural Appropriation, Microaggressions, and Structural Racism in the Yoga Workplace. *Race and Yoga* 4(1).

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8mn5k1m1>

Blu Wakpa T (2018) Decolonizing Yoga? and (Un) settling Social Justice. *Race and Yoga* 3(1).

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8nz498zt>

### **Fashion and environmental crisis**

[Fashion for Global Climate Action](#)

['It's finding something new in the old': how fashion can confront the climate crisis](#)

[The price of fast fashion](#)

[Sustain your Style](#)

Bick R, Halsey E and Ekenga CC (2018) [The global environmental injustice of fast fashion](#). *Environmental Health* 17(1): 92.

### ***Cosmetics and environmental crisis***

[The beauty industry generates a lot of plastic waste. Can it change?](#)

[12 years to change: what can the beauty industry do to stop climate change catastrophe?](#)

[Beauty industry giant vows to have zero net emissions by 2050](#)

[Earth Day 2018: The Environmental Impact of the Cosmetics Industry](#)

[The truth about beauty packaging and the environment](#)

### **Supervision question:**

- To what extent do ordinary garments reproduce oppression? Discuss with reference to the production, consumption OR use of clothing.

### **Thinking and Talking Question**

- To what extent is fashion an environmental problem?

## Section Two, Module Two: Control and Resistance in Digital Societies

Ella McPherson

### *Module Overview*

This module examines how global social problems and related modes of resistance **play out in digital societies**. We underpin this examination by first looking at **talk** about technology, namely how technologies are often discursively equated with progress, and how and why these discourses travel and have impact across the globe. We will learn how to take an **intersectional critical political economy approach to look beneath these discourses** to the dynamics of inequality inherent to technologies' production, use and disposal. Next, we look at the role of social media in recent social movements, thinking in particular about the power and counter-power of networks and in networks. Finally, we will examine resistance through representation, focusing on the contested practice of taking selfies and on the problematics that big data poses for representation. Throughout, we will be attuned to **continuity versus change in digital societies**, as well as implications for **equality, pluralism, accountability and the environment**. We will also keep a critical eye on the methods used to research phenomena in digital societies, and specifically the relationship between these **methods and the claims made**.

### *Lecture 10: Critical Approaches to the Information Society*

#### Lecture Overview

This lecture introduces students to the discourse of the information society, in which technology is understood as driving progress. We will critically assess this claim, using examples like the mining of minerals for mobile phones, the content moderation of social media posts, the gender imbalance on Wikipedia and the disposal of e-waste. We will investigate two approaches for studying technology critically: the political economy approach and the intersectional approach.

#### Lecture Overview

This lecture introduces students to the discourse of the **information society, in which technology is understood as driving progress**. We will critically assess this claim, using examples like the mining of **minerals for mobile phones**, the **content moderation of social media posts**, the **gender imbalance among Wikipedia editors**, how **structural racism is built into technology**, and the **disposal of e-waste**. We will investigate two complementary approaches for studying technology critically: the political economy approach and the intersectional approach.

#### Essential Readings

Benjamin, R. (2019) [\*Race after Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code\*](#). Cambridge, UK: Polity. ['Introduction']

- Hall, S. (2001) 'Foucault: Power, Knowledge and Discourse', in Wetherell, M., Taylor, S., and Yates, S. J. (eds) *Discourse Theory and Practice: A Reader*. London, UK: SAGE Publications, pp. 72–81.
- Mansell, R. (2010) '[The Life and Times of the Information Society](#)', *Prometheus*, 28(2), pp.165–86.
- Noble, S. U. and Tynes, B. M. (eds) (2016) [The Intersectional Internet: Race, Sex, Class, and Culture Online](#)

### Additional Readings

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## Supervision Question

- *How can we critically understand the concept of the information society?*

## Thinking and Talking Question

- *What is the connection between information society discourses and world's rising levels of e-waste?*

## Lecture 11: Social Media and Social Movements

### Lecture Overview

This lecture both builds on the previous lecture's concept of discourse and introduces the metaphor of the **network** to interrogate the use of social media by social movements. We will first examine how this relatively recent adoption of social media follows a long tradition of **social movements' use of media for symbolic counter-power**, including the anti-globalisation Zapatista movement, a very early adopter of online mobilization tactics. We will go on to look at several more contemporary examples, including the 'Twitter Revolution' in Iran, the #BlackLivesMatter movement in the United States, #YaMeCansé in Mexico, and Extinction Rebellion in the UK. In each case, we will focus on **how technology intersects with the power** relations within and around these movements, including those related to race, gender and sexuality as well as to corporate and state power.

