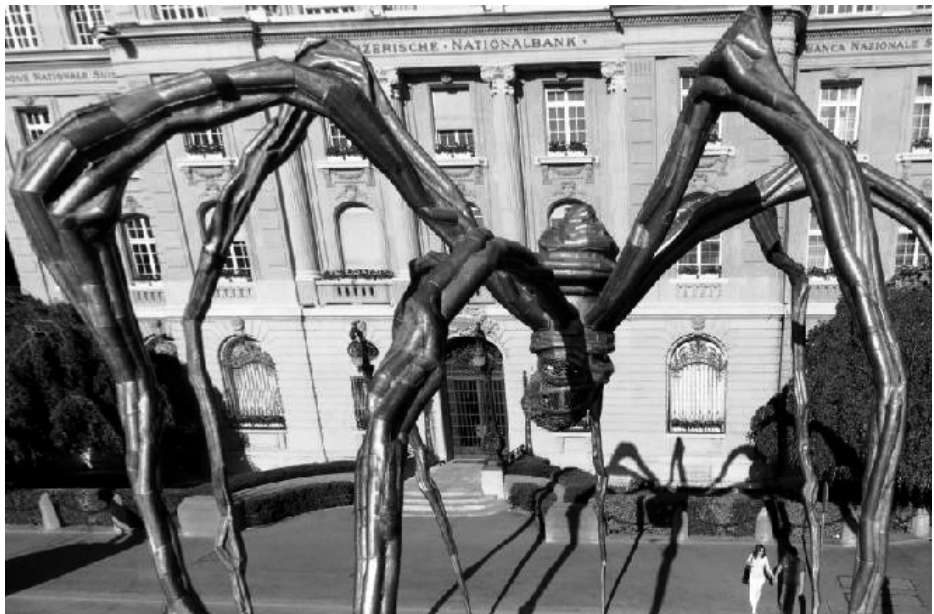




Winter School 2015 **TransForming Capital**



PROGRAMME WINTER SCHOOL 2015

MORNING SESSIONS

There will be four morning sessions, each consisting of a keynote lecture of about 50-60 minutes followed by a response of 10-15 minutes before the coffee break. After the break, we will have a discussion of 90 minutes on the issues raised in the lecture, response and mandatory readings (suggested by the speakers). The discussion is moderated by the respondent.

Friday 09:00 - 12:15 (Speaker: Anna Kornbluh; Respondent: Vicki Kirby)

Subsumption, Subjectivity, Synchronicity circa 1848



In early 1848, the Manifesto of the Communist Party irrevocably articulated “class struggle” as the defining feature of “all hitherto existing society.” Exploring the consequences of this universalization of antagonism, this lecture considers the moment of 1848 as revolutionary not only in practice (in the Springtime of the Peoples), but also in theory: in the conceptualization, across political discourse, literary invention, and mathematical formalism, of what Marx called “real subsumption.” The disappearance of the gap between capitalism and its preconditions, between capitalism and sociality as such, between capitalist schemes for intersubjectivity and all other schemes, is a historical transformation of capital, even as it obscures history. The Manifesto and *Wuthering Heights* (1848) (and, in a surprising way, the discovery of Set Theory) each make that transformation thinkable.

Anna Kornbluh is Associate Professor of English at the University of Illinois Chicago. Her work centers on conceptual and historical connections between the Victorian novel and critical theory. She is the author of *Realizing Capital: Financial and Psychic Economies in Victorian Form*, which studies the emergence of the metaphor of “psychic economy” in the epoch of financialization, and she is currently writing two books, *The Order of Forms*, an experimental anti-mimetic ontology of literary realism rooted in its relations with architecture, structural anthropology, and mathematical formalism, aimed at wresting literary (and political) theory from Foucauldianism, and *Marxism: Fight Club*, for the Bloomsbury Film Theory in Practice series. Her essays have appeared or are forthcoming in *ELH* (English Literary History), *Novel: A Forum on Fiction*, *Mediations*, *Historical Materialism*, *Henry James Review*, and elsewhere. For links to essays, talks, reviews, Chicago projects, and calls for collaborations.

