

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: T*he 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*
- Chair: Ewen Speed

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*
- Chair: Karen Lillie



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*
- Chair: Martina Beretta

The politicisation of social life | CKK.1.14

- Cansu Bostan: *Echoes of Justice: The Triad of Law, Protest, and Ethics across Yazidi Diasporization in Germany after Genocide*
- Thijs van Dooremalen: *Shaping events: perspectives from within journalism and politics*
- Jingping Liu: *Can State-Led Rural Development Increase Political Control Over Rural Society? Evidence From China*
- Chair: Olivia Umurerwa Rutazibwa

Gender, parenting and work | CKK.1.15

- Jagriti Tanwar: *The Impact of First Job Occupation and Occupational Mobility on Workplace Authority in the UK: A Longitudinal Analysis from a Gender Perspective*
- Joanna Syrda: *Doing Parity, Doing Gender: The Paradox of Equal Sharing and Traditional Norms in Domestic Labour*
- Katherine Twamley: *The reach of greedy work into everyday parenting and care*
- Chair: Ursula Henz

Corporate elites | CKK.2.06

- Anu Kantola: *Stairways to Tech Heaven: How New Tech Elites Make Their Way to the Top Echelons of Economy and Politics*
- Pengfei Liu: *Flexible Collaboration: State Embedded Brokerage by Chinese Transnational Elites in the China–U.S. Nexus*
- Maren Toft: *Business families and capitalist kin*
- Chair: Fran Tonkiss

The class ceiling | CKK.2.08

- Beth Johnson: *Generation as a mechanism of class inequality in the UK television industry*
- Chu Liu: *Uncertain Returns: Differentiated Employment Pathways of Chinese Overseas Student Returnees*
- André Silva: *Experiences of those from less privileged social class into academic careers*
- Chair: Hannah Wilson



Living in/with extremes | CKK.2.13

- Alba Bosch i Bosch: *You Only Live Once: The Impact Of Shrinking Future Time On Life Goals And Pace*
- Sophie Chamas: *What Do we Do with our Eyes? On the Politics of Witnessing in the Age of Mass-Consumed Genocide*
- Roman Smirnov: *Adaptation Strategies of Scholars: Russian Academics under Condition of Unfreedom, War, and Isolation*
- Adeela Zaka: *Sweating Bodies and the Climate Crisis: Thermal Inequality and Embodied Governance in Urban Pakistan*
- Chair: Rebecca Elliott

Citizenship | CKK.2.14

- Magdalena Bexell: *The power of rankings. Passport indices by the investment citizenship industry*
- Sara Kalm: *Professionalization as a legitimation strategy – the case of the investment citizenship industry*
- Sarah Kunz: *Marketing offshore citizenship: patriarchs, cosmopolitans, and sovereign individuals*
- Konstantinos Papanikolaou: *European Values are Not for Sale – The European Conflict of Selling Citizenship*
- Chair: Sacha Hilhorst

Constructing gender | CKK.2.16

- Aqsa Chaudhury: *The Politics of Queer Visibility in Manchester's Queer and Public Spaces: A Case Study of Queer Individuals from the Pakistani Diaspora.*
- Kemal Ordek: *Doing 'sex worker' transgender: Sacrificing authenticity in response to cis-gender oppression in Turkiye*
- Yuchen Yang: *"Doing Gender" as a Social Theory of Children*
- Chair: Aliya Rao

Coffee Break | 11.00am to 11.30am

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Session Two | 11.30am to 1.00pm

Author meets critics - Brooke Harrington | Alumni Theatre

Brooke Harrington will be joined by John Christensen, Maja Korica, Sarah Kunz to discuss her latest book, *Offshore Stealth Wealth and the New Colonialism,* which provides an eye-opening account of how offshore finance corrodes democracy, capitalism and the environment.

