Beyond Positivism: Theory, Methods, and Values in Social Science Conference

August 8 – 10, 2017

Palais des congrès de Montréal, Canada
(201 Viger West, 5th floor, Viger Hall)

Tuesday, August 8

9:00 – 10:30  Welcome and Opening Remarks  Room 513AB (Theatre)
Philip Gorski
George Steinmetz
Chair: Douglas Porpora

10:30 – 10:45  Break

10:45 – 12:00  Session 1,2,3  Room 513 C, D, & E

513 C  Theory Stream 1  Moderator: Frederic Vandenberghe
10:45 – 11:05  Jean-François Côté  Margaret Archer and George Herbert Mead on Reflexivity: Opening the Debate on Dialectical Morphogenesis
11:05 – 11:25  Daniel Morrison  The Neglected Legacy and Promising Future of a Pragmatic, Realist, Approach to Interactionism
11:25 – 11:45  Eric Lybeck  Humans in Processes: Exploring the Normative Significance of Abbot's Processual Sociology

Q&A

513 D  Methods Stream 1  Moderator: Esther Chan
10:45 – 11:05  Kyle Caler  The use of Q methodology as a Critical Realist tool
11:05 – 11:25  Andrew Keefe  Defining Evidence-Based Policymaking: A Comparative Study of Epistemological Approaches
11:25 – 11:45  Matthew Mahler  A Prolegomenon to a Cubist Social Science

Q&A

513 E  Political Stream 1  Moderator: Ben Manski
10:45 – 11:05  Catherine Craven  Critical Realism, Assemblages, and Practices beyond the State: A new framework for analyzing global diaspora engagement?
11:05 – 11:25  Jeffrey Broadbent  Modes and Fields of Power: Labor Policy Networks in Japan, the US and Germany
11:25 – 11:45  Hannah Waigh  The Field of Inequality Knowledge in the US and UK

12:00 – 1:00  Lunch

1:00 – 2:30  Plenary Session on Theory and Explanation After Positivism  Room 513AB
  Chair: Philip Gorski
  1:00 – 1:30  Daniel Little
  1:30 – 2:00  Rani Lill Anjum
  2:00 – 2:30  Discussion

2:30 – 2:45  Break

2:45 – 4:00  Session 4,5,6  Room 513 C, D, & E

513 C  Historical Stream 1  Moderator: Sahan Karatasli
  2:45 – 3:05  Dylan Riley  The Social Foundations of Positivism: The Case of Late Nineteenth Century Italy
  3:25 – 3:45  Jane McCamant  Problems, Mysteries, and the Purposes of Historical Knowledge in Sociology

513 D  Systems Stream 1  Moderator: Dave Elder-Vass
  2:45 – 3:05  Larissa Buchholz  Causal Explanation and Global Sociology
  3:05 – 3:25  Danny Alvord  Emergent Social Structures and Embeddedness in Economic Sociology
  3:25 – 3:45  Emma Greeson  Post-Positivist Ethnography: Markets, non-markets, and the ontology of social worlds

513 E  Race Stream 1  Moderator: Paige Sweet
  2:45 – 3:05  Joseph Klett  #laughingwhileblack: a theory of perception
  3:05 – 3:25  Christopher Robertson  “Overcoming” Racial Bias: Implicit-Association Tests and the Limits of Experimental Science
  3:25 – 3:45  Mary Arneaud  The Development of Cultural Models of Ethnic Identity for Ethnically-Equivalent Contexts

4:00 – 4:15  Break
### 4:15 – 5:30 Session 7,8,9

**513 C**  **Theory Stream 2**  **Moderator: Timothy Rutzou**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:35 – 4:55</td>
<td>Katelin Albert</td>
<td>Theorizing Objects: Ontological Realism and Scifi Exploration</td>
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<td>4:55 – 5:15</td>
<td>Luca Delbollo</td>
<td>What is beyond reality? A dialogue between Critical Realism and Speculative Realism Q&amp;A</td>
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**513 D**  **Systems Stream 2**  **Moderator: Larissa Buchholz**

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<td>4:15 – 4:35</td>
<td>Philippe Sormani</td>
<td>Practicing Art/Science as “Public-Private Partnership”: Rise and Fall of a Transdisciplinary Experiment in Critical Realism</td>
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<td>4:35 – 4:55</td>
<td>Dana Kornberg</td>
<td>Theorizing Contemporary Economic Life beyond Formal Markets</td>
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<td>4:55 – 5:15</td>
<td>Ilimpi Jimenez</td>
<td>Towards a Social Ontology of International Migration Q&amp;A</td>
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**513 E**  **Facts, Values, and Religion Stream 1**  **Panel: Agency and Temporality in the Emergence of the Secular**  **Moderator: Nicolette Manglos-Weber**

