

G. Thomas Goodnight  
Annenberg School  
Comm 620 MTW 2:00-4:50

## SCIENCE COMMUNICATION: BIOPOLITICS

Science, technology and society are subjects of critical communication inquiry. Biopolitics focuses on power relationships in communicative arrangement and articulation in the areas of health, medicine, environment, and security. This class identifies the broad rubrics of modern science communication both as a supplemental practiced aimed at public consensus and literacy and as a field of controversies over research, development, dissemination and circulation of main and co-ordinate risks and uncertainties. The structure of the class: (1) define the domain of science communication (for a networked era), (2) move to strategies of public health politics, and (3) identify resistances of critique. Critique moves from conceptualization of biopower, through governmental interventions into life and death, to conditions of basic life and security. The global dimensions of biopolitics will be taken up through examining strategies of surveillance, quarantine, sovereignty and security. The course will end by exploring alternative futures of (human) life.

**Texts:** Most readings for the class are posted on Blackboard or are available through the USC library site. Please obtain: Lawrence O. Gostin, *Public Health Law: Power, Duty, Restraint*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Berkeley: University of California Press 2008. Michel Foucault, *Security, Territory and Population*. New York: Picador. Jurgen Habermas, *The Future of Human Nature*. Walden, MA: Blackwell, 2003.

**Requirements:** The course offers an interdisciplinary space for students interested in pursuing research projects related to health, medicine, environment, security, research and life measures through the study of public communication. Classes will feature lecture and discussion.

*WIKI strategy:* Two core readings per session will be identified from those listed on syllabus sessions; class members will take one additional reading each to report on and post one-page precise on our class WIKI. *The pace of reading will be adjusted to meet the opportunities and constraints of summer session schedule.*

*WEB inquiries:* Class will also feature exploration Science & the Internet as the class networks science blogs, organizations, portals designed to address varied biopublics. See for example: Bruno Latour's sight, Controversies.

*RESEARCH paper:* A process of developing a convention length paper will be identified at the beginning of the course and presented at the end as a requirement for completion.

**Particulars:** The course meets in ASC 328. Section 20908D. Course open to all graduate students interested in the topic. Goodnight's office is 206A ASC. His phone is 213-821-5384. [gtg@usc.edu](mailto:gtg@usc.edu).

Course readings will be paced to summer schedule. Supplements are marked. Goodnight subscribes to Graduate School standards on paper integrity.

Professor Goodnight has directed multiple dissertations and publishes in the area of risk and biopolitics. This course was assembled collaboratively with Paul Strait who is working on a doctoral project concerning the rhetoric of science.

SYLLABUS IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO ADAPTATION  
TO MEET ENROLLMENT INTERESTS

## 1. Wed Je 27 Science Communication and Biopolitics – Introduction

### Readings:

John Marks. 2006. Biopolitics. *Theory, Culture and Society*. 23: 333-334

Lyton K. Caldwell. 1964. Biopolitics: Science, ethics, and public policy. *Yale Review*. 1: 1-14.

Jessica Baldwin-Philippis. 2011. Bringing science and technology studies to bear on communication studies research. *Communication Research Trends*. 30: 1-20.

Alessandro Delfanti. 2011. Where is public communication of science going? *Journal of Science Communication*. 10: 1-2.

Alessandro Delfanti. 2010. Open science, a complex movement. *Journal of Science Communication*. 9: 1.

Richard Watermeyer. 2010. Social network science: Pedagogy, dialogue, deliberation. *Journal of Science Communication*. 9: 1-4.

Miguel Martinez Lopez. 2009. "Scientific mediation: On social processes, contexts, and networks in which scientists are embedded. *Journal of Science Communication*. 8: 1-5.

### Supplements:

Michael F. Weigold. 2001. Communicating science: A review of the literature. *Science Communication*. 23: 164-188.

Leah A. Lievrouw. 1990. Communication and the social representation of scientific knowledge. *Critical Studies in Mass Communication* 7: 1-10.

Sarah R. Davies. 2008. Constructing communication: Talking to scientists about talking to the public. *Science Communication* 29: 413-434.

## 2. Mon Jly 2 Public Engagement and the Democratizing of Science

### Readings:

Simon Joss. (1999). Public participation in science and technology policy- and decision-making -- Ephemeral phenomenon or lasting change. *Science and Public Policy* 26: 290-293.

John Nelson et al. 2009. A new spin on research translation: The Boston Consensus Conference on Human Biomonitoring. *Environmental Health Perspectives*. 117: 495-599.

