



British Journal of Sociology Conference Programme

Cheng Kin Ku Building, London School of Economics and Political Science

Day One | Thursday 23 April 2026

Registration and Welcome Coffee | 8.45am to 9.15am

CKK Lower Ground Floor

British Journal of Sociology Editors Welcome | 9.15am to 9.30am

Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Session One | 9.30am to 11:00am

Julian Go and critics: 10th anniversary of *Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory* | Alumni Theatre

In this panel, we will celebrate and critique Go's *Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory* on its tenth anniversary. We will consider the extent to which the book effectively critiqued the dominant imperial episteme in sociology, and the extent to which it has provided a blueprint for postcolonial sociologists of successive generations.

Julian Go will be joined by Ricarda Hammer, Ali Meghji, Meghan Tinsley and Alexandre White.

Race and health | CKK.1.04

- Darwin Baluran: *The Multiple Dimensions of Race and the Health of Multiracial Asian-Descent Adults in the United States*
- Toyah Van der Poten: *Invisible inequities and systemic barriers: underrepresentation of racially minoritised groups in blood donation in Belgium and the UK*

Class and intimacy | CKK.1.07

- Ainhoa Arranz Aldana: *Class (Mis)Matches: Signalling and Reproducing Social Class in Online Dating*
- Parul Bhandari: *"Non-Serious Relationships": Gender, Class, and Technology in modern India*
- Sam Friedman (LSE): *Class Diplomats: Cross-Class Friendship and Social Capital*

Regimes of social mobility | CKK.1.09

- Per Engzell: *Elites and the Geography of Persistence: Four Generations of Inequality in Sweden*
- Attila Gáspár: *Social mobility and political regimes: evidence from 150 years of Hungarian data*
- Magda Szcześniak: *Narrating Class Mobility in Socialism. An Analysis of Working-Class Life-Writing Competitions from the People's Republic of Poland*



Information and state power | CKK.2.08

- Martin Innes: *Shape Theory and the Social Organisation of Information Control, Confrontation and Digital Influencing by Nation States*
- Julia De Miguel Velazquez: *"How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Algorithm": AI, Militarization, and Corporate Legitimacy in the New Techno-Military Complex*
- Davide Seriola: *From openness to innovation: the sociotechnical translation of open government data in small and medium firms*

Social mobility as a macro-social process | CKK.2.13

- Martina Beretta: *The Association between Intergenerational Class Mobility and Income Inequality Revisited: a Topological Approach*
- Gregory Clark: *Social Causation in English Social Life, 1750-2025*
- Patrick Präg: *The Great Gatsby Curve and Perceptions of Intergenerational Mobility*

Racialised nationalisms | CKK.2.14

- Kofi Broadhurst: *The racialisation of space and the spatialisation of race: understanding the whiteness of English rurality and contextualising the white spatial imaginary in rural England*
- Simina Dragos: *The return of the biological: nationalism as racial (re)distribution of resources*
- Aleksandra Lewicki: *Vigilant Whiteness: racism, transphobia and the mainstreaming of far-right politics in Britain*
- Simone Varriale: *Varieties of racial capitalism: Black and Muslim Italians' unequal migrations between Italy and post-Brexit Britain*

Culture and ritual | CKK.2.16

- Shyon Baumann, Josée Johnston, Ethan Shapiro and Maddalena Simeon: *Digital Distinction: The Evolution of Foodie Discourse Across Media Platforms*
- Lois Lee: *The magic of Christmas: Magical beings, child-centred rituals and the formation of atheist and humanist worldviews*
- Hesu Yoon: *Racialized Tastes: Comparing Evaluative Frames in Expert and Popular Restaurant Reviews*

Conceptual innovations in the study of culture | CKK.2.18

- Alexander Hoppe: *Offshoring the Production of Culture: Sure It Works in Practice, but Does It Work in Theory?*
- Ashley Mears: *Keeping Secrets in the Information Age: Magic Exposure and Mediated Fields*
- Orla Stapleton: *Cultural Objects and their Thumbprints: The Case of Public Ideas*

