

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY  
UPPSALA UNIVERSITY

**Labour Geography in The Creative Economy (Reading Course)**

Spring 2014

Brian J. Hracs

Credits: 7.5 points (half time)

Level: PhD

**Course Description: Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the literature on labour geography within the context of the creative economy. There will be a focus in this course on the ways in which labour practices and policies are being redefined in the context of creative industries such as fashion, music and design.

The small size of this course will allow for in-depth discussions of the readings, which will be organized by theme (such as precarious employment and aesthetic labour). The purpose of the integrative papers is to provide a concise summary of the articles that have been examined, and to build knowledge that will be used in the final paper.

**The proposed themes of study are as follows:**

1. A broad introduction to the literature on labour in geography (i.e. precarious employment)
2. A study of labour in creative industries (i.e. project based work in the cultural and creative economy)
3. Aesthetic and emotional labour (i.e. personal branding, retail and gender)
4. Emerging issues in labour geography (i.e. new forms of organization and network formation)

**Examination:** The examination for this course will be in two parts. For each reading section, the assignment is to write an integrative paper of approximately two to three pages that provide a summary and analysis of approximately 20 articles. The final assignment will be to write a ten-page discussion paper related to the readings. Dr. Dominic Power will also review all submitted works.

**Deadlines:**

One integrative paper will be due per section, on the following dates:

- Section 1: February 7<sup>th</sup>
- Section 2: February 28<sup>th</sup>
- Section 3: March 28<sup>th</sup>
- Section 4: April 18
- Final Paper: April 20<sup>th</sup>

**Planned Meetings:** There will a meeting between the student and course organizer after the submission of each integrative paper to review the material in each of the four subsections.

**Literature:**

**Section 1: Introduction to Labour Geography**

Allen, J., & Henry, N. (1997). Ulrich Beck's Risk Society at Work: Labour and Employment in the Contract Service Industries. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 22(2), 180–196.

Atkinson, W. (2010). The myth of the reflexive worker: class and work histories in neo-liberal times. *Work, Employment & Society*, 24(3), 413–429. doi:10.1177/0950017010371659

Beck, U. (1992). *Risk Society: Towards a New Modernity*. SAGE. (Selected Chapters)

Beck, U., Giddens, A., & Lash, S. (1994). *Reflexive Modernization: Politics, Tradition and Aesthetics in the Modern Social Order*. Stanford University Press. (Selected Chapters)

Brown, W. (2003). Neo-liberalism and the End of Liberal Democracy. *Theory & Event*, 7(1). doi:10.1353/tae.2003.0020

Butz, D., & Leslie, D. (2001). Risky subjects: changing geographies of employment in the automobile industry. *Area*, 33(2), 212–219. doi:10.1111/1475-4762.00024

Coe, N. M. (2012). Geographies of production III: Making space for labour. *Progress in Human Geography*, 37(2), 271–284. doi:10.1177/0309132512441318

Coe, N. M., & Jordhus-Lier, D. C. (2011). Constrained agency? Re-evaluating the geographies of labour. *Progress in Human Geography*, 35(2), 211–233. doi:10.1177/0309132510366746

Crewe, L. (2000). Geographies of retailing and consumption. *Progress in Human Geography*, 24(2), 275–290.

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- Crewe, Louise. (2003). Geographies of retailing and consumption: markets in motion. *Progress in Human Geography*, 27(3), 352–362. doi:10.1191/0309132503ph431pr
- Ekinsmyth, C. (1999). Professional Workers in a Risk Society. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 24(3), 353–366. doi:10.1111/j.0020-2754.1999.00353.x
- Goss, J. (2006). Geographies of consumption: the work of consumption. *Progress in Human Geography*, 30(2), 237–249. doi:10.1191/0309132506ph604pr
- Herod, A. (1997). From a Geography of Labor to a Labor Geography: Labor’s Spatial Fix and the Geography of Capitalism. *Antipode*, 29(1), 1–31. doi:10.1111/1467-8330.00033
- Herod, A. (2000). Workers and workplaces in a neoliberal global economy. *Environment and Planning A*, 32(10), 1781–1790.
- Herod, A. (2003). Workers, Space, and Labor Geography. *International Labor and Working-Class History*, 64, 112–138. doi:10.1017/S014754790300022X
- Herod, A., Rainnie, A., & McGrath-Champ, S. (2007). Working space: why incorporating the geographical is central to theorizing work and employment practices. *Work, Employment & Society*, 21(2), 247–264. doi:10.1177/0950017007076633
- Honneth, A. (2004). Organized Self-Realization Some Paradoxes of Individualization. *European Journal of Social Theory*, 7(4), 463–478. doi:10.1177/1368431004046703
- James, A., & Vira, B. (2012). Labour geographies of India’s new service economy. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 12(4), 841–875. doi:10.1093/jeg/lbs008
- Lemke, T. (2001). “The birth of bio-politics”: Michel Foucault’s lecture at the Collège de France on neo-liberal governmentality. *Economy and Society*, 30(2), 190–207.  
doi:10.1080/03085140120042271
- Leslie, D. (2002). Gender, Retail Employment and the Clothing Commodity Chain. *Gender, Place & Culture*, 9(1), 61–76. doi:10.1080/09663690120115047