Regarding the topic of the Winter School 2015, her areas of expertise are Capital, Marxism, Critical Theory, Psychoanalysis, Structuralism, Formalism, Victorianism

Mandatory reading:

Kornbluh, Anna 2014: *Realizing Capital: Financial and Psychic Economies in Victorian Form*. New York: Fordham University Press. pp. 1-11; 21-44.

Recommended Reading:

Read, Jason 2003: *The micro-politics of capital: Marx and the prehistory of the present*. Albany: State University of New York Press. pp. 1-15; 103-114; 135-149.

Saturday 09:00 - 12:15 (Speaker: Vicki Kirby; Respondent: Arjun Appadurai)



The riddle of value or, where to begin?

“Value” in the Saussurean sense is an economic notion, a system of differential exchange through which signification comes to reside in and as a word/concept with an apparently intrinsic value. We tend to assume that a sign is present because other signs are absent, but this is far from the case. Saussure argued that the sign is *consubstantial* with the system that gives it life, but if this is how a system “produces” worth and value then a simple presence/absence model – this is not that – seems unworkable. Indeed, we are left with the paradox that this is that, even when it appears to be entirely different, other and elsewhere. Could this sense of an inherent and originary entanglement implicate what we thought was material with/in what we presume is ideational? This paper will explore the broader implications of this riddle by questioning the nature/culture divide and the place of the biological body in our understanding of economy and value.

Vicki Kirby is Professor of Sociology in the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales in Sydney. She holds a BA Hons from Sydney University and PhD from The University of California at Santa Cruz. She has an enduring interest in the question of language and matter, and works at the intersection of feminism, deconstruction and science studies. She has held numerous Visiting Fellowships (Australian National University, University of Waikato, Auckland University, Utrecht University, The George Washington University, Centre for Contemporary Theory, Gujarat). Her books include *Telling Flesh: The Substance of the Corporeal*, *Judith Butler: Live Theory*, and *Quantum Anthropologies: Life at Large*.

Regarding the topic of the Winter School 2015, her areas of expertise are Value, Embodiment, Language, Nature/Culture Division Poststructuralism, Feminist Theory, Quantum Anthropology

Mandatory reading:

Kirby, Vicki 2011: Quantum anthropologies. Life at large. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, pp. vii-xii; 1-21.

Derrida, Jacques 2006: Specters of Marx. The state of debt, the work of mourning and the new International. Chapter 1: Injunctions of Marx. New York: Routledge. pp. 147(bottom)–176.

Recommended Reading:

Kirby, Vicki 2014: Human Exceptionalism on the Line. In: SubStance: a review of theory and literary criticism 43 (2), pp. 50-6

Weber, Samuel 1976: Saussure and the Apparition of Language: The Critical Perspective. In: MLN 91 (5), pp.913-938.

Monday 09:00 - 12:15 (Speaker: Arjun Appadurai; Respondent: Martin Hartmann)

Promises, Contracts and the Derivative Form



Derivatives (financial instruments that involve trading on the basis of differential assessments of the future prices of other underlying assets) are ways in which financiers have found ways to make money out of risk, rather than out of prices of assets. Derivatives therefore raise the question of whether they are themselves a version of the commodity form or whether they represent a new symbolic form in which money has become largely separate from commodities. This puzzle is central to the sense in which finance has become the dominant current form of capital. My lecture explores the relationship between promises, contracts and derivatives to suggest that derivative finance is the latest instance of Joseph Schumpeter's idea of "creative destruction", in which capitalism grows and expands by destroying its prior institutional axioms and forms.

