WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

> Institute for Culture and Society

ICS SEMINAR SERIES 2022 SEMESTER 1 PROGRAM

The ICS seminar series have always been a place that showcases excellence in research and helps build the intellectual community of the institute. During the past two years, the seminar series changed in response to the ongoing pandemic, the realities of remote work, disrupted fieldwork, escalating climate crisis and Indigenous peoples' resurgence.

This year's seminar program aims to articulate the condition of research at the Institute in two ways. On one hand, we want to underscore the ways in which projects at ICS respond to current social, political and environmental issues and enter dialogue with a large variety of actors inside and outside of academia. On the other, we want to offer an introspective look into the condition of scholarship and research today. These two overarching topics will provide the lens through which each semester's series of seminars will be structured.

Semester 1: States of urgency

The past two years have put our lives and the practice of research in perspective. Anxiety plagued 2020, but we were also pregnant with hope of a tectonic shift in social and economic practices. There were glimmers of a low carbon future, a return to welfare state regimes and a global concern with care. Today, the ongoing cycle of lockdowns, escalating climate crisis, and 'a new normal' wakes us up to the reality of growing inequality, ongoing racial policing and the loss of climate stability of the Holocene. Under the framework of a "state of emergency", new accelerated forms of control were introduced in the workplace, in border governance, and in shaping our daily habits and forms of political dissent and sociality. This framework has become the vehicle of introducing new technologies of automation and surveillance in different spheres of life and work, such as the banalities of micro-administration, QR check-ins and video-conferencing.

The focus on urgency aims to acknowledge and address the multiple crises of our present, while also taking a critical stance against the "state of emergency" as an instrument of power. The urgency with which we need to address the crises of our present is made ever more pressing by the impending reality of climate change that threatens to collapse the horizon of liveable futures, a threat that prompts us to attend to questions of "what future" and "whose future". These issues have been at the centre of many of the research projects and publications of scholars from ICS. This semester's seminar program will be dedicated to exploring critical interventions and engagement of ICS researchers within and outside of the institute.



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10 MARCH

Critical Research and Funding Crises: Who Decides the Future of Humanities, Arts and Social Science Scholarship? Panelists: Ned Rossiter, Brian Stout, Heather Ford Chair: Phillipa Collins

17 MARCH

CaLD Communities during COVID: Intersectional Vulnerabilities and Community Responses Panelists: Youqing Fan, Sukhmani Khorana, Jasbeer Mamalipurath ChairKaren Soldatic

24 MARCH

Decolonizing the ANU School of Music: An Indigenous led 'recovery' Presenter: Kim Cunio (with Will Kepa and Chris Sainsbury on film) Chair: Heather Horst Discussant: Louise Crabtree

31 MARCH

Value, politics and autonomy in the arts Panelists: Sara Mansour, Cecelia Cmielewski Chair: Zelmarie Cantillon

7 APRIL

Technologies of Urgency / Technologies of Resilience Panelists: Luke Munn, Girish Lala, Linda Marsden, Christopher Lean Chair: Sarah Nectoux

5 MAY

Households: Changing Economic and Social Function during COVID Panelists: Emma Power, Kate Huppatz, Emma Mitchell Chair: Yinghua Yu

12 MAY

Collateral Damages: The Entanglements of Data and Debt in Digital India Presenter: Adam Sargent Chair: Tsvetelina Hristova Discussant: Isaac Lyne

19 MAY

Pandemic Urbanism: The City as Container / Incubator / Refuge Panelists: Stephen Healy, Louise Crabtree-Hayes, Josh Wodak Chair: Vanicka Arora

26 MAY

Research, teaching and the WSU Indigenous Strategy Presenter: Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews, Alanna Kamp and Susan Page Chair: Brett Neilson

2 JUNE

The Racial Contract Presenter: Debbie Bargaille Chair: Jessica Weir Discussant: Alana Lentin



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9 JUNE

Connecting and Distancing: Mobile Phones, Social Media, Young People and COVID Measures Panelists: Skye Tasker, Martyna Gliniecka, Shiva Chandra Chair: Ben Hanckel

16 JUNE

ICS anniversary TBD

23 JUNE

Tomas Ariztia, sociology (Universidad Diego Portales) to speak on environment and profit in circular economy narratives of value Chair: Juan Salazar Discussant: Paul James

30 JUNE

Who wants humanities research? Panelists: Amanda Third, Jess Weir, Kylie Brass (AAH), Scott Avery Chair: Ann Dadich