Lunch | 1.00pm to 1.45pm

CKK Lower Ground Floor



Session Three | 1.45pm to 3.15pm

Symbolic boundary drawing | Alumni Theatre

- Abel Aussant: *Distinctive parenting: how families draw symbolic boundaries through children's rules on digital usage*
- Magne P. Flemmen: *Drawing symbolic boundaries in the climate crisis: Classed emotions and environmental judgements*
- Janet Foster: *In yer face' families: Homicide detectives' characterisations of and interactions with murder victims' families*

Racialisation, migration and nationalism | CKK.1.04

- Zuzanna Brunarska: *Public opinion on emigration in Europe: the role of national identity*
- Jack Conneely: *Myth, Memory, and Merchandise: Left and Right Nationalisms in Contemporary Ireland*
- Sanne van Oosten: *Are Immigration Enforcement Policies A Form Of Institutional Ethnic Discrimination? The Right To Work And Right To Rent Checks In Britain*

Ethnicity/ethnic classification | CKK.1.07

- Haley McAvay: *Ethnic Identities in Flux: Exploring Changes in Self-Reported Ethnicity with British Longitudinal Data*
- Nicholas Pang: *Between Black and White: European Immigration and African American "Mulatto" Classification, 1910-1920*
- Victoria Tan: *Ethnicity change among the British Asian diaspora in the England and Wales Census, 1991 to 2011*

Nationalism and migration | CKK.1.09

- Sugandha Agarwal: *'Complaint' as a 'Citizenship Act': Migrant Women's activism in the UK*
- Nabila Islam: *Notes on a Crisis: COVID-19, Digital Bordering Technology, and the Surveillance of Immigrants in Massachusetts*

Sexuality and reproduction | CKK.1.14

- Nitzan Amitay: *Love Service in the Bodega: Postwork Utopian Imaginary*
- Xijia You: *Temporal Structuration: Agency in Negotiating Temporal Norms Governing Reproductive Timing in Contemporary China*



Valuation | CKK.2.16

- Paz Concha: *Intermediaries of value: expertise, coordination, and legitimacy in circular economy transitions in the textile industry in Chile*
- Anirudh Raghavan: *From Wealth to Assets: Middle-Class Prosperity and Modes of Valuation in India's Retail Investing Boom*
- Kathia Serrano Velarde: *Valuing Energy Saving: Insights from Low-Income Households in Germany*

Producing advantage | CKK.2.18

- Said Hassan: *A Muslim School Advantage? Evidence from a Natural Experiment*
- Karen Lillie: *Expensive schooling: The power and limits of money when transitioning from elite schooling to the global elite*
- Jingjing Wang: *Capitals in Divergence: Cultural Capital, Economic Capital and Undergraduates' Major Choice in Contemporary China*

Coffee Break | 3.15pm to 3.30pm

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Session Four | 3.45pm to 5.15pm

Forum with the BJS editors for Early Career Researchers | Alumni Theatre

Aimed at Early Career Researchers, this session offers a chance to demystify the publishing process, ask questions about submitting to top journals and gain insight into what makes a strong, publishable paper.

Memory projects | CKK.1.04

- Clayton Childress and Neda Maghbouleh: *The False Polarization of Heros: The Effects of Partisan Animus, Schematic Constraint, and Networks on Collective Memory*
- Licheng Qian: *Remembering the Nanjing Massacre: A Non-Western Sociology of Memory*
- Hajar Yazdiha: *Reckoning, Repair, and Transformation: How Grassroots Memory Work Reshapes Political Communities*

The working class: definition, experience and culture | CKK.1.07

- Salome letter: *Between objective and discursive understandings of 'class': who counts as working class under neoliberalism, and how is it changing?*
- Gary Poynton: *The Rules of the Game: Informal Schooling through immersion in working-class football culture*
- Luke Roberts: *Lived experiences of Post-Deindustrialised Britain: Absence, Loss, and Community in a Birmingham council estate*



Professor Monica Prasad is a sociologist who analyses the complexities of capitalism, neoliberalism, and social policy. In her first book, *The Politics of Free Markets*, Prasad examines the rise of neoliberal policies in the 1970s and 1980s in the U.S., Britain, France, and Germany. In *The Land of Too Much* she provides a new explanation for why the U.S. looks so different from other developed countries. In her most recent book, *Starving the Beast*, Prasad dissects the American neoliberal obsession with tax cuts and investigates the history of the Economic Recovery Tax Act (ERTA) and its effect on our economy forty years later.