Arjun Appadurai is the Goddard Professor in Media, Culture and Communication at New York University, where he is also Senior Fellow at the Institute for Public Knowledge. He also serves as Tata Chair Professor at The Tata Institute for Social Sciences in Mumbai and as a Senior Research Partner at the Max-Planck Institute for Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Gottingen. He was previously Senior Advisor for Global Initiatives at The New School in New York City, where he also held a Distinguished Professorship as the John Dewey Distinguished Professor in the Social Sciences. Arjun Appadurai was the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at The New School from 2004-2006. He was formerly the William K. Lanman Jr. Professor of International Studies, Professor of Anthropology, and Director of the Center on Cities and Globalization at Yale University. Appadurai is the founder and now the President of PUKAR (Partners for Urban Knowledge Action and Research), a non-profit organization based in and oriented to the city of Mumbai (India). During his academic career, he has also held professorial chairs at Yale University, the University of Chicago and the University of Pennsylvania, and has held visiting appointments at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris), the University of Delhi, the University of Michigan, the University of Amsterdam, the University of Iowa, Columbia University and New York University. Arjun Appadurai has held numerous fellowships and scholarships and has received several scholarly honors. He has authored numerous books and scholarly articles, including *Fear of Small Numbers: The Future as a Cultural Fact: Essays on the Global Condition* (2013); *An Essay on the Geography of Anger* (Duke 2006) and *Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization* (Minnesota 1996; Oxford India 1997). His books have been translated into French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese and Italian.

Regarding the topic of the Winter School 2015, his areas of expertise are Financescapes, Anthropology of Globalization, Cultural Dynamics, Urban South Asia

Mandatory reading:

Appadurai, Arjun 2011: *The Ghost in the Financial Machine*. In: *Public Culture* 23 (3), pp. 517-539.

Recommended Reading:

Holmes, Douglas R. 2014: *The Economy of Words*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 9 – 38.



Social Capital in the Network Society

In Robert Putnam's *Making Democracy Work* (1993) social capital comprises features of social organizations such as trust, norms and networks that facilitate cooperation. Later Putnam uses social capital merely by referring to networks. In his article Martin Hartmann analyzes the relation between networks and social capital in relying on Putnam's distinction between horizontal and vertical networks. While Putnam assumes that vertical networks, that is networks between unequal or unequally powerful individuals, cannot engender norms of reciprocal obligation and thus cannot produce social capital, Hartmann claims that social capital can be produced in the context of asymmetrical relations. To substantiate this thesis an economic model of networks is introduced and linked to neoliberal contemporary capitalism. In building upon the work of Boltanski and Chiapello it is further assumed that neoliberal capitalism is a network capitalism in which those who can successfully act in these networks as they are flexible and in possession of key qualifications rely on the work of a static and hardly recognized stratum of "doubles" that locally administers and organizes the social capital from which the successful, the 'network opportunists', profit. There is trust between these opportunists and their servants, a trust that even appears to be equally distributed. However, the network structures at hand lack the mechanisms, given in other, more intimate contexts of action, to sanction any breach of trust. This way network capitalism profits from a seemingly equal trust while not providing the less privileged individuals with the means to sanction breaches of trust in their own interest.

Martin Hartmann is professor of Practical Philosophy at the University of Lucerne. He studied philosophy, comparative literature and sociology at the University of Constance, the London School of Economics and the Freie Universität in Berlin. He received his PhD with a thesis entitled *Kreativität der Gewohnheit. Grundzüge einer pragmatistischen Demokratietheorie* (*The Creativity of Habit: Principles of a Pragmatist Theory of Democracy*) at the Goethe University Frankfurt in 2001 where he also qualified in 2009 as a professor (Habilitation) with a thesis entitled *Die Praxis des Vertrauens* (*The Practice of Trust*). Martin Hartmann was a scientific assistant and lecturer at the Department of Philosophy of the Goethe University and a research associate at the Institute of Social Research in Frankfurt (Institut für Sozialforschung). He was a visiting fellow at the University of Chicago and the "Maison des Sciences de l'Homme" in Paris and an associate professor at the Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg, the Technische Universität Darmstadt and the Goethe University Frankfurt. Martin Hartmann is Chairman of the Board of the "Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Lucerne (GSL)" and Scientific Director of the Executive MAS "Philosophy and Management" at the University of Lucerne.

Regarding the topic of the Winter School 2015, his areas of expertise are Social Capital, Network Society, Political Philosophy, Social Philosophy

Mandatory reading:

Hartmann, Martin; Honneth, Axel 2006: *Paradoxes of Capitalism*. In: *Constellations* 13 (1), S. 41-58.