Chair: Katie Higgins



Beauty and social stratification | CKK.1.04

- Carolina Belen Rabasa Rucki: *The political catwalk: Women's looks on the campaign trail in Argentina.*
- Sanne Pieters: *Aspirational Bodies and Aestheticized Athleticism: High-End Health Club Gyms and the Construction of the Ideal Body Online*
- Outi Sarpila: *Beauty stratifies: How meritocratic beliefs legitimize appearance-based inequalities in Finland*
- Chair: Clayton Childress

The politics of health | CKK.1.07

- Robert Freedman and Catherine Tan: *Once upon a Lyme: How scientists respond to public misinformation*
- Jimena Garcia Vazquez, Konstantinos Roussos and Ewen Speed: *Health, healthcare and health policy: Exploring the political determinants of health*
- Benjamin Goodair: *Do Companies Care? A comparison of the financial and organisational structure of healthcare vs other service companies in the UK, 2010-25.*
- Chair: Aaron Reeves

Elite Reproduction | CKK.1.09

- Thea Bertnes and Øyvind N Wiborg: *Classed returns to education? Social background and educational success in Norwegian elite fields*
- Matt Reynolds: *Elite Persistence and Consecration in the Most Noble Order of the Garter, 1348 to 2024*
- Chair: Hannah Wilson

Sociologies of economics | CKK.1.14

- Arohi Anand, Barnali Chetia and Dharti Sharma: *Queering the Economy: Rethinking Gender, Sexuality, and Economic Life*
- Paz Concha: *Intermediaries of value: expertise, coordination, and legitimacy in circular economy transitions in the textile industry in Chile*
- Sinisa Hadziabdic: *Souls on the Market: Genuine and Coherent Paradigm Shifts among Post-War Economists*
- Jose Tomas Labarca: *The Political Economy of Growth Narratives*
- Chair: Rebecca Eliott

The politics of gender | CKK.1.15

- Sitian Chen: *Chinese Young People, Menstruation and Emerging Online Menstrual Activism: Embodied Inquiry into Lived Experiences*
- Merve Kütük-Kuriş: *The Affective Politics of Anti-Gender Mobilization in Turkey*
- Jashanpreet Randhawa: *Women Shamans: Resisting Patriarchy and Confucian State in South Korea*
- Chair: Matthew Bassett



Coping with precarity | CKK.2.06

- Gaby Harris: *Conscious Consumption: Second-Hand as Creative Passionate Work*
- See pok Loa: *Cross-national variations in the coping of precarity in freelance work*
- Carmen Llovet: *Communicative Vulnerability and Generational Precarity: Rethinking Youth Recognition in Late Modern Spain*
- Kristen McNeill: *Logics of diversification among parallel microentrepreneurs in Benin*
- Chair: Nicholas Pang

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 Serioli: *From openness to innovation: the sociotechnical translation of open government data in small and medium firms*
- Chair: Livio Silva Muller

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*
- Chair: Haley McAvay

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*
- Chair: Victoria Tan



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*
- Chair: Mads Jaeger

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*
- Chair: Simone Schneider

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*
- Chair: Sam Friedman

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*
- Chair: Simone Varriale



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*
- Chair: Dingeman Wiertz

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*
- Chair: Kian Aspinall

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*
- Chair: Carrie Friese

Reframing social mobility | CKK.1.15

- Cyril Jayet: *Moving Worlds Apart: Exploring Social and Spatial Mobility Through Spatial Networks*
- Priyanka Kotamraju: *Mobility as Flux: Caste, Gender, and the Constraints of Aspiration*
- Eve Worth and Louise Ashley: *Ambivalent Agents: The Social Mobility Industry and Civil Society Under Neoliberalism in England*
- Chair: Per Engzell

Homeownership and segregation | CKK.2.06

- Selçuk Bedük: *Trends in Relative and Absolute Mobility of Homeownership in Europe*
- Tak Wing Chan: *Social Diversity and Community Cohesion*
- Jusmeet Singh Sihra: *Old Problem in a New Place: Redlining of Ex-Untouchable Ghettos*
- Chair: Rebecca Elliott



