

Seminars

Departmental Seminars

Seminars are held on **Thursdays from 4.30 to 6.00pm in Seminar Room 2**, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Free School Lane, Cambridge. There is tea beforehand from 4pm in Seminar Room 1.

Organised by Helen Curry.

- 17 January ***Eighth Cambridge Wellcome Lecture in the History of Medicine***
Maaïke van der Lugt (Université Paris Diderot – Paris 7 / Institut Universitaire de France)
Generatio: medieval debates about procreation, heredity and ‘bioethics’
- 24 January **Patricia Fara (HPS and Clare College, Cambridge)**
Poet of progress: serendipity and the search for Erasmus Darwin
- 31 January **Tim Button (Philosophy, Cambridge)**
What pluralism could be and might do
- 7 February **Jonathan Birch (HPS, Cambridge)**
Selection and maximization
- 14 February **Michael Edwards (Jesus College) and Richard Serjeantson (Trinity College)**
New light on Descartes’s philosophical starting-point: an unknown manuscript of the *Rules for the Direction of the Mind*
- 21 February **Nick Jardine (HPS, Cambridge)**
Kepler’s Temple of Urania in the light of Hebenstreit’s Idyll
- 28 February **David Leith (Classics, Cambridge)**
Herophilus of Chalcedon on the soul and the nervous system
- 7 March **Francis Neary (HPS, Cambridge)**
Charles Darwin and the margins between flora and fauna in the 1870s: the case of insectivorous plants

Seminar Programmes are sent out at the start of every term to the names on our mailing list. Please contact the Department if you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list, or if you change your address.

Seminar information is also available at www.hps.cam.ac.uk/seminars

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Abstracts

17 January *Eighth Cambridge Wellcome Lecture in the History of Medicine*
**Maaïke van der Lugt (Université Paris Diderot – Paris 7 / Institut
Universitaire de France)**

Generatio: medieval debates about procreation, heredity and ‘bioethics’

In medieval debates, the idea that the mixture of substances provided by parents determines the appearance and sex of the child coexisted, without contradiction, with the conviction that environmental and behavioural factors also play an important part. Even though the scholastics invented the concept of hereditary disease, distinctions now common between heredity and development, between the acquired and the inherited, had only limited relevance. *Generatio*, not heredity, was the central concept. *Generatio* wasn’t just the stuff of scholastic speculation. As is the case today, debates about the mechanism of conception, the nature of the substances involved, and the development of the seed into a viable human being had larger moral, legal and practical significance. Several of these issues will be addressed in the lecture: whether abortion must be equated with murder, the treatment reserved for ‘monstrous’ births, and the extent to which there was room, within the medieval concept of *generatio*, for eugenics.

Discussion led by Maaïke van der Lugt:

The invention of hereditary disease in medieval medicine

Thursday 17 January at 11.30am in Seminar Room 1 – all welcome

The concept of hereditary disease – which would play a crucial role in modern debates about heredity – is a medieval creation. Taking their cue from Arabic medical treatises, scholastic physicians forged the concept of hereditary disease by transferring the traditional, legal sense of the adjective (related to the transmission of goods) to the biological realm. However, Western physicians went beyond their sources. They developed legal analogies, defined the types of illnesses that are passed on by heredity, and proposed various causal patterns to account for them. The most articulate medieval discussions, which explicitly distinguish between the hereditary and the congenital, date from around 1320. Hereditary disease remained, nevertheless, relatively marginal in later medieval medicine, especially compared to debates about plague; the latter not only challenged dominant theories of disease, like hereditary disease, but also constituted an urgent threat for whole populations.

24 January **Patricia Fara (HPS and Clare College, Cambridge)**

Poet of progress: serendipity and the search for Erasmus Darwin

A champion of Enlightenment progress, Erasmus Darwin also became a target of abuse. Energetic and sociable, this corpulent teetotaler ran a successful medical practice, was a Fellow of the Royal Society and a key member of the Lunar Society. Famous for his long poems on plants, technology and evolution, Darwin envisaged a progressive universe that is fuelled by sexual energy and governed by natural laws rather than directly by God. I relate him to two contemporary poets, Richard Payne Knight and William Jones, who were also committed to the notion of progress but are now better known as (respectively) a theorist of landscape and a pioneer of linguistics. Through considering the satirical poem ‘The Loves of the Triangles’ (1798), I interpret Darwin as a more significant political figurehead than historians have hitherto recognised. Focussing on this aspect of his influence suggests a fresh interpretation of the Lunar Society as a forum for social reform as much as for industrial innovation.

