

# CPNSS Fixtures List

## ALL-LONDON HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE MEETINGS

Michaelmas Term 2012

### ***The LSE Choice Group***

[Contact: Richard Bradley on 020 7955 7333, email [R.Bradley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:R.Bradley@lse.ac.uk) ;  
[www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CPNSS/projects/ChoiceGroup](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CPNSS/projects/ChoiceGroup)]

### ***The Popper Seminars***

[Contact: Katie Steele, email [k.steele@lse.ac.uk](mailto:k.steele@lse.ac.uk)]

### ***The Sigma Club***

[Contact: Roman Frigg on [r.p.frigg@lse.ac.uk](mailto:r.p.frigg@lse.ac.uk);  
[www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CPNSS/projects/SigmaClub](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/CPNSS/projects/SigmaClub)]

### ***The Order Project***

[Contact: Rebecca Robinson, email [R.Robinson1@lse.ac.uk](mailto:R.Robinson1@lse.ac.uk)]

### ***PH500 Research Methods in Philosophy\****

[Contact: Tom Chivers, email [t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk](mailto:t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk)]

### ***PH501 Philosophical Problems Seminar\****

[Contact: Tom Chivers, email [t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk](mailto:t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk)]

### ***PH551 Research Methods in the Philosophy of the Natural Sciences\****

[Contact: Tom Chivers, email [t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk](mailto:t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk)]

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

[Contact: Tom Chivers, email [t.r.chivers@lse.ac.uk](mailto: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](http://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.

## **Michaelmas Term—Week 0: 1/10-5/10/2012**

**Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 5.30-7pm**

### **CHOICE GROUP**

**Gloria Origgi**

CNRS, Paris

*Kakonomics: The strange preference for low quality and its norms*

*Abstract:* Standard game-theoretical approaches posit that, whatever people are trading (ideas, services, or goods), each one wants to receive High-quality work from others. Let's stylize the situation so that goods can be exchanged only at two quality-levels: High and Low.

Kakonomics describes cases where people not only have standard preferences to receive a High-quality good and deliver a Low-quality one (the standard sucker's payoff) but they actually prefer to deliver a Low-quality good and receive a Low-quality one, that is, they connive on a Low-Low exchange. We posit that this kind of interaction is sustained by an unusual, yet possible, preference ranking which differs from that associated with the Prisoners' Dilemma and similar games, whereby self-interested rational agents prefer to dish out low quality in exchange for high quality. While equally 'lazy', agents in our low-quality worlds are oddly 'pro-social': for the advantage of maximizing their raw self-interest, they prefer to receive low-quality goods and services, provided that they too can in exchange deliver low quality without embarrassment.

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## **Michaelmas Term—Week 1: 8/10-12/10/2012**

**Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> October, , 5.15-6.45pm**

### **PH551: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Natural Sciences**

**Charlotte Werndl**

LSE, Philosophy

*A Bayesian Perspective on Confirmation and Calibration Illustrated by Climate Science*

**Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12pm**

### **PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30-7pm**

### **CHOICE GROUP**

**Alexandra Hill**

University of Manchester, Philosophy

*The Chinese Principle of Analogy in Inductive Logic*

*Abstract:* Attempts by Carnap and others to incorporate reasoning by analogy into inductive logic have met with little success. In this talk I will present joint work with Jeff Paris in which we propose a new formalisation of reasoning by analogy inspired by ancient Chinese rational thought. Whereas previous work has only considered analogies that derive from the sharing of properties, ours is based on the idea of structural similarity. We show that the Chinese Principle follows from certain symmetry requirements on our language, hence is widely satisfied and consistent with many other popular principles of rational belief formation.

**Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> October, 12-13.30pm**

### **PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

**Michaelmas Term—Week 2: 15/10-19/10/2012**

**Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 5.15-6.45pm**

**BJPS**

**Elselijn Kingma**

KCL

*Disease and Dysfunction*

**Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar—Metaethics Meets Decision Theory**

**Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2:00-3:30pm**

**POPPER SEMINAR**

**Prof. Elliott Sober**

University of Wisconsin

*Time and Knowability in Evolutionary Processes*

**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 12-14pm**

**PH555: PhD Seminar— Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences**

**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

**Ira Kiourti**

Institute of Philosophy

*TBA*

**Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

## **Michaelmas Term—Week 3: 22/10-26/10/2012**

**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 5-7pm**

**The Order Project and Choice Group**

**Sir Anthony Kenny**

*The Philosophy of Gerard Manley Hopkins*

**St Hugh's College, Oxford MGA Lecture Room**

Gerard Manley Hopkins, like John Donne and Alexander Pope, was a philosopher as well as a poet.

