



POLITICAL SCIENCE WEEKLY DIGEST

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018

POLITICAL SCIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CSPT "EAT, DRINK, TALK, AND THINK!"

Thursday, March 29, Halpern Centre

Submission deadline: Wednesday, March 21

The "Eat, Drink, Talk, and Think!" series is a comfortable and informal arena to test new ideas, flesh out current research, or share completed research papers/thesis chapters with other students. You can read more about it here: <http://www.uvic.ca/interdisciplinary/cspt/home/colloquium/index.php>. As an interdisciplinary program, we welcome proposals from all fields of study and walks of life (i.e., non-CSPT related fields are welcomed and encouraged to present as well). The colloquium is an important space to mix disciplines and theoretical backgrounds, so we encourage students in sciences, mathematics & technologies; humanities, arts and social sciences; legal and policy disciplines; and all other fields to apply and present their research to a non-specialized audience. Each colloquium will run for approximately an hour and a half. The presentations are ≈ 20 minutes, with plenty of time for questions and conversation afterwards. We welcome presentations of all types. This includes but is not limited to formal academic-style presentations, panel discussions, group workshops, or creative presentations. Work at any level of preparation will be considered. Please send proposals of no more than 300 words to csptcolloquium@gmail.com, giving a brief summary of your proposed presentation and a title.



PUBLIC TALK: "Reparations, Refusals and Grief: Idle No More and Democratic Arts of Mourning"

Dr. Vicki Hseuh, University of Western Washington

Tuesday, April 3, 2:30-4:30 pm, DTB A357

In this talk, I trace the increasingly political and affective turn of modern reparation discourses, focusing especially on the distinctive re-definitions and expansions offered by Lawrie Balfour, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and others. As they persuasively argue, an expanded understanding of reparations as a political language provides a way to develop an *affective consciousness* that offers an opportunity for significant structural and political redress. Yet, despite these valuable and potent re-conceptualizations, reparation discourse continues to retain significant colonial bias. What can be done to make indigenous lives and losses palpable? Can the affective circuitry of political consciousness be rewired to make such conditions sensible? What democratic arts of mourning and action are needed? Through physical protest and occupation, the Idle No More movement offered a sustained and viscerally compelling political response to unjust rule over indigenous peoples in North America. These features of Idle No More, I argue, reveal the limitations of modern reparations discourse and demonstrate how mourning, refusal, and affect can overturn the affective logic at the heart of colonialism and neocolonialism. In particular, I focus on the ways in which Idle No More made loss palpable to an audience habituated to overlooking or even mocking indigenous injury and grief. While a number of important recent studies have focused on the micro-practices of Idle No More protests and especially on the relationship between vitality and sovereignty in the Idle No More round dances, I emphasize a different but no less important dimension of body politics and affect. In turning to Chief Spence's body and the sympathetic strikes, marches, and rallies that arose to support

her, I explore her corporeal presentation of grief and survival and I examine the ways in which bodies can spur and sustain political refusals and challenges. Her strike -- along with the varied supportive actions of Idle No More -- should be seen as part of the democratic arts of mourning in which bodies are mindfully engaged to experience and to elicit a range of mixed affective responses (grief, love, anger) that go "bone-deep" to challenge the colonial logic of overlooking and ignoring indigenous loss.

Vicki Hsueh is Director of the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program and an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at Western Washington University. Her teaching and research interests include the history and historiography of political theory, protest movements and civic action, identity politics and theory, indigenous politics and post-colonial theory. She is the author of *Hybrid Constitutions: Making and Unmaking Power and Privilege in Colonial America* and articles in *The Review of Politics*, *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Journal of the History of Ideas*, and *History of Political Thought*. She has been the recipient of several fellowships including the Barbara S. Mosbacher Fellowship (John Carter Brown Library), the Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowship (American Antiquarian Society), and the Mayer Fellowship (Huntington Library).

UVic ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER TO COMPLETE SURVEY ON FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES DRAFT INDIGENOUS PLAN

Deadline: Friday, April 13

The Faculty of Social Sciences is committed to making our Faculty a more welcoming, safe and diverse learning environment for everyone. The draft plan has been developed, in consultation with Indigenous leaders on campus, by the Social Sciences Indigenous Advisory Forum, comprised of a faculty member from each unit, two Indigenous undergraduate students, an Indigenous graduate student and the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies. We welcome your comments and suggestions on the draft plan by completing a short survey <http://uvic.fluidsurveys.com/s/SOSC-Indigenous-Plan/>. Please submit your feedback by Friday, April 13.

10th ANNUAL MEICON-BC STUDENT CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ISLAMIC WORLD

Saturday, April 7, 9-5 pm, Fine Arts Building

The annual MEICON-BC Student Conference provides a space for graduate and senior undergraduate students to examine and explore diverse issues and factors affecting Middle Eastern and Islamic societies and communities from multi- and inter-disciplinary perspectives. MEICON-BC aims to the further establishment of Islamic studies by offering graduate and senior undergraduate students the ability to disseminate their knowledge and engage in discussion that is facilitated by peers well versed in their chosen area of study. Everyone welcome

The Political Science Weekly Digest is a weekly e-mail newsletter and biweekly in the summer. It's also available online <http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/politicalscience/home/news/index.php> If you have an item for the newsletter or would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact poliao@uvic.ca.



Follow us on Twitter - @uvicpoli



 *LIKE US ON FACEBOOK* – <https://www.facebook.com/uvicpoli/> 