Recommended Reading:

Hartmann, Martin (2012): *Against First Nature. Critical Theory and Neuroscience*. In: Suparna Choudhury (Hg.): *Critical neuroscience. A handbook of the social and cultural contexts of neuroscience*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, S. 67-84.

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

The inputs should be loosely connected to the thematic focus of the respective session or at least the overall theme of the Winter School. Each session will be moderated by one of the professorial or post-doctoral participants. All inputs have to be in English.

For each session additional reading is recommended. These are also texts that participants might want to discuss on the blog after the Winter School. All texts will be available online within a password-protected area of our website.

1. Project-based session on Friday: their own projects (name of the respective person) that should be presented within 15 minutes.
2. Text-based session on Saturday: specific texts that should be presented within 5 to 10 minutes or critically commented by way of a discussion input (name of the respective person).
3. Problem-based session on Monday: "a tough-nut-to-crack" (name of the respective person) that should be presented within 5 minutes.

The inputs should be loosely connected to the thematic focus of the respective session or at least the overall theme of the Winter School. Each session will be moderated by one of the professorial or post-doctoral participants. All inputs have to be in English.

For each session additional reading is recommended. These are also texts that participants might want to discuss on the blog after the Winter School. All texts will be available online within a password-protected area of our website.

THURSDAY

Welcome, Introduction and Poster Tour: 17:00-19:00

We look forward to meeting you at Schloss Münchenwiler as you arrive from your various destinations. (Train connections and directions from Berne are given in a separate letter. In any case there will be a shuttle bus, leaving Murten train station at 15:45). After a short welcome, we would like you to introduce yourselves and your project to the other participants (please try not to exceed 2 minutes. You will have the opportunity to present your project in one of the parallel sessions on Friday). Before dinner (19:30) we will tour the exhibition. The posters will be installed by the project team prior to your arrival.

Introductory reading:

Bal, Mieke 2009: Working with Concepts. In: European Journal of English Studies 13 (1), pp. 13-23.

FRIDAY

Parallel Sessions I (project-based): 14:00-15:45; 16:15-17:30/45 (break at 15:45)

PhD-participants and - voluntarily - postdocs are asked to give a presentation of their own projects that should not exceed 15 minutes. Each presentation is followed by a discussion of 15 to 20 minutes. Presenters are asked to link their project with our common theme and/or get inspired by the titles of the respective sessions. Please try to make your inputs as accessible to an interdisciplinary audience as possible. In advance, all participants are welcome to check out the abstracts of their fellow participants on the blog.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
<p>Moderator: Arjun Appadurai</p> <p>Participants: Corinne Schwaller Sabrina Regmi Najate Zouggar Ayfer Erdogan Cyprianus Dale Johanna Mugler</p>	<p>Moderator: Martin Hartmann</p> <p>Participants: Arnoldas Stramskas Maria Cristache Amieke Bouma Nellie Chu Larissa Schedel</p>	<p>Moderator: Vicki Kirby</p> <p>Participants: Liu Xin Ryan Kopaitich Arthur Bueno Urs Wickli Simon Küffer <i>Virginia Richter</i></p>	<p>Moderator: Anna Kornbluh</p> <p>Participants: JSimone Zweifel Agnés Sebestyén Eric Häusler Alexander Paulsson Joshua Pearson Maria Cáceres</p>
<p>14:00 – 15:45 Students, workers and entrepreneurs – Livelihood strategies</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Corinne Schwaller 2. Sabrina Regmi 3. Najate Zouggar</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:45 (Post)-Social(ist) capital I Travelling sounds, images and fabrics</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Arnoldas Stramskas 2. Maria Cristache 3. Amieke Bouma</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:45 Value, Risk, Desire – Economies beyond the material and the conceptual</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Arthur Bueno 2. Liu Xin 3. Ryan Kopaitich</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:45 From early to late modernity Knowledge in transit I – Capital in the very, very long 19th Century</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Simone Zweifel 2. Eric Häusler 3. Alexander Paulsson</p>
<p>16:15 – 17:45 Transnationality and the State – Capital between flow and stasis</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Johanna Mugler 2. Cyprianus Dale 3. Ayfer Erdogan</p>	<p>16:15 – 16:50 (Post)-Social(ist) capital II 4. Nellie Chu</p> <p>16:50 – 17:30 Localizing the glocal</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Larissa Schedel</p>	<p>16:15 – 17:30 Dissertations as affective spaces – Capital between the experimental and the analytical</p> <p>Project presentation: 1. Simon Küffer 2. Urs Wickli</p>	<p>16:15 – 17:45 From early to late modernity Knowledge in transit II – Capital in the very, very long 19th Century</p> <p>Project presentation: 4. Agnés Sebestyén 5. Joshua Pearson 6. Maria Cáceres</p>