Networks and work | CKK.2.08

- Al Amin Rabby: *Can recruitment through social networks ensure job quality? A study of the Bangladeshi workers at Italian Fincantieri shipyards*
- Mattia Vacchiano: *A personal network analysis of remote workers*
- Chair: Patrick McGovern

The social production of knowledge | CKK.2.13

- Shirin Barol: *Entangled Sovereignty: U.S. Financial Colonialism and the Transnational Field of Economics in Iran (1953–1981)*
- Tiger Chan: *The emergence of 'clutter' in British Malayan English language publications (1900-1942)*
- Kyle Willmott: *Conservative Political Knowledge in Settler Colonies*
- Chair: Giovanni Zampieri

The production of poverty | CKK.2.14

- Anne Sofie Anker: *From Placement to Poverty? Associations Between Out-of-Home Placement and Adult Poverty*
- Felipe Dias: *Workplace Variation and the Fatherhood Premium in Germany*
- Daniel Gibbons and Ursula Henz: *Unequal Insecurity: The Heterogeneous Realities of Transitions from Employment and Consumer Credit in the United Kingdom*
- Chair: Aliya Rao

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*
- Chair: Fiona Gogescu

Coffee Break | 3.15pm to 3.45pm

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*
- Chair: Simina Dragoş

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

- Salome Ietter: *Between objective and discursive understandings of 'class': who counts as working class under neoliberalism, and how is it changing?*
- Luke Roberts: *Lived experiences of Post-Deindustrialised Britain: Absence, Loss, and Community in a Birmingham council estate*
- Chair: Thea Bertnes Stromme

Social theory and political sociology | CKK.1.09

- Birgan Gokmenoglu: *Can't Even Imagine: The Foundations of Imaginative Justice*
- Chandra Shekhar: *Why Corruption Persists in Government Bureaucracies: A Sociological Theory of Institutional Persistence*
- Giovanni Zampieri: *The Words and the Worlds. Mobilizing the Emic/Etic Distinction as a Tool for Theory-Work.*
- Chair: Monika Krause

Cultivating privilege | CKK.1.14

- Peter Hemming: *The evolving nature of the therapeutic ethos: values and character education in schools*
- Vildan Ozerturk Sofu: *From Innate Talent to Strategic Effort: Flexible Meritocratic Discourses in Turkish Elite Schooling*
- Shakira Teh Sharifuddin: *The Meritocratic Paradox: How Government Boarding Schools Reproduce Class Privilege in Malaysia*
- Chair: Samuel Coavoux

Interrogating social policy | CKK.1.15

- Ozan Aksoy: *Education and National Identity: Evidence from the Fundamental British Values Policy*
- Mikkel Haderup Larsen: *Signing for Solidarity? A Field- and Survey Experiment on Ethnic Diversity and Welfare Policy Petitions in Denmark*



- Mark McCormack: *Ratcheting the regulation of sexual commerce: Lost lessons from UK drug policy*
- Chair: Selcuk Beduk

Race, education and resistance | CKK.2.06

- Imogen Eve: *Irish Decoloniality: Navigating Curriculum Decolonisation in History and English in Irish Higher Education*
- Maya McFarlane: *A Racial Frames Analysis of Historically Black Colleges and Universities*
- Rohit Rao: *The Diseducation of Scottish Youth: How Secondary Schools Promote Misconceptions of 'Race', Racism, and Anti-racism*
- Chair: Olivia Umurerwa Rutazibwa

The sociology of morality | CKK.2.08

- Michael Halewood: *"Norms Aren't Normal." – On the Ambiguous Relation of Sociology to Morality.*
- Simone Schneider: *Performing a moral self: How people legitimize infidelity*
- Dingeman Wiertz: *Sundays Unbound: Blue Laws, Church Attendance, and Shifting Moral Attitudes in the U.S.*
- Chair: Magne Flemmen