### Essential Readings

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- Shapiro, R. (2015) '[Rhetorics of Hope: Complicating Western Narratives of a "Social Media Revolution"](#)', *Literacy in Composition Studies* 3(1), pp.156–74.
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- Tynes, B. M., Schuschke, J. and Noble, S. U. (2016) 'Digital Intersectionality Theory and the #Blacklivesmatter Movement', in Noble, S. U. and Tynes, B. M. (eds) [\*The Intersectional Internet: Race, Sex, Class, and Culture Online\*](#). New York: Peter Lang, pp. 21–40.

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- Natale, S. and Ballatore, A. (2014) '[The Web Will Kill Them All: New Media, Digital Utopia, and Political Struggle in the Italian 5-Star Movement](#)', *Media, Culture & Society*, 36(1), pp. 105-121.
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- Ott, K. (2018) '[Social Media and Feminist Values: Aligned or Maligned?](#)', *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, 39(1), pp. 93-111.
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### Supervision Question:

- *Do social media revolutions exist?*

### Thinking and Talking Question

- *What are the tensions arising from environmental movements' uses of social media?*

## ***Lecture 12: Representation and Resistance: The Problematics of Big Data and the Politics of the Selfie***

### **Lecture Overview**

This lecture will introduce the concept of representation and examine how **the power relations around representation have (or have not) changed** in the digital age. We will use the examples of **selfies** and of **big data** as case studies, examining the differences in the **claims to representation** made by these types of information, as well as in the ways these types of information **are represented**. We will finish the lecture by circling back to the political economy approach to reflect on the environmental consequences of the **'cloud,' in which such digital representations** tend to be stored.

### **Essential Readings**

- boyd, d. and Crawford, K. (2012) '[Critical Questions for Big Data: Provocations for a Cultural, Technological, and Scholarly Phenomenon](#)', *Information, Communication & Society* 15(5), pp.662–79.
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- Hall, S. (2013) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. Second Edition. Milton Keynes: SAGE Publications Ltd. [Chapter 1: 'The Work of Representation' and Chapter 4: 'The Spectacle of 'The Other']
- Senft, T.M. and Baym, N.K. (2015) '[What Does the Selfie Say? Investigating a Global Phenomenon](#)', *International Journal of Communication*, 9, pp. 1588-1606.

### **Additional Readings**

- Andrejevic, M. (2014) '[The Big Data Divide](#)', *International Journal of Communication*, 8, pp. 1673-89.
- Brager, J. (2015) '[The Selfie and the Other: Consuming Viral Tragedy and Social Media \(After\)lives](#)', *International Journal of Communication*, 9, pp. 1660-71.
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- Markham, A. N. (2013) '[Undermining "Data": A Critical Examination of a Core Term in Scientific Inquiry](#),' *First Monday* 18(10).
- Mosco, V. (2014) *[To the Cloud: Big Data in a Turbulent World](#)*. Boulder: Routledge. [Chapter 3: 'Selling the Cloud Sublime' and Chapter 4: 'Dark Clouds']
- Nemer, D. and Freeman, G. (2015) '[Empowering the Marginalized: Rethinking Selfies in the Slums of Brazil](#),' *International Journal of Communication*, 9, pp. 1832-47.
- Rettberg, J. W. (2017) 'Biometric Citizens: Adapting our Selfies to Machine Vision' in Kuntsman, A. (ed) *Selfie Citizenship*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 89-96.
- Rosenberg, D. (2013) '[Data before the Fact](#)' in Gitelman, L. (ed) '*Raw Data*' is an Oxymoron. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, pp. 15-40.
- van Dijck, J. (2014) '[Datafication, Dataism and Dataveillance: Big Data Between Scientific Paradigm and Ideology](#),' *Surveillance & Society*, 12(2), pp.197–208.
- Vivienne, S. (2017) '["I Will Not Hate Myself Because You Cannot Accept Me": Problematizing Empowerment and Gender-Diverse Selfies](#),' *Popular Communication* 15(2), pp. 126–40.
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### Supervision Questions

- What is the relationship between representation and power in the digital age?

### Thinking and Talking Question

- What shapes the representation of the climate crisis in the digital age?