



Call for papers: Research workshop for early career scholars

February 28, 2019 -- The Open University, Raanana

Materiality, Imaginaries and Subjectivities: Economy and Culture in Sociological Research

Guest Keynote Speaker: Professor Jens Beckert

Co-sponsored by the “Culture and Consumption” and “Sociology of the Economy” sections of the Israeli Sociological Society

Conventional thinking tends to see the economy and culture as two disconnected fields of social action. In contrast, contemporary sociological research focuses on the complex interrelations between the two fields and their mutual embeddedness. For instance, sociologists of the economy explore the role of meanings, imaginaries and devices in the formation and dynamics of economic preferences, economic action and institutions. Likewise, sociologists of culture examine the nuanced ways in which subjectivities, collective identities and cultural representations are intertwined with institutional logics and practices originating from the economic field.

The current conditions of neoliberalization and financialization introduce new complexities to the interrelations between culture and the economy. Reconfiguring materialities, technologies of valuation, imaginaries of society and of time, and subjectivities, the significance of these new complexities for social life cannot be exaggerated. The culture/economy intersections therefore call for a more meaningful dialogue between the sociologies of culture and of the economy. Such a dialogue seeks to promote theoretical thinking and research on the variegated modes of mutual embeddedness between the two.

We invite graduate students, recent PhDs and early career scholars that work on culture/economy intersections to submit paper proposals for the workshop.

The workshop's goal is to provide young sociologists with the opportunity to present a work in progress (such as a journal article, a dissertation chapter, etc.) and discuss their work with the workshop's participants, both early career and more established scholars.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- Neoliberalism as culture and discourse
- Financialization, financial culture and subjectivities
- Notions and tropes of 'futures' in economic action
- Collective meanings and social imaginaries in the building of markets and other economic institutions
- Economic logics and practices in the cultural industries
- Production and circulation of cultural commodities
- Formation, valuation and accumulation of cultural and economic capitals
- Quantified selves
- Affective labour

Please note: The participants shall submit a full draft of their paper in advance for distribution among the other participants, and are required to participate throughout the workshop.

Guest Keynote Speaker: Professor Jens Beckert

Professor Beckert is the Director of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne and a Professor of Sociology at Cologne University. He is a leading scholar in the field of economic sociology whose work has made a significant contribution to the study of economic action and institutions and the modalities of their cultural and political embeddedness. In his most recent authored book, **Imagined Futures: Fictional Expectations and Capitalist Dynamics** (Harvard University Press, 2016), he analyzes the constitutive role of imaginaries of possible and probable futures in the formation and dynamics of economic action and institutions.

Timetable:

Submission of paper abstracts (250 words, in English): **December 1, 2018**

Notification of acceptance: **December 10, 2018**

Submission of full draft: **February 10, 2018**

Abstracts and papers to be submitted by email to workshop.openu.2019@gmail.com

The Organizing Committee:

Galit Ailon, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, Bar-Ilan University

Dana Kaplan, Dept. of Sociology, Political Science and Communication, The Open University of Israel

Zeev Rosenhek, Dept. of Sociology, Political Science and Communication, The Open University of Israel