Class and economic citizenship | CKK.2.13

- Bryan Boyle: *Twenty-first century butlers and the new spirit of service*
- Ryan Davey: *The role of legal coercion in class-based struggles over value: an ethnography of 'expropriability'*
- Boudewijn Goos: *In This Society, You Don't Count If You Don't Work: Welfare Recipients' Perspectives on the Value of (Un)paid Work*
- Chair: Patrick McGovern

Elites in Power | CKK.2.14

- Maja Korica: *Predation and contemporary capitalism*
- Jack Napier: *When the Left Speaks Like the Right: Labour's Migration Discourse under Starmer*
- Max Persson: *The Rise of the Corporate Welfare Elite*
- Chair: Felix Buhlmann

How class and gender shape labour market inequalities | CKK.2.16

- Johanna Behr: *Frustration and Allodoxia in Finance Education: A Bourdieusian Approach to Socialisation and Misrecognition*
- Thijs Bol: *Gender inequality in bonus compensation*
- Nicholas Martindale: *The son also supervises – gendered transmission and generative mechanisms in the intergenerational reproduction of managerial status*
- Chair: Carrie Friese



Socio-legal institutions | CKK.2.18

- Emma Louise Blondes: *Strategic ambiguity in French organised crime investigations: between operational flexibility and prosecutorial credibility*
- Omar Phoenix Khan: *Force Multipliers: Palantir & the Dangers of Embracing AI in UK Criminal Justice – A Decolonial Perspective*
- Maxime Royoux: *Preventing Environmental Law From Becoming a Judicial Field: Corporate Lawyers and the Business Action Against the State's Green Agenda*
- Chair: Janet Foster

Keynote | Professor Monica Prasad | Solving the Biggest Problems: Problem-Solving Sociology and American Populism | 5.30pm to 6.45pm

Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Recently several groups of scholars have independently argued that sociology should attempt to solve problems, from the community around "problem-solving sociology," to "solution oriented sociology," to scholars arguing that sociologists should attempt to solve inequality, to the "positive turn" in economic sociology. But many of the biggest problems that sociologists examine cannot be solved in the course of a scholarly career. This talk discusses the sociology of knowledge questions raised by trying to solve the biggest problems, and then tries to solve one of the biggest problems: American populism and its protectionist turn, which is unusual in comparative perspective. I show that even when problems cannot be solved, trying to solve them is worthwhile for the insights it generates.

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, and cannot be purchased on the door.*



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*
- Chair: Rebecca Eliott

Racial ideology | CKK.1.07

- James Jones: *White House, White Power: Racial Inequality and Stratification Among US Presidential Staff*
- Victor Ray: *After Colorblindness: The Emerging Racial Autocracy*
- Zihuan Zhang: *Black or White English accents: an exposé of racial ideologies in China*
- Chair: Ali Meghji

Class and the politics of the right | CKK.1.09

- 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*
- Chair: Eve Worth

Platformised life | CKK.1.14

- Yuening Li: *The Social Costs of Platformised Banking: Institutions, Automation, and Inequalities*
- Santiago Mandirola: *From Mediation to Market-Making: Digital Platforms and the Reassembly Socio-Economic Life in Latin America*
- Mariya Stoilova: *Global Inequalities by Design: Generative AI and the Remaking of Children's Worlds*
- Alexander Wilson: *When Privilege Becomes Precarity: Status and Worker Powerlessness in the AI Age*
- Chair: Nicholas Pang



Education as a site of contestation | CKK.1.15

- Luisa Burchartz: *What Does Education Tell Me?! How German Hiring Agents in Software Development Challenge Education as a Legitimate Evaluation Criterion*
- Anne-Sophie Delval and Christoph Ellersgaard: *The educational international space of economic elites*
- Elif Lootens: *Scholarship as struggle: doing race and decolonial research in Belgian and UK higher education*
- Chair: Vildan Özertürk Sofu

Housing, land and the roots of wealth | CKK.2.06

- Hobeth Martinez: *Land, wealth, and class reproduction in the sugarcane Colombian Agro-industry*
- Liam O'Farrell: *Luxury state capture: wealth, space and the state*
- Nora Waitkus: *Housing Wealth Regimes*
- Chair: Lisa Solvberg

