

# Planning, Public Policy, and Social Theory

Fall 2020 Monday 9:50-12:30 34:762:624 (doctoral)/833:624 (policy) /970:624 (planning)

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Office Hours: Wed 9-12, 1-2 and by appointment

## Purpose

This is a seminar course to introduce you to theories and assumptions about social theory and to challenge you to think about how you think. Theory is developed and used for a variety of purposes. It can help us make sense of the complicated world around us. It can isolate particular aspects, especially ones that are hard to envision such as structure. Though some social theories are built on “universal” ideas about human nature or ideas of justice, for example, other theories emerge as people work together to make sense of how we understand the world today and what we want it to be like in the future. We will think about where theories come from and why and we will consider power, politics, structure, difference and how ways of thinking become institutionalized.

## Planning Advisory Board Core Competencies (PABCC)

This course addresses all three of the Planning Advisory Board’s “required components.” Stressed competencies are highlighted in bold.

- 1) General knowledge: a) **Purpose and meaning of planning**; b) **Planning theory**; e) **The Future**, and f) **Global Dimensions**.
- 2) Planning Skills: b) **Written, Oral and Graphic Communication**.
- 3) Values and Ethics: b) **Equity, Diversity and Social Justice**, c) **Governance and Participation**, e) **Growth and Development**.

## Learning Objectives

- 1) Introduce you to social theory and ways of thinking about the world (PABCC 1a, b, e, f; 3 b, c, e).
- 2) Enable you to synthesize these ideas and consider your own in class discussions, critical reflection papers, and a thoughtful final essay exam (PABCC 2b).

## Assessment

Assessment of these learning objectives will be accomplished by:

- 1) participating in class discussions (learning objectives 1 and 2),
- 2) completing four critical essays about the class readings (learning objectives 1 and 2), and
- 3) completing a take home exam essay and final presentation (learning objective 2).

## Read and Participate (40%)

Read all material before class meetings and come to class ready to discuss the readings. Identify a set of discussion topics and add those to our timeline and theme document on Canvas before/at the start of class. Add to our collective timeline and notes project as you read each week. If you think about your class preparation and in-class experience as the beginning of a long term investment, you might find it useful to adopt a note taking strategy with this

long term view in mind. The notes on readings and your thoughts about them will help you prepare for exams, construct a dissertation project, and think about thinking for a lifetime.

#### **Four Critical Essays (40%)**

Select four class sessions and complete four critical essays of 6 – 10 pages about the readings in each session (one paper for each session). The objective is to think about and reflect on the material. Avoid summarizing the author's arguments and quoting extensively. Submit your essays on Canvas no later than the Monday following the week you write about. Please do your best to submit all work on time.

#### **Take Home Final Exam and Class Presentation (20%)**

Reflect on the readings and discussions in a 6-10 page culminating essay. Essays are due before the final class meeting period.

#### **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism will result in a grade of F or 0 for the assignment in question. If you have any questions about citing material, refer to an academic citation and style guide or ask me, another faculty member, or a research librarian at one of the University's libraries. You can learn more about plagiarism and the Rutgers University policy on academic integrity here: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>

#### **Required Readings (purple are available full text from RU library)**

Young, Iris. 2011. *Responsibility for Justice*. Princeton University Press. RU Library full text: <https://bit.ly/30D04ei>

Jessop, Bob. 2002. *The Future of the Capitalist State*. Polity Press.

Mitchell, Timothy. 2002. *Rule of Experts*. University of California Press. RU library full text: <https://bit.ly/2WFvEqA>

O'Connor, Alice. 2001. *Poverty Knowledge*. Princeton University Press. RU library full text: <https://bit.ly/32T2ys3>

Cruikshank, Barbara. 1999. *The Will to Empower*. Cornell University Press.

Woods, Clyde. 1998. *Development Arrested: The Blues and Plantation Power in the Mississippi Delta*. New York: Verso.

Flyvbjerg, Bent. 1998. *Rationality and Power*. University of Chicago Press.

Polanyi, Karl. 1944. *The Great Transformation*. Beacon Press.

Dewey, John. 1927. *The Public and Its Problems*. Ohio University Press. RU library full text <https://bit.ly/2CPv3f3>

## Seminar Schedule and Readings

### **September 8. TUESDAY!! Introduction**

What do you want to take away from the course for your work?

How do you craft strategies to learn the material and make it useful to you?

#### ***Recommended***

Beauregard, Robert. 2020. *An Introduction to Planning Theory*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Beauregard, Robert. 2012. "What theorists do." *Urban Geography* 33:474-487.

Kuhn, Thomas. 1962. *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Pryke, Michael, Gillian, Rose, and Whatmore, Sarah. *Using Social Theory: Thinking Through Research*. London: Sage Publications.

Storper, M and Scott, A. 2016. "Current Debates in Urban Theory." *Urban Studies* 53 6:1114-1136.

