



DESCRIPTION OF IPS 2024 WINTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

1ST WEEK - 1ST-5TH JULY

COURSE: Introduction of IPS: Concepts and methods. Jef Huysmans e João P. Nogueira.

The course will present and examine conceptual and methodological tools of doing International Political Sociology (IPS). It proposes an international political sociology that fractures the social and political through focusing on practices of connecting and becoming. Instead of understanding worlds through dialectics of fragmentation and integration and order and its limits, the module develops concepts and methodologies that focus on transversal relations and immanent creativity. The course is structured around the main intellectual lineages of IPS and will also emphasize the analytical strategies of the field through the discussion of specific processes and phenomena that characterize the research agenda of IPS.

COURSE: Beyond the Reparative Turn in IR: Affect, Aesthetics, Storytelling. Ritu Vij

This course introduces students to an emergent literature in disciplinary International Relations on the reparative turn. A principal claim of this turn is that it acutely captures questions of affect and its mobilization in aesthetic figurations of trauma, loss and survivance under conditions of late capitalist colonial modernity normally absent in mainstream discourse. The course seeks to uncover the disavowal of the “affective force of the economy” in aesthetic archives of the international and its constitutive role in both anchoring the reparative turn in IR and marking its limits. Building on a set of inter-disciplinary texts on the concept of repair, the class will collaborate to develop close critical readings of a work of postcolonial fiction, a selection of ‘Slum’ Art (from Dharavi, Mumbai), and images and video clips from the Architectural Biennale (Venice, 2023).

WORKSHOP: International Publishing - Kyle Grayson



In this workshop participants will receive an in-depth account of how an international publication in IR works. They will discuss how to prepare and submit an article to an international journal, how to deal with reviews, how to go about revisions, among other aspects of the editing process. In more general terms, the participants will be able to engage in the different ways in which to develop publishing strategies at different stages of their academic careers. The aim is to maximise the space for attendees to exercise agency in turning their own research into publications. There are many different approaches that one can take to pursuing publication. As such, we will discuss the why, where, when, and how of (international) publishing, developing a publications strategy, the things that people don't tell you when you are starting out in your academic career, and how the peer review process is run at *International Political Sociology*. Plenty of time will be left for questions at the end of the session.

WORKSHOP: Crafting Articles and Papers - Kyle Grayson

In this workshop, we will continue to explore the pragmatics of international publishing with a focus on crafting articles and papers for publication. The aim is to enable attendees to understand the field and the opportunities to leverage resources that are available to us. We will be looking at some titles, abstracts, and time permitting, articles, examining their structure and effectiveness as forms of scholarly communication. We will also focus on styles of writing and the differences between the plurality of intellectual cultures.

MENTORING - Jef Huysmans, Ritu Vij, Kyle Grayson, João Nogueira, Roberto Yamato.

Individual meetings with the School's teaching staff to discuss research projects, publications, professional and training strategies, funding opportunities and other issues of interest to the participants.



2ND WEEK - 8TH-12TH JULY.

COURSE: Modernity and Discrimination (Modernidade e Discriminação) - Paulo Chamon, Victor Lage, Lara Selis.

This course explores the relation between discrimination and modernity as a central dimension in the making of the international, as well as in the contemporary rearticulation of its demarcations of inside/outside, pointing out the contribution of this modality of analysis to international political sociology. In order to advance that, we propose three interconnected sets of problematizations. The first discusses how the nature/culture, human/non-human and barbarism/civilization divides are entangled and sustain foundational concepts of the modern international – such as sovereignty, anarchy, property, wealth, and development. This discussion leads to a second set, when the relation between those concepts and divides is thought in light of different interpretations of the notion of discrimination and the forms of relationality underlying them. Finally, in dialogue with recent theoretical debates, the third set explores the contribution of concepts seeking to apprehend contemporary rearticulations of the inside/outside of the modern international – in particular, necropolitics, debility, and precarity. With this last movement, we reinforce the relevance of a modality of analysis in international political sociology that is attentive to how practices of discrimination constantly reconfigure the relation between the divides and concepts that will have been approached in the first moment of the course

COURSE: Diplomatic Fictions: Genres, Epistles, and the Fictions of Diplomacy - Sam Opondo.

Beginning with a critique of ethnological reason and its place in the composition, mediation, and destruction of diplomatic worlds, this seminar offers an extended meditation on the fictions of diplomacy and the diplomatic fictions that animate our ideas of humanity, community, immunity, the home, the body, and more-than-human beings. Through a reading of epistolary literature (e.g. Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*) alongside a series of letters and philosophical texts on letters, the seminar explores the spectral and intimate character of diplomatic letters as well as the words,

worlds, and forms of knowledge and relations they authorize. Among other things, we examine the relationship between epistolary forms, the horrors and honorifics that accompany some fictive letter writing practices, and the fragments and frames of recognition that animate them. The seminar is also an invitation to take seriously the significance of ‘avowed and unavowed fictions’ (Rancière 2016) and the politics of genre as we explore imaginative and speculative diplomatic worlds, *amateur* positions and dispositions, and the postal effect of ‘diplomatic’ letters. We will also use the letter form to think critically about the conventions of writing and diplomatic thought as well as the possibilities of a pluralized amateur diplomacy and its related ethics of encounter, co-habitation, and composition.

WORKSHOP - The Governmentality of Populism - Hannah Richter.

This workshop utilises Continental philosophy to analyse the specific sites and struggles, and the transnationally shared dynamics, of a right-wing political resurgence that heavily draws on misinformation, conspiracy theories and blatant lies. Much existing work on the post-truth populist conjuncture examines either post-factual content itself, its digital distribution or its mobilisation by political leaders. This workshop instead interrogates its appeal for the political subject. We will explore the role that enjoyment, as theorised by Jacques Lacan, plays in creating the post-truth populist lure. In Lacan, enjoyment is the motor of a subjective striving that seeks, but must always fail, to repair the subject’s epistemic severance from the Real. The political expression of resentment, thought with Friedrich Nietzsche, will be unpacked as held in motion by an economy of lacking enjoyment, which renders passive vengefulness an appealing political position. But more importantly, under uncertain conditions where the rationalist demand of knowledge-seeking is difficult to fulfil, post-truth populist politics sanctions the enjoyment of lacking knowledge. The workshop will further draw on Michel Foucault’s writings on pastoral power, governmentality and resistance to analyse the peculiar mirroring of left-wing narratives and strategies that marks the new right. We will discuss whether and how both Foucauldian resistance and Nietzschean critique leave room for reactionary ‘slippage’, and examine Max Scheler as Nietzsche’s conservative double to this end. On this basis, we will reflect on whether the resistant subject can be understood as the evolution of the free subject that keeps liberal governmentality in motion.



FINAL SEMINAR: This activity, which closes the IPS Winter School, consists of one or more discussion tables, organized by the participants, reflecting on issues raised over the two weeks and their intersection with each other's perspectives and research.