

## Politics, Philosophy and International Thought Research Group

### Programme of Events 2011-12

Conveners: Carolin Kalfoten [cak4@aber.ac.uk](mailto:cak4@aber.ac.uk), Reetta Vaahtoranta [rmv7@aber.ac.uk](mailto:rmv7@aber.ac.uk),  
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The programme for fall/spring 2011-2012 comprises sessions on 'Philosophies of Time and Future'. The follow-up series in the summer term 2012 will be on 'Philosophies of Space and Place'.

#### October

26<sup>th</sup>

Special meeting with Professor Heikki Patomäki discussing his paper "On the Complexities of Time and Temporality: Implications for World History and Global Futures", *Australian Journal of Politics and History*, 2011.

#### November

9<sup>th</sup>

Nietzsche, Friedrich W.

#### **Readings:**

Nietzsche, F. 'Of the Vision and the Riddle' in *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, various editions  
Nietzsche, F. 'At Noontide' in *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, various editions  
Nietzsche, F. 'On the uses and disadvantages of history of life' in *Untimely Meditations*, sections one and two, various editions.

#### **Secondary Literature:**

Moles, A. 1990. "Temporality", in *Nietzsche's Philosophy of Nature and Cosmology*. New York: Peter Lang, Chapter 7, pp. 223.

30<sup>th</sup>

Kojeve, A. 1969. "A Note on Eternity, Time, and the Concept", in *Introduction to the Reading of Hegel*. London: Basic Books.

Kojeve's writings have been among the most influential in shaping how we receive Hegel today, and Kojeve develops the most explicitly temporal interpretation of Hegel's philosophy.

## February

1<sup>st</sup>

Series of readings from and about the work of Frankfurt School Theorist Walter Benjamin. Benjamin's messianic theory of time & redemption sits between Marxism and Jewish theology, and is of interest both as a seminal contribution to debates on the nature of modernity and for its relevance to contemporary discussions about law, community, and philosophy of history.

29<sup>th</sup>

The first two readings are short pieces of Agamben's own writing, where he talks about the philosophy of time in relation to Adorno, Benjamin and Heidegger:

Agamben, G. "Time and History: Critique of the Instant and the Continuum", in *Infancy and History: Essays on the Destruction of Experience*. London: Verso.

Agamben, "Language and Death: The Place of Negativity", in *Excursus 7*. Minneapolis: Minnesota University Press, pp. 99-107.

The final reading is a more general piece on Agamben's thought for those of us who are less familiar with his work.

Kalyvas, A. (2005), "The Sovereign Weaver: Beyond the Camp" in *Politics, Metaphysics and Death* edited by Andrew Norris Durham. London: Duke University Press, pp. 107-134.

## March

28<sup>th</sup>

This session is on the first chapter of Michael Shapiro's book, *The Time of the City*. This is a lively, insightful, and provocative discussion of the philosophy of time and leads neatly in to the 'Philosophies of Space and Place' sessions of the next term. Shapiro uses a staggering array of cinematic and textual sources to comment on the aesthetic and micropolitical spaces that are often missed by contemporary discourses of politics.

## May

2<sup>nd</sup>

Nancy, J. 2007. "Urbi et Orbi", in *The Creation of the World or Globalization*, New York: State University of New York Press.