### **September 14. Knowledge, Technology, Power, and Policy**

Mitchell, Timothy. *Rule of Experts*. pp 1-119

#### ***Recommended***

Lake, Robert and Zitcer, Andrew. 2012. "Who Says? Authority, Voice, and Authorship in Narratives of Planning Research." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 12 4:389-399.

Dovey, Kim, Rao, Fujie, Pafka, Elek. 2018. "Agglomeration and assemblage: Deterritorialising urban theory." *Urban Studies* 55 2:263-273.

Farias, Ignacio. 2011. "The politics of urban assemblages." *City* 15:365-374.

Feenberg, Andrew. 2010. *Between Reason and Experience: Essays in Technology and Modernity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Fischer, Frank. 2009. *Democracy and Expertise: Reorienting Policy Inquiry*. Cambridge: Oxford University Press.

MacKenzie, Donald. 2006. *An Engine Not a Camera*

Mitchell, Timothy. 2006. "Rethinking economy." *Geoforum* 39:1116-1121.

Roy, Ananya. 2009. "Why India cannot plan its cities: Informality, insurgence and the idiom of urbanization." *Planning Theory* 8: 76-87.

Scott, James C. 1998. *Seeing Like a State*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Simone, AbdouMaliq. 2004. *For the City Yet to Come: Changing African Life in Four Cities*. Duke University Press.

Valverde, Mariana. 2011. "Seeing like a city: The dialectic of modern and premodern ways of seeing in urban governance." *Law and Society Review* 45:277-312.

## **September 21. Constructing the Subject**

Mitchell, Timothy. *Rule of Experts*. pp 123-303

### ***Recommended***

Christophers, Brett. 2014. "Wild Dragons in the city: Urban political economy, affordable housing development and the performative world-making of economic models." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 38:79-97.

Jazeel, Tariq and McFarlane, Colin. 2010. "The limits of responsibility: a postcolonial politics of academic knowledge production." *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 35:109-124.

## **September 28. Power, Politics, Policy and Planning**

Flyvberg, Bent. *Rationality and Power*

### ***Recommended***

Castells, Manuel. 1983. *The City and the Grassroots*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Gaventa, John. 1980. *Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

McCann, Eugene. 2011. "Urban policy mobilities and global circuits of knowledge towards a research agenda." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 101 1:107-130.

Peck, Jamie and Tickel, Adam. 2002. "Neoliberalizing space." *Antipode* 34:380-404.

Peck, Jamie. 2001. *Workfare States*. New York: The Guilford Press.

Peck, Jamie. 2012. "Austerity Urbanism." *City* 16 6:626-655.

Rose, Niklos 1991. "Governing by the numbers: figuring out democracy." *Accounting, Organizations and Society* 16:673-692.

## **October 5. States and Markets (meet Oct 9th Friday due to Accreditation Site Visit?)**

Polanyi, Karl. *The Great Transformation* vii-xxxviii, 3-135.

### ***Recommended***

Bourdieu, Pierre. 2005. *The Social Structures of the Economy*. Malden, MA: Polity.

Callon, Michel ed. 1988. *The Laws of Markets*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Fine, Ben and Lapavistas, Costas. 2000. "Markets and money in social theory: what role for economics?" *Economy and Society* 29:357-382.

Haila, Anne. 2007. "The market as the new emperor." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 31:3-20.

Konings, Martijn. 2018. *Capital and Time: For a New Critique of Neoliberal Reason*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

MacKenzie, Donald, Muniesa, Fabian, and Lucia, Siu. Eds. 2007. *Do Economists Make Markets? On the Performativity of Economics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

- Mitchell, Timothy. 2005. "The work of economics: How a discipline makes its world." *European Journal of Sociology* 45:297-320.
- North, Douglass. C. 1990. *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Parnell, Susan and Robinson, Susan. 2012. "(Re)theorizing Cities from the Global South: Looking Beyond Neoliberalism." *Urban Geography* 33 4:593-617.
- Peck, Jamie. 2013. "Disembedding Polanyi: Exploring Polanyian economic geographies." *Environment and Planning A* 45:1536-1544.

### **October 12. State Regulation**

Polanyi, Karl. *The Great Transformation* pps 136-268

#### ***Recommended***

- Christophers, Brett. 2010. "On voodoo economics: Theorizing relations of property, value and and contemporary capitalism." *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 35: 94-108.
- Fraser, Nancy. 2014. "Can society be commodities all the way down" Post-Polanyian reflections on capitalist crisis." *Economy and Society* 43:541-558.
- MacKenzie, Donald. 2006. *An Engine, Not a Camera: How Financial Models Shape Markets*. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- MacKenzie, Donald. 2009. *Material Markets: How Economic Agents are Constructed*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Muniesa, Fabian. 2014. *The Provoked Economy: Economic Reality and the Performative Turn*. New York: Routledge.
- Rossi, Ugo. 2013. "On life as a fictitious commodity: Cities and the biopolitics of late neoliberalism." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 37:1067-74.

### **October 19. Thinking about Intersections**

Woods, Clyde. 1998. *Development Arrested: The Blues and Plantation Power in the Mississippi Delta*.

