Collaborative Session Groups

1. Matt Burch and Susanne Schmidt

Title: "The Uses and Abuses of Expert Judgment"

Research questions:

- How do experts evoke and define a "crisis" and what are the effects
- What is everyday expertise? How does experiential knowledge compare, relate to, and compete with other forms of expertise?
- How can we know when it's best to trust or mistrust an expert? Put otherwise, how can we distinguish between a competent expert who is up to the task at hand and an overconfident expert who is out of his depth?
- If expertise involves mastering a well-defined domain, can expertise be of use during a crisis that calls into question the norms that govern that domain?

2. Julien-Francois Gerber, Giulia Rispoli, and Edna Bonhomme

Title: "The birth of the 'healthy' and 'ecological' society: Addressing the interplay between nature, medicine, imperialism and global change."

Research questions:

- Who is 'healthy'? What is 'natural'? What is the 'modern good life'? And who has historically defined these concepts for us?
- How have 'we' historically envisaged the 'other' medically, technoscientifically?
- How have 'we' historically envisaged 'nature' and the relationship between humanity and the environment?
- How have 'we' historically envisaged the 'good economy'?
- How do these three dimensions form a coherent scientific-ideological whole?
- Can capitalism be santized and ecologized?
- Should we resist science and technology?

3. Beverley Clough, Sebastian Felten, and Jill Gibbon

Title: 'What sort of thinking does the State possess?' Bruno Latour

Research questions:

- What apparatus or calculating devices are used as part of state decision making processes, and what are the effects of these?
- How does the materiality of life itself factor into these knowledge processes?
- How is state decision making performed and displayed? To what effect?

4. Jessie Hohmann, Catherine Charrett, and Tamar Novick

Title: "Technologies of Judgment: resistant bodies"

Research questions:

- How are technologies constructed and designed to make judgments on bodies and how do state institutions use technologies to pass judgments over bodies/people?
- What techniques are used to overcome the control/power of technologies over bodies, and is resistance to technologies inherent in bodies, and if so what are the implications for judgment, authority and, ultimately, technology?
- How do technologies transform, but also miss or fail to capture social and bodily expression and experience?
- How do technologies, and their colonial/ capitalist logic reproduce an order of knowledge about community and political life?