

Ordinary / Everyday / Quotidian

Organisers: Alex Beaumont, Stephanie Lambert, Benjamin Madden, Lawrence Rainey

The ordinary and the everyday are intuitively self-evident, yet notoriously elusive. Efforts to define “ordinary language” or “everyday practice” have preoccupied thinkers across many disciplines: philosophers, historians, sociologists, political theorists, geographers, and critics of literature and the visual arts. And these subjects demand more attention from scholars working on race, class, gender and sexuality, as well as food studies and the digital and medical humanities. Yet existing efforts have rarely engaged in dialogue with their counterparts in other disciplines.

Ordinary/Everyday/Quotidian is a research strand in the University of York’s Centre for Modern Studies devoted to bridging this disciplinary divide and exploring the various national traditions of thinking about the everyday. In order to do so, we have held a series of lectures and seminars throughout academic year 2012-13 with contributions from French Studies, English, History, Philosophy, Sociology, and the History of Art. We are pleased to have some of those guest speakers joining us again for the colloquium that concludes this conference.

One of the major impediments to interdisciplinary cooperation on the everyday is the persistence of discipline-specific vocabularies. In order to tackle this problem directly, this conference has grouped papers according to theme, rather than by discipline. As a result, all participants will be challenged to think outside of their habitual disciplinary vocabularies, and, we hope, emerge with fresh insights into their own presuppositions and an expanded conceptual toolbox for thinking about the everyday.

DAY 1, 26 September

9.30: REGISTRATION AND MORNING COFFEE / BERRICK SAUL BUILDING (BSB) FOYER

10.00: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

10.15: KEYNOTE ADDRESS / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Dr. Bryony Randall, University of Glasgow

A Day's Time: the One-Day Novel and the Temporality of the Everyday

'Everyday life is above all a temporal term' (Rita Felski) Yet work on the everyday, particularly in literary studies, has tended to focus on aspects of the spatial – objects, spaces, bodies. In particular, the one-day novel, while often the jumping-off point for discussions of the everyday, has received only superficial attention precisely in terms of its overall temporal structure. Focusing on recent one-day novels, in particular those in clear conversation with their canonical modernist precursors, and drawing on contemporary sociological and narratological approaches to (daily) temporality, this talk aims to turn or return our attention to the question of what a 'day' means.

11. 15: PANEL 1

EVERYDAY HABITS / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Catherine Bates (English & Creative Writing) Shopping Trolleys, Plastic Bottles, Extreme Sports: Everyday Street Life in Murray Siple's *Carts of Darkness* (2009)

Peter Fosl (Philosophy) Scepticism, Habit, and 'Common Life' in Hume

Paul Wilson (Design) The Grace of Everyday Texts: Reading the Typographic Traces of the Working-Men's Club

POLITICS OF THE ORDINARY / SEMINAR ROOM (BS 008)

Lora Koycheva (Slavonic & East European Studies) After Crisis: Chaos as Ordinary and the Catastrophe of the Political in Postsocialist Sofia, Bulgaria

Tammy Amiel Houser (Literature, Languages and the Arts) Everydayness and Political Domination: David Grossman's *To the End of the Land*

Emel Uzun (Sociology) Encounters in Everyday Life: Kurdish Question in Turkey

12.45: LUNCH / BSB FOYER

1.30: PANEL 2

EVERYDAY SPACES / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Kate Ferris (History) Experiencing Dictatorship: Uncovering the Everyday Life History of Fascism in Italy

Eva Mendez (Creative & Critical Writing) Walking as Speaking and Witnessing in Assia Djebar's *Women of Algiers in Their Apartment*

Chris Perkins (Asian Studies) Sakaguchi Kyōhei and the Everyday: Oyen Houses and Independent States in post-3.11 Japan

SPECTACULAR DOMESTICITY / SEMINAR ROOM (BS 008)

Francesco Buscemi (Media, Communication & Performing Arts) Television As a Trattoria: Constructing the Woman in the Kitchen on Daily Italian Food Shows

Susan Fraiman (English) Homeless Domesticity

Alida Payson (Journalism, Media & Cultural Studies) 'Diving into the (cake) Wreck': Stirring up the Politics of Everyday Cooking and Creativity in Popular British Food Media