31 January **Tim Button (Philosophy, Cambridge)**

What pluralism could be and might do

Plenty of philosophers of science now explicitly advocate some form of *pluralism*. Sometimes this is a *methodological* pluralism: we should consider lots of different problems, and tackle them using many different approaches and theoretical frameworks. That sounds good. But sometimes this is *ontological pluralism*: what exists is (somehow) relative to our approaches and frameworks. This is sometimes invoked to debunk various metaphysical projects, which are presumed to have framework-independent ambitions. I have good news and bad news for ontological pluralists with such motivations. The bad news is that ontological pluralism is incoherent. The good news is that there is a coherent form of pluralism that will do just as well at debunking metaphysics.

7 February **Jonathan Birch (HPS, Cambridge)**

Selection and maximization

The notion that evolution by natural selection is a process of fitness-maximization gets a bad press in population genetics, and understandably so. Yet in other areas of biology, the view that organisms behave as if maximizing their fitness (or, in cases of social behaviour, their inclusive fitness) remains widespread. In a series of recent papers, the Oxford geneticist Alan Grafen has sought to reconcile population genetics with fitness-maximization through a research programme he terms 'Formal Darwinism'. In this paper, I explain and criticize this attempted rapprochement.

14 February **Michael Edwards (Jesus College) and Richard Serjeantson (Trinity College)**

New light on Descartes's philosophical starting-point: an unknown manuscript of the *Rules for the Direction of the Mind*

The discovery of a hitherto entirely unknown manuscript of an early draft of René Descartes's first philosophical work, the *Regulae ad directionem ingenii*, places us in an unparalleled position to reassess the intellectual starting-point of the most important philosopher of the 17th century. This paper will introduce the new manuscript before going on to consider its significance for our understanding of Descartes's earliest views on method, on the contribution of mathematics to philosophy, and on the nature of the mind.

21 February **Nick Jardine (HPS, Cambridge)**

Kepler's Temple of Urania in the light of Hebenstreit's Idyll

The frontispiece of Kepler's *Tabulae rudolphinae* (1627) shows a temple of Urania (the muse of astronomy), liberally equipped with astronomers ancient and modern, goddesses, diagrams, inscriptions, and coins scattered from the beak of the Imperial eagle hovering above. It is accompanied by a 458 hexameter explanatory *Idyllion* by Johann Baptist Hebenstreit (Rector of the Ulm gymnasium). The frontispiece has attracted extensive attention in the secondary literature, the poem much less, perhaps because it is difficult and elaborate. After saying a little about what is known of the circumstances of production of the image and poem, I shall consider the ways in which Hebenstreit handles the main themes of the image: the progress of astronomy through the ages, the roles of instruments and observations, the battle of the world systems, and the production of the *Tabulae rudolphinae* under Imperial patronage. I shall also speculate on the significances of certain notable omissions and apparent misrepresentations. This talk is based on the work of a team including also Elisabeth Leedham-Green, Christopher Lewis and Isla Fay.

28 February **David Leith (Classics, Cambridge)**

Herophilus of Chalcedon on the soul and the nervous system

Herophilus of Chalcedon, working in Alexandria in the early 3rd century BC, is probably best known for his discovery of the nervous system, that is, for his anatomical isolation of the nerves as a distinct structure within the body, and his recognition of their function in mediating sensation and voluntary motion. In antiquity, his research was taken by many, including Galen, to have established the brain as the seat of the so-called *hegemonikon*, or ruling part of the soul. Yet it has often seemed surprising to historians, or at least regrettable, that the dominant Hellenistic philosophical schools failed to take account of this major advance made by Herophilus, given that the Epicureans, Stoics and Aristotelians stubbornly continued to regard the heart, or chest, as the central organ of the soul. This paper will argue that in fact Herophilus' own claims as to the brain's importance were much more limited than is usually assumed, and that the primarily Aristotelian framework within which he approached the question of the soul's functioning led him to a more complex view, one that preserved an important role for the heart.

