

Looking at the Social Sciences

PHIL 209D/COGR 225D/HIGR 241/SOCG 255D

Winter 2014

Tuesday, 9:30-12:20 pm, H&SS 3027

Nancy Cartwright

Office hours: Thursday 4-5 pm and Friday, 3-4 pm in H&SS 7023

Requirements

TBD

For graduate students in Philosophy, this class can be counted toward the Philosophy of Science distribution requirement.

Readings

Week 1 (January 7)

Rigor in policy prediction

- Nancy Cartwright & Jeremy Hardie, 'The Theory that Backs Up What We Say', chapter I.B in *Evidence-Based Policy: A Practical Guide to Doing it Better*, Oxford University Press, 2012, 14-58.

Week 2 (January 14)

Ideal types

- Max Weber, "'Objectivity" in Social Science and Social Policy', in *The Methodology of the Social Sciences*, Free Press, 1949, 49-112.
- Mary Morgan, 'Economic man as model man', *Journal of the History of Economic Thought*, 28, 2006, 1-27.

Week 3 (January 21)

Discourse analysis

- Jacob Torfing, 'Discourse Theory: Achievements, Arguments, and Challenges', in *Discourse Theory in European Politics: Identity, Policy and Governance* (ed. by David Howarth and Jacob Torfing), Palgrave, 1-32.
- David Howarth, 'Applying Discourse Theory: The Method of Articulation', in *Discourse Theory in European Politics: Identity, Policy and Governance* (ed. by David Howarth and Jacob Torfing), Palgrave, 316-350.

Week 4 (January 28)

Economics

- John Kay, 'The Map is Not the Territory: Models, Scientists, and the State of Modern Macroeconomics', *Critical Review*, 24, 2012, 87-99. Also chapter 8 in *What's the Use of Economics: Teaching the Dismal Science after the Crisis* (ed. by Diane Coyle), London Publishing Partnership, 2012.

- Roger Farmer, 'Teaching Macroeconomics', chapter 15 in *What's the Use of Economics: Teaching the Dismal Science after the Crisis* (ed. by Diane Coyle), London Publishing Partnership, 2012.
- Thomas Sargent, 'United States then, Europe now', Nobel prize lecture delivered in Stockholm on December 8, 2011.
- Julie Nelson, 'Clocks, Creation and Clarity: Insights on Ethics and Economics from a Feminist Perspective', *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, 7, 2004, 381-398.

Week 5 (February 4)

Rational Choice Theory

- Katie Steele, 'Choice Models', chapter 10 in *Philosophy of Social Science: New Directions* (ed. by Nancy Cartwright and Eleonora Montuschi), Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- Cristina Bicchieri, 'Norms, Conventions and the Power of Expectations', chapter 11 in *Philosophy of Social Science: New Directions* (ed. by Nancy Cartwright and Eleonora Montuschi), Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

Week 6 (February 11)

Making use of measurement and statistics

- Angus Deaton, 'Money', part II (chapters 5-6) in *The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality*, Princeton University Press, 2013, 167-266.
- Julian Reiss, 'Methodology', part II (chapters 8-11) in *Philosophy of Economics: A Contemporary Introduction*, Routledge, 2013, 143-208.

Week 7 (February 18)

Case studies

- Bruce Russett, 'The Fact of Democratic Peace' and 'Why Democratic Peace?', chapters 1-2 in *Grasping the Democratic Peace: Principles for a Post-Cold War World*, Princeton University Press, 1994, 3-42.
- Mary Morgan, 'Case Studies: One Observation or Many? Justification or Discovery?', *Philosophy of Science*, 79, 2012, 667-677.
- Sharon Crasnow, 'The Role of Case Study Research in Political Science: Evidence for Causal Claims', *Philosophy of Science*, 79, 655-666.

Week 8 (February 25)

Ethnography and anthropology

- Philippe Bourgois, 'Understanding Inner-City Poverty: Resistance and Self-Destruction under U.S. Apartheid', chapter 1 in *Exotic No More: Anthropology on the Front Lines* (ed. by Jeremy MacClancy), University of Chicago Press, 2002, 15-32.
- Anne Francis Okongwu and Joan Mencher, 'The Anthropology of Public Policy: Shifting Terrains', *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 29, 2000, 107-124.
- H. Russell Bernard, *Research Methods in Anthropology*, AltaMira Press, 2006.

Week 9 (March 4)

Objectivity

- Lorraine Daston, 'Objectivity and the Escape from Perspective', *Social Studies of Science*, 22, 1992, 597-618.
- Thomas Gieryn, 'City as Truth-Spot: Laboratories and Field-Sites in Urban Studies', *Social Studies of Science*, 2006, 36, 5-38.

- Amartya Sen, 'Position, Relevance and Illusion', chapter 7 in *The Idea of Justice*, Harvard University Press, 2009, 155-173.

Week 10 (March 11)

Performativity

- Donald MacKenzie, 'The big, bad wolf and the rational market: portfolio insurance, the 1987 crash and the performativity of economics', *Economy and Society*, 33, 2004, 303-334.
- Stans van Egmond & Ragna Zeiss, 'Modeling for Policy: Science-based models as performative boundary objects for Dutch policy making', *Science Studies*, 23, 2010, 58-78.
- Ana Santos & João Rodrigues, 'Economics as social engineering? Questioning the performativity thesis', *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 33, 2009, 985-1000.