

## CARE, POWER, INFORMATION:

### Social Justice and Inequality in Health Care in the Age of Biopolitics and Digitalization

Lehrende/r:

Alexander I. Stingl ✉

Tutoren:

Alana Kirschbacher ✉

#### Veranstaltungsdetails

SWS:

2

Max. Teilnehmerzahl:

25

The constitutive or core criteria of our contemporary democratic societies – identity, justice, equality – have undergone a process of re-qualification in two respects: They have become digitalized and they have become biologicalized.

Separately, the following developments are currently within the focus of social research:

i. Access to and command over information and communication technologies (ICT) is limited in current Western democracies, including the USA, reiterating and even increasing older demarcations of social inequality and injustice – this is widely known as 'the digital divide'.

ii. Biological and medical conceptualizations, discussed in the literature as biopower and biopolitics as well as the medicalization of society, have taken over as constituents of the contemporary production of citizenship, justice and democracy.

iii. Respectively, it has been argued that identity is transformed into the idea of a neuro-chemical self.

Inhalt:

iv. Access to and use of information that enables access to health care as well as medical practice itself is increasingly dependent on ICT related practices.

In conclusion, it is the zone of their inter-relation, we need to refocus on increasingly; in particular in order to find pragmatic resolutions within communities and networks for the current crises in contemporary care and health care regimes, for it is true that a consequence of i.)-iv.) is that those on the „wrong side“ of the digital divide are and will continue to be excluded from access to care and medical treatment, thereby further affirming and even widening existing social inequalities and decreasing chances for social participation. In this course, we will try and understand these problems and their origins, and try to elaborate practical ideas and strategies for community-based projects that could help to counter these developments in social inequality.

This course is divided into three complementary segments:

Care, Power, Information.

We will form work-groups for the course. Each group will have reading and presentation tasks for each segment.

At the end of the semester, each group should be able to present a rough idea for a health-and-information-related community project that they would consider contemporary and important. The end-of-term paper has to be related to the project idea on a basic level.

Content:

- Understanding the implications of the progress in information technology on issues of health and justice
- Understanding the aims of 'care' in health-care
- Understanding the rationalities of biopolitics
- Combining power, communication, networks in techniques for health care governance and/or activism
- Understanding that (and possibly how) the issues of social justice and equality apply in (health) care regimes

Ziel:

Formal:

- Practicing reading, writing and discussion in academic English
- Working with a diverse group
- Discussion and presentation in a group
- Writing an individual academic paper with reference to group discussions and individual literature research
- Basics of speech writing
- Basics of grant-writing
- Creating the outline for a project proposal with practical implications

Teilnahmevoraussetzung:

Englischkenntnisse, aktive Teilnahme, Bereitschaft zur vorbereitenden Lektüre, aktive

Beteiligung an den Gruppenarbeiten, Erbringung der Studien- und Prüfungsleistung.

Reasonable command of the English language, active participation in class and in work-groups, reading assignments, mid-term paper (Essay) and individual end of term paper (Hausarbeit)

Hinweise zur Studienleistung:

Essay (ca. 1000 Wörter)

Hinweise zur Prüfungsleistung:

Hausarbeit (ca. 12-15 Seiten)

1. Abgabetermin: xx.xx.2012

2. Abgabetermin: xx.xx.2012

Seminar und Grundlagentexte sind in englischer Sprache. Die Hausarbeit sollte vorzugsweise in englischer Sprache verfasst werden.

Wichtig: Die Hausarbeit ist keine Gruppenarbeit, sondern eine Einzel-Leistung, d.h. jede/r StudentIn muß seine/ihre eigene Arbeit schreiben.

Sonstiges:

The language for the seminar and the texts is English. It is suggested that the end of term paper should be created in English. Please Note: While the course-work itself is largely committed to the idea of working in groups, the final paper (Hausarbeit) must be produced by each student individually.

### **Einzeltermin | Fr, 02.12.2011, 08:15 bis Fr, 02.12.2011, 11:45 | C 1.312**

#### **BLOCK A: CARE**

##### **Texts:**

Berwick, Donald M., Thomas W. Nolan, John Whittington

The Triple Aim: Care, Health, and Cost. In *Health Affairs*, Vol.27, 3, 2008: 759 - 769

Stingl, Alexander

“ADHD in a Science studies Perspective”, Kopnina/Keune, Health and Environment, Nova Science, 2010: 157 - 186

Thompson, Lee

“The role of nursing in governmentality, biopower and population health: Family health nursing” in: *Health and Place*, Vol. 14, 2008: 76 - 84

Furler, John, V. Palmer

“The Ethics of Everyday Practice in Primary Medical Care: Responding to Social Health Inequalities” in: *Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine*, 2010, 5:6

Rennie, Stuart, B. Mupenda

“Living Apart Together: Reflections on Bioethics, Global Inequality and Social Justice” in: *Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine*: 2008, 3:2

Stewart J.Murray

„Care and the self.“ In: *Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine* Vol.2, 6, 2007

Rabinow, Paul

*Anthropos Today*, Princeton UP, 2003:Select Chapters

Rose, Nikolas

*The Politics of Life Itself*, Princeton UP, 2006:Select Chapters

1) 08.15 - 09.45

Introduction.

