

Bulletin

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Seminars and Events

Department of Sociology

22nd January:

Lecture Theatre, Manor Road Building. 1pm

Takehiko Kariya, University of Oxford

Transition to a post-catch-up modernity: the case of Japan'

Abstract: Japan is among just a few non-western countries to have experienced both 'catch-up' (with the West) and what might be called a 'post catch-up modernization'. Undergoing these two stages of distinct social transformation, Japanese society has encountered difficulties in making a smooth transition from catch-up to post-catch-up modernity. This is particularly clear in the field of education. In this paper, I place these Japanese experiences in a global context, and discuss what implications they have for sociological research on education as well as what theoretical contributions such a lens can contribute to recent debates on modernity across the social sciences.

I argue that the Japanese mind-set that was built up over the catch-up modernization period later greatly impacted the ways problems were socially constructed in education during the transition to the post-catch-up stage. In this respect, the Japanese experiences provide a rich example of the paradoxical results of successful catch-up modernization: an unintentional slide into failure in the envisaged transition towards post-catch-up modernity. Through analyzing these experiences, this paper will explicate and theorize a mechanism in which how misrecognition and misguidance are generated within the transition from catch-up to post-catch-up modernity.



Takehiko Kariya is Professor of Sociology in the Japanese Society. His research interests cover sociology of education; social stratification and social mobility; social changes of Postwar Japan; social and educational policies. His papers on the theme of the Seminar will appear as 'Meritocracy, Modernity, and the Completion of Catch-up: Problems and Paradoxes' in *Japanese Education in Global Age* (Yonezawa, A. et.al. eds., Springer, forthcoming), and 'Japan's post catch-up modernity: educational transformation and its unintended consequences' in *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Japan* (Takeda, H. and Williams, M. eds., Routledge, forthcoming).

Nuffield College Sociology Seminar

Clay Room, Nuffield College at 5.00pm

Wednesday 17th January

Democracy and Large-Scale Criminal Violence
The Politics of Drug Wars in Mexico

Guillermo Trejo
Associate Professor of Political Science
University of Notre Dame

[Background to the talk: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0010414017720703>]

Abstract: After a long period of peaceful coexistence, drug cartels went to war in Mexico as the country transitioned from one-party rule to multi-party democracy and drug violence skyrocketed in democracy. The death toll associated with Mexico's drug wars in the past ten years is six times greater than the median death toll of all civil wars in the second-half of the twentieth century. This talk will explore whether and why political change has fueled drug violence in Mexico. Drawing on original data on Mexico's drug wars covering 2,100 municipalities over the course of two decades, we will discuss results from panel and quasi-experimental models showing a strong association between electoral competition, partisan plurality, and the intensity of violence. Based on a theoretical reformulation of organized crime and on case studies, we will explain why political change created incentives for drug cartels to go to war and why over the course of war cartels have become de facto local rulers and subverted local democracy in an important swath of Mexico's territory.

Department of Social Policy and Intervention

Dr. Erzsébet Bukodi and Bastian Betthäuser are organising a discussion of the recent paper by John H. Goldthorpe on 'Sociology and Statistics in Britain: The Strange History of Social Mobility Research and its Latter-Day Consequences'. This discussion will take place next Tuesday, 23 January, 5pm in the George and Theresa Smith Room at the Department of Social Policy and Intervention (downstairs). We are very glad that John H. Goldthorpe will be joining us for the discussion of his paper.

We expect the discussion to be of particular interest to staff and students in the Department of Sociology.

Nuffield Seminars for Hilary term 2018

Sociology Seminar Series
Nuffield College, Clay Room, 5pm, Wednesdays, Hilary 2018
Weeks HT 2018
Organized by: John Ermisch and Federico Varese

Week 1 17/1
Professor Guillermo Trejo
University of Notre Dame
Democracy and Large-Scale Criminal Violence
The Politics of Drug Wars in Mexico

Week 2 Thursday 25/1
Professor Douglas Massey
Princeton University
NB: This seminar will be held on: Thursday 25th January, LLR, 5pm
America's Immigration Policy Fiasco

Week 3 31/1
Professor Hill Kulu
University of St Andrews

Week 4 7/2
Dr Anja Shortland
King's College London
The Role of Insurers in Governing Criminal Markets

Week 5 14/2
Dr Seán Columb
University of Liverpool
Controlling the Organ Trade: Legal Reform and Organized Crime
in Cairo, Egypt

Week 6 21/2
Julia Behrmann
Nuffield College

Week 7 28/2
Dr Liz Washbrook
University of Bristol

Week 8 7/3
Professor Amrita Dhillon
King's College London
Social Connections and Financial Incentives: A Quasi Field Experiment
in India's Manufacturing Sector

Acting President's Seminar, Wolfson College

What counts as evidence in the Social Sciences?