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<td>Jeffrey Guhin</td>
<td>Same Fears, Different Religions: The Historical Roots of American Islamophobia</td>
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<td>4:55 – 5:15</td>
<td>Elizabeth Becker</td>
<td>Value Migration and Integration? Multiple Secularities in Conservative European Muslim Communities Q&amp;A</td>
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**Wednesday, August 9**

**9:00 – 10:30 Plenary Session on Quantitative Post Positivist Social Science**  **Room 513AB**

*Chair: Douglas Porpora*

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<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:20</td>
<td>John Mohr</td>
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<td>9:20 – 9:40</td>
<td>Wendy Olsen</td>
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<td>9:40 – 10:00</td>
<td>Seth Prins</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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</table>
10:30 – 10:45  Break

10:45 – 12:00  Session 1, 2, 3

Room 513 C, D, & E

**513 C  Historical Stream 2**

Panel: Rethinking Comparison  
Moderator: Nicholas Hoover Wilson

10:45 – 11:05  Xiaohong Xu  
What Is Defensible about Skocpolian Structural Comparison?

11:05 – 11:25  Nicholas Hoover Wilson  
Heuristic and Recursive Comparison in Historical Sociology

11:25 – 11:45  Philip Goski  
Q&A

**513 D  Methods Stream 2**

Panel: Reviving Ethnographic Pluralism in Post-Positivist Social Science  
Moderator: Rachel Rinaldo

10:45 – 11:05  Corey Abramson  
Reviving Ethnographic Pluralism in Post-Positivist Social Science I

11:05 – 11:25  Neil Gong  
Ethnographic Pluralism in Post-Positivist Social Science II

11:25 – 11:45  Jason Orne  
Intersectional Consequences of Heritage Commodification in Cultural Enclave Neighborhoods  
Q&A

**513 E  Facts, Values, and Religion Stream 2**

Moderator: Andrew Lynn

10:45 – 11:15  Kevin Schilbrack  
Religion as Joint Commitment

11:15 – 11:45  Brandon Vaidyanathan  
Towards a post-positivist philanthropy  
Q&A

12:00 – 1:00  Lunch

1:00 – 2:15  Session 4, 5, 6

Room 513 C, D, & E

**513 C  Methods Stream 3**

Panel: Studying Social Ties: Realism and Relationality in Person-to-Person Research  
Moderator: Daniel Morrison

1:00 – 1:20  Rachel Rinaldo  
Embedded in Indonesia: Being an Observer and a Participant in Sociological Research

1:20 – 1:40  Robert Brenneman  
Entertaining Villains: The Joys and Risks of Research among Purveyors of Violence
1:40 – 2:00  Nicolette Manglos-Weber  Friendships in the ‘Field’: Critical Realism, Interpersonal Trust, and Relationship-Driven Ethnography  

**513 D  Systems Stream 3  Moderator: Paige Sweet**

1:00 – 1:30  Sarah Manski  The Blockchain World: Explaining a Technological Revolution in Real Time

1:30 – 2:00  Apoorva Ghosh  Understanding Transnational Sexuality in India: Globalization and Institutional Schemas

2:00 – 2:15  

Q&A

**513 E  Race Stream 2  Moderator: Douglas Porpora**

1:00 – 1:20  Candice Robinson  Will Moving Beyond Positivism Moves Towards Diverse Thought?

1:20 – 1:40  Issa Kohler-Hausmann  Detecting Discrimination: What’s Wrong with Counterfactual Causal Thinking About Racial Discrimination

1:40 – 2:00  Daniel Sherwood  The Reality of Structural Racism: Knowledge, Critique, Emancipation  

Q&A

2:15 – 2:30  Break

2:30 – 3:45  Session 7,8,9

**513 C  Theory Stream 3  Moderator: Katelin Albert**

2:30 – 2:50  Alison Assiter  Kant, Bhaskar, and Realism

2:50 – 3:10  Paige Sweet  Realism and Feminist Standpoint Theory: Interrogating Boundaries and Bodies

3:10 – 3:30  Paul Erb  Bhaskar and his critics: what are the alternatives to critical realism?  

Q&A

**513 D  Methods Stream 4  Moderator: Elizabeth Becker**

2:30 – 3:00  Tatiana Rodriguez  Headaches, Victories, Puzzles and Dilemmas: an interview approach for understanding what matters to people at work

3:00 – 3:30  Lucas Wehrwein  The Myth of the Stradivarius Violins: Self-Fulfilling Prophecies and Causal Explanation in Historical Sociology

3:30 – 3:45  

Q&A
513 E  Political Stream 2  Moderator: Atef Said
2:30 – 3:00  Onur Ozgode  The State and its Problems: Toward an
              Assemblage Theory of the State
3:00 – 3:30  Eric Malczewski  Conservation Ethics and the Order of Nature: The
              Role of the Sacred in Differentiation Theory
3:30 – 3:45  

