

課程名稱：社會科學哲學 (Philosophy of Social Science)

課程類別：研究所課程

開課學期：2007 下

任課老師：哲學所 陳思廷 (研究室：人社院：A622, 校內分機：34561)

上課時間：星期五，10:00am-1:00pm

課程內容：

針對有關社會科學家的理論與其理論效應之議題，當代學界普遍接受的觀點是，社會科學家之研究活動作為人類整體行動之一部份，它在相當程度上，會干擾其研究標的——亦即，人類整體活動——的存在現狀。由是，當哲學家在從事對社會科學這門學科本質的探討時，是否將此一“自我反饋”效應納入其理論論述之內，遂成為區分哲學家之具有“當代性”與否之重要依據。這個劃分依據的被廣泛採用，其所彰顯的意義，並不僅止於方便範疇之劃分。這個廣泛現象其所揭示的深層意義是，當代社會科學哲學界對方法論的普遍覺醒。

擁有了這份對方法論的敏感度，社會科學哲學家在處理社會科學本質這類議題時，遂會格外注意思慮如下之事實：社會科學家的研究活動本身如何與其自身所衍生之自我反饋作用一同共構社會科學這門學科之主體。因為，根據自我反饋在參與構建社會科學主體其所起的積極貢獻度來劃分，社會科學可以被視為是一門因果論式的學科 (自我反饋貢獻度最低)，一門詮釋性的學科 (自我反饋貢獻度次低)，或一門批判性的學科 (自我反饋貢獻度最高)。

由是以觀，個體的人類行動 (當然也包括了社會科學家與社會科學哲學家研究活動本身) 似乎無法逃避於人類行動自身所構築起來的行動的總體社會網絡 (the macro-social network of actions) 之外，而這耐人尋味的豐富圖像：個體自身的發展，總體之所由發生，與個體與總體之間的積極對話與其間錯綜複雜的相互影響之關係，遂構成了本課程的主體。本課程作為研究所社會科學哲學導論之課程，將特別著重於引導學生對當代社會科學哲學的各個主要議題進行詳細且深入的研討，以建制與儲備學生未來獨立進行其他社會科學哲學相關專題研究之能力。

本課程將涵蓋四大部份：

I. 社會科學哲學導論

本課程的導論部份——將針對社會科學之性質的後設觀點，作一鳥瞰式的回顧。議題包括：

—社會科學作為一門“自然式 (naturalistic)”或“實證式 (positivist)”的學科

—社會科學作為一門“詮釋性 (interpretive or hermeneutic)”的學科

—社會科學作為一門“批判性 (critical)”的學科

等三種後設觀點之回顧，以及這些觀點相互之間的論證關係之審視。

II. 社會科學哲學之主要議題：

本課程的核心部份——經由上述三種後設觀點的相互激盪下，許多社會科學哲學之主要議題逐一浮現。本部份將針對如下之各個主要議題及其衍生之次要議題進行討論：

- 社會科學之特徵 (The Characteristics of Social Science)
- 社會科學對人類行動之解釋 (Explanation of Human Actions in Social Science)
- 社會科學的客觀性 (或價值中立性) (Debate about Objectivity (or Value-Neutrality) in Social Science)
- 關於社會科學“合理性”假設之探討 (Problems about “Rationality” Assumption in Social Science)
- 關於社會科學之“功能論”解釋模型之探討 (Functional Explanation in Social Science)
- 有所謂的“社會科學定律”嗎？ (Are there so-called “Social Scientific Laws”?)
- 社會研究之反思效應 (Reflexive Effects in the Social Research)
- 化約主義、方法論上的個體論、與整體論 (Individualism and Holism) (Reductionism, Methodological Individualism, and Holism)

III. 社會科學哲學的應用之案例：以“經濟學”為一個研究案例

本課程核心部份應用於社會科學研究的一個案例研討 (Social Science in Context: Case Study—Economics)

IV. 社會科學哲學研究前沿議題之探討 (Frontiers in the Research of Philosophy of Social Science)

指定用書：

本門課會在學期初發給每位同學一本「閱讀文選」，文章均選自下列書籍：

Benton, Ted, and Ian Craib, David, 2001, *Philosophy of Social Science: The Philosophical Foundations of Social Thought*, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc. (簡寫成 BCPSS)

Delanty, Gerard, and Piet Strydom (eds.), 2003, *Philosophies of Social Science*, Birkshire, England, U.K. and Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A.: Open University Press. (簡寫成 DSPSS)

Kincaid, Harold, 1996, *Philosophical Foundations of the Social Sciences: Analyzing Controversies in Social Research*, Cambridge University Press. (簡寫成 PFSS)

Martin, Michael, and Lee C. McIntyre (eds.), 1995, *Readings in the Philosophy of Social Science*, Cambridge, MA, U.S.A. and London, U.K.: The MIT Press. (簡寫成 RPSS)

Nancy, Cartwright, 1999, *The Dappled World: A Study of the Boundaries of Science*, Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press. (簡寫成 DW)

Turner, Stephen P., and Paul A. Roth (eds.), 2003, *The Blackwell Guide to the Philosophy of the Social Sciences*, Oxford: The Blackwell Publishing Ltd. (簡寫成 BGPSS)