All are invited to this seminar with Professor Mark Casson (University of Reading) and Professor Marc Ventresca (Said Business School, Oxford) on Tuesday 16 January, 5.30-6.30 p.m. in the Haldane Room, Wolfson College.

Social scientists study phenomena in which people play a fundamental role: the economy, law, the internet, Brexit, and so on. People can generally do whatever they like, and so their behaviour is not governed by rules in the same way as the phenomena studied by physicists and chemists. Given this, what kinds of questions can social scientists answer, and how do they do it? Do different kinds of social scientists have different approaches to evidence, and if so how?

This week Oxford University Scientific Society is hosting Prof Fabrizio Schifano, an expert in novel psychoactive substances and legal highs.

"Recent Changes in Cognitive Enhancers and Drug Scenarios"

Given that, according to statistics, between 15% and 25% of Oxbridge students take or have at some point taken cognitive enhancers, it is becoming increasingly vital to have an informed conversation about their effects, risks and benefits. Professor Schifano, the Chair in Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the University of Hertfordshire, is an expert on drug abuse and novel psychoactive substances, having worked closely with the EU to address the issues of legal highs, cognitive enhancers and other grey area compounds often taken recreationally.

Wednesday 17th January, 18:30
Saskatchewan room, Exeter College

Join the debate! Talks are **free for members** or £2 on the door. Membership can be purchased on the night (£10 a year or £20 for life), and includes membership of Cambridge Uni Scientific Society. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Those interested in meeting the speaker for dinner after the talk may contact oxforduniscisoc@gmail.com to book a place.

Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

Please see below our seminars for week 1 of Hilary Term. For the full list of seminars this term, please see the attached term cards.

Wednesday 17th January

2:00pm The Business and Practice of Journalism Seminar, Speaker: Liz Corbin, editor, BBC Reality Check, 'Is it true? Why questions about the news are changing', E.P. Abraham Lecture Theatre, Green Templeton College

Friday 19th January

5:00pm Media and Politics Seminar, Speaker: Atte Jääskeläinen, Visiting fellow at RISJ and former Director of News and Current Affairs in Finnish Broadcasting Company Yle, 'Journalistic ethics in practice: The bright side, dark side and taboos', Butler Room, Nuffield College

**We would also like to confirm that we will be holding The Business and Practice of Journalism seminars in the E.P.

Friday, 19th January, 12.30pm

ESC Seminar. Co-sponsored by MFO, OxPo, LIEPP, CIS

[Identity and citizenship: a response to terrorism? Analysing how the French government responded to the 2015 attacks in Paris](#)

Speakers: Florence Faucher (Sciences Po, Centre d'études européennes, Paris) and Laurie Boussaguet (European University Institute, Florence)

Discussants: Sherine El Taraboulsi (DPIR) and Emilien Fargues (Sciences Po, Cevipof, Paris)

Chair: Kalypso Nicolaidis (St Antony's College)

Where: Manor Road Building (Manor Rd, Oxford OX1 3 UQ), Boardroom

Registration (recommended): nina.kruglikova@politics.ox.ac.uk

The paper is available from Nina Kruglikova [nina.kruglikova@politics.ox.ac.uk] by request.

The **Centre for Criminology** are hosting a talk by Dr Vanessa Barker, University of Stockholm on Thursday this week which we thought might be of interest to some of the members of your Centres and departments and we wondered if you could perhaps spread the word. Please find details below and many thanks in advance for your assistance.

Nordic Nationalism and Penal Order: Walling the Welfare State
Thursday 18 Jan 2018, 3:00pm, Wharton Room - All Souls College
Tea and coffee refreshments will be served from 2:30pm.