2.50: AFTERNOON COFFEE / BSB FOYER

3.15: PANEL 3

POETICS OF THE ORDINARY / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Maria Cichosz, (Women & Gender Studies?) 'Hidden in plain sight all around us': Tripping, Ethical Attentiveness, and the Ordinary as Potential Resource in David Foster Wallace's Work

Vivian Sheng (History of Art) The 'Fabric' of Everyday Life: Yin Xiuzhen's Fantasy of 'Home-making' in the World

Judith Woolf (English and Related Literature) Transfigurations of the Commonplace: Hirst's Tumbler, Joyce's Tap

LEGACIES OF EVERYDAY LIFE THEORY / SEMINAR ROOM (BS 008)

Wood Roberdeau (Visual Cultures) Centralizing the Periphery: Social Art, Eco-Aesthetics and Liminal Space

Timothy Cooper (History) Wasting and the Political Ecology of Everyday Life in Modern Britain

Nicholas Beech (Architecture) The Domestication of the Everyday in Architecture at the Turn of the Century

4.45: KEYNOTE ADDRESS / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Dr. Jennifer Baird, Birkbeck University of London

Towards an Archaeology of the Everyday: The Material Past of Ancient Houses

Most of the material past studied by archaeology is the mundane, left-behind, thrown-away and commonplace stuff of everyday life. Using examples from my work on ancient Roman houses from a site on the Syrian Euphrates river, this presentation will explore how key concepts in archaeology might provide a way of interrogating the quotidian that have a broader relevance. These are materiality, assemblage, and time.

DAY 2, 27 September

9.30: KEYNOTE ADDRESS / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Prof. John Roberts, University of Wolverhampton

After Lefebvre: The Everyday and Political Economy Today

10.30: MORNING COFFEE / BSB FOYER

11.00: PANEL 4

DECODING THE QUOTIDIAN / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Sara Sewell (History) When the Extraordinary becomes Ordinary: Communist Culture in Everyday Life during the Weimar Republic

Joanne Lee (Fine Art) 'Keep chewing, look around you': Essaying the Everyday through the Pam Flett Press

Carol Taylor & Anne Kellock (Education, Childhood & Inclusion) Objects, Signs and Stuff: Exploring the Sensory Life of Mundane Things in the Workplaces of a UK University

ORDINARY BODIES? / SEMINAR ROOM (BS 008)

Adrienne Evans (Art & Design) From the Ordinary to the Extraordinary (and back again): Curious Affections in the Female Body

Mary O'Connor (English & Cultural Studies) The Gesture as Yearning: Vanessa Winship's *she dances on Jackson*

Laura Guthrie (English Literature) Normalising Disability in Fiction

12.30: LUNCH / BSB FOYER

1.15: PANEL 5

IS THE EVERYDAY PUBLIC? / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

Luke Layzelle (English) 'Art Everywhere' and Nowhere: Economies of Visibility in a Public Experience of Art

Pedram Dibazar (Media & Culture) The Everyday Practices of the Rooftop

David Harte & Jerome Turner (Media & Communication) Hyperlocal Publishing and the Role of Banal Activism in Civic Engagement

PRACTICING THE EVERYDAY / SEMINAR ROOM (BS 008)

Catalin Brylla (Photography & Digital Media) Blindness and the Everyday: A Documentary Perspective

Ania Malinowska (Literary & Cultural Theory) Embarrassing and Everyday: Speculating on the Popular Representation(s) of "Shit"

Jacquelyn Allen-Collinson (Sport & Exercise Science) & John Hockey (Education) Everyday Envisionings: Running Pleasures and Pains

2.30: COLLOQUIUM / BOWLAND AUDITORIUM

DR. MICHAEL WHITE, University of York

PROF. HOLGER NEHRING, Stirling University

DR. RUPERT READ, University of East Anglia

DR. NEAL ALEXANDER, University of Nottingham

PROF. MICHAEL SHERINGHAM, All Souls, University of Oxford

IN A CONVERSATION CHAIRED BY PROF. BEN HIGHMORE, University of Sussex