Drinks Reception | 6.45pm to 8.15pm

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Evening Boat Party | 8.30pm to 10.30pm

Temple Pier

The boat will depart promptly at 8.30pm. Please note that the Evening Boat Party is a ticketed event. Tickets are available to [purchase here](#). *Tickets can only be purchased by registered conference attendees and speakers.*

Day Two | Friday 24 April 2026

Registration and Welcome Coffee | 9.00am to 9.30am

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Session One | 9.30am to 11:00am

Digital information and the social | CKK.1.04

- Max Besbris: *Neighborhood Desirability and Decision-Making in Online, Multiracial, Metropolitan America*
- Samuel Coavoux: *Culture filter bubbles? The effect of personalized recommendations on cultural diversity and inequalities on a music streaming platform*
- Gert Meyers: *Digital Character Contests: on the making of behaviour, responsibility and responsibility in digital health and wellbeing*
- Marije Peute: *Viral Places and Neighborhood Change*

Class and the politics of the right | CKK.1.07

- Alma Below and Linus Westheuser: *Class consciousness and voting: The political significance of class identity and class interests in Germany*
- Vladimir Bortun: *Far-Right Social Blocs in Europe: Exploring the Cross-Class Coalitions of Far-Right Parties in the UK, France, and Romania*
- Sacha Hilhorst: *A rentier coalition? Reform sympathisers on labour and assets*



Subculture and fandom | CKK.2.13

- Christiana Ajai-Thomas: *Young, black, and desperately clubbing: Reflections on growing up as a black woman on London's dance floors*
- Danielle Coombs and Katherine Appleford: *The Fate of Ophelia?: How Millennial and Gen X women negotiate Taylor Swift fandom*
- Angela Song: *"Heading Home" to a Distinct Asian American Rave Culture for Producers & Consumers*

Blackness in transnational perspectives | CKK.2.14

- Cassi Claytor: *Black and Plugged In? An examination of race in the green economy through a case study of Black American electric vehicle drivers*
- Prof-Collins Ifeonu: *Resistance, Rebuttal and Risk: Black international students' perceptions of racial justice organizing in Western Canada*
- Alanah Mortlock and Sophie Marie Niang: *Copyrighting Blackness: African-American cultural dominance and the refusal of transnational Black community*

Apprehending inequalities | CKK.2.16

- Håvard Helland: *Just deserts? Conceptions of fair income for different occupations in Norway.*
- Nicole Oetke: *Two Sides of The Same Coin? Analyzing Inequality Belief Systems in Germany*
- Katja Schmidt: *The Unequal Distribution of Bitterness: Tracing Ressentiment in Times of Change*

Gender and theory | CKK.2.18

- Matt Bassett: *Marking the unmarked: Shaping 'cisgender' on Tumblr and X*
- Etienne Ollion: *The Gender Dimension. Gender as an Analytical Lens in Contemporary French Social Sciences*
- Suvi Salmenniemi: *Therapeutic Self-Care and the Crisis of Social Reproduction*

Coffee Break | 11.00am to 11.30am

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Session Two | 11.30am to 1.00pm

Author meets critics - Lorenza Antonucci | Alumni Theatre

Lorenza Antonucci will be joined by Aaron Reeves, Sacha Hilhorst, Jose Tomas Labarca and Jonathan Hopkin to discuss her latest book, *Insecurity Politics: How Unstable Lives Lead to Populist Support*, which explores the everyday realities of financial and work insecurity that drive right- and left-wing populism.