In late summer 2015, Sweden embarked on one of the largest self-described humanitarian efforts in its history, opening its borders to 163,000 asylum seekers fleeing the war in Syria. Six months later this massive effort was over. On January 4, 2016, Sweden closed its border with Denmark. This closure makes a startling reversal of Sweden's open borders to refugees and contravenes free movement in the Schengen Area, a founding principle of the European Union. What happened?

Vanessa Barker's new book develops the concept of penal nationalism to explain the use of penal power in response to mass mobility for nationalistic purposes, including state sovereignty, national identity and in the Swedish case, welfare state preservation.

Biography

Vanessa Barker is Docent and Associate Professor of Sociology at Stockholm University, Associate Director of Border Criminologies, and Visiting Professor at the University of Oslo. Her research focuses on questions of democracy and penal order, the welfare state and border control, the criminalization and penalization of migrants, and the role of civil society in penal reform. Her new book Nordic Nationalism and Penal Order: Walling the Welfare State examines the border closing in Sweden during the height of the refugee crisis and the rise of penal nationalism in response to mass mobility. She is the author of *The Politics of Punishing: How the Democratic Process Shapes the Way America Punishes Offenders*. She was recently a visiting academic at the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford, supported in part by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond sabbatical award, and previously a visiting fellow at the Law & Public Affairs Program (LAPA) at Princeton University. She serves on the Board of Trustees for the Law & Society Association, as Co-editor for the *Howard Journal of Crime & Justice*, as book review editor for *Punishment & Society*, and on the board of *Theoretical Criminology*. She studied and worked in the US before moving to Sweden.

On 14 March, CGIS and the **Centre for Global History** will be hosting a joint workshop, *Girls, Travel and Global Issues*, convened by Professor Kathryn Gleadle.

The event is free, but booking is essential

Girls, travel and global issues: multi-disciplinary perspectives

One-day workshop: Wednesday 14 March 2018
Seminar West, Garden Building, Mansfield College, Oxford

Q-Step Talks

'Perils of Political Polling' – Friday 9 February

Joe Twyman, Head of Political and Social Research at YouGov, will discuss the potential pitfalls facing political pollsters, from Brexit to Washington to Baghdad. The talk will take place in the Manor Road Lecture Theatre from 4 – 5 pm on Friday 9 February. Joe is one of the founders of YouGov, and an engaging and experienced political pollster. Tickets are free, but should be reserved in advance at <http://po.st/fNQbJk>

The Seminar Series at **the Institute of Population Ageing** this Term is on *Population Ageing in Countries that have experienced War, Revolution and Economic Transition*. This week on Thursday 18 January it will be a talk by Professor Christopher Davis from University of Oxford, on “*International Comparison of the Impacts of War, Revolution, and Economic Transition on the Elderly: China, Japan, Korea (North and South), and Russia*”. We convene in the Seminar Room (66 Banbury Road, OX2 6PR) at 2pm.

Christopher Mark Davis became a Professorial Research Fellow at OIPA in October 2016. His most recent article on ageing (2016) is entitled *The Changing Capabilities of Cohorts of the Elderly in Russia During 1990-2020: Measurement Using a Quantitative Index* (now under review by a journal). This examined the life experiences and characteristics at the age of 60 of the Russia births cohorts of 1930, 1935, 1940, 1950 and 1960. His initial new research for OIPA will make use of a similar quantitative methodology to carry out an international comparison of the changing capabilities of cohorts of the elderly during 1990-2010 in seven countries that have experienced major wars and economic crises since 1930: China, Germany, Japan, Russia, South Korea, UK and USA.

Professor Davis has been an academic at Oxford University for 25 years and has held the post of *Reader in Command and Transition Economies* in the Department of Economics and School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (Russian and East European Studies). Since 2013 he has been involved in two health-related research projects (also covering ageing topics) in Russia in the following positions: *Head of the Research Laboratory on the Economics of Health and Health Reform* at the *Russian Presidential Academy of the National Economy and Public Administration* in Moscow and *International Research Fellow* in the *Centre of Health Economics, Management and Policy (CHEMP)* at the *Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg*.