SCHEDULE BERNESE WINTER SCHOOL 2015 (05 – 11 FEBRUARY)

	Time	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	09:00 - 10:00		Lecture: Kornbluh	Lecture: I
	10:00 - 10:15		Response: Kirby	Response
	10:15 - 10:45		Break	Break
	10:45 - 12:15		Discussion Mod.: Kirby	Discussion Mod.: Ap
Lunch	12:30 – 14:00			
Afternoon	14:00 – 15:30		Parallel Sessions I: Project-based	Parallel S Text-base
	15:30 - 16:30	Reception	Group 1: Appadurai	Group 1:
	16:00 -17:30	Welcome Introduction Poster Tour (17:00-19:00)	Group 2: Hartmann Group 3: Kirby Group 4: Kornbluh	Group 2: Group 3:
Evening		19:30 Dinner	18:00 Castle tour 19:00 Dinner	18:30 Din
				20:30 Fil

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Kirby e: Appadurai		Lecture: Appadurai Response: Hartmann Break	Lecture: Hartmann Response: Kornbluh Break
on padurai	12:00 Day Trip	Discussion Mod.: Hartmann	Discussion Mod.: Kornbluh
Sessions II: ed Toggweiler Bueno Mugler		Parallel Sessions III: Problem-based Group 1: Paulsson Group 2: Richter Group 3: Chu	Plenary Session Mod.: Project Team Postdoctoral scholars Departure (or Wed.)
anner	19:00 Fondue Dinner	18:30 Dinner	18:30 Dinner
m		(20:30 Film)	20:30 Musical Goodbye

SATURDAY

Parallel Sessions II (text-based): 14:00-16:00; 16:30-17:15/30 (break at 16:00)

There are three *mandatory* texts to carefully prepare for the Tuesday sessions by participants of each group (selected from the readings participants suggested for the online reader).

