

CPNSS Fixtures List

Lent Term 2013

ALL-LONDON HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE MEETINGS

The LSE Choice Group

[Contact: Katie Steele on tel: 020 7955 7334, email: k.steele@lse.ac.uk ;
www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CPNSS/projects/ChoiceGroup]

The Popper Seminars

[Contact: John Worrall on tel: 020 7955 7335, email: j.worrall@lse.ac.uk]

The Sigma Club

[Contact: Roman Frigg on tel: 020 7955 7182, email: r.p.frigg@lse.ac.uk;
www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CPNSS/projects/SigmaClub]

BSPS

[Contact: Roman Frigg on tel: 020 7955 7182, email: r.p.frigg@lse.ac.uk]

PH500 Research Methods in Philosophy*

[Contact: Tom Chivers on tel: 020 7955 7340, email: t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk]

PH501 Philosophical Problems Seminar*

[Contact: Tom Chivers on tel: 020 7955 7340, email: t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk]

PH551 Research Methods in the Philosophy of the Natural Sciences*

[Contact: Roman Frigg on tel: 020 7955 7182, email: r.p.frigg@lse.ac.uk]

PH555 Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences*

[Contact: Tom Chivers on tel: 020 7955 7340, email: t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk]

Unless otherwise noted, all seminars and events are held in T206 and are open to the public. For updated information online www.lse.ac.uk/cpnss

* These are either research or taught seminars but they might also be open to interested people; please contact the seminar leader. Those attending are expected to read the relevant material.

Lent Term - Week 1: Mon 14/01/2013 – Fri 18/01/2013

Wednesday 16th January, 10am-12pm(check times!)

PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 16th January, 5:30 – 7pm

PH555: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences

Thursday 17th Jan, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Lent term - Week 2: Mon 21/01/2013 – Fri 25/01/2013

Monday 21st January, 5:15-6:45pm

PH551: Research Methods in the Philosophy of the Natural Sciences

Omri Tal

Tuesday 22nd January, 2pm

POPPER SEMINAR

Dr Jonathan Quong (Manchester)

Proportionality in Defensive Harm

Wednesday 23rd January, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 23rd January, 5:30 – 7pm

PH555: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences

Wednesday 23rd January, 5:15-6:45pm

CHOICE GROUP

Darren Bradley (City College New York, philosophy)

Thursday 24th January, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Lent term - Week 3: Mon 28/01/2013 – Fri 01/02/2013

Monday 28th January, 5:15-6:45pm

BSPS

Anna Alexandrova (Cambridge HPS)

Determining what Well-Being is: Psychometrics and Philosophy

Wednesday 30th January, 10am -12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 30th January, 5:15 - 6:45pm

CHOICE GROUP

Ivan Moscati (University of Insubria, Varese, Italy, and Bocconi University, Milan, Italy)

How cardinal utility entered economic analysis during the Ordinal Revolution:

The paper shows that cardinal utility entered economic analysis during the Ordinal Revolution initiated by Pareto and not, as many popular histories of utility theory assume, before it. Cardinal utility was the outcome of a discussion began by Pareto about the capacity of ranking transitions among different combinations of goods. The discussion simmered away during the 1920s and early 1930s, underwent a decisive rise in temperature between 1934 and 1938, and continued with some final sparks until 1944. The paper illustrates the methodological and analytical issues and the measurement-theoretic problems, as well as the personal and institutional aspects that characterized this debate. Many eminent economists of the period contributed to it, with Samuelson in particular playing a pivotal role in defining and popularizing cardinal utility. Based on archival research in Samuelson's papers at Duke University, the paper also addresses an issue of priority associated with the mathematical characterization of cardinal utility.)

Thursday 31st January, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Lent term - Week 4: Mon 04/02/2013 – Fri 08/02/2013

Monday 4th February, 5:15-6:45pm

SIGMA

James Wells (CERN)

Wednesday 6th February, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 6th February, 5:30-7pm

PH555: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences

Thursday 7th February, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Thursday 7th February, 6:30 – 8pm

Thinking in Public: Design in Nature

New Theatre, East Building, LSE

Sarah Coakley, Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity and Fellow of Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge

John Cottingham|, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, University of Reading and Honorary Fellow, St John's College, University of Oxford

John Worrall, Professor of Philosophy of Science, LSE

Chair: Tim Marlow, writer, broadcaster and art historian

The idea that nature displays an inherent purpose, and more generally the hand of a wise designer, may have suffered a blow from Darwinian science, but it seems not to have been a death-blow. Indeed, from both academic and popular wings of theist opinion there is still considerable interest in arguments from design. The classic arguments contended that the natural world is so complex and suited to our survival that we cannot but credit it to the work of a wise designer. In this event we will explore attempts to revive design arguments in a time after Darwin.