Information about the seminar series can be found here: <https://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk/events/view/341>

The series is posted on talks.ox.ac.uk in a collections “Seminars at the Institute of Population Ageing”

<https://talks.ox.ac.uk/user/lists/id/2bd382fc-7bb4-4b90-acea-68181f8a8c6b/>

All are welcome, no need to register to attend. Join us for coffee and cake afterwards.

For queries please contact: administrator@ageing.ox.ac.uk

For more information please see: www.ageing.ox.ac.uk or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

[PUBLIC SEMINAR SERIES | 5PM, WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY](#)

Refugee Study Centre

[The political predicament and agency of refugees](#)

Dr Ruvi Ziegler (University of Reading)

**Seminar Room 3, Oxford Department of International Development,
3 Mansfield Road, Oxford, OX1 3TB**

Seminar series convenor: Dr Lilian Tsourdi

About the seminar

The seminar is based on Ruvi's monograph, *Voting Rights of Refugees* (CUP, 2017). The book develops a novel legal argument about the voting rights of refugees recognised in the 1951 Geneva Convention. The main normative contention is that such refugees should have the right to vote in the political community where they reside, assuming that this community is a democracy and that its citizens have the right to vote. The book argues that recognised refugees are a special category of non-citizen residents: they are unable to participate in elections of their state of origin, do not enjoy its diplomatic protection and consular assistance abroad, and are unable or unwilling, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution, to return to it. Refugees deserve to have a place in the world, in the Arendtian sense, where their opinions are significant and their actions are effective. Their state of asylum is the only community in which there is any prospect of political participation on their part.

About the speaker

Dr Reuven (Ruvi) Ziegler is Associate Professor in International Refugee Law at the University of Reading, School of Law, where he Director of the Global LLM (postgraduate) programmes in Human Rights, International Law, and Advanced Legal Studies. He convenes the LLM modules

'International Refugee Law' and 'Israel/Palestine: International Law and Human Rights Issues', and contributes to teaching of 'International Humanitarian Law' and 'International Human Rights Law'. He also convenes the core undergraduate module 'Public Law 2' (administrative law and civil liberties).

Ruvi is an Academic Fellow of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple; Convenor of the Civil Liberties and Human Rights Section of the Society of Legal Scholars; Editor-in-Chief of the Refugee Law Initiative (Institute for Advance Legal Study, University of London) Working Paper Series; and a Researcher at the Israel Democracy Institute (analysing the treatment of asylum seekers in Israel as part of the Constitutional Principles project).

Ruvi holds DPhil, MPhil, and BCL degrees from the University of Oxford; LL.M. with specialisation in Public Law from Hebrew University; and a joint LLB and BA from the University of Haifa. Ruvi was called to the Israeli bar in 2003.

Light refreshments will be provided after the event.

Oxford University Chabad Society cordially invites you to a lecture by political scientist and NATO research analyst

Jozef Kosc

'Trump, One Year Later: Foreign Policy Assessment & Predictions'

Jozef Andrew Kosc is a DPhil student in International Development at Green Templeton College, Oxford. He serves as Senior Research Fellow at the Atlantic Council of the United Kingdom, served as a research fellow at NATO Council of Canada, worked at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Headquarters, and is frequently invited to NATO HQ to participate in foreign policy briefings. He has written for Foreign Affairs magazine and holds degrees from Oxford, and from the University of Toronto.

Tonight, Tuesday (week 1), 16 Jan, 8pm

Buffet reception 7pm

At Slager Jewish student centre, 61 George Street, Oxford, OX1 2BQ

RSVP for reception: info@oxfordchabad.org

All are welcome!

Conference/Call for abstracts/papers

Please find attached the CALL FOR PAPERS for The New School for Social Research's **Seventh Annual Radical Democracy Conference: *What is to be done?*** to be held in New York City on **April 27-28, 2018**.

Keynote speaker: Professor Martin Breugh (York University)

Deadline for abstract submission: February 15, 2018

The Department of Politics at The New School for Social Research is sponsoring its 7th Annual graduate student conference on the concept, history, practices and implications of radical democracy.

