

<b>SOC 4 Concepts and Arguments in Sociology - topics 2017-18</b>	
<b>Part I:</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>
Are revolutions and coups different even if they accomplish the same goals?	Dr Teije Donker
Are the primary drivers of war politicians or military leaders?	Dr Teije Donker
What distinguishes social constructionism from other theoretical approaches in sociology?	Dr D Weinberg
Does the concept of network help us understand contemporary societies?	Dr E McPherson
What effects does the rise of information and communication technologies have on inequalities?	Dr E McPherson
What is a liberal education and is it something we should aspire to?	Dr M Ramsden
Is populism a relevant concept for understanding the rise of the right in Europe or the US?	Dr M Desai
How are the ideas of nature and biology relevant in the age of bioscience and technology?	ReproSoc
Are the concepts of 'heterosexual,' 'gay' or 'queer' useful for understanding social processes?	ReproSoc
What are the causes and consequences of 'stratified reproduction'?	ReproSoc
How has the advent of reproductive technologies changed understandings of motherhood?	ReproSoc
To what extent does the concept of 'normality' overlap with social understandings of what is 'natural'?	ReproSoc
What does it mean for 'the personal' to be 'political'?	ReproSoc
How useful is the concept of post-race to understand contemporary forms of racism? Answer in reference to a particular country or region.	Dr M M Figueroa
Is the notion of sovereignty outdated?	Dr J Miley
Where does power now reside in the USA – Washington DC, Wall Street or Silicon Valley? Discuss using Mann's four networks theory of power.	Dr S Hogarth
<b>Part II</b>	
Why have right-wing populists been more successful politically than their left-wing counterparts in Europe and America?	Dr Teije Donker
What are the social sources of the emerging "Trump Doctrine" in military affairs?	Dr Teije Donker
What can Actor Network Theory contribute to the sociology of addiction?	Dr D Weinberg
How can we understand the 'fake news' phenomenon?	Dr E McPherson
What do new technologies herald for human rights accountability?	Dr E McPherson
To what extent is gentrification a product of wider global forces?	Dr M Ramsden

How could human reproduction be sustainable from the viewpoint of planetary resources and biodiversity?	ReproSoc
Why and how do people get to become parents? / Does everyone have a right to be a parent?	ReproSoc
Is there anything such as a mainstream life course in the UK and are there any alternatives to it?	ReproSoc
Could science and technology be democratic?	ReproSoc
What can reproduction tell us about social life beyond family making?	ReproSoc
Why is it important for many people to have 'their own child'?	ReproSoc
How are anti-racist practices effective in challenging racism?	Dr M M Figueroa
Why Brexit?	Dr J Miley
Which technology has had greater impact on globalisation – the internet or the cargo container?	Dr S Hogarth