Constructing risk | CKK.2.08

- Andrei Guter-Sandu: *Securitising System Costs: The UK's arm's length derisking regime for the Green Transition*
- Lorenzo Pirozzi: *Constructing Biodiversity Risk: A Processual Study of Translation*
- Matthias Taeger: *Avoiding catastrophe? The f(r)actional ontological politics of central banks' climate futures*
- Beki McElvain: *Trying to reason with hurricane season: Death drive and embedded risk in Florida*
- Chair: Livio Silva Muller

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*
- Chair: Tim White

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*
- Chair: Kian Aspinall



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*
- Chair: Ursula Henz

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*
- Chair: Mike Stack

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.

Chair: Katie Higgins

Capitalism and critique | CKK.1.04

- 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*
- Chair: Vlad Bortun

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*
- Chair: Fran Tonkiss



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*
- Chair: Christoph Ellersgaard

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.*
- Chair: Aliya Rao

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*
- Chair: Ben Goodair

Postcolonial sociology | CKK.2.06

- Selena Aoxi Cai: *Bounded Solidarity: Theorising from Afro-Asian Solidarity in the United Nations, 1960-1965*
- Shray Mehta: *Post-Colonial Nations, Populism and the Enemy of the People: Situating Modi in the Past and the Present of the Indian State*
- Viswesh Rammohan: *The Many-Headed Underdevelopment: Theorizing second-order dependency*
- Chair: Piro Rexhepi

Perceptions of merit | CKK.2.08

- Benjamin Brundu-Gonzalez: *Who gets seen as smart? Gender, class origins, and peer attributions of intelligence at a French elite university*
- Fiona Gogescu: *Degrees of value: Cultivating privilege at an elite university*
- Hannah Wilson: *Unlearned friends: schooling, social class and professional life at the Bar of England and Wales*
- Chair: Johnathan Inkley



Environmental and climate governance | CKK.2.13

- Melike Arslan: *Posterity Projects: social, legal and organizational foundations of long-term action for climate change*
- Philipp Golka: *From Beck to backlash: climate change and the sociology of threat*
- Livio Silva-Muller: *Easy and Hard Environmental Protection: The (Im)possibility of Ecological Modernization in the Global South*
- Chair: Rebecca Elliott

Inequalities in higher education | CKK.2.14

- Dhaneswar Bhoi: *Affective Inequalities and the Making of Casteed Subjectivities: Dalit and Adivasi Encounters with Higher Education in Contemporary India*
- Jan Fredrik Hovden: *Elite culturalisation and hoarding of opportunities in the new universities: The Norwegian case, 1998-2020*
- Kun Liang: *Feeling Class Across Borders: Affective Lives of Asian International Students in Elite UK and US Universities*
- Chair: Haley McAvay

Politics on the ground | CKK.2.16

- Rebecca Donaldson: *'I gained my political education on the Durham coal fields': Contextualising Food Justice communities in the North-East of England*
- Tomasz Gola: *From the Street to the Ballot Box: Civic Activism and Electoral Participation in Poland*
- Deisy Del Real: *Bureaucratic Grit: How Mid-Level State Bureaucrats Advanced Immigrant Rights Laws in Brazil and Paraguay*
- Chair: Carolina Belen Rabasa Rucki

Refining the Bourdieusian toolkit | CKK.2.18

- Biörn Ivemark: *Opening the Black Box: A Processual Framework for Habitus Analysis in Sociological Biography*
- Amir Kalan: *Beyond Bourdieusian Institutional Reformism: The Case of "Cultural Capital" in Language and Literacy Research*
- Dwinanda Ardhi Swasono: *Reproducing and Redistributing Privilege: The Dynamics of an Indonesian State-Funded Elite Education Programme*
- Chair: Ethan Shapiro