Lisa Pytlik Zillig & Alan Tomkins 2011 Public engagement for informing science and technology policy -- What do we know, what do we need to know, and how will we get there. *Digital Commons@University of Nebraska-Lincoln*. Public Policy Center.

Eva Lovbrand, Roger Pielke & Silke Beck. 2011. A democracy paradox in studies of science and technology. *Science, Technology & Human Values*. 1-23.

Daniel Lee Kleinman et al. 2007. A toolkit for democratizing science and technology policy: The practical mechanics of organizing a consensus conference. *Bulletin of Science Technology Society* 27: 154-169.

Janet A. Curran et al. 2009. Knowledge translation research: The science of moving research into policy and practice. *Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions*. 3: 174-180.

### Supplement:

Patrick W. Hamlett. 2003. Technology theory and deliberative democracy. *Science, Technology & Human Values* 28: 112-140.

Anders Blok. 2007. Experts on public trial: On democratizing expertise through a Danish consensus conference. *Public Understanding of Science*. 16: 163-182.

Julie Barnett et al. 2012. Imagined publics and engagement around renewable energy technologies in the UK. *Public Understanding of Science* 21: 36-50.

### **3. Tue Jly 3 Lay Expertise, Citizen Science, and (New) Media**

#### **Readings:**

Alan Irwin 2001 "Constructing the scientific citizen: Science and democracy in the biosciences" *Public Understanding of Science*. 10: 1-17 -16 pages

Christopher M. Kelty. 2010. Outlaw, hackers, and Victorian amateurs: Diagnosing public participation in the life sciences today. *Journal of Science Communication*. 9: 1-8.

Inna Kouper. 2010. Science blogs and public engagement with science: Practices, challenges, and opportunities. *Journal of Science Communication* 9: 1-10.

Marie Claire Shanahan 2010 Changing the meaning of peer-to-peer? Exploring online comment spaces as sites of negotiated expertise. *Journal of Science Communication* 9: 1-13.

Adrian Pacurar. 2011. Science Communication, science journalism, and the new media. *Journalism si comunicare*. 6: 21-28.

Nico Pitrelli. 2011. Science journalism and digital storytelling. *Journal of Science Communication* 10: 1.

Wade Bingle & P. James Gaskell. 1994. Scientific literacy for decision-making and the social construction of scientific knowledge. *Science Education*. 78: 185-2001.

Piet Verhoeven. 2010. Sound-bite science: On the brevity of science and scientific experts in Western European Television News. *Science Communication*. 32: 330-355.

#### **Supplement:**

Bryan Wynee. 1992. Misunderstood misunderstanding: Social identities and the public uptake of science. *Public Understanding of Science* 1: 281-304.

Holliman. 2011. Telling science stories in an evolving digital media ecosystem.

Mathieu O'Neil. 2010. Shirky and Sanger, or the cost of crowdsourcing. *Journal of Science Communication*. 9: 1-7.

Stodden 2010 Open Science: Policy implications for the evolving phenomenon of user-led scientific innovation.

### **4. Mon Jly 9 What is Biopower?**

Michel Foucault, Right of death and power of life. *History of Sexuality* New York: Vintage Books 130-161.

Michel Foucault. (March 17, 1976). *Society Must Be Defended: Lectures at the College de France*, David Macey, trans. 239-264.

Michel Foucault. 2004. *Security, Territory and Population: Lectures at the College de France, 1977 – 1978*, New York: Peador, 1-28.

Paul Rabinow & Nikolas Rose. 2006. Biopower Today. *Biosocieties*. 1: 195-217.

Ben Anderson. 2011. Affect and biopower: Towards a politics of life. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*. 28-43.

Ian Hacking 1992 Biopower and the avalanche of printed numbers. *Humanities in Society*. 5: 279-295.

Nikolas Rose. 2001. The politics of life itself. *Theory, Culture & Society*. 18: 2-31.

## 5. Tue Jly 10 Governmentality

Michel Foucault, "Governmentality" *Power*, 200-222.

Michel Foucault, Lectures 4 & 5. *Security, Territory and Population*, 87-134.

Nikolas Rose, Pat O'Malley, & Mariana Valverde. 2006. Governmentality. *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* 2: 83-104.

Thomas Lemke. 2001. 'The birth of bio-politics': Michel Foucault's lecture at the College de France on neo-liberal governmentality. *Economy and Society* 30: 190-207.