*如有需要，會補充其它相關文獻。

授課方式：

本課程導論部份，將以講授為主，課堂討論為輔的方式進行。課程的主要議題部份、案例研究部份、與前沿議題部份，學生依每週之分派，針對指定讀物，於課堂上作口頭分析報告，並引導討論之進行。未報告之同學，必須積極參與討論。教師會於報告與討論進行期間適時介入，以提供必要之指導與補充說明。

評分方式：

口頭分析報告、課堂參與、作業、小考：	40%
期中報告：	30%
期末報告：	30%
總計：	100%

1. 參與、作業、小考

—參與：課前準備、課堂參與、隨堂小考

—作業：翻譯、摘要、重建論證、重建立場等不同形式的作業

2. 本課程對期中與期末報告的基本要求：不只是摘要式的讀書報告，而是需具備分析性與批判性的哲學論文。

2-1：期中報告：計 1 篇，約 3000~5000 字。

2-2：期末報告：計 1 篇，約 3000~5000 字，期末報告須於學期結束兩星期前繳交。

Reading Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: The Naturalistic (or Positivist) Tradition of Philosophy of Social Science

Textbook Reading: Benton, Ted, and Ian Craib: Chapter 2 and 3 (from BCPSS)

Essay: Durkheim, E.: “What is a Social Fact?” (from DSPSS)

Week 3: The Interpretative Tradition of Philosophy of Social Science

Textbook Reading: Benton, Ted, and Ian Craib: Chapter 5 and 6 (from BCPSS)

Essay: Dilthey, W.: “The Development of Hermeneutics” (from DSPSS)

Week 4: The Critical Tradition of Philosophy of Social Science

Textbook Reading: Benton, Ted, and Ian Craib: Chapter 7 (from BCPSS)

Essay: Horkheimer, M.: “Traditional and Critical Theory” (from DSPSS)

Week 5: The Characteristic of Social Science

Essay 1: Machlup, F.: “Are the Social Sciences Really Inferior?” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Scriven, M.: “A Possible Distinction between Traditional Scientific Disciplines and the Study of Human Behavior” (from RPSS)

Week 6: Explanation of Human Actions in Social Science

Essay 1: Taylor, C.: “Interpretation and the Sciences of Man” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Martin, M.: “Taylor on Interpretation and the Sciences of Man” (from RPSS)

Week 7: Debate about Objectivity (or Value-Neutrality) in Social Science

Essay 1: Weber, M.: “‘Objectivity’ in Social Science and Social Policy” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Nagel, E.: “The Value-Oriented Bias of Social Inquiry” (from RPSS)

Week 8: Problems about “Rationality” Assumption in Social Science

Essay 1: Lukes, S.: “Some Problems about Rationality” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Føllesdal, D.: “The Status of Rationality Assumptions in Interpretation and in the Explanation of Action” (from RPSS)

Week 9: Functional Explanation (I)

Essay 1: Cohen, G. A.: “Functional Explanation: In Marxism” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Elster, J.: “Functional Explanation: In Social Science” (from RPSS)

Week 10: Functional Explanation (II)

Essay 1: Dore, R. P.: “Function and Cause” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Kincaid, H.: “Assessing Functional Explanations in the Social Sciences”
(from RPSS)

Week 11: Are there so-called “Social Scientific Laws”? (I)

Essay 1: Hayek, F. A.: “The Theory of Complex Phenomena” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Kincaid, H.: “Defending Laws in the Social Sciences” (from RPSS)

Week 12: Are there so-called “Social Scientific Laws”? (II)

Essay 1: Fay, B.: “General Laws and Explaining Human Behavior” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: McIntyre, L.C.: “Complexity and Social Scientific Laws” (from RPSS)

Week 13: Reflexive Effects in the Social Research

Essay 1: Romanos, G.: “Reflexive Predictions” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Martin, M.: “The Philosophical Importance of the Rosenthal Effect”
(from RPSS)

Week 14: Reductionism, Methodological Individualism, and Holism (I)

Essay 1: Watkins, J. W. N.: “Historical Explanation in the Social Sciences” (from
RPSS)

Essay 2: Miller, R. W.: “Methodological Individualism and Social Explanation”
(from RPSS)

Week 15: Reductionism, Methodological Individualism, and Holism (II)

Essay 1: Lukes, S.: “Methodological Individualism Reconsidered” (from RPSS)

Essay 2: Kincaid, H.: “Reduction, Explanation, and Individualism” (from RPSS)

Week 16: Social Science in Context: Case Study—Economics

Essay 1: Kincaid, H.: “Economics: A Test Case” (from PFSS)

Essay 2: Rosenberg, A.: “If Economics Isn’t Science, What Is It?” (from RPSS)

Essay 3: Cartwright, N.: “Ceteris Paribus Laws and Socio-Economic Machines”
(from DW)

Week 17: Frontiers of the Research on Philosophy of Social Science

Essay 1: Kellner, H.: “‘See Also Literary Criticism’: Social Science between Fact and Figures” (from BGPSS)

Essay 2: Harding, S.: “How Standpoint Methodology Informs Philosophy of Social Science” (from BGPSS)

Week 18: Final Exam Week