At the beginning of each session, the mandatory text is *briefly* introduced and framed by a participant who suggested the text. This is followed by a discussion based on the inputs of selected participants and further plenary inputs. Discussion inputs might consist of critical questions, comments etc. related to a specific passage in the text (if you want also in regard to your work) in order to enable close reading. Discussion inputs should be written down and ideally sent or handed over to me not later than Sunday noon to forward to the moderators. The sessions are moderated by postdoctoral participants or the project team.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<p>Capital Transformers <i>Forms and Conversions</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mike Toggweiler Participants: Simone Zweifel Amieke Bouma Najate Zougari Cyprianus Dale Maria Cristache Ayfer Erdogan Sabrina Regmi Corinne Schwaller Martin Hartmann</p>	<p>Give –Take <i>Exchanging money, commodities, language and whatnot</i></p> <p>Moderator: Arthur Bueno Participants: Simon Küffer Eric Häusler Liu Xin Larissa Schedel Maria Cáceres Urs Wickli Arjun Appadurai Vicki Kirby</p>	<p>A spectre is haunting <i>Tracking the spirit(s) of capitalism</i></p> <p>Moderator: Johanna Mugler Participants: Ryan Kopaitech Arnoldas Stramskas Joshua Pearson Alexander Paulsson Nellie Chu Agnés Sebestyén Anna Kornbluh Virginia Richter</p>
<p>14:00 – 15:15 The forms of capital – a bit of Bourdieu for a start</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Bourdieu 1986</i></p> <p>Introduction: Najate Zougari Discussion Input: Amieke Bouma, Corinne Schwaller</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:00 Money and value – a bit of Simmel for a start</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Simmel 2004 [1907]</i></p> <p>Introduction: Arthur Bueno Discussion Input: Eric Häusler</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:00 The ruling ideology – a bit of Althusser for a start</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Althusser 1971</i></p> <p>Introduction: Ryan Kopaitech Discussion Input: Arnoldas Stramskas</p>
<p>15:15 – 16:00 Social Capital – between cooperation and conflict</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Rankin 2002</i> Introduction: Sabrina Regmi Discussion Inputs: Cyprianus Dale / Ayfer Erdogan</p> <p>Further reading suggestions: Hartmann 2006, Coleman 1988, Aberg 2000, Kolankiewicz 1996, Torche 2011, Valadgigi 2011</p>	<p>15:00 – 16:00 What's the value of this? – at first and second sight</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Derrida 1994</i> Introduction: Vicki Kirby Discussion Inputs: Liu Xin, Urs Wickli</p> <p>Further reading suggestions: Appadurai 2011, Kirby 2011; 2014, Tsing 2013, Narotzky 2007, Moten 2003, Bourdieu 1977, Torche 2011, Brodbeck 2009, Stewart 2007, Lazzarato 2014</p>	<p>15:00 – 16:00 A new spirit of capitalism?</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Boltanski 2005</i> Introduction: Alexander Paulsson Discussion Inputs: Agnés Sebestyén / Joshua Pearson</p> <p>Further recommendations: Kornbluh 2014, Appadurai 2011, Read 2003, Derrida 1994, Pignarrel Stengers 2011, Chow 2002, Lazzarato 2014, Ho 2009, Holmes 2014, Hardt/Negri, Lukacs 1967, Brodbeck 2009, Benson 2010, Latour 2014, Picketty 2014</p>
<p>16:30 – 17:15 Cultural Capital – How to analyse taste, now and before?</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Silva/Wright 2009</i> Introduction: Maria Cristache Discussion Input: Simone Zweifel</p> <p>Further recommendation: Scott 2004</p> <p>17:15-17:30: Wrap-up</p>	<p>16:30 – 17:30 Wording exchange – exchanging words</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Irvine 1989</i> Introduction: Larissa Schedel Discussion Inputs: Simon Küffer / Maria Cáceres</p> <p>Further recommendations: <i>Bourdieu 1977, Read 2014, Heller 2012, Latour 2014, Neocleous 2003, Weber 1976</i></p>	<p>16:30 – 17:30 The seductive rhetoric of a global capitalism</p> <p>Mandatory Reading: <i>Ho 2005</i> Introduction: Johanna Mugler Discussion Inputs: Nellie Chu</p> <p>Further recommendations: <i>Holmes 2014, Neocleous 2003, Benson 2010, Latour 2014</i></p>

Evening

After dinner, you are invited to join us for a film evening, with a movie selected by the majority. Suggestions so far: *Inside Job*, *Margin Call*, *The Wolf of Wall Street*, *Cosmopolis*, *Fight Club*, *Shawn of the Dead*, *Wall-E*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *American Psycho*...

SUNDAY

A day out

A voluntary trip is planned to visit the chocolate factory Maison Cailler and the medieval town of Gruyère (including its Swiss army knife shops). A heavy dose of capitalized "Swissness" is guaranteed! Those who would not like to join us for the trip might want to visit Murten on their own, go shopping, have a swim, go ice-skating or prepare for the second half. There will be a cold lunch packet for everyone. As we have arranged for a cheese fondue in Murten, no extra lunch or evening meal will be provided at the Schloss (should you not join us). Details will follow when we ask you to sign up for the trip/dinner.

MONDAY

Parallel Sessions III (problem-based): 14:00-15:30; 16:00-17:30/45 (break at 16:00)

PhD-Participants are asked to develop their “tough-nut-to crack” into a presentation of five minutes. Remember that your problems should be of interest to the whole group. You might get inspired by the titles of your session or the general description of our event.