Unusually among Catholic poets he took John Duns Scotus as his mentor. In my lecture I will set out the main philosophical principles which marked out Scotus from other medieval philosophers, and illustrate their expression in Hopkins's prose and poetry. I will also discuss the poetic expression given by Hopkins to ethical principles which were common to most Catholic philosophers and theologians.

**Refreshment from 4.30pm**

**Registration:** [R.Robinson1@lse.ac.uk](mailto:R.Robinson1@lse.ac.uk)

**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 5.15-6.45pm**

**PH551: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Natural Sciences**

**Omri Tal**

LSE

*Lewontin's Fallacy Revisited: Keep it simple, but not too simple*

**Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

**Emily McTernan**

LSE Philosophy

*TBA*

**Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> October, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

## **Michaelmas Term—Week 4: 29/10-2/11/2012**

**Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 5.15-6.45pm**

**Sigma Club**

**Gabor Hofer-Szabo**

Hungarian Academy of Sciences

*Bell Inequality and Common Causal Explanation in Algebraic Quantum Field Theory*

**Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar—Metaethics Meets Decision Theory**

**Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 12-14pm**

**PH555: PhD Seminar— Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences**

**Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

**Philippe Mongin**

CNRS, Paris

*A Ranking Procedure for Multidimensional Alternatives and Uncertain Prospects (joint paper with Marcus Pivato)*

*Abstract:* We introduce a simple two-stage procedure to rank multidimensional alternatives, and in particular to construct preferences among uncertain prospects, when these objects can be given a matrix form. The first stage defines a ranking of rows and a ranking of columns, and the second stage gets a ranking of matrices by applying natural monotonicity conditions. Owing to the Debreu-Gorman theory of additive separability, this framework is sufficient to generate very precise numerical representations. We apply them to three main types of multidimensional objects: streams of commodity baskets through time, monetary input-output matrices, and most extensively, uncertain social prospects. Regarding the last application, our results amount to reinforcing Harsanyi's classic theorem of aggregating von Neumann-Morgenstern utilities in what is currently the strongest possible way. The results also deliver a novel derivation of subjective probability from preferences in Anscombe and Aumann's style of individual decision theory.

**Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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**Michaelmas Term—Week 5: 5/11-9/11/2012**

**Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 5.15-6.45pm**

**PH551: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Natural Sciences**

**Annemarie Vincenti**

LSE

*TBC*

**Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2:00-3:30pm**

**POPPER SEMINAR**

**Prof. Robert Williams**

Leeds

*Probability and non-classical logic*

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

TBA

TBA

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**Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> November, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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## **Michaelmas Term—Week 6: 12/11-16/11/2012**

**Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 5.15-6.45pm**

**PH551: Research Seminar in the Philosophy of Natural Sciences**

Adam White

LSE

TBC

**Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar—Metaethics Meets Decision Theory**

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 12-14pm**

**PH555: PhD Seminar— Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences**

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

Joe Mazor

LSE Philosophy

TBA

**Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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## **Michaelmas Term—Week 7: 19/11-23/11/2012**

**Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 5.15-6.45pm**

**Sigma Club**

Giovanni Valente

University of Pittsburgh

*Local Disentanglement in Relativistic Quantum Field Theory*

**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

Stefan Schubert

Lund, Philosophy

TBA

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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**Michaelmas Term—Week 8: 26/11-30/11/2012**

**Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 5.15-6.45pm**

**BJPS**

**Emma Tobin**

UCL

*Domain Specificity in Protein Classification: A Problem for Monism*

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar—Metaethics Meets Decision Theory**

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2:00-3:30pm**

**POPPER SEMINAR**

**Dr Andrew Khoury**

LSE

*What We Are Morally Responsible For*

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 12-14pm**

**PH555: PhD Seminar— Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences**

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

**Jim Joyce**

University of Michigan, Philosophy

TBA

**Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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**Michaelmas Term—Week 9: 3/12-7/12/2012**

**Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 5.15-6.45pm**

**Sigma Club**

**Hugo Touchette**

Queen Mary

*The large deviation approach to statistical mechanics: A basic introduction*

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

**TBA**

TBA

TBA

**Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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**Michaelmas Term—Week 10: 10/12-14/12/2012**

**Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 5.15-7pm**

**CPNSS and Philosophy Department**

**Nancy Cartwright and Jeremy Hardie**

*Book Launch; Evidence-Based Policy: A Practical Guide to Doing It Better*

**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar—Metaethics Meets Decision Theory**

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 10am-12pm**

**PH500: PhD Seminar— Research Methods in Philosophy**

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 12-14pm**

**PH555: PhD Seminar— Philosophy of Economics and Social Sciences**

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 5.30-7pm**

**CHOICE GROUP**

**Don Fallis**

University of Arizona, School of Information Resources

*TBA*

**Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 12-13.30pm**

**PH501: PhD Seminar— Philosophical Problems**

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