Stephen Collier. 2009. Topologies of power: Foucault's analysis of political government beyond 'governmentality'. *Theory, Culture and Society* 26: 18-108.

-Evelyn Fox Keller. 1995. Fractured images of science, language, and power – A Post-Modern Optic, or just bad eyesight? In Vandana Shiva & Ingun Moser (Eds.) *Biopolitics: A Feminist and Ecological Reader on Biotechnology*: London: Zed Books, 52-69.

Paul Henman & Michael Adler. 2003. Information technology and the governance of social security. *Critical Studies in Policy* 23: 139-164.

## 6. Mon Jly 16 Biomedicalization and Reflexive Modernity

### Readings:

Robert Castel. 1991. From Dangerousness to Risk. *Health, Risk and Society* 12: 51-64. Graham Scambler. 1998. "Theorizing modernity: Luhmann, Habermas, Elias, and new perspectives on health and healing. *Critical Public Health* 8: 237-244.

Adele E. Clarke et al. 2003. Biomedicalization: Technoscientific transformations of health, illness, and US biomedicine. *American Sociological Review* 63: 161-194.

Sarah Nettleton & Rober Burrows. 2003. E-scaped medicine? Information, reflexivity, and health. *Critical Social Policy* 23: 165-185.

Mark Harrington. 2008. IDS activists and people with AIDS: A movement to revolutionize research and for universal access to treatment. In Bosa and Phil (Eds.). *Tactical Biopolitics*. MIT: 323-340.

Charles Briggs & Daniel Hallin. 2010. Health reporting as political reporting: Biocommunicability and the public sphere. *Journalism* 11:149-165.

### Supplement:

Stephen Lyng. 2010. Reflexive biomedicalization and alternative healing systems . *Bioethical Inquiry* 7: 53-69.

Ed Cohen. 2008. Immune communities, common immunities. *Social Text* 26: 95-134.

Gwen D'Arcangelis. 2008. Chinese chickens, ducks, pigs, and humans, and the technoscientific discourses of global U.S. empire. *Tactical Biopolitics*. MIT: 421-442.

E. Gabriella Coleman. 2008. The politics of rationality: Psychiatric survivor's challenge to psychiatry. *Tactical Biopolitics*. MIT: 341-363.

Charles Briggs & Daniel Hallin. 2007. Biocommunicability: The neoliberal subject and its contradictions in news coverage of health issues. *Social Text* 25: 43-66.

Nancy Meyer-Emerick. 2007. Public administration and the life sciences: Revisiting biopolitics. *Administration and Society* 38: 689-708.

## 7. Wed Jly 11 Public Health, Regulation & the Law

Gostin selections

A theory and definition of public health law. Gostin, 3-42.

Public health regulation. Gostin 28-72.

Public health law in the Constitutional design: Public health powers and duties. Gostin, 77-108.

Constitutional limits on the exercise of public health powers: Safeguarding individual rights and freedoms. Gostin, 112-146.

Public health governance: Direct regulation for the public's health and safety. Gostin, 147-180.

## 8. Tue Jly 17 Molecular Politics

MJ Flower & D Heath. 1993. Micro-anatomo politics: Mapping the human genome project. *Culture of Medical Psychiatry* 17: 27-41.

Marina Levina. 2010. "Googling your genes: Personal genomics and the discourse of citizen bioscience in the network age. *Journal of Science Communication* 9: 1-8.

Marina Levina & Roswell Quinn. 2011. From symptomatic to pre-symptomatic patient: The tide of personal genomics. *Journal of Science Communication* 10: 1-4.

Nikolas Rose. 2001. The neurochemical self and its anomalies. In R. Ericson (Ed) *Risk and Morality*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press: 407-437.

Sujatha Raman & Richard Tutton. 2010/ Life, science, and biopower. *Science, Technology and Human Values* 35: 711-724.

Mariana Valverde. 2003. Targeted governance and the problem of desire. In *Risk and Morality*, 438-458.

R. D. Masters. 2001. Biology and politics: Linking nature and nurture. *Annual Review of Political Science* 4: 345-369.

Paul Rabinow. 2010. Artificiality and enlightenment: From sociobiology to biosociality. In J. X. Ina (Ed.). *Anthropologies of Modernity*. Blackwell: 91-111.

## 9. Wed Jly 18 Staging Risk and Trust

### Reading:

Leah Ceccarelli. 2011. Manufactured Controversy: Science, Rhetoric and Public Debate. *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 14: 195-228.