At the beginning of each of the two sessions, the participants indicated will present their problems to the whole group. This is followed by a “world café”, a speed-dating format: Each participant/problem gets a table, while all of the other participants split into groups of equal sizes and join one of the tables. After about 10 -15 minutes of discussion, the groups move on to the next table, and so forth. This mode ensures that each participant is able to discuss his or her problem for about an hour and mix with a wide range of people.

Before the evening, the whole group is asked to evaluate the sessions in order to formulate one or two “macro-nuts”, key problems that might frame or link the individual tough-nuts. The results will be discussed in a plenary session on Friday.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
<p>Difficult trackings – do our common scientific frameworks apply?</p> <p>Moderator: Alexander Paulsson</p> <p>Participants: Arnoldas Stramskas Liu Xin Najate Zougari Simone Zweifel Joshua Pearson Maria Cáceres Arthur Bueno Johanna Mugler Arjun Appadurai Vicki Kirby (14:00-15:30)</p>	<p>“Capital” as a travelling concept</p> <p>Moderator: Virginia Richter</p> <p>Participants: Larissa Schedel Eric Häusler Urs Wickli Ryan Kopaitich Simon Küffer Maria Cristache Martin Hartmann Vicki Kirby (16:00-17:30)</p>	<p>“Capital” and other hairy objects</p> <p>Moderator: Nellie Chu</p> <p>Participants: Cyprianus Dale Ayfer Erdogan Agnès Sebestyén Amieke Bouma Corinne Schwaller Sabrina Regmi Anna Kornbluh Mike Toggweiler</p>
<p>14:00 – 15:30 <i>Part 1: Of playbor, black markets and unmappable values</i></p> <p>Tough-nuts-to-crack: Joshua Pearson Arnoldas Stramskas Liu Xin</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:30 <i>Part 1a: How to avoid over-generationalizations and anachronisms?</i></p> <p>Tough-nuts-to-crack: Maria Cristache Larissa Schedel Eric Häusler</p>	<p>14:00 – 15:30 <i>Part 1: What to do with political and religious change?</i></p> <p>Tough-nuts-to-crack: Cyprianus Dale Ayfer Erdogan Agnès Sebestyén</p>
<p>16:00 – 17:15 <i>Part 2: Of speaking things, mute sounds and invaluable possessions</i></p> <p>Tough-nuts-to-crack: Najate Zougari Maria Cáceres Simone Zweifel</p>	<p>16:00 – 17:15 <i>Part 1b: How to avoid over-generationalizations and anachronisms?</i></p> <p>Tough-nut-to-crack: Urs Wickli</p> <p><i>Part 2: Travelling beyond Capital?</i></p> <p>Tough-nuts-to-crack: Ryan Kopaitich Simon Küffer</p>	<p>16:00 – 17:15 <i>Part 2: What to do with “gender” or “ethnicity”?</i></p> <p>Tough-nuts-to-crack: Corinne Schwaller Sabrina Regmi Amieke Bouma</p>
<p>17:15 –17:45 Evaluation and formulation of a key problem (“macro-nut”)</p>	<p>17:00 –17:45 Evaluation and formulation of a key problem (“macro-nut”)</p>	<p>17:15 –17:45 Evaluation and formulation of a key problem (“macro-nut”)</p>
<p>Reading recommendations: <i>Read 2003; Moten 2003, Chow 2002, Derrida 1994, Weber 1976, Kirby 2011; 2014, Pignarre/Stengers 2011, Latour 2014, Lazzarato 2014</i></p>	<p>Reading recommendations: <i>Bal 2009, Ho 2005, Kirby 2011; 2014, Stewart 2007</i></p>	<p>Reading recommendations: <i>Moten 2003, Chow 2002, Escobar 2012, Nairn 1975, Smith 1998, Yanagisako 2002, Rankin 2002</i></p>

TUESDAY

14:00-15:30: Plenary Session

Moderators: Project team and postdoctoral scholars
Plenary discussion of the Thursday sessions based on the key problems.
(Details to be announced soon)

16:00-17:00: Taking stock, looking ahead and good-bye

Half of us will already leave on Friday evening. Those of us who stay are welcome to use the time for further discussion, writing blog posts and planning future events or simply have a chat over a glass of wine or two.

