

Bulletin

Weekly notices

PLANNED INDUSTRIAL ACTION WILL OCCUR BETWEEN 22ND FEBRUARY AND 16TH MARCH, WHICH MAY AFFECT THE ADVERTISED EVENTS

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Seminars and Events

Nuffield College Sociology Seminar

Clay Room, Nuffield College at 5.00pm

Wednesday 7th March February

Social Connections and Financial Incentives: A Quasi Field Experiment in India's Manufacturing Sector

Professor Amrita Dhillon
King's College London

(Joint work with Farzana Afridi, Sherry Xin Li and Swati Sharma)

Abstract: Production processes are often organised in teams, yet there is limited evidence on whether and how social connections and financial incentives affect workers' and teams' productivity in tasks that require coordination among co-workers. We conduct a lab-in-the-field experiment in India's manufacturing industry in which workers exert real effort in a minimum-effort coordination game in teams whose members are either socially connected or unconnected, based on their caste, and are paid according to the group output. We find that workers are able to coordinate on higher output levels if they are socially connected with their co-workers. In addition, we find that increasing the power of financial incentives does not reduce the positive effect of social connections- to the contrary, we find that workers respond more to high powered incentives, such as a group based bonus when they work with co-workers with whom they are socially connected, relative to when they are unconnected and as opposed to bonus framed as a loss. Overall, our results underline the importance of social connections with co-workers in determining productivity in the work place.

Due to continuing UCU strike action, this week's **COMPAS Seminar** – *Provocations for Future Research, Practice, and Engagement* with Sarah Spencer, Tony McEnery and Paul Cairney (due to take place on 8 March, 2pm) – has been cancelled.

The Disability Advisory Service is running the following study skills session next week:

Planning and Organisation

This 90 minute workshop aims to provide practical advice on how to manage your work, your time and yourself.

Date: Thursday 8 March at 3pm – 4:30pm

Venue: Taylor Institution, St Giles OX1 3NA

There are plenty of (free) tickets left and the event can be booked via the following Eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/planning-and-organisation-workshop-tickets-43164698776>

Do feel free to circulate this link to your students.

Students who are unable to attend can request a recording of the session by emailing disability@admin.ox.ac.uk

Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

Wednesday 7th March

2:00pm The Business and Practice of Journalism Seminar, Speaker: Lucas Graves, senior research fellow, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, 'The "King of Whoppers" and political fact checking in the 2016 US presidential race', E.P. Abraham Lecture Theatre, Green Templeton College

Refugee Studies Centre

PUBLIC SEMINAR SERIES | 5PM, WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH

No country of asylum: 'legitimizing' Lebanon's rejection of the 1951 Refugee Convention

Professor Maja Janmyr (University of Oslo)

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

Seminar series convenor: Dr Lilian Tsourdi

About the seminar

How do States 'legitimize' their non-ratification of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees? This talk will examine the case of Lebanon, a country frequently hailed by the international community for its generosity towards refugees, and currently hosting the highest number of refugees in the world in proportion to its population size. While Lebanon engaged actively in the establishment of the international refugee regime, it has long insisted that it is not a country of asylum and steadfastly rejects ratification of the major refugee law instruments. Based on field research in Lebanon, the talk will explore four main

arguments as to why Lebanon continues to resist ratification of the 1951 Refugee Convention and its Protocol.

About the speaker

Maja Janmyr is Professor of International Migration Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Oslo. Her research interests are broadly in the fields of international migration law and socio-legal approaches to international law, with a particular focus on the Middle East. Janmyr holds a PhD in International Law from the University of Bergen in Norway, and is also an affiliated scholar at the American University of Beirut. Janmyr has published widely on a range of refugee law issues, including the book *Protecting Civilians in Refugee Camps: Unwilling and Unable States*, UNHCR and International Responsibility (Brill, 2014).

Light refreshments will be provided after the event.

Institute of Population Ageing

The last seminar in the Formal Seminar Series HT2018 on “*Population Ageing in countries that have experienced war, revolution and economic transition*” this Thursday 8 March is a talk by Professor Asghar Zaidi from the University of Southampton and London School of Economics who will be speaking about “*The role of population policies in addressing ageing in the BRICS countries*”. The talk will take place in the [Institute of Population Ageing, 66 Banbury Road, OX2 6PR](#). We are convening in Seminar Room, [2pm](#).