Paul Brewer & Barbara Ley. 2011. Multiple exposures: Scientific controversy, the media, and public responses to nisphenol A. *Science Communication* 33: 76-97.

Gordon Gauchet. 2011. The cultural authority of science: Public trust and the acceptance of organized science. *Public Understanding of Science* 20: 251-770.

Julie Brownlie. 2008. Conceptualizing trust and health. In Brownlie, Greene and Howson (Eds.) *Trust and Health*. Routledge: 17-32.

Alex Law. 2008. The elixer of social trust: Social capital and cultures of challenge in health movements. In *Trust and Health*, 175-183.

### Supplement:

H. Parr & J. Davidson 2008 'Virtual trust' – Online emotional intimacies in mental health support. In *Trust and Health* [missing].

Alex Bielak et al. 2008. From science communication to knowledge brokering: The shift from 'science push' to 'policy pull'. D. Cheng et al. (eds.) *Communicating Science in Social Contexts*. Springer: 201-226.

Lynn Frewer. 1999. Risk perception, social trust, and public participation in strategic decision-making: Implications for emerging technologies. *Ambio*. 28:569-574.

-GOSTIN – Concluding Reflections on the Field: (legitimacy, money, trust) 491-496

## 10. Mon Jly 23 Control Societies

### Reading:

Gilles Deleuze. 1992. Postscript on the societies of control. *October* 59: 3-7.

Gilles Deleuze in conversation with Antonio Negri. Control and becoming. *Futur Anterieur* 1. [www.generation-online.org/p/fdeleuze3.htm/](http://www.generation-online.org/p/fdeleuze3.htm/)

Jia Lu Cheng. 2008. On control societies: A deleuzian postscript. *The Unthinkable*. Taiwan: Institute of Ethnology.

Michel Foucault. 2009. Alternatives to the prison: Dissemination or decline of social control. *Theory, Culture & Society* 26: 12-24.

Couze Venn. 2007. Cultural theory, biopolitics, and the question of power. *Theory, Culture and Society* 24: 111-124.

Yurij Castelfranchi. 2009. Control societies and the crisis of science journalism. *Journal of Science Communication* 8: 1-3.

### Supplement:

Critical Art Ensemble. 2008. Bioparanoia and the culture of control. In de Costa and Philip (Eds.). *Tactical Biopolitics: Art, Activism and Bioscience*. MIT Press: 413-427.

Jonathan King. 2008. How do we insure security from biological threats? In *Tactical Biopolitics* 401-412.

Helga Tawil-Souri. 2011. Colored identity: The politics and materiality of ID cards in Palestine/Israel. *Social Text* 29: 67-97/

## 11. Tue Jly 24 Biopolitical Surveillance

Mark J. Shapiro 2005 Every move you make: Bodies, surveillance, and media. *Social Text* 23: 21-34/

Kelly A. Gates. 2005. Biometrics and post-9/11 technostalgia. *Social Text* 23: 35-53

Blihaj Ajana. 2005. Surveillance and biopolitics. *Electronic Journal of Sociology*.

John Gilliom. 2005. Resisting surveillance. *Social Text* 23: 71-83.

-GOSTIN – Surveillance and public health research: Personal privacy and the ‘Right to Know’ 287-332

## 12. Wed Jly 25 Biopower without Borders – Epidemics

Ed Cohen. 2011. The paradoxical politics of viral containment; or, how scale undoes us one and al. *Social Text* 29: 15-35.

Leerom Medovi. 2007. Global society must be defended: Biopolitics without boundaries. *Social Text* 25: 53-79.

GOSTIN – Medical Countermeasures for Epidemic Disease: Bodily Integrity, 371-410

GOSTIN – Public Health Strategies for Epidemic Disease: Association, Travel, and Liberty, 421-490.

## 13. Mon Jly 30 The Biopolitical: Affect and the Paradox of Sovereignty

### Readings:

B. Anderson. 2011. Affect and biopower: Towards a politics of life. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 37: 28-43.

Carl Schmitt. 1934. Definition of sovereignty, The problem of sovereignty as the problem of the Legal form of the decision,” “Political theology From *Political Theology, Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*, George Schwab (trans.). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Giorgio Agamben – paradox of sovereignty, the camp as the biopolitical paradigm of the modern, *Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life*.