If the preconditions for the rise of the far-right, xenophobia, white supremacy, ethno-nationalism, right-wing populism, religious fundamentalism and fascism can be found within liberal democracy and neo-liberalism, laying bare the violent foundations of the liberal democratic project, then what hope can theories of radical democracy offer toward re-founding society on democratic principles? How have the rise of social movements such as Occupy, the Arab Spring, Rojava, Black Lives Matter, Standing Rock, 15M, AntiFa, and the emergence of left alternatives such as Podemos, MAS and Syriza both exposed the contradictions of institutionalism, capitalism, rule of law, deliberation and other aspects of liberal democracy, and also illuminated the need for radical democratic alternatives? How can we draw inspiration from movements of resistance and networks of solidarity from those being organized inside prisons and detention centers to those occurring from Ferguson to Palestine? How can radical democratic theories help us to (re)imagine strategies of resistance and beyond, opening up new prospects of what is to be done?

We invite abstracts and panel proposals that deal with these questions or other themes dealing with the implications or critiques of radical democracy in our current historical conjuncture. We welcome papers that engage with the myriad of radical democratic theories, from a historical perspective investigating its salience in the history of political thought to more contemporary formulations like Abensour, Brown, Castoriadis, Davis, García Linera, Laclau, Mouffe, Negri, Rancière and Wolin among others. Proposals should not be limited to this list, on the contrary, we are particularly interested in papers and panels utilizing or critiquing the concept of radical democracy itself from the point of view of feminism, post- anti- or de-colonialism, queer theory, indigenous studies, disability studies, critical race theory, or social movements.

Our keynote speaker is Martin Breugh, Associate Professor of Political Theory at York University (Toronto). His research focuses on the theory and practice of emancipatory politics and radical democracy. He is the author of *The Plebeian Experience. A Discontinuous History of Political Freedom* published in Paris in 2007 and translated in 2013 at Columbia University Press. He is also the author of the co-edited volume, *Thinking Radical Democracy: The Return to Politics in Post-war France*, published in 2015.

For individual paper proposals, please submit a one-page abstract (max. 300 words) that includes institutional affiliation, academic level and contact information. Complete panel proposals with up to four papers are strongly encouraged. Please submit your paper or panel abstracts by **February 15, 2018** to radicaldemocracy@newschool.edu. Selected participants will be notified early March. Full conference papers are due by April 15th, 2018.

Vacancies

Public Engagement and Knowledge Exchange Officer Department of Sociology, Manor Road Building

Grade 7: £31,076 - £38,183 per annum (pro rata)

The Department of Sociology has an exciting new opportunity for a Public Engagement and Knowledge Exchange Officer to work with the research group led by Prof Mills, which studies the social-environmental and genetic predictors of reproduction, infertility and social behaviour.

The specific role will focus on both: (1) knowledge exchange via broader public fertility awareness, together with civil society partners and patient groups, but primarily, (2) public engagement via a citizen science project aimed at inciting the general public to donate existing direct-to-consumer data or becoming genotyped to progress innovative research within this area of research. Working together with a New York-based company, civil society partners and the media, our aim is to reach the general public to incite citizen-science action related to fertility and infertility.

The successful candidate will be a key member of this research team, expected to undertake independent work and responsibility within the project. S/he will bring to this role skills in communications and advertising campaigns, demonstrable knowledge of Knowledge Exchange (KE), the ability to develop contacts and networks, skills and experience in communications methods and strategy, including regular communications in non-scientific formats.

The successful candidate will hold a University degree or equivalent, together with relevant experience. Excellent communications skills, with the ability to communicate research projects and aims and the ability to build networks and make connections between academic work and the wider world is also essential.

This post is part-time (0.8 FTE), for 12 months starting as soon as possible. It can also be full-time but for slightly shorter period. The working pattern can be discussed and mutually agreed upon successful appointment.

All applicants must complete a short application form and upload a CV and supporting statement. To apply for this role, please click on the 'Apply Now' button in the link below.

Only online applications received before 12.00 midday on Monday 29th January 2018 can be considered. Interviews are scheduled to take place on Thursday, 8th February 2018.

Please note that the University of Oxford's retirement policy has changed. With effect from 1 October 2017, all employees at Grade 8 and above have a retirement age of the 30 September before the 69th birthday. All employees at Grades 1-7 do not have a set retirement age. Further details are available here: www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening

Applications are invited for three full-time open-ended lectureships in sociology or related fields at UCL. The successful candidates will each lead two second or third year modules on the BSc Social Sciences and the BSc Social Sciences with Quantitative Methods and undertake research in their specialist areas. Additional duties will include: supervising undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations; the provision of pastoral care and support; leading seminar groups; setting and marking assessments; and the performance of various administrative tasks and roles.