Capitalism and critique | CKK.1.04

- Arnab Bhattacharya: *The Production of Precarity: Theorising through the Labour Process in Food Delivery Platforms in Kolkata*
- Simidele Dosekun and Rachel O'Neill: *Popular Financial Feminisms: New Mergers of Feminism and Capitalism*
- Lilian Leupold: *Do Platforms Absorb Critique? How Algorithmic Mediation Shapes Gen Z's Resistance to Meaningless Work*

Why class matters for understanding culture | CKK.1.07

- Adam Dinsmore: *From Ironopolis to Socceropolis: how intergenerational football communities construct place-identity in post-industrial England*
- Carrie Friese: *Iris Murdoch and Class in Britain: A New Sociology of A Word Child*
- Dave O'Brien: *What's on? How social class shapes production, representation and reception of television*

Elite subjectivities | CKK.1.09

- Maria Adamson: *How do we get inspired by superstar role models? Theorising role modelling encounters through affect theory.*
- Ana Ramos-Zayas: *Shrinking Wealth: Psychoanalyzing Elites in Sao Paulo, Brazil*
- Tim White: *The non-death of Adam Neumann*

Sociology of family | CKK.1.14

- Emine Fidan Elcioglu: *The Canadian Dream Deferred: How Egyptian Canadians Understand and Achieve Adulthood in a Time of Heightened Xenophobia and Structural Challenges*
- Ryan Gabriel: *Race, Family Structure, and Residential Mobility between Poor and Non-Poor Neighborhoods*
- Miri Song: *Mixed Heritage in the Family: Racial Identity, Spousal Choice, and Childrearing in the U.S.*

Sociological roots of health | CKK.1.15

- Janna Bryson: *A tale of two autonomies: medicalisation and the legitimisation of assisted dying in parliamentary debate*
- Julia Nicolas: *Examining Immigrant Healthcare Access Inequalities in France: An Intersectional Approach*
- Rinju: *Gender Egalitarian Households and Women Nutritional Status in South Asian countries, evidence from Demographic Health Survey*



Social theory | CKK.1.15

- Matt Dawson: Sociological Alternatives: Their History and Lessons
- Tobias Müller: Rising up against extinction: Planetary colonialism and social theory from below
- Simeon Newman: Sublation and Social Theory

Politics and Power | CKK.2.06

- Gunnar Bugge Helle: *Structured repertoires: Towards a cultural class analysis of cross-context political information acquisition*
- Marte Lund Saga: *Political Capital and Sectoral Power: Network Integration in the Norwegian Corporate Elite*
- Sebastian Raza: *Towards a Sociology of Political Taboos*

Approaching care | CKK.2.08

- Ditte Andersen: *Care-as-product, care-as-presence: Temporal tensions in Danish social investment programs for people in vulnerable positions*
- Lydia Hughes: *From Recruitment to Resistance: the Care Sector in Britain*
- Kaidong Guo: *The Cost of Love: Emotional Labour and Moral Tensions in the Lives of Chinese Young Carers*

Reflexivity and research | CKK.2.13

- Evan Bowness and Sharon Stein: *Can AI Support Reparative Research? Sociotechnical Tensions in Knowledge Production for the Climate and Nature Emergency*
- Charlotte Faircloth: *'Fifty Years of Becoming a Mother': the social history of a research project over half a century*
- Nina Teresa Kiderlin: *Boundaries of Knowledge Production: The Transformation of Disciplinary Sociology in the United States 1968-2023*

New developments in the sociology of taste | CKK.2.14

- Mads Meier Jaeger: *Leisure Outside the Box: Using Open-Ended Survey Questions to Map and Interpret Leisure Tastes*
- Ethan Shapiro: *Is ChatGPT a Cultural Omnivore?: The Influence of Large Language Models on Cultural Taste*
- Rikke haudrum Rasmussen: *How Do Cultural Omnivores Create Distinction: Breath, Depth, or Consecration of Tastes?*

Shaping the climate future | CKK.2.16

- Jan Gilles: *From Socio-Technical Imaginaries to Material Technocracy: Reconsidering the Political in Climate Change Mitigation*
- Julius Kob: *The performative endeavour of green finance and its regressive nature*
- Emma Somos: *Billionaires' Engagement with Climate Change: Patterns, Narratives, and Implications for Climate Politics*

