

Turku Institute for Advanced Studies – Annual Seminar

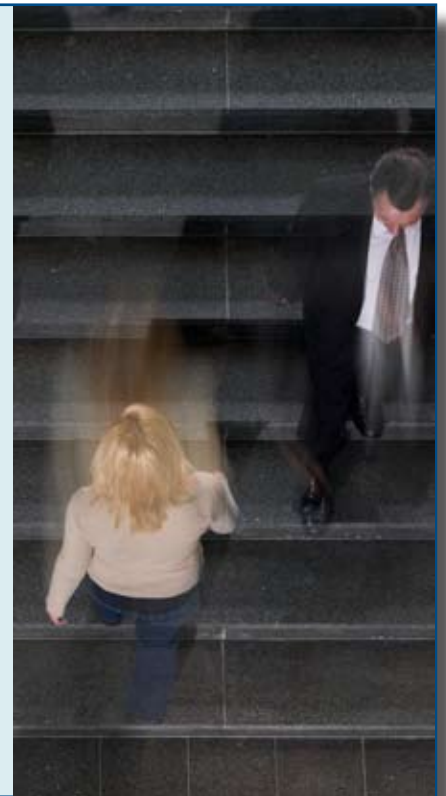
Future Challenges for Social Sciences & Humanities

Preliminary programme 3.6.2010



Plenary session, Publicum, Pub 3

8.30	Registration & coffee
9.00/9.15	Opening of the seminar
9.30-10.15	Keynote presentation Director, Professor Björn Wittrock, SCAS
10.15-11.00	Keynote presentation Academy Professor Anne Kovalainen, University of Turku
11.00-11.45	Keynote presentation Academy Professor Erno Lehtinen, University of Turku
12-13.00	Lunch
13-14.30	Workshop Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life course events: Successes and Failure• Regulation and deregulation: Interdisciplinary perspectives on economy• Violence in society
14.30-15.00	Coffee break
15.00-16.30	Workshop Sessions continued



Workshop: Life course events: Successes and failures

Stories of success and achievements have always been important for both individuals and society. Especially when talking about ourselves we tend to emphasize achievements as the core of our life-stories. Failures happen to somebody else, and they do not appear to form a crucial part of our identities, at least in publicity. However, academic research has always identified also the factors that lead to unfavourable outcomes. Different research traditions pay attention to different kinds of mechanisms and events in analysing individual life courses on either micro or macro level. For example, in historical research the microhistorical tradition has given room for different kinds of life-stories, which have not always been about successes. It has been possible to give attention to previously marginalized groups or individuals, (whose life-stories have not been success stories from poverty to richness).

National history writing and construction of national identity has, however, demanded established narratives of successful life courses. Similarly, the research on class mobility has pointed out that even if the structural changes in a society may foster intergenerational mobility from lower to upper classes, there is a considerable share of people who end up having less advantageous class position than their parents in all modern societies. Class mobility may be driven by structural forces, such as the changes in educational systems and labour markets, but it does not occur randomly at the individual level. Rather, it can be considered as follow-up from certain individual life course events and choices embedded within institutional constraints.

For what purpose do we need success stories, or recounting failures? Do we need them both, and who needs them?

Workshop: Regulation and deregulation: Interdisciplinary perspectives on economy

Today, free markets and competition are generally perceived as positive elements in society and also primary goals as such. The diffusion of competition into different sectors of society has usually been justified as a means to increase efficiency and economic growth. Competition has actually become a central ideology, on the basis of which the political elite has justified its decisions, whether it comes to taxation, terms of doing business, the labour market or social policy. Moreover, the concept of competition has been adopted as an argument against the welfare state. The present dominance of competition and marketization has been the outcome of the transition process from a national system of economic governance to adaptation to global economy. Deregulation has been an important characteristic of this development, which has meant internationalisation and globalization of the internal economic and labour-market relations.

Papers are invited on topics addressing different approaches to regulation and deregulation of economy. It is hoped that the presentations will encourage comparisons across different aspects of the topic and also across different disciplines dealing with these themes.

Workshop: Violence in society

This workshop is concerned with violence in society. What causes an individual to become violent? How is violence expressed? Who does the violence target? What are the consequences of violence for the individual and the community? How do we make sense of violent behavior?

Papers are invited on (but not limited to) the following topics:

- Violence in school contexts (e.g. weapon carrying in educational institutions, school shootings)
- Violence in domestic settings (e.g. partner violence and child abuse / incest)
- Representations of violence (e.g. in the media, in political debates and in literature)
- Violence amongst self-defined groups (e.g. prison communities, so-called 'honor-killings' and institutionally defined settings)
- Violence prevention programmes (e.g. anti-bullying campaigns, rehabilitation programmes)

Working methods

The workshop will consist of 15-20-minute paper presentations and a final discussion. The language of the workshop is English. In case you wish to present a paper in one of the workshops please send your abstract up to one page **by April 15, 2010** by e-mail to the responsible TIAS researchers.

A) Life course events: Successes and failures

Maarit Leskelä-Kärki, TIAS, Department of History, University of Turku, maales[at]utu.fi

Piia Seppänen, TIAS, Department of Education, University of Turku, piia.seppanen[at]utu.fi

Jani Erola, Academy of Finland, Turku School of Economics, University of Turku, jani.erola[at]tse.fi

B) Regulation and deregulation: Interdisciplinary perspectives on economy

Mika Kallioinen, TIAS, Department of History, University of Turku, mika.kallioinen[at]utu.fi

Pekka Lämsineva, TIAS, Faculty of Law, University of Turku, pekka.lansineva[at]utu.fi

C) Violence in society

Lydia Kokkola, TIAS, School of English, University of Turku, lydia.kokkola[at]utu.fi

Kätlin Peets, TIAS, Department of Psychology, University of Turku, kapeet[at]utu.fi

The papers to be presented will be selected by the workshop organisers in order to build a coherent and versatile workshop programme. Each presentation will be appointed a discussant in order to give constructive feedback on the papers. All the presenters are invited to submit their full paper at least one week prior to the seminar.



Further information on the seminar and workshops and practical information will be posted on the TIAS website: www.utu.fi/sivustot/collegia/tias/events/

Further information also available from Turku Institute for Advanced Studies

Coordinator Ulla Hytti, E-mail: Ulla.Hytti@tse.fi, Tel. +358 2 4814 514