TRANSFORMATIONS I-IV

From 2012 to 2015, with the Institute of Advanced Study in the Humanities and the Social Sciences IASH as the leading institute, the Philosophical-Historical Faculty of the University of Bern organizes four international Winter Schools of one week each. Under the thematic umbrella "TransFormations", the Winter School concentrates on the analysis and shaping of local and global processes of change in its various forms and formations at the intersections of knowledge, history, culture and society.

The project is made possible by the Stiftung Mercator Schweiz.

WINTER SCHOOL 2015: TRANSFORMING CAPITAL

For quite some time now, the concept of "capital" has been employed as an analytical category in the humanities and the social sciences beyond simple economic reductionism. Such critical but in the main affirmative appropriations include Pierre Bourdieu's mapping of types of capital (economic, social, cultural, symbolic) within a multidimensional social topology, James S. Coleman's conceptualization of "social capital" as a form of capital that inheres in social relations and transactions between and among actors, or John Guillory's introduction of "cultural capital" into the analysis of debates on canonical vs. non-canonical literature. More recently, we have been able to observe a growing concern about the alliance of biotechnology and capitalism. Enlisting terms like "genetic capital", "biovalue" or "biocapital", analyses elaborate Foucault's "biopolitics" and Paul Rabinow's "biosociality" – concepts that have already articulated how technologies bring "natural life into the realm of calculations".

In parallel with such interdisciplinary transformations of "capital", interest in the workings of "financescapes" (Arjun Appadurai), the simultaneously disjunctive and intertwined relationships between capital, technology, the media and socio-cultural practice continues to be investigated, as do the number of investigations of the disposition of global financial capital. The transfer of money via electronic market places has reached dimensions previously unimaginable. Moreover, financial trading and speculation appear without any regulation by coherent self-regulating markets, let alone a selfish yet reliably rational homo *oeconomicus*. Contrary to the hope of some still euphoric representatives of the economic sciences, more and more critical economists and business representatives, and an increasingly sceptical public, conceive of the financial world as irrational, chaotic and unpredictably metastatic. A veritable hauntology (Derrida) is emerging, with the financial crises of the first decade of the new millennium as harbingers of an inevitably global collapse. It congeals into the figure of the "trader" with his or her narrative of voracious deprivation and addictive moral and physical self-destruction within a hermetically concealed, spectrally guided sect.

Paradoxically, insider and outsider narratives criticizing the invisible confusion of the postmillennial Oikodizee or the fatal disorganization of global-liberal capitalistic competition are congeneric with euphoric notions of the market guided by an "invisible hand" automatically leading to the common good (Adam Smith). Both build on dichotomies between order and chaos, rationality and irrationality, which, according to Josef Vogl, have characterized all political economic discourses since the late 17th century, including the critical voices.

The Winter School 2015 addresses the following questions:

- Is "capital" an indispensable tool in order to analyse (and criticize) past and present economic realities, especially today's (imaginary but highly effective) high-speed train of globalized financial competition and its constituting Others that are left behind?
- What are the benefits and pitfalls of "capital" as an interdisciplinary analytical tool *beyond* (neo) classical economic questions?
- Might the tendency to treat "capital" as a coin for exchange within the humanities and beyond lead to an all too stable concept of "capital" that turns out to be itself an effect of a genuine haunting which has erratically infected the way we do research and ask questions? Are we capitalized by "capital" – and might there be adequate alternatives, such as "value"?

- Do such derivative forms of capital also disclose new conceptions of individuality, personhood and mediation? Does the question of “value” f.e. allow a sidestepping of matter-culture dichotomies, as it might shift our attention to what gives every kind of system or unit (literary, economical, ecological, physical, biological) it's general weight?

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For further Information please visit the Winter School Blog: <http://wsblog.iash.unibe.ch/>

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