We especially hope to appoint specialists in political sociology, economic sociology, social networks, game theory for the social sciences, and environment and climate change. Expertise in the sociology of nationalism and violence or the psychology of morality and emotions could also be an advantage.

For further info, see <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/BHA925/lecturer-in-social-science/>

Vacancy: Barnett Professorship of Social Policy, Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford

Applications are invited for the Barnett Professorship of Social Policy with effect from October 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. A non-stipendiary Fellowship at St Cross College is attached to this Professorship.

This post is a key Chair for the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, which is a world-leading centre of excellence for research and teaching in social policy and the development and evaluation of social interventions.

The successful candidate will make a major contribution to the leadership, research development and graduate teaching of the department. They will have an outstanding publication record and impact as well as a significant research profile in comparative social policy analysis and evaluation. They will contribute to teaching comparative social policy and supervising international postgraduate students in interdisciplinary masters and doctoral programmes. Social policy expertise of countries beyond Europe and North America would be particularly welcome.

The closing date for applications is 12.00 noon on Monday 12 February 2018.

Applications for this vacancy are to be made online. To apply for this role and for further details, including the job description and selection criteria, please click on the link below:

www.recruit.ox.ac.uk/pls/hrsiliverecruit/erq_jobspec_version_4.jobspec?p_id=132630

Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are

under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.

Vacancy ID : 132630

Further job opportunities at DSPI University of Oxford:

Please note that the Department together with St Antony's has also a job vacancy for an Associate Professorship of Comparative Social Policy with an earlier Deadline (2 February 2018):

www.recruit.ox.ac.uk/pls/hrsliverecruit/erq_jobspec_version_4.jobspec?p_id=132782

Opportunities & Information

Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods

2018 Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods will take place between 19-23 March at Brasenose College.

The Oxford Spring School offers graduate students and researchers from universities across the UK and abroad a unique venue to learn cutting-edge methods in Social Science. The Programme consists of a variety of advanced courses, which place different data analysis techniques within broader disciplinary trends towards mixed-methods research designs. Working with our world leading teachers and researchers in quantitative and qualitative methods, you will have the opportunity to choose the course subject options which suit you best.

This year, the OSS will feature courses on Spatial Analysis, Causal Inference, Forecasting, Fieldwork, Data Visualisation, and Process Tracing.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk/spring-school/oxford-spring-school-in-advanced-research-methods.html>

Please note that registration will close on **Sunday 21 January (midnight)**.

We've kicked off 2018 by re-opening enrollment for our **free online [course Transparent and Open Social Science Research](#)** and launching a [call for applications](#) for our upcoming **Research Transparency and Reproducibility Training (RT2) in Amsterdam!** As a friend of BITSS, we kindly ask for your help in communicating these announcements to anyone in your network who may be interested.

1. **January 8-February 11: "Transparent and Open Social Science Research"** is a self-paced Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) taught by BITSS Faculty Director and UC Berkeley Professor of Economics [Ted Miguel](#), BITSS Project Scientist [Garret Christensen](#), and BITSS Postdoc [Fernando Hoces de la Guardia](#). Hosted on FutureLearn, the course explores the causes of limited transparency and reproducibility in social science research and introduces learners to tools and practices to make their work more open and reproducible, including pre-registration, pre-analysis plans, and open data. [Enroll here!](#)

Questions about the MOOC can be sent to BITSS Snr. Program Associate Katie Hoerberling at khoerberling@berkeley.edu.

2. **April 4-6, Amsterdam, Netherlands:** Our second international [Research Transparency and Reproducibility Training \(RT2\)](#) will host 35-40 graduate students and research professionals from across social science disciplines. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss the reproducibility crisis, as well as get hands-on practice with cutting-edge tools to improve transparency and reproducibility throughout the research cycle – from design through implementation, dissemination and archiving. There are no tuition fees for this workshop and BITSS is able to provide some travel and accommodation support for selected participants who indicate need in their application. **Submit applications [here](#) by January 31, 2018.**

Questions about RT2 can be sent to BITSS Program Associate Aleks Bogdanoski at abogdanoski@berkeley.edu.

