Critical Sociology: Current Issues and Future Challenges

An international Conference June 23-25, 2014

Goethe University Frankfurt | Department of Social Sciences

Since its beginnings in the 19th century, sociology has always played a critical role in providing conceptual tools and empirical insights for analyzing and assessing societal processes and structures. One of the most important locations of an explicitly critical sociology in the 20th century was Frankfurt University, which has remained associated with the historical tradition of the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory. The university’s centennial provides a major opportunity for a reconsideration of this legacy and reflection on current issues and on the future prospects of a critical sociology.

The international conference “Critical Sociology: Current Issues and Future Challenges” brings together leading scholars from around the globe. It is organized around four panels that cover essential problem spaces and important future directions for critical inquiry. The conference aims to encourage a dialogue on the possible futures of critical sociology. It assesses its analytical potentials in the light of current contestations and forms of hegemony, and reflects on the ambitions and capacity of the field to intervene in and transform social practices and to invest in political projects.

Coordination
Prof. Dr. Birgit Blättel-Mink, Dr. Alexandra Rau, PD Dr. Stephan Voswinkel

Coordination team:
Prof. Dr. Susanne Bauer; Dr. Sidonia Blättler; Dr. Sabine Flick; Prof. Dr. Rolf Haubl; Dr. Torsten Heinemann; Dr. Marion Keller; Prof. Dr. Kira Kosnick; Prof. Dr. Thomas Lemeke; Dr. Susanne Martin; Prof. Dr. Sighard Neckel; Dr. Eva Sänger; Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Sutterlüty; Sarah Schmitz; Hannes Riskamp

Getting there
For guests there is the possibility to park their cars on campus, though registration is required. Access the parking lots via Hansaallee and Fürstenbergerstraße.

From the Main Station take the S-Bahn lines 1 – 6 / 8 / 9 to “Hauptwache”, then take the metro lines 1 / 2 / 3 to “Holzhauseistraße” then walk to the campus (10 minutes). Or take the S-Bahn lines 1 – 6 / 8 to “Konstablerwache” then take the bus line 36 (direction Westbahnhof) to “Unicampus Westend”.

The bus line 75 connects the campus Bockenheim (U4) with the Westend Campus (stops “Bockenheimer Warte” and “Uni Campus Westend”).

The bus line 64 leaving from the Main Station (southern side) respectively “Alte Oper” goes up to “Bremer Platz”.

From the airport take S-Bahn lines 8/9 to Main Station / „Hauptwache”.

No conference fee will be charged.
Registration online: www.fb03.uni-frankfurt.de/49673137/
Critical-Sociology---International-Conference
Contact: critical.sociology@uni-frankfurt.de

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PROGRAMM

Monday, June 23rd 2014

12:00 Welcome Address

12:15 Introduction Critical Sociology in Frankfurt

13:00 Juliet Schor (Boston College)
Inequality and the Climate Crisis

14:00 François Dubet (Univ. de Bordeaux)
Pourquoi acceptons-nous le développement des inégalités?

15:00 Coffee Break

15:30 Loïc Wacquant (Univ. of California-Berkeley)
Revisiting Relegation: Class, Ethnicity and State in the Making of Urban Marginality

16:30 Sighard Neckel und Ferdinand Sutterlüty
Critical Comments and Open Discussion

18:00 Catherine Waldby (Univ. of Sydney)
Production and Reproduction in the Bioeconomy

19:00 Evening Reception

Tuesday, June 24th 2014

09:30 John Law (The Open University)
Chakrabarty’s Problem: Social Science and Its Ontological Others

10:30 Joan Fujimura (Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison)
An Unintended Consequence of Big Biology: How Genomics is Being Used to Reproduce U.S. Race Categories

11:30 Susanne Bauer und Thomas Lemke
Critical Comments and Open Discussion

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Mary Mallor (Univ. of Northumbria)
The Humanity-Nature Nexus: A Materialist Ecofeminist Critique

15:00 Serge Latouche (Univ. Bordeaux)
Construire l’Avenir, Avant ou Après l’Effondrement

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30 Fred Steward (Univ. of Westminster)
Sociology of Transformation: Innovation and the Transition to Sustainability

17:30 Birgit Blättel-Mink und Thomas Jahn
Critical Comments and Open Discussion

Wednesday, June 25th 2014

09:30 Serge Paugam (EHESP, Paris)
Employment Precarity, Social Desintegration and New Inequalities in Twenty-first Century Capitalism

10:30 Paul Thompson (Univ. of Strathclyde)
Capitalism at Work: Connections, Disconnections and Misapprehensions

11:30 Snack Break

12:00 Klaus Dörre (Univ. Jena)
Work as a Permanent Test? New Forms of Exploitation in Modern Capitalism

13:00 Alexandra Rau und Stephan Voswinkel
Critical Comments and Open Discussion

14:30 Farewell Address