Information about the seminar series can be found here:

<https://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk/events/view/345>

The series is posted on talks.ox.ac.uk in a collection “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.

Upcoming conference **Is Religious Freedom Under Threat? Transatlantic Perspectives**. The conference will take place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 23-25 May 2018 in the Sir Michael Dummett Lecture Theatre, Christ Church, Oxford (formerly the Blue Boar Lecture Theatre).

We have invited a distinguished group of leading academics and legal practitioners to discuss a wide array of topics, including the historical backdrop to contemporary debates on freedom of religion and conscience, the distinction between religious and conscientious belief, perceived tensions between freedom of religion and rights to equal treatment, and the contested place of religious establishment.

The conference will open with the McDonald Distinguished Scholar Lecture by **Mary Ann Glendon**, Learned Hand Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and former United States Ambassador to the Holy See. Professor Glendon will deliver her lecture in the Sir Michael Dummett Lecture Theatre at Christ Church at 5pm on Wednesday 23 May.

A second McDonald Distinguished Scholar Lecture will be delivered by **Sir John Laws**, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, Privy Counsellor, and Honorary Fellow of Robinson College, Cambridge. He will deliver his lecture in the Sir Michael Dummett Lecture Theatre at Christ Church at 5:30pm on Thursday 24 May.

We very much hope you are able to join us for what promises to be a highly absorbing conference on a theme of vital importance for contemporary society.

To register for the conference please click [here](#).

Conference/Call for abstracts/papers

Modern Slavery, Environmental Destruction and Climate Change: A Scoping Workshop

Wednesday, June 6, 2018, 9:30 AM 5:30 PM

Room 1-0311 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3RF ([map](#))

In this [exploratory workshop](#) our aim is to interrogate how environmental change, manifested as climate change, resource depletion or ecological catastrophe, is interlinked with the rise of precarious, informal work across much of the Global South today.

Building on research which documents a longer history of such work in these regions, this workshop aims to address how a newly evolving context of climatic and environmental *vulnerability* is deepening forms of insecurity for labour. It particularly looks to the emergence/ resilience of bonded labour, or other forms of 'modern-day slavery', as a result of this, as well as the role that insecure/precarious labour plays in *perpetuating* global environmental destruction and the climate crisis.

Abstracts are welcome on, but not limited to, the following themes:

- Shifting labour conditions, labour control and labour regimes and environmental change;
- Labour in global production networks and environmental change;
- Labour mobilities driven by environmental change;
- Agrarian/ industrial labour relations as having been shaped/ driven by environmental change;
- Insecurity, vulnerability and risk among labour, shaped by environmental change;
- Labour agency and strategy in the face of environmental change;
- Bonded labour, trafficked labour and other forms of 'modern-day slavery' shaped by environmental change;
- Labour policy/ regulation as a response to environmental concerns.

The workshop will begin to address the evidence gap surrounding this nexus by inviting an inter-disciplinary set of speakers and participants to join us for the day-long workshop. There has also been interest from an academic publisher in turning the workshop into an edited book, and we are also looking into the possibility of putting together a Special Issue from what emerges.

The scoping workshop is organised by the [Department of Geography, Royal Holloway University of London](#) in collaboration with the [Rights Lab](#) at the University of Nottingham. It builds on cross-institutional interests identified in active projects led by the two universities.

The Department of Geography, Royal Holloway of London is currently undertaking research funded by the [ESRC-DFID Poverty Alleviation programme](#) (September 2017-February 2019) entitled '[Blood Bricks: Examining the Climate Change-Modern Slavery Nexus in the Cambodian Construction Industry](#)'. The primary objective of this study is to better understand the dynamic interaction between climate change, different axes of structural inequality (e.g. gender, age), and vulnerability to trafficking into modern slavery.

The Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham is home to the world's leading modern slavery experts who are delivering the world's first large-scale research agenda for ending slavery. The Rights Lab's challenge-led approach fuses cutting-edge research with real world application. The Lab is working with governments and NGOs to achieve a Freedom Dividend: the global benefits of ending slavery for economies, rights, health, peace and the environment. It is the latter that underpins the theme of this workshop.

The workshop is supported by the [Office of the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner](#) (IASC).