3:45 – 4:00  Break
4:00 – 5:30  Plenary Session on Ethics and Values After Positivism  Room 513AB
Chair: Claire Decoteau
4:00 – 4:20  Frederic Vandenberghe
4:20 – 4:40  Christopher Winship
4:40 – 5:00  Dave Elder-Vass
5:00 – 5:30  Discussion

Thursday, August 10

9:00 – 10:30  Plenary Session on Qualitative Post-Positivist Social Science  Room 513AB
Chair: George Steinmetz
9:00 – 9:30  Alford Young
9:30 – 10:00  Gary Alan Fine
10:00 – 10:30  Discussion

10:30 – 10:45  Break
10:45 – 12:00  Session 1,2,3  Room 513 C, D & E

513 C  Historical Stream 3  Moderator: Nicholas Hoover Wilson
10:45 – 11:05  Samuel Stabler  Between Religious and Political Fields:
               Reformulating Parish Space in Puritan New
               England (1637-1741)
11:05 – 11:25  Jonah Stuart  For a (Realist) Historicism in Sociology
               Brundage
11:25 – 11:45  Xiaohong Xu  Dialogical Struggle in the Becoming of the
               Cultural Revolution: Between Elite Conflict and
               Mass Mobilization
Q&A

513 D  Facts, Values, and Religion Stream 3  Moderator: Brandon Vaidyanathan
10:45 – 11:05  Andrew Lynn  Ditching the Dichotomy: Economic Sociology’s
               Engagement with the Fact-Value Distinction
11:05 – 11:25  Mary Shi  Against Instrumental Rationality, the Ethical Unity
               of Post-Positivists
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<td>Mary Elliot</td>
<td>How Thinking Becomes a Moral Consideration: Hannah Arendt and the Relationship Between Philosophical Inquiry, Social Knowledge, and the Researcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>513 E</td>
<td>Race Stream 3</td>
<td>Panel: Re-Theorizing REN: Post-Positivist Perspectives on Studying Intangible Social Categories</td>
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<td>10:45 – 11:05</td>
<td>G. Reginald Daniel</td>
<td>From Race to Multiraciality: Postpositivism and the Monoracial Imperative</td>
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<td>11:05 – 11:25</td>
<td>Joseph Loe-Sterphone</td>
<td>Outline for the Post-Positivist Study of Nation and Nationalism</td>
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<td>11:25 – 11:45</td>
<td>Jasmine Kelekay</td>
<td>Examining and Theorizing Race in Colorblind Scandinavia: The Case for a Critical Post-Positivist Race Methodology</td>
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<td>513 C</td>
<td>Theory Stream 4</td>
<td>Moderator: John Mohr</td>
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<td>1:00 – 1:20</td>
<td>Daniel Jaster</td>
<td>Beyond Critical Sociology: Bourdieu's Positivism and the Sociology of Critique I</td>
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<td>1:20 – 1:40</td>
<td>Bruno Frere</td>
<td>Beyond Critical Sociology: Bourdieu's Positivism and the Sociology of Critique II</td>
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<td>1:40 – 2:00</td>
<td>Georg Rilinger</td>
<td>Methodological Blind Spots: Immanent Critique and Alienation</td>
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<td>513 D</td>
<td>Methods Stream 5</td>
<td>Moderator: Nicolette Manglos-Weber</td>
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<td>1:00 – 1:30</td>
<td>Mike Bare</td>
<td>The Paradox of Parsons' Analytical Realism</td>
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<td>1:30 – 2:00</td>
<td>Carl Auerbach</td>
<td>Towards an Idiographic, Qualitative Scientific Psychology: A Critical Realist Approach</td>
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<td>2:00 – 2:15</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>513 E</td>
<td>Political Stream 3</td>
<td>Panel: Is a post-positivist social movement theory possible? The critical search for relevance in social movement studies</td>
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<td>1:00 – 1:20</td>
<td>Ben Manski</td>
<td>On the Making of History: Restoring the Agency of Activists to Social Movement Studies</td>
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<td>1:20 – 1:40</td>
<td>Maria Martinez</td>
<td>Beyond causality and linearity? Identity process in the contemporary feminist movement in Spain</td>
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Towards a Realist Multitemporal Perspective in the Study of Revolutions

2:15 – 2:30 Break

**2:30 – 4:00 Plenary Session: Utopian Social Science After Positivism**  
*Room 513AB*

*Chair:* Philip Gorski

- 2:30 – 3:00  
  Erik Olin Wright
- 3:00 – 3:30  
  Margaret Archer
- 3:30 – 4:00  
  Discussion

4:00 – 4:15 Break

**4:15 – 5:30 Closing Plenary Session: Beyond Positivism**  
*Room 513AB*

*Chair:* Philip Gorski

- 4:15 – 4:35  
  Douglas Porpora
- 4:35 – 4:55  
  Claire Decoteau
- 4:55 – 5:15  
  Timothy Rutzou

**Closing Remarks**

Philip Gorski