POLYGEIA IS RECRUITING!

We are a student-led global health think tank, giving students from top universities the opportunity to engage in research and policy making. Our teams work with Members of Parliament, policy makers, NGOs and Global Health researchers to conduct research on global health issues and suggest relevant policy improvements.

We are looking to recruit student volunteers to work as researchers and editors within the organisation for this calendar year. Researchers will form the majority of the project teams, with the position being open to anyone in Oxford with an interest in public health. Editors will each lead a project, and would preferably be postgraduate students or undergraduates with research experience. This will entail working on a research project from March to October, with the bulk of the research completed over the summer.

Projects can be commissioned or internally generated, with topics including migrant health, mental health, neglected tropical diseases, obesity and diabetes. To date, we have produced successful reports for both governmental and charitable organisations, with some of our work being published in peer reviewed journals. This year, we are excited to be working with organisations such as MSF, Simprints, Lepira and Medopad.

Researcher and editor positions for our 2018 projects are **NOW OPEN** on our website (<http://www.polygeia.com>). Our teams will receive a range of training from policy writing to project management, work together on a research paper, and present at our annual conference.

We welcome applications from all academic disciplines, which puts us at the forefront of shaping policy in healthcare. The deadline for applications is **Friday 26th January**. Interviews will then be held between **Saturday 27th January** and **Saturday 3rd February**.

For more details about Polygeia, and about the roles we are recruiting for, please visit: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1InQYCdBAqsfDkLp6_HBZK-VwdRLkuKyuvF37rUyxeyE/edit?usp=sharing

Dear DPhil applicants

For anyone who is applying for a Social Sciences DPhil in a migration-related field, you may be eligible to apply for an ESRC Migration Pathway Scholarship. This is an open competition available to UK or EU applicants only and the closing date for applications is **this Friday (19 January)**.

There is a separate application process in addition to your degree application which is outlined in the attached document, and you should email your application directly to me.

Please see attachment to this email

Kind regards

Andrea Smith

Postgraduate Courses Co-ordinator
Department of International Development
Queen Elizabeth House
3 Mansfield Road

IT Courses

[SharePoint: Introduction to its use at Oxford](#)

Learn how to use SharePoint 2013 for sharing information and working together in teams and communities. This course is for anyone interested in finding out what SharePoint is and how they might want to use it. The objectives of the session are:

- Create subsites and navigation
- Be able to change the look of the page
- Create lists and libraries and add custom columns
- Up and download documents to libraries
- Create Views
- Create/Edit Blog and Categories
- Access your “My Site” in SharePoint

Staff £20/Students £10

23/01/2018 - 09:15-11:15

[Book and pay](#)

or

08/03/2018 - 10:15-12:15

[Book and pay](#)

[Documents: Start to finish](#)

Flaky word-processing skills will hold you back in any working environment, whether within the University or more widely. The IT Learning Centre’s “[Documents: Start To Finish](#)” will equip you to design and manage complex documents efficiently. By using your word-processor skilfully, you will save yourself time and avoid frustration.

In one intensive event, over a day and a half, you will progress from “just muddling through” to taking full advantage of the range of power tools and advanced features that will make a real difference.

[Read the full course description](#)

Staff £90/Students £45

24/01/2018 (13:00-16:00) and 25/01/2018 (09:15-16:15)

[Book and pay](#)

or

21/03/2018 (09:15-16:15) and 22/03/2018 (09:15-12:15)

[Book and pay](#)

If you have colleagues who have just started to get to grips with using computers and applications in their roles, then this session will be useful for them. It introduces Single Sign On (SSO) and some of the services it gives access to.

Beginners IT: Making the most of single sign on

25/01/2018 - 14:00-16:00

Free

[Book](#)

Databases: Concepts of database design - *For those who need to create a new database or revise an existing structure*

This workshop takes you through a good relational database design, from concept to application. Before even starting to build, it is essential to work out a design which properly models your project. The workshop includes plenty of worked examples and practice activities. The workshop does not use any particular software, so it will help you create a well-designed database structure which you can build later using the database software of your choice.