Our call for papers seeks cutting-edge research which explores environment-induced modern slavery and/or modern slavery-induced environmental destruction and climate change. We are also cognisant of their 'deadly dance' (Bales, 2016) in ways that transcend this binary distinction. We are delighted that Professor of Contemporary Slavery, [Kevin Bales](#) CMG, will present a keynote at the workshop.

Please submit abstracts and short bios to [Professor Katherine Brickell](#) (katherine.brickell@rhul.ac.uk) by the deadline of March 16th 2018.

Call for Abstracts: St Antony's Graduate Research Conference, deadline March 19, 2018

St Antony's GCR Academic Team invites abstract submissions from graduate students in social sciences and humanities for our university-wide interdisciplinary graduate research conference, "Societies in Transition: Changing Structures, Changing Lives." The event will take place at St Antony's College on Monday, April 30, 2018.

Please see the attached Call for Abstracts for details. An abstract of up to 300 words, in a word document, should be sent to gradconference@sant.ox.ac.uk by 11:59pm on March 19, 2018. We encourage all students to apply. Please do not hesitate to contact the St Antony's Academic Team if you have any questions. We look forward to your submissions!

St Antony's GCR Academic Team

The Transregional Center for Democratic Studies (TCDS) at the New School for Social Research is happy to announce that [Full Program Information](#) as well as [applications](#) are now available for our 27th annual *Democracy & Diversity* Graduate Institute to be held at The New School summer campus in Wroclaw, Poland, July 6-22, 2018! This year's Institute will be themed Shifting Ground: The Politics of Fiction & Reality Today. If you are interested in applying, have question about fees, credits, etc., or would like to discuss the program in more detail, please email us at tcds@newschool.edu with questions or to set up an appointment with one of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you and we hope you will join us in Wroclaw this summer!

**27th Democracy & Diversity Graduate Summer Institute
Wrocław [Vrots-love], Poland July 6-22, 2018**

Widely admired as an intimate international forum for lively but rigorous debate on critical issues of democratic life, the D&D Institute brings an interdisciplinary, comparative, and highly interactive approach to the social, political, and cultural challenges facing today's world. This year we are particularly proud to have among our faculty Professor **Agnes Heller**, one of the most distinguished thinkers of our time.

For all New School applicants, the application deadline is March 25, 2018.

For all other applicants, the application deadline is April 2, 2018.

For Application Instructions and Full Program Information including full course descriptions click [here!](#)

To Download an Application Form click [here!](#)

For more information, please visit our website: <http://blogs.newschool.edu/tcds> or contact us by e-mail at tcds@newschool.edu or by phone at (212) 229-5580

Vacancies

Understanding Society Policy Fellowship

You may have seen that we are advertising policy fellowships for researchers using Understanding Society data:

<https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/2018/02/20/understanding-society-policy-fellowships>

Opportunities & Information

Are you interested in attending events related to heritage, or learning about current research projects in the University?

We are establishing a Heritage Research Network and are looking for student input to determine the type of events we should provide. The [survey](#) will take less than 5 minutes to complete and will allow us to contact you about future opportunities and events.

Have you been impressed by a member of staff or a student who has used technology in an exciting way? Have you created a great app, or designed an eye-catching conference poster or data visualisation?

Each year we give OxTALENT awards to staff and students who have been innovative and talented in their use of technology to enhance teaching and learning, research, and outreach.

This year we are inviting entries from both students and staff in:

- Innovative teaching and learning with technology
- Outreach and widening participation
- Public engagement
- Digital media
- Data visualisation
- Research posters

The awards will be presented at a red carpet evening attended by Professor Martin Williams, Pro-VC (Education).

The competition is open to all students and staff, and awards can be given either to individuals or to groups. You can submit an entry yourself or nominate a colleague who has impressed you with their use of technology. For more information, including a list of competition categories and guidelines on how to enter, please visit the Digital Education at Oxford website: <https://www.digitaleducation.ox.ac.uk/>

If you spot any individual or team whom you think we should consider for an award, let us know at competitions@it.ox.ac.uk

Keep up to date on Twitter by following the hashtag #oxtalent2018

OxTALENT closing date: Friday 27th April.

Sent on behalf of the Oxtalent Organising Committee by the IT Learning Centre Team

Merton College, Oxford invites applications for a Visiting Research Fellowship in the Creative Arts Applications are invited in the fields of contemporary visual art for the academic year 2018-19

The principal goal of this new scheme is to create synergies between the creative arts and academia and promote the College as a centre for artistic research and innovation. The holder of the Fellowship, which is open both to early-career and established candidates, will be expected to undertake a sustained period of intensive work in their field while also participating fully in College life and exploring ways to communicate their work to all members of the College community: fellows, staff, students, and alumni.