7 March **Francis Neary (HPS, Cambridge)**

Charles Darwin and the margins between flora and fauna in the 1870s: the case of insectivorous plants

On a prolonged summer holiday to the boggy Sussex hollows in 1860, Darwin stumbled across insect-eating sundews. His kitchen experiments (stimulating, heating, poisoning, and cutting them) became a distraction from his writing and letters, and his daughter Henrietta's illness. He was free to let these macabre experiments dictate future problems to solve, becoming fascinated by their animal-like responses, and how they caught and digested prey. The project was shelved until the early 1870s, when he began to investigate a broader range of species of insectivorous plant that trapped, drowned, poisoned, smothered, anaesthetised, and glued their victims. As he grappled with his ignorance of 'vegetable physiology', Darwin sought help from prominent physiologists and chemists working on animal topics, including John Burdon Sanderson, Michael Foster, Emanuel Klein, Thomas Lauder Brunton, and Edward Frankland. He persuaded usual suspects like Hooker, Gray and Thiselton-Dyer to work with him on his new passion. The resulting specialist monograph sold less than 3,000 copies in Darwin's lifetime, and has been largely ignored by Darwin scholars. Yet it is important in showing how Darwin's later work was far from parochial in the cutting-edge scientific ideas that it mobilised, the networks of scientists that it galvanised, and the philosophical questions of the boundaries between plant and animal, and the evolution of 'nervous matter', that it addressed.

Cabinet of Natural History

This research seminar is concerned with all aspects of the history of natural history and the field and environmental sciences. Seminars are held on **Mondays at 1pm in Seminar Room 1**. You are welcome to bring your lunch with you. Organised by James Hall.

- 21 January **Michael Bycroft (HPS, Cambridge)**
Cabinet physics in 18th-century France: the case of the Iceland spar, 1710–1788
- 28 January **Paul White (Darwin Correspondence Project)**
Vivisection by storytelling: the experimental novel in the late 19th century
- 4 February **Anne Secord (Darwin Correspondence Project)**
‘The man with the detective eye’: observation in Gilbert White’s *Natural History of Selborne* (1789)
- 11 February **Marie-Françoise Besnier (HPS, Cambridge)**
When the archaeologists are searching for a legend: the (re-)invention of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon
- 18 February **Pratik Chakrabarti (University of Kent)**
Romanticism, aesthetics and violence in natural history
- 25 February **Lesley Steinitz (History, Cambridge)**
Beefing up science: British Bovril, bulging biceps and nutrition science
- 4 March **David Feller (HPS, Cambridge)**
The natural history of the Chihuahua: canine mythology and the science of breeding
- 11 March **Jesse Olszynko-Gryn (HPS, Cambridge)**
Harvesting toads in South Africa for pregnancy testing in Britain

Twentieth Century Think Tank

The Twentieth Century Think Tank (TCTT) offers broad coverage of 20th- and 21st-century topics in the history, philosophy and sociology of science, technology and medicine. The regular programme of papers and discussions takes place on Thursday (fortnightly) over lunch.

Meetings are held **every other Thursday at 1pm in Seminar Room 1**. All welcome!

Organised by Helen Curry.

- 24 January **Anne Hanley (History, Cambridge)**
The training and practice of English medical professionals in ophthalmia neonatorum, c. 1900–13
- 7 February **Anders Ekstrom (Uppsala University)**
The fall of Johnstown: exhibiting disasters at the turn of the 20th century
- 21 February **Rachel Rothschild (Yale University)**
Scientific uncertainty and ‘sufficient knowledge’: the development of a European-wide research programme on acid rain
- 7 March **Martin Theaker (History, Cambridge)**
Atomic energy and Britain’s position in the world, 1954–56

History of Medicine Seminars

Seminars are on **Tuesdays from 5.00 to 6.30pm in Seminar Room 1**. Tea and biscuits are available from 4.40pm. All welcome!

Early medicine seminars are organised by Peter Jones and Hannah Newton; modern medicine by Salim Al-Gailani and Helen Curry.