Objectives

- Understand what a database is
- Understand what is meant by a relational database
- Know the steps in designing a database
- Understand how joins work
- Explore a workflow for database design
- Practice devising workable designs for database scenarios

No previous experience of database design or building is required. No software knowledge is required.

Staff £30/Students £15

24/01/2018 - 09:15-12:15

[Book and pay](#)

or

29/01/2018 - 09:15-12:15

[Book and pay](#)

Once you have attended this course you may want to consider attending one of our follow-on courses including: "[Databases: Building a database](#)"; "[Databases: User-friendly database design](#)"; "[Databases: Queries and data analysis](#)

do: is back again this term! It's a long-running series of free lunchtime talks that highlight the use of IT technology in support of business systems and processes in the University. These popular talks are given by staff from around the University, so come along and find out what's happening. You can read more about do: on our [blog](#).

do: Trails, tours and technology in the University's museums

25/01/2018 - 12:30-13:30

This is a combined talk about some of the recent projects undertaken by staff at GLAM (the University's Gardens, Libraries and Museums), using technology to make the collections more accessible to more diverse audiences and disabled visitors. The Joint Museums Education Service has been working with the RNIB to introduce tours for blind and partially sighted people and help them engage with objects through audio description; the Pitt Rivers Museum is inviting volunteers to write new interpretations of its collections via a new app platform (<http://oxfordstories.ox.ac.uk>); and finally, Out in Oxford, is the University's first cross-collections trail and GLAM's first LGBTQ+ project (www.glam.ox.ac.uk/outinoxford), which is available in both paper and - soon - digital form.

Book

do: From innovation challenge to spinout - Inkpath

01/02/2018 - 12:30-13:30

Inkpath is a skills development app developed at Oxford. It started as an IT Innovation Seed Fund project, and has now become an Oxford spinout company after raising venture capital and angel investment. This talk, delivered by the Founder and CTO of Inkpath (and former Oxford Humanities Division Training Officer and Wadham College Research Associate), will tell the story of Inkpath's technical development and the challenges and opportunities that come with commercialisation.

Book

do: Why is Easter early this year? An Excel adventure in dates & times

08/02/2018 - 12:30-13:30

This talk is for anybody who uses dates and times in their Excel work. We will explore functions, formulas and formats that are under-appreciated, or even hidden.

Book

do: How to hold a brilliant meeting

15/02/2018 - 12:30-13:30

This session will look at aspects of meetings people often overlook when planning and running them. The presentation will draw on the speaker's extensive experience of convening and chairing meetings in academic administration and IT as well as outside work in situations such as local government and school governance. We'll travel the journey right through initial planning, pre-meetings, agenda, running the meeting, accessibility, environment, technology, chairing styles, minutes and follow-up. The session goal is to enable participants to achieve greater meeting efficiency and focus, and to maximise value derived from the time and effort put into their meetings.

Book

do: More than a walk in the park - a database for hikers and walkers

20/02/2018 - 12:30-13:30

This lunchtime talk will look at how Microsoft Access can be used to create a simple but highly effective database to solve a practical need - in this example for planning and recording hill walking routes. The focus is not just on storing the data correctly, but also presenting it well so it feels like a bespoke application.

[Book](#)

do: Transforming absence management with TeamSeer

13/03/2018 - 12:30-13:30

Medical Sciences Division IT Services is part of Medical Sciences Divisional Office and it led a venture into Team Seer for MSD Office with its 20 staff. The MSD HR team added the other 80 later in 2017. This talk explores why we chose to move to TeamSeer, how we approached the change and how we implemented it. We'll share some good moments and some gotchas and will talk about our experiences of support from aCloud, the supplier of TeamSeer. We will share some benefits that we've already realised and will make time for a Q&A session after we have presented.

[Book](#)

do: Working securely on the move

15/03/2018 - 12:30-13:30

The days of the 9 to 5 desk job are long gone. These days, our office could be pretty much anywhere in the world. Whether you're working from home, getting through some work on the train, or rushing a deadline while travelling to exotic locations, you still need to protect your data and devices. We will cover top tips on working securely and protecting your mobile devices on the go, covering a variety to themes from using wi-fi hotpots and public machines, to information safety when travelling abroad.

[Book](#)