The Fellowship can be held for any period between two months and one year, the timescale being determined by the needs of the proposed project. The College will provide meals and accommodation and a stipend of up to £1870 per month, with additional provision for expenses involving research, travel, and materials up to a maximum of £250 per month. The Stipend will be subject to tax and National Insurance and would be pensionable.

Further details may be found on the College website. Applications, including a full CV, an account of the proposed project and a statement of how the candidate's work might relate to, and benefit from, association with Merton College, should be sent to The Sub-Warden's Secretary, Merton College, Oxford, OX1 4JD by Friday 6 April. Merton College is an equal opportunities employer.

Information from the Bodleian Library

The newsletter is also available on the Bodleian website at <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/about/librarian> with a direct link

at: https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/247574/Hilary_Newsletter_BodleianLibraries_022018.pdf

Applications for the Training Better Leaders Course are now open!

TBL is a three day intensive course focused on sustainability principles and practices open to all students across the University. It is currently the largest practice-based course on sustainability leadership in the University of Oxford. Last year we had students from 25 departments across the university attend talks, panel discussions, and workshops from over 20 facilitators. Find out more about [last year's programme](#).

This year we already have many speakers confirmed including from BBC, The Nature Conservancy, The Global Water Leaders Group, Climate Outreach, 2degrees and more.

Students who attend the course will receive a certification from the Environmental Change Institute.

To apply please [click here](#), and fill in the form. Spaces will be awarded based on merit and we will also aim to select students from a diversity of departments and backgrounds.

Places are very limited so we encourage you to book as early as possible. Early bird tickets will cost £12.50, and regular tickets cost £15.

[Apply to TBL](#)

[Find out more about TBL](#)

[Get on the mailinglist](#)

IT Courses

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](#)

21/03/18 (09:15-16:15) and 22/03/18 (09:15-12:15)

Staff £90/Students £45

[Book and pay](#)

Video: Producing a mini-documentary

It is very easy to create a digital video - yes, seriously, the technology is very easy to use. What is challenging is creating a digital video that people are willing to watch! This three-day, intensive, documentary film-making course leads you through the full process, with a focus on the creative aspects. Space is limited so that participants get all the guidance they need - you will need to wrap up warmly though, as it is very hands-on and location work can be chilly!

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn another way to share your research with your peers and sponsors.

06/03/18, 07/03/18 and 08/03/18 (09:15-16:15 each day)

Staff £180/Students £90

[Book and pay](#)

C++: A comprehensive introduction

07/03/18 and 08/03/18 (both sessions 09:15-17:15)

Staff £140/Students £70

C++ is one of the most popular and powerful programming languages. This two-day course introduces you to the important elements of the language, taking you to a point where you will have the skills needed to write your own simple but useful programs, and make modifications to existing programs. Although delivered using Microsoft Visual C++, the skills are applicable to all C++ development environments.

Intended Audience

Anyone who wants an introduction to object-oriented programming (OOP)

Format

Presentation with practical exercises

Taught Using

Windows; Microsoft Visual C++

What you will need

Computer and software are provided. There is limited space for any device you use for note-taking.

[Book and pay](#)

Databases: Inheriting a database

09/03/18 09:15-11:15

Finding your way around a database that other people have built, and perhaps adapting it for a new project, can be daunting. This workshop takes you through the process of exploring and understanding a working database. You will learn how to re-organise the data and set up new, more relevant analyses.

Objectives

- Investigate tables and their fields
- Understand joins
- Add and remove data
- Import and link data
- Build simple queries for data analysis
- Explore user-friendly design

Staff £20/Students £10

[Book and pay](#)

Prezi in Oxford - The essentials

09/03/18 14:00-17:00

Staff £30/Students £15

Learn how to create compelling Prezi presentations using Prezi's newly updated software 'Prezi Next'. Discover how to tell your story using the new templates and themes. We will look at the new Prezi Next interface and learn the importance of an Educational Prezi account. There will be a chance to do basic editing, adding content including logos, images, PDFs and animation. We will also explore different options of presenting with Prezi Next.

[Book and pay](#)