### Supplement

J. Edkins. 2007. Whatever Politics. In M. Calarco and S. Decaroli (Eds.) *Giorgio Agamben: Sovereignty and Life*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Catherine Chaput. 2010. Rhetorical circulation in late capitalism: Neoliberalism and the overdetermination of affective energy. *Philosophy and Rhetoric* 43: 1-25.

## **14. Tue Aug 1 The State of Exception and Beyond**

Giorgio Agamben. 2000. *State of Exception*. Kevin Attell, trans. [Chapter 1]

Erik Doxtader 2008 "The [Rhetorical] Question of Exception, for Now" *Rhetorical and Critical/Cultural Studies* 5: 212-217.

William Rasch. 2007. From Sovereign Ban to Banning Sovereignty. In Mathew Clarco and Steven DeCaroli (Eds.). *Giorgio Agamben: Sovereignty and Life*.

Agnes Heller. 1996. Has biopolitics changed the concept of the political? In Ferene Fehrer and Agnes Heller *Biopolitics: The Politics of the Body, Race and Nature*.

David Macey. 2009. Rethinking biopolitics, race, and power in the wake of Foucault. *Theory, Culture and Society* 26: 186-205.

Solomon 2009 "The Proactive Echo: Cassirer's Myth of the State and the biopolitics of global English" *Translation Studies* 2: 52-70

Nathaniel Cordova. 2008. The Incomplete subject of colonial memory: Puerto Rico and the post/colonial biopolitics of congressional recollection. *The Communication Review* 11: 42-75.

## **15. Wed July 31 Necropolitics**

J. A. Mbembe and Libby Meintjes. 2003. Necropolitics. *Public Culture* 15: 11-40.

Caren Kaplan. 2009. The biopolitics of technoculture in the Mumbai attacks. *Theory, Culture & Society* 22: 301-313.

Lauren L. Martin. 2010. Bombs, bodies, and biopolitics: Securitized the subject at the airport security checkpoint. *Social Cultural Geography* 11: 1-15.

Michael Dillon & Luis Lobo-Guerrero. 2008. Biopolitics of security in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *Review of International Studies* 34: 265-292.

Malcolm Bull. 2007. Vectors of the Biopolitical. *New Left Review* 7- 25.

David Harvey. 1999. The body politic: Anatomy of a metaphor. *Contemporary Review* 275: 85-93.

## **16. Mon Aug 6 Futures of Human Nature**

Donna Haraway. 1991. A cyborg manifesto: Science, technology, and socialist-feminism in the late twentieth century. In *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. New York: Routledge.

N Katherine Hayles. How We Became Posthuman

Jurgen Habermas. 2003. *The Future of Human Nature*. Polity Press. Selections

Francis Fukuyama 2002 What to do? *Our Posthuman Future*, New York: Picador 2002, 181-202

Richard Hayes. 2007. Our biopolitical future: Four scenarios. *Worldwatch* 20 (Center for Genetics and Technology).

## 17. Tue Aug 7 Biotechnology and Synthetic Biology

Alexandra Gorke & Georg Ruhrmann. 2003. Public Communication between facts and fictions: On the construction of genetic risk. *Public Understanding of Science* 21: 130-133.

Emma Frow et al. 2009. The politics of plants. *Food Security* 1: 17-23.

Bridgitte Gschmeidler & Alexandra Seiringer. 2012. 'Knight in shining armour' or "Frankenstein's creation"? The coverage of synthetic biology in German-language media. *Public Understanding of Science* 12: 163-173.

Nicole Kronberger. 2012. Synthetic biology: Taking a look at a field in the making. *Public Understanding of Science* 21: 130-133.

Milton Liakopoulos. 2002. Pandora's Box or panacea? Using metaphors to create the public representations of biotechnology. *Public Understanding of Science* 11: 5-32.

Ingun Moser 1995 "Mobilizing Critical Communicaties and discourses on modern biotechnology. *Biopolitics: A Feminist and Ecological Reader on Biotechnology*, 1- 24.

Vandana Shiva. 1995. Beyond Reductionism. *Biopolitics: A Feminist and Ecological Reader on Biotechnology*, 267-289.

Helge Torgersen & Jurgen Hampel. 2012. Calling controversy: Assessing synthetic biology's conflict potential. *Public Understanding of Science* 21: 134-148.

Regine Kollek. 1995. The limits of experimental knowledge: A feminist perspective on the ecological risks of genetic engineering. *Biopolitics: A Feminist and Ecological Reader on Biotechnology*, 95-111.