22 January **Elma Brenner (Wellcome Library)**

Mental illness and cognitive impairment in central and late medieval Normandy: attitudes and responses

5 February **Carsten Timmermann (University of Manchester)**

Coping with recalcitrance: futility, frustration and failure in the history of cancer research

19 February **Alun Withey (University of Exeter)**

Mapping the medical marketplace: early modern Welsh practitioners and medical retail

5 March **Lara Marks (King's College London)**

From benchside to clinic: the rise of monoclonal antibodies in healthcare

Generation to Reproduction Seminars

These seminars, on **Tuesdays from 5.00 to 6.30pm in Seminar Room 1**, are funded by our Wellcome Trust strategic award in the history of medicine (www.reproduction.group.cam.ac.uk). Tea and biscuits are available from 4.40pm. All welcome!

Organised by Rebecca Flemming, Nick Hopwood and Lauren Kassell.

12 February **Emma-Jayne Graham (Open University)**

Moulded like wax, modelled in clay: votive offerings, swaddling and the making of infants in Hellenistic Italy

12 March **Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck, University of London)**

Labour pains: historical reflections from 1760 to the present

Generation to Reproduction Reading Group

This group discusses pre-circulated papers, classics as well as our own work, in the area of our Wellcome Trust strategic award in the history of medicine (www.reproduction.group.cam.ac.uk). We also hold work-in-progress sessions.

This term's meeting will be at 5.00–7.00pm (tea from 4.50) on **Tuesday 29 January in Seminar Room 1**.

Things: Early Modern Material Cultures

The seminar meets **alternate Tuesdays, 12.30–2.30pm in the Seminar Room, Alison Richard Building, West Road**. A light lunch will be provided. Organised by Katy Barrett, Sophie Waring and others.

Further information at www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/page/1036/things-material-cultures-.htm

- 22 January **Luisa Calè (Birkbeck, University of London) and Adam Smyth (Birkbeck, University of London)**
Altered things
- 5 February **Simon Schaffer (HPS, Cambridge) and Anna Maerker (King's College London)**
Model things
- 19 February **Jane Wildgoose (Kingston University and Keeper of The Wildgoose Memorial Library) and Mary Brooks (Durham University)**
Re-materialising things
- 5 March **Cordula van Wyhe (University of York) and Desmond Shawe-Taylor (Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures)**
Royal things

Field Notes: Histories of Archaeology and Anthropology

The seminar meets **alternate Thursdays, 1.30–3.30pm in the Seminar Room, Alison Richard Building, West Road** unless stated otherwise. Organised by William Carruthers and others. Further information at www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/page/1113/field-notes.htm

- 17 January **Kate Nichols (CRASSH, Cambridge)**
Discussant: **Brian Murray (CRASSH, Cambridge)**
Race: Greek sculpture and 'stuffed natives' at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham: defining the classical body in 1850s London
- 31 January **Oliver Hochadel (Institució Milà i Fontanals, CSIC, Barcelona)**
Discussant (TBC): **Robert Foley (Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies, Cambridge)**
Science and nationalism: Atapuerca, the making of a magic mountain: human origins research and national identity in contemporary Spain
Venue: B16, Faculty of Law
- 14 February **Pamela Smith (McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge)**
Professionalism: spaces of intellectual exchange at Cambridge over the last 100 years
- 28 February **Chris Evans (Cambridge Archaeological Unit)**
Regimentation: proof, discipline and military influence in 19th-century archaeology
- 14 March **Amara Thornton (UCL)**
Discussant: **Eleanor Robson (HPS, Cambridge)**
Gender: in the field: relations and relationships in the history of archaeology
1.00pm in GR06/07, Faculty of English

CamPoS

CamPoS (Cambridge Philosophy of Science) is a network of academics and students working in the philosophy of science in various parts of Cambridge, including the Department of History and Philosophy of Science and the Faculty of Philosophy. For further details of the composition and activities of CamPoS, see www.camposgroup.org. The Wednesday afternoon seminar series features current research by CamPoS members as well as visitors to Cambridge and scholars based in nearby institutions. If you are interested in presenting in the series, please contact Vashka dos Remedios. If you have any queries or suggestions for other activities that CamPoS could undertake, please contact Huw Price, Jeremy Butterfield or Hasok Chang.