Lunch | 1.00pm to 1.45pm
CKK Lower Ground Floor



Session Three | 1.45pm to 3.15pm

Invisible elites | CKK.1.04

- Johnathan Inkley: *'Quiet' and 'Loud' Elites: The Visibility of Economic Power in the UK*
- Lisa Sølvberg: *Behind Closed Doors: Unpacking Elite Firm Job Interviews*
- Chair: Maren Toft

Violence, war and genocide | CKK.1.07

- Gala Rexer: *Slow, Spectacular, Catastrophic: The Reproductive Body and Temporalities of Violence in the 21st Century*
- Olga Zeveleva: *Martial Carcerality and State Violence: War, Inequality, and Prison in Russia*
- Chair: Piro Rexhepi

Wealth and class | CKK.1.09

- Will Atkinson: *Class, Race and Culture in the US: A Play of Spaces*
- David Kampmann: *Forget Wealth Inequalities: An Alternative View on Assets, Finance, and Class Power*
- Scott Oatley: *The adoption of a capitals, assets, and resources based measurement of social class for the study of later life using the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing*
- Chair: Nora Waitkus

Racial projects | CKK.1.14

- Nathan Tsang: *Silence or Voice? Threat Perceptions, Spatial Orientations, and the Varied Effects of Transnational Repression*
- Yacine Chitour: *Stealing Counts. Towards a Social Science of "Spoliations"*
- Chair: John Solomos

Social theory | CKK.1.15

- Shaonta' Allen: *Ida B. Wells, Emancipatory Hope, and the Tradition of Liberation Sociology*
- Matt Dawson: *Sociological Alternatives: Their History and Lessons*
- Jeff Goodwin: *Du Boisian sociology or Black Marxism?*
- Tobias Müller: *Rising up against extinction: Planetary colonialism and social theory from below*
- Simeon Newman: *Sublation and Social Theory*
- Chair: Bryan Boyle



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*
- Chair: Maja Korica

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*
- Chair: Carrie Friese

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*
- Chair: Simone Varriale

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?*
- Chair: Sam Friedman

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*
- Chair: Rebecca Elliott



Sociology of Elites | CKK.2.18

- Felix Bühlmann: *What does it take to manage the wealth of the richest? A study of the "capitals" of Swiss Wealth Managers*
- Nils Gustafsson and Anna Tyllström: *Comparative consecration – towards a comparative theory of organisations' role in elite-making*
- Katie Higgins: *Place-based cultural capital and intra-elite distinctions in Manchester's business class*
- Chair: Chana Teeger

Coffee Break | 3.15pm to 3.30pm

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Keynote | Professor Jens Beckert | Haunted Fortunes: The Moral Contestation of Large Wealth | 3.45pm to 5.00pm

Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Why do some large fortunes become morally contested long after they were legally accumulated? In recent years, wealth linked to Nazi crimes, colonial exploitation, or the opioid crisis has been publicly reclassified as illegitimate. This lecture develops a sociological framework for understanding such processes.

Professor Jens Beckert will argue that large fortunes are not merely economic assets but morally vulnerable claims on society. Drawing on the sociology of valuation, Durkheim's theory of property, and Mary Douglas's concept of pollution, he will show how shifts in valuation regimes can withdraw moral recognition from wealth without abolishing legal ownership. When this occurs, fortunes become "haunted": their fungibility and their capacity to generate social status are constrained.

By examining cases across historical and contemporary contexts, the lecture highlights how moral orders shape the legitimacy of wealth and why the power of property ultimately depends on continued social recognition.

Professor Jens Beckert is Director at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Cologne, Germany, and Professor of Sociology at the University of Cologne. In 2018 he was awarded the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize for his work reinvigorating the social sciences with an interdisciplinary perspective, especially at the intersection of sociology and economics. His research focuses on the fields of economic sociology, sociology of wealth and more recently on issues of climate change. His most recent *book How we sold our future*. *The failure to fight climate change* came out with Polity Press in 2025.

Drinks Reception | 5.00pm to 6.00pm

CKK Lower Ground Floor

Close

Please note the programme is subject to change.