„What is *care* in health care?“: Groups present and defend their first definition.

2) 10.00 - 11.30

Health and Illness, Care and Cost:

Discussion on Factors contributing to Health

Group Panels on Care versus Cost

### **Einzeltermin | So, 04.12.2011, 09:15 bis So, 04.12.2011, 18:45 | C 1.312**

3) 09.15 - 10.45

Techniken wissenschaftlichen Arbeitens (durchgeführt durch TutorIn)

4) 11.00 - 12.30  
Biopolitics and Governance.  
Group presentations

Mittagspause 12.30 - 13.45

#### BLOCK B: INFORMATION

Texts:

Ferguson T, Frydman G (May 2004).

"The first generation of e-patients". *BMJ* 328 (7449): 1148-9

Jacobson P (2007). "Empowering the physician-patient relationship: The effect of the Internet". *Partnership: the Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research* 2 (1).  
van Dijk, Jan

The Deepening Divide, Sage 2005:Select Chapters

Eubanks, Virginia

Digital Dead End, MIT Press 2011:Select Chapters

5) 13. 45 - 15.15

Digitalization and Health Care: Empowerment and the e-patient  
Case discussions of press reports.

6) 15.30 - 17.00

What is the digital divide and how does it relate to inequality and justice?  
Group presentations.

7) 17.15- 18.45

Overcoming the digital divide in health care.  
Discussion of project ideas

Einzeltermin | Fr, 06.01.2012, 08:15 bis Fr, 06.01.2012, 11:45 | C 1.312

#### BLOCK C: POWER

Castells, Manuel

Communication Power, Oxford UP, 2009: :Select Chapters

Benkler, Yochai

Wealth of Networks, Yale UP, 2007: :Select Chapters

Baldassarri, Delia, M. Diani,

"The Integrative Power of Civic Network," *American Journal of Sociology*, 113(3):735-80

Papadimos, Thomas J

Reflective Thinking and The Medical Student.

*Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine*, 2009, 4:5

Pettit, Philip

'The Reality of Group Agents' in Chris Mantzavinos, ed., *Philosophy of the Social Sciences: Philosophical Theory and Scientific Practice*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2009, 67-91

Stingl, Alexander

"Bringing Care Back into Health Care" Working Paper, 32 pages

8) 08.15 - 09.45

What is power?

Group panel discussions.

Presentations of definitions

9) 10.00 - 11.30

Power and Responsibility: Who can create change?

Literature Panel

Einzeltermin | Sa, 07.01.2012, 09:15 bis Sa, 07.01.2012, 18:45 | C 1.312

10) 09.15 - 10.45

Wiederholung/Fragen zu Techniken wissenschaftlichen Arbeitens (durchgeführt durch TutorIn)  
Video Clips and Discussion: Selling Health Policy versus Political Activism

11) 11.00 - 12.30

Speech-Writing Excersise: Communicating reform ideas, Motivating the public.

Mittagspause 12.30 - 13.45

12) 13. 45 - 15.15
























The power of the many, the power of the few.  
Building networks: A game between the groups.

13) 15.30 - 17.00

Grant-writing Excersices  
Presetation of Project Ideas: CARE POWER INFORMATION

14) 17.15- 18.45

Presentation of Project Ideas : CARE POWER INFORMATION  
Final Discussion: The future of care in health care and what We can do about it.

-  ▶\_Communication power Castells, Manuel. - 1. publ. - Oxford [u.a.] : Oxford Univ. Press, 2009  
-  ▶\_The wealth of networks : how social production transforms markets and freedom Benkler, Yochai. - New Haven, Conn. [u.a.] : Yale Univ. Press, 2006  
-  ▶\_The politics of life itself : biomedicine, power, and subjectivity in the twenty-first century Rose, Nikolas S.. - Princeton, NJ [u.a.] : Princeton Univ. Press, 2007    
-  ▶\_Anthropos today : reflections on modern equipment Rabinow, Paul. - Princeton, NJ [u.a.] : Princeton Univ. Press, 2003   
-  ▶\_Digital divide : civic engagement, information poverty, and the Internet worldwide Norris, Pippa. - Reprinted. - Cambridge [u.a.] : Cambridge Univ. Press, 2003   
-  ▶\_The deepening divide : inequality in the information society Dijk, Jan A. van. - Thousand Oaks, Calif. [u.a.] : Sage, 2005   

Literaturangaben im Freitext-Format

Thompson, Lee

“The role of nursing in governmentality, biopower and population health: Family health nursing” in:  
Health and Place, Vol. 14, 2008: 76 - 84

Furler, John, V. Palmer

“The Ethics of Everyday Practice in Primary Medical Care: Responding to Social Health Inequalities” in: Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine, 2010, 5:6

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Murray, Stewart

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Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine: 2008, 3:2

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