Seminars are held on **Wednesdays, 1.00–2.30pm in Seminar Room 2.**

- 23 January **Charlotte Werndl (LSE)**
The problem of double-counting evidence illustrated by climate science
- 30 January TBC
- 6 February **Emma Tobin (UCL)**
Domain specificity in protein classification: a problem for monism
- 13 February **Adrian Boutel (HPS, Cambridge)**
Winchgenstein and functional explanation
- 20 February **Katharina Kraus (HPS, Cambridge)**
Does psychological knowledge presuppose self-knowledge? A Kantian perspective
- 27 February **Brian Pitts (University of Notre Dame)**
Real change happens in general relativity, even in Hamiltonian form
- 6 March **Christopher Clarke (HPS, Cambridge)**
How autonomous are social scientific explanations?
- 13 March **Stephen John (HPS, Cambridge)**
The social epistemology of the International Panel on Climate Change

Graduate workshops

HPS History Workshop

Need help writing a tricky part of your argument, converting a PhD chapter into an article, or simply getting fresh ideas and references? The History Workshop is an informal setting to discuss your written works-in-progress on any area of the history of science, medicine and technology, and get feedback from your early-career colleagues. A draft chapter, article, or conference paper will be circulated by email before each meeting. We'll then discuss it together over tea and biscuits at **5pm on alternate Wednesdays in Seminar Room 1**.

Contact Michael Bycroft or Francis Neary if you are interested in sharing your work in this forum.

30 January **Sean Dyde (HPS, Cambridge)**
Common sense and phrenology

13 February **Scott Anthony (History, Cambridge)**
Governing for happiness: Mark Abrams, the Central Statistical Office and the development of subjective social indicators

27 February **Dmitriy Myelnikov (HPS, Cambridge)**
The meanings of a breakthrough: categories, news and priority in the making of transgenic mice

13 March **Tim Rogan (History, Cambridge)**
Varieties of tacit knowledge

HPS Philosophy Workshop

Would you like to get feedback on your work-in-progress in a friendly and supportive atmosphere? Texts will be circulated one week in advance and discussed over tea and biscuits in **Seminar Room 1 on alternate Wednesdays, 5–6pm**. Share a draft of your MPhil essay, PhD chapter, potential article, or any research-in-progress in the philosophy of science, broadly construed.

Organised by Vashka dos Remedios and Toby Bryant.

23 January **Rune Nyrup (HPS, Cambridge)**
More models, more problems?

Date TBC **Minwoo Seo (HPS, Cambridge)**
Scientific discovery and Wittgenstein's hinges

20 February **Katherina Kinzel (University of Vienna)**
Theory ladenness and narrative in the history of science: (how) can historical evidence support philosophical arguments?

6 March **Zina Ward (HPS, Cambridge)**
TBC

Graduate Training

Training workshops for the Department's graduate students and postdoctoral researchers are held throughout the academic year. Most, but not all, are on **Fridays at 1pm**. The full programme is at www.hps.cam.ac.uk/students/training.

Reading and discussion groups

Nature and Culture Reading Group

This term we will be reading key texts on various foundational issues within anthropology concerning the definition of and study of culture. In particular we aim to bring the evolutionary themes we explored in last term's reading group into closer contact with anthropological concerns. To get access to photocopies of the texts you can email Beth Hannon (emh57).

This new group is supported by Tim Lewens's SCINAT ERC Grant. All are welcome, including those sceptical of the cultural evolutionary project. In addition to philosophers and historians of science we also hope to attract researchers from the biological sciences, psychology and all branches of archaeology and anthropology.

Meetings will take place on **Fridays, 2–3pm in the Lodge Seminar Room**. For further information contact Beth Hannon or Tim Lewens.

