

# WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



Institute for Culture  
and Society

## PUBLIC SEMINAR:

### NEW MATERIALISM AND THE SOCIOLOGY OF INEQUALITY: CLASS, CAPITAL AND CAPACITIES



#### New materialism and the sociology of inequality: class, capital and capacities

**Date:** 25 February 2019  
**Time:** 2:00pm – 4:00pm  
**Venue:** Building EA, Level 2, Room 13 (LT02), Parramatta  
Campus (South), Western Sydney University  
**RSVP:** Please RSVP to [e.blight@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:e.blight@westernsydney.edu.au)  
by **Friday, 22 February 2019**

#### **CLASS MATTERS: A NEW MATERIALIST APPROACH** **Presenter: Peta Hinton**

The material turn that has been gathering steam in the social and cultural sciences in recent years is distinguished by its signature approach to materiality as emergent, indeterminate, self-organising or sui generis: a dynamic participant in social meanings and processes that extends political analysis to more-than-human agencies.

#### **RE-MATERIALISING SOCIAL CLASS**

**Presenter: Nick J. Fox**

In this paper I outline a new materialist perspective on social class, and contrast this with existing approaches. Marx's materialist analysis of social class explored two flows of matter: of human bodies and of economic capital.

#### **Peta Hinton Biography**

Peta Hinton currently lectures in the media and cultural studies program at Heinrich-Heine-University in Düsseldorf and is a recent fellowship recipient and Affiliated Fellow with the ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry. Her research focuses on feminist political theory and the new materialisms, as they work to challenge 'normative' iterations of 'politics', 'ethics', and 'time' that underscore how we understand difference and craft interventions for social justice and change through examples and materials that accede to less familiar legislations of presence, consumption, production, relation, and life.

#### **Nick J. Fox Biography**

Nick J. Fox is professor of sociology at the University of Huddersfield, UK, honorary professor of sociology at the University of Sheffield, UK, and currently a visiting fellow at the University of Melbourne. He has researched and written widely on new materialist and posthuman social theory as applied to sexualities, health, environment, creativity, emotions and research methodology, and is currently working on issues in political sociology including citizenship, governance and policy. His most recent book (with Pam Alldred) is *Sociology and the New Materialism* (Sage, 2017).