#### ***Recommended***

- McKittrick, Katharine and Woods, Clyde. 2007. *Black Geographies and the Politics of Place*. Cambridge: South End Press.

### **October 26. The State**

Jessop, Bob. *The Future of the Capitalist State*. Pp 1-139.

#### ***Recommended***

- Mitchell, Timothy. 1991. "The Limits of the State: Beyond Statist Approaches and their Critics." *American Political Science Review* 85 1:77-  
Painter, Joe. 2006. "Prosaic geographies of stateness." *Political Geography* 25:752-774  
Rose, Nikolas and Miller, Peter. 2010. "Political power beyond the state: Problematics of government." *British Journal of Sociology* 61:271-303.  
Scott, James. 1998. *Seeing Like a State*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

### **November 2. Democracy, The State and the Public**

Jessop, Bob. *The Future of the Capitalist State* Pp 140-276.

#### ***Recommended***

- Brenner, Neil 2004. *New State Spaces: Urban Governance and the Rescaling of Statehood*. NY: Oxford University Press.  
Lake, Robert. 2002. "Bring back big government." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 26:815-822.  
Lake, Robert and Newman, Kathe. 2002. "Differential citizenship in the shadow state." *GeoJournal* 58:109-120.  
Mitchell, Kathryn. 2001. "Transnationalism, neo-liberalism, and the rise of the shadow state." *Economy and Society* 30:165-189.  
O'Connor, James. 2012. *The Fiscal Crisis of the State*. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers.

### **November 9. Difference, Structural Inequality, and Democracy**

Dewey, John. *The Public and Its Problems*

#### ***Recommended***

- Barnett, Clive and Bridge, Gary. 2017. "The situations of urban inquiry: Thinking problematically about the city." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 40:1186-1204.  
de Tocqueville, Alexis. 2004. (1835, 1840) *Democracy in America*. NY: Library of America  
Lake, Robert. 2017. "On poetry, pragmatism, and the urban possibility of creative democracy." *Urban Geography* 38 4:479-494.  
Lake, Robert. 2016. "Justice as subject and object of planning." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 40:1206-1221.

### **November 19. Politics, Policy-Making and the Policy Process**

Marion Young, Iris. 2011. *Responsibility for Justice*.

#### ***Recommended***

Arendt, Hannah. 1958. *The Human Condition*. University of Chicago Press.

- Fraser, Nancy. 1989. *Unruly Practices: Power, Discourse and Gender in Contemporary Social Theory*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Sandercock, Leonie. 2003. *Cosmopolis II: Mongrel Cities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. London: Continuum Publishers.
- Young, Iris. 1990. *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. Princeton University Press.
- Young, Iris. 2011. *Responsibility for Justice*. New York Oxford University Press.

### **November 23. Governance, Power and Powerlessness**

Alice O'Connor. *Poverty Knowledge*

#### ***Recommended***

- Lindbloom, Charles. 1959. "The science of muddling through." *Public Administration Review* 19:79-88.
- McCann, Eugene and Ward, Kevin. 2011. *Mobile Urbanism*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- McCann, Eugene. 2011. "Urban Policy Mobilities and Global Circuits of Knowledge: Toward a Research Agenda." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 101 1:107-130.
- Pierce, Joseph, Martin, Deborah, and Murphy, James T. 2011. "Relational place-making: the networked politics of place." *Trans Inst Br Geogr* 36:54-70.
- Wolch, Jennifer. 1990. *The Shadow State and Voluntary Sector in Transition*. New York: The Foundation Center.
- Harvey, David. 1989. "Managerialism to Entrepreneurialism." *Geografiska Annaler Series B, Human Geography* 71 1:3-17.

### **November 30. Theory and Practice: Thinking and Knowing**

Cruikshank, Barbara. *The Will to Empower*

#### ***Recommended***

- Elden, Stuart. 2007. "Governmentality, calculation, territory." *Environment and Planning D*. 25:562-580.
- Ettlinger, Nancy. 2011. "Governmentality as epistemology." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 101:537-560.
- Piven, Frances F. and Cloward, Richard. 1971. *Regulating the Poor: The Functions of Public Welfare*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Raco, mike. 2003. "Governmentality, subject-building, and the discourses and practices of the UK." *Transactions of the Inst. Of British Geographers* 28:75-95.

#### ***Recommended***

- Callon, Michel. 2011. *Acting in an Uncertain World: An Essay on Technical Democracy*. Cambridge MIT Press.
- Lake, Robert. 2014. "Methods and moral inquiry." *Urban Geography* 35:657-668.

Latour, Bruno. 2004. "Why has critique run out of steam? From matters of fact to matters of concern. *Critical Inquiry* 30:225-248.

### **December 7. Summary**

Summary discussion

### **Other Readings You Might Find Helpful**

Becker, Howard. 1998. *Tricks of the Trade: How to Think About Your Research While You're Doing It*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Becker, Howard. 2007. *Writing for Social Scientists: How to Start and Finish Your Thesis, Book, or Article*. 2nd Ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.