18 January Culture naturalized?

Dan Sperber, *Explaining Culture* (1996) 'How to be a true materialist in Anthropology' 9–31

25 January Culture as an organic whole?

Bronislaw Malinowski, *Argonauts of the Western Pacific* (1922) 'Introduction' 1–20

Section 1–3 from Mark Risjord 'Ethnography and Culture' 399–410 in Stephen Turner and Mark Risjord (eds) *Philosophy of Anthropology and Sociology* (2007)

1 February Actors' vs analysts' categories

Marvin Harris (1976) 'History and significance of the emic/etic distinction', *Annual Review of Anthropology* 5:329–350

Section 4 from Mark Risjord 'Ethnography and Culture' 410–413 in Stephen Turner and Mark Risjord (eds) *Philosophy of Anthropology and Sociology* (2007)

8 February Culture as a text?

Clifford Geertz, *The Interpretation of Cultures* (1973) 'Thick Description' 1–32

Section 5 from Mark Risjord 'Ethnography and Culture' 413–416 in Stephen Turner and Mark Risjord (eds) *Philosophy of Anthropology and Sociology* (2007)

15 February Contemporary culture

Marilyn Strathern 'The Relation' (1995)

22 February Culture naturalized or relativized?

Alex Mesoudi 'A Cultural Species' in *Cultural Evolution: How Darwinian theory can explain human culture* (2011) 1–24

Section 6 from Mark Risjord 'Ethnography and Culture' 416–421 in Stephen Turner and Mark Risjord (eds) *Philosophy of Anthropology and Sociology* (2007)

1 March Culture evolution biology

Alex Mesoudi 'Evolutionary Ethnography: Cultural Evolution in the Field' in *Cultural Evolution: How Darwinian theory can explain human culture* (2011) 161–176

Franz Boas excerpt (248ff) from 'The aims of anthropological research', *Race, Language and Culture* (1948) 243–259

8 March Culture and theory

Patrick Baert (2006a) 'Social Theory and the Social Sciences' in G. Delanty (ed.) *Handbook of Contemporary European Social Theory* (London: Routledge) 14–24; or

Patrick Baert (2006b) 'The Relationship between Social Theory and Empirical Research', *The International Journal of the Humanities* vol 3, nr 8, 265–276

Calculating People: A History and Philosophy of Social Science Reading Group

This term's programme is on late 20th century economics with a spotlight on approaches that integrate history and philosophy of science. We begin with *Age of Fracture* (Daniel T. Rodgers, 2011, New York: Harvard University Press), an intellectual history of the past 40 years that speaks of a loss of collective understandings of the social. We read *Error in Economics* (Julian Reiss, 2008, New York: Routledge), for a taste of the latest discussions on evidence-based policy. Most of the term's sessions will be devoted to *The World in the Model* (Mary S. Morgan, 2012, New York: Cambridge University Press), where we will find a history of modelling practices in economics.

Meetings take place on **Thursdays, 2.00–3.30pm in Seminar Room 1** and are organised by Tiago Mata and Anna Alexandrova.

- 17 January Rodgers, Prologue and chap. 2 – The Rediscovery of the Market
- 24 January Reiss, chap. 2 – Methodology and Expert Judgement in Evidence-Based Economics: Lessons from the CPI Controversy
- 31 January Morgan, chap. 1 – Modelling as a Method of Enquiry
- 7 February Morgan, chap. 4 – Character Making: Ideal Types, Idealization, and the Art of Caricature
- 14 February Morgan, chap. 5 – Metaphors and Analogies: Choosing the World of the Model
- 21 February Morgan, chap. 6 – Questions and Stories: Capturing the Heart of Matters
- 28 February Morgan, chap. 9 – Model Situations, Typical Cases, and Exemplary Narratives
- 7 March Morgan, chap. 10 – From the World in the Model to the Model in the World
Mary Morgan will join us to discuss her book.

Kant Reading Group

Unity as Regulative Idea

The topic in Lent Term will be the 'Unity as Regulative Idea'. We will read primary source from the *Critique of Pure Reason* (1781/7) and the *Critique of Judgment* (1790) as well as a selection of secondary readings. In the first part of the term, we will discuss the idea of the unity of nature, which guides our scientific enquiry in the striving for systematicity of knowledge. In the second part, we will deal with the ideas of unity of consciousness and unity of reason, which – complementary to the unity of nature – guide our experience of ourselves as human beings and as moral agents. The exact reading list will be finalized in the first week of Lent Term.

