

Department Seminar Series Schedule

Fall 2013

03 October 2013 (12:00 – 2:00): [Dr. Carlo Fanelli](#)

JOR730

SSHRC Post Doctoral Fellow
Department of Politics and Public Administration
Ryerson University

Title: Municipal Neoliberalism and Ontario

Abstract:

My talk explores the municipal dimensions of neoliberal public policy and how federal and provincial relations with municipalities have been restructured over the last three decades. It is organized into three main sections. The first provides an overview of the central theoretical and ideological underpinnings of neoliberalism in its municipal form. Building on these theoretical points, part two details how consecutive Federal and Ontario governments have eroded inter-governmental transfers to municipalities and reinforced neoliberal imperatives since the 1980s. In particular, it is shown how the McGuinty Liberals have quietly consolidated the policy imperatives advanced by the Harris Conservatives. The concluding sections examine issues related to alternative means of re-balancing the fiscal framework for urban governance in Ontario, over the short, medium and long terms, and advances the case for a progressive municipal agenda. This also means addressing the politics of labour and social movements that might challenge the social and urban divides in Ontario politics.

Biography:

Carlo Fanelli is an Instructor and SSHRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Politics & Public Administration, Ryerson University, with interests in critical political economy, labour studies, Canadian public policy, social movements, urban sociology and education. He received his PhD from the Department of Sociology & Anthropology at Carleton University, with a specialization in Political Economy, and his M.A. in Sociology and B.A. in Sociology and Political Science from York University. Carlo serves as managing editor of [Alternate Routes: A Journal of Critical Social Research](#) and maintains a website at www.carlofanelli.org

31 October 2013 (12:00 – 2:00): Meghan Joy

JOR730

Doctoral Candidate, Policy Studies
Ryerson University

Title: Social Impact Bonds: The Next Phase of Third Sector Marketization?

Abstract:

The politics of austerity has pushed the third sector to the centre of attention as governments turn to non-governmental institutions to pick up the social deficits created by economic recession and the state's retreat from social provision. Some governments have begun supporting alternative service funding through such innovations as social impact bonds (SIBs), a financial product used to encourage the upfront investment of project-oriented service delivery. This discussion provides a clearer understanding of what SIBs are and traces their emergence within Canada while linking them to their cross national origins. SIBs are situated conceptually within broader contemporary developments within the non-profit sector, particularly the agenda of public sector reform and third sector marketization. The analysis focuses on the potential impact of SIBs on non-profit policy voice and capacity to represent and meet diverse community needs as it is this function that to a significant degree defines the third sector's ability to be innovative.

Biography:

Meghan Joy is a doctoral candidate in Policy Studies at Ryerson University. Her research explores the shifting policy role of the non-profit sector in the context of state rescaling and welfare state restructuring.

21 November 2013 (12:00 – 2:00): [Dr. Sedef Arat-Koç](#)

JOR730

Associate Professor

Department of Politics and Public Administration

Ryerson University

Title: From Regional Leadership to 'Precious Loneliness':
Risks and Contradictions of 'Neo-Ottoman' Aspirations for Empire

Abstract:

“Neo-Ottomanism”, a term used by some to characterize Turkish foreign policy for the past decade, involves a specific combination of Ottomanism, Islamism, Turkish nationalism and neoliberal hyper-developmentalism. Soon after the Arab uprisings, ironically at a time when it represented more ambitious aspirations for regional leadership in the Middle East, “neo-Ottoman” visions have started to encounter serious challenges and setbacks. The presentation focuses on the tensions and contradictions “neo-Ottomanism” poses regionally, internationally and in internal Turkish politics.

Biography:

Sedef Arat-Koç is an associate professor in the Department of Politics and Public Administration, and a member of the School of Graduate Studies, at Ryerson University, contributing to graduate programs in Immigration and Settlement Studies, Policy Studies and Communication and Culture. Her research has focused on gender and race in immigration policies in Canada; and Turkish society and politics in a period of neoliberalism and post-Cold War geopolitics. She is presently working on the impacts of "neo-Ottomanism" in Turkish foreign and national policies and the relationship of "neo-Ottomanism" to the politics of imperialism in the Middle East.