This event is jointly organised jointly by the Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science and the Forum for European Philosophy

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/forumForEuropeanPhilosophy/events/Thinking-in-Public/ThinkinginPublic.aspx>

Lent term - Week 5: Mon 11/02/2013 – Fri 15/02/2013

Monday 11th February, 5:15–6:45pm

PH551: Research Methods in the Philosophy of the Natural Sciences

Wednesday 13th February, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 13th February, 5:30-7pm

CHOICE GROUP

Peter Sozou, CPNSS, LSE

When common interest and competition collide

Where individuals have a common interest, they may be expected to help each other. In biology, relatives have a common (genetic) interest in each other's reproductive success. In economics, a common interest occurs where payoffs are structured in such a way that success of one individual (or agent) leads to a positive payoff for another. Conversely, where there is a contest for a limited resource, an individual may benefit from harming its competitors. In this talk, I will consider situations in biology and economics in which individuals with a common interest are in a competitive contest. It is shown that this can lead to outcomes where they tend to help each other, outcomes where they tend to harm each other, and to asymmetric outcomes in which A helps B while at the same time B harms A.

Thursday 14th February, 12-1:30pm,

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Lent term - Week 6: Mon 18/02/2013 – Fri 22/02/2013

Monday 18th February, 5:15–6:45pm

PH551: Research Methods in the Philosophy of the Natural Sciences

Tuesday 19th February, 2pm

POPPER SEMINAR

Luc Bovens

Title: *Concerns for the Poorly Off in Ordering Risky Prospects – An Ecumenical Approach*

Wednesday 20th February, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 20th February, 5:30-7pm

CHOICE GROUP

(special session with CPNSS)

Stathis Psillos

(Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Athens)

In his widely circulated and discussed, but still unpublished, manuscript *Realism and Scientific Epistemology*, Richard Boyd (1971) viewed scientific realism as an historical thesis about the “operation of scientific methodology and the relation between scientific theories and the world”. As such, realism is not a thesis only about current science; it is also a thesis about the historical record of science: it claims that there has been convergence to a truer image of the world. History, however, became a serious player in the scientific realism debate in the 1980s with the advent of the pessimistic induction, which aimed to undermine realism.

It was not always like this! The realism battle has been fought twice over, as it were. The first time, it took place mostly in the European continent in the beginning of the twentieth century. The battlefield back then concerned the prospects of the atomic conception of matter and it took shape with the ‘bankruptcy of science’ debate. The major philosophical views that emerged were—to a large extent—responses to historical challenges to the operation and the limits of scientific methodology.

In this talk, I review the realism in the beginning of the twentieth century, looking in detail into the ‘bankruptcy of science’ controversy that took place in France towards the end of the nineteenth century, and examine the role of history in it.

Thursday 21st February, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Friday 22nd February, 10am-4pm

Philippe Fontaine & Roger Backhouse

Workshop: History of Postwar Social Science

Programme:

London School of Economics, Lakatos Building, Room 2.06

10.00 – 10.50: Government Issue: World War II, Applied Social Research, and the Making of a Modern, Citizen-Soldier Army
Edward Gitre (Seattle University)

Coffee break

11.20 – 12.10: American Economics, 1952
Béatrice Cherrier (University of Caen)

12.20 – 13.10: Continental Planning or Regional Integration? The Economics and Statistics of Pan-Africanism in the 1960s
Gerardo Serra (London School of Economics)

Lunch break

14.40 – 15.30: Merton, Mass Persuasion, and War-Time Propaganda
Mary S. Morgan (London School of Economics)

15.40 – 16.30: The Committee(s) on the Behavioral Sciences: When Natural Scientists Talk about Society, 1949–1955
Philippe Fontaine (École normale supérieure de Cachan)

Organisers:

Roger Backhouse (reb@bhouse.org.uk) and Philippe Fontaine (fontaine@ens-cachan.fr).
Supported by the CNRS European Scientific Coordination Network (GDRE #711)