Meetings are held in the **Lodge Seminar Room, 3.30–5.00pm on Tuesdays**. They begin with a short presentation and are followed by general discussion. All are most welcome. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katharina Kraus.

Kant, Immanuel (1781/7, 1998) (CpR) *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. and ed. P. Guyer and A.W. Wood, Cambridge: CUP.

Kant, Immanuel (1790, 2000) (CJ) *Critique of the Power of Judgment*, trans. and ed. P. Guyer and A.W. Wood, Cambridge: CUP.

Science and Literature Reading Group

Linguistics and Philology

We meet fortnightly on **Mondays from 7.30 to 9pm in the Godwin Room in Clare College (Old Court)**. Some readings are available online: follow the links at www.hps.cam.ac.uk/seminars. Copies of the harder-to-obtain items will be placed in our box file in the Whipple Library.

Organised by Liz Smith (Darwin Correspondence Project), Esther Momcilovic (HPS) and Daniel Friesner (Science Museum). All welcome!

- 28 January E.M. Itard, *An Historical Account of the Discovery and Education of A Savage Man, or of The First Developments, Physical and Moral, of The Young Savage, caught in the woods near Aveyron, in the year 1798*. London: 1802.
- 11 February Émile Littré, ‘Comment j’ ai fait mon dictionnaire de la langue française; causerie’, in *Études et glanures pour faire suite à l’histoire de la langue française* (1880), pp. 390–442. Translated by T.K. Gopalan as *How I made my dictionary*. Chennai: Cre-A, 1992.
- Anatole France, *L’anneau d’améthyste* (1899), translated by B. Drillien as *The Amethyst Ring*. London: John Lane, The Bodley Head 1919. Chapter VI, pp. 113–141.
- 25 February Raymond Gallun, ‘Old Faithful’, *Astounding Stories*, Vol. 14, No. 4, December 1934, pp.106–131. Reprinted in *Imagination Unlimited* (ed. Bleiler & Dikty, 1952), *Before the Golden Age* (ed. Asimov, 1974), and many other collections.
- Jack Vance, *The Languages of Pao*, especially Chapters I–IX. New York: Avalon Books, 1958 and several later editions. (This corresponds to chapters I–VI, pp. 4–37, in the earlier version of the novel published in *SATELLITE science fiction*, Vol. 2, No. 2, December 1957, pp. 4–92.)
- 11 March Julia Cho, *The Language Archive*. New York: Dramatists Play Service, 2012. Available for \$8 plus shipping from amazon.com

Philosophy and History of Physics Reading Group

This term we will read David Kaiser, *Drawing Theories Apart: The Dispersion of Feynman Diagrams in Postwar Physics* (University of Chicago Press, 2005) of which there is a copy in the Whipple Library. We meet on **Tuesdays, 2.00–3.00pm in Seminar Room 1**.

Organised by Jeremy Butterfield and Nazim Bouatta.

- 22 January **Jeremy Butterfield**: introduction to quantum theory and Feynman diagrams
- 29 January **Chitra Ramalingam**: Chapter 1
- 5 February **Nazim Bouatta**: Chapter 2

The chapters and discussants for subsequent meetings will be arranged in January.

History and Theory Reading Group

Opposition is True Friendship

In this term, we are broadly interested in live debates and controversies among scholars with urgent social, political and historical issues in mind. We are expecting to have open forum style meetings to provoke us all in any sense!

Meetings take place on **Fridays, 3.00 to 4.30pm in Seminar Room 1**. Hard copies of the readings will be placed in a box in the Whipple Library, and soft copies sent to the hps-discussion list in advance of each meeting. Links to some readings are available at www.hps.cam.ac.uk/seminars. Organised by Sean Dyde, Eóin Phillips and Minwoo Seo. All welcome!