Lent term - Week 7: Mon 25/02/2013 – Fri 01/03/2013

Monday 25th February, 5:15–6:45pm

SIGMA

Richard Dawid (Vienna)

Wednesday 27th February, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 27th February, 5:30-7pm

PH555: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences

Thursday 28st February, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Thursday 28th February, 5:15 – 6:45pm

LSE CPNSS Literary Festival

Rethinking Risk: when biology meets finance

Venue: Sheikh Zayed Theatre, New Academic Building

Speakers: John Coates, Dylan Evans

Chair: Paul Ormerod

Homo economicus is dead! Long live, instead, the scientific understanding of how errors cloud thinking and physiology distorts emotions. These exciting new insights can improve all our decision-making, from markets to mating.

John Coates is senior research fellow in neuroscience and finance at the University of Cambridge. He previously worked on Wall Street for Goldman Sachs, and ran a trading desk for Deutsche Bank. In 2004 he returned to Cambridge to research the biology of financial risk-taking. His work has been published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and the Financial Times and been cited in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, The Economist, New Scientist, Wired and Time. He is author of The Hour Between Dog and Wolf: risk-taking, gut feelings and the biology of boom and bust.

Dylan Evans is the founder of Projection Point, the global leader in risk intelligence solutions. He has written several popular books, including Risk Intelligence: How to Live with Uncertainty, and Emotion: The Science of Sentiment. He received a PhD in Philosophy from LSE in 2000, and has held academic appointments at various universities, including King's College London, the University of Bath, and the American University of Beirut. He is a distinguished supporter of the British Humanist Association.

Paul Ormerod is an economist, author and entrepreneur whose books include The Death of Economics, Butterfly Economics, Why Most Things Fail and most recently Positive Linking: How Networks can Revolutionise the World. He studied economics at

Cambridge and his career has spanned the academic and practical business worlds, including working at the Economist and as a director of the Henley Centre for Forecasting. He is a fellow of the British Academy of Social Science and has been awarded a DSc honoris causa for his contribution to economics by the University of Durham.

This event forms part of LSE's 5th Space for Thought Literary Festival, taking place from Tuesday 25 February - Saturday 2 March 2013, with the theme 'Branching Out'.

Suggested hashtag for this event for Twitter users: #LSElitfest

Lent term - Week 8: Mon 04/03/2013 – Fri 08/03/2013

Monday 4th March, 5:15–6:45pm

SIGMA

Silvia De Bianchi

Wednesday 6th March, 2-4pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Andrew Khoury

Well-being, happiness, measurement of...

Wednesday 6th March, 5:30-7pm

PH555: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences

Thursday 7th March, 12 – 1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Lent term - Week 9: Mon 11/03/2013 – Fri 15/03/2013

Monday 11th March, 5:15–6:45pm

BSPS

Sabina Leonelli (Exeter)

Integrating Data to Acquire New Knowledge

Wednesday 13th March, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Wednesday 13th March, 5:30-7pm

PH555: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences

Thursday 14th March, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

Friday 15th March, 12-5:15pm

Interdisciplinary Policy Group (IPG) Seminar on Pro-Social Behaviour

Location: LAK 2.06

Programme:

12.30: Sandwich lunch

1.15: Tim Besley to introduce the plans for the IPG, and this seminar

1.30: Maitreesh Ghatak (Economics Department):
Strategic approaches to altruism

2.15: Matteo Galizzi and Adam Oliver (Social Policy Department):
The ultimatum game and evolutionary game theory

3.00: Tea/coffee

3.15: Charles Stafford (Anthropology Department):
Pro-social behaviour in groups

4.00: Valentino Larcinese (Government Department) How people vote and whether they vote

4.45: Julian Le Grand (Chair): IPG feedback and plans

5.15: Close

Lent term - Week 10: Mon 18/03/2013 – Fri 22/03/2013

Tuesday 19th March, 2pm

POPPER SEMINAR

Professor Erik Schokkaert (Leuven)

Title: tbc

Wednesday 20th March, 10am-12pm

PH500: Research Methods in Philosophy

Emily McTernan and Erik Schokkaert (visiting professor).

Inequality, measurement of...

Wednesday 20th March, 5:30-7pm

CHOICE GROUP

Marion Ott (RWTH Aachen University, Economics)

"Hawk-dove games on networks: an experimental study"

(abstract to follow)

Thursday 21st March, 12-1:30pm

PH501: Philosophical Problems Seminar

End of Lent Term 2013.