25 January Albert Hirschman, *The Passions and the Interests: Political Arguments for Capitalism before Its Triumph* (Princeton Univ. Press, 1977)

8 February Marshall Sahlins, 'Cosmologies of Capitalism: The Trans-Pacific Sector of "The World System"', *Proceedings of the British Academy* 74 (1988), pp. 1–51

22 February David Bloor, 'Anti-Latour', *SHPS Part A* 30(1) (1999), pp. 81–112
Bruno Latour, 'For David Bloor ... and Beyond: A Reply to David Bloor's "Anti-Latour"', *SHPS Part A* 30(1) (1999), pp. 113–129

8 March Noam Chomsky and Michel Foucault, 'Human Nature: Justice vs. Power' (1971) in *The Chomsky-Foucault Debate: On Human Nature* (The New Press, 2006), pp. 1–67

AD HOC

AD HOC is a history of chemistry reading group based in Cambridge and London. While our main focus is historical, we also consider the philosophical, sociological, public and educational dimensions of chemistry.

The group meets several times per term, on **Mondays, 5pm–6.30pm in Seminar Room 1**. Readings are available from the Whipple Library, and also circulated via our mailing list. A parallel series of meetings is held in London. For details visit our website, www.hps.cam.ac.uk/adhoc.

Organised by Hasok Chang and Jenny Rampling.

4 February **Emma Spary (History, Cambridge)**
'Gelatine'

Readings to be confirmed

25 February **Stephen Irish (HPS, Cambridge)**
'Crystallography'

Charles Greville, Compte de Bournon, and Charles Oakley, 'On the Corundum Stone from Asia', *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, 88 (1798), 403–48

Stephen Irish, 'The Corundum Stone and the Introduction of Analytic Crystallography to Britain' (draft dissertation chapter)

11 March TBC

Twentieth Century Reading Group

The group will discuss books and papers relating to the history and historiography of 20th-century science, technology and medicine, broadly construed. Readings will be placed well in advance in a box in the Whipple Library and on CamTools.

Meetings are **every other Thursday from 1–2pm in the Lodge Seminar Room.**

Organised by Dmitriy Myelnikov and Kathryn Schoefert.

31 January Introduced by **Oliver Marsh**

David Kaiser, *How the Hippies Saved Physics: Science, Counterculture and the Quantum Revival* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2011):

Ch. 8, 'Fringe?!' (167–193)

Coda, 'Ideas and Institutions in the Quantum Revival' (263–284)

14 February Introduced by **Dmitriy Myelnikov**

Nikolai Krementsov, *A Martian Stranded on Earth: Alexander Bogdanov, Blood Transfusions and Proletarian Science* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010):

Ch. 1, 'Revolutions: The Big Science of Visionary Biology' (1–15)

Ch. 3, 'Voyagers: To Mars and Back' (33–54)

Ch. 4, 'Earthly Realities: the Health of the Ruling Elite' (55–72)

28 February Introduced by **Kathryn Schoefert**

Nicolas Rasmussen, *On Speed: The Many Lives of Amphetamine* (New York: New York University Press, 2006):

Ch. 3, 'Speed and Total War' (53–85)

Ch. 6, 'Amphetamines and the Go-Go Years' (149–181)

14 March Introduced by **Salim Al-Gailani**

Gabriela Soto Laveaga, *Jungle Laboratories: Mexican Peasants, National Projects and the Making of the Pill* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2009):

Introduction (1–22)

Ch. 3, 'Discovering and Gathering the New "Green Gold"' (71–89)

Ch. 8, 'Barbasqueros into Mexicans' (169–196)

Optional: Ch. 6, 'The State Takes Control of Barbasco' (133–150)

Language groups

Latin Therapy

Latin Therapy will meet on **Fridays in the Lodge Seminar Room from 4.00 to 5.30pm**. All levels are welcome and beginners are strongly encouraged to come along. Each week we will cover some introductory grammar, followed by a text suggested by members. The pain of the ablative absolute will be salved with copious tea and biscuits!

More information can be found at our website: www.hps.cam.ac.uk/latintherapy. To be added to the mailing list, or to suggest a text, please contact Seb Falk.

Greek Therapy

Greek Therapy meets **every Wednesday during term time in the Lodge Seminar Room from 5.30 to 7pm**.

We are an informal group for beginners and for experienced readers of Greek seeking to brush up their skills – all levels are welcome. Sessions usually involve a basic grammar session at the beginning followed by reading through a more advanced text (often, but not always, Plato); this term we will be reading selections from Aristotle's *Meteorologica*. For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please email Liz Smith.