- Lier, D. C. (2007). Places of Work, Scales of Organising: A Review of Labour Geography. *Geography Compass*, 1(4), 814–833. doi:10.1111/j.1749-8198.2007.00047.x
- McDowell, L. (2011). *Capital Culture: Gender at Work in the City*. John Wiley & Sons. (Selected Chapters)
- McDowell, L., Batnitzky, A., & Dyer, S. (2009). Precarious Work and Economic Migration: Emerging Immigrant Divisions of Labour in Greater London's Service Sector. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 33(1), 3–25. doi:10.1111/j.1468-2427.2009.00831.x
- McDowell, L., & Christopherson, S. (2009). Transforming work: new forms of employment and their regulation. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*, 2(3), 335–342. doi:10.1093/cjres/rsp024
- Ocejo, R. E. (2010). What'll it be? Cocktail bartenders and the redefinition of service in the creative economy. *City, Culture and Society*, 1(4), 179–184. doi:10.1016/j.ccs.2011.01.004
- Ocejo, R. E. (2012). At your service: The meanings and practices of contemporary bartenders. *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, 15(5), 642–658. doi:10.1177/1367549412445761
- Peck, J., & Tickell, A. (2002). Neoliberalizing Space. *Antipode*, 34(3), 380–404. doi:10.1111/1467-8330.00247
- Peuter, G. de. (2011). Creative Economy and Labor Precarity A Contested Convergence. *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, 35(4), 417–425. doi:10.1177/0196859911416362
- Reimer, S. (1998). Working in a Risk Society. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 23(1), 116–127. doi:10.1111/j.0020-2754.1998.t01-1-00116.x
- Reimer, S. (2009). Geographies of production III: knowledge, cultural economies and work (revisited). *Progress in Human Geography*, 33(5), 677–684. doi:10.1177/0309132509104807
- Ross, A. (2004). *No-collar: The Humane Workplace and Its Hidden Costs*. Temple University Press. (Selected Chapters)

- Ross, A. (2008). The New Geography of Work Power to the Precarious? *Theory, Culture & Society*, 25(7-8), 31–49. doi:10.1177/0263276408097795
- Rutherford, T. (2010). De/Re-Centring Work and Class?: A Review and Critique of Labour Geography. *Geography Compass*, 4(7), 768–777. doi:10.1111/j.1749-8198.2010.00328.x
- Strauss, K. (2012). Coerced, Forced and Unfree Labour: Geographies of Exploitation in Contemporary Labour Markets. *Geography Compass*, 6(3), 137–148. doi:10.1111/j.1749-8198.2011.00474.x
- Beck, U. (2000) *The Brave New World of Work*. Wiley. (Selected Chapters)
- Tufts, S., & Savage, L. (2009). Labouring geography: Negotiating scales, strategies and future directions. *Geoforum*, 40(6), 945–948. doi:10.1016/j.geoforum.2009.10.006
- Vosko, L. F. (2000). *Temporary Work: The Gendered Rise of a Precarious Employment Relationship*. University of Toronto Press. (Selected Chapters)
- Vosko, L. F. (2009). *Managing the Margins: Gender, Citizenship, and the International Regulation of Precarious Employment*. Oxford University Press.

## **Section 2: Labour in the Creative Industries**

- Arvidsson, A., Malossi, G., & Naro, S. (2010). Passionate Work? Labour Conditions in the Milan Fashion Industry. *Journal for Cultural Research*, 14(3), 295–309.  
doi:10.1080/14797581003791503
- Bain, A., & McLean, H. (2013). The artistic precariat. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*, 6(1), 93–111. doi:10.1093/cjres/rss020
- Banks, J., & Deuze, M. (2009). Co-creative labour. *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, 12(5), 419–431. doi:10.1177/1367877909337862

Banks, M. (2006). Moral Economy and Cultural Work. *Sociology*, 40(3), 455–472.

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Banks, M. (2009). Fit and working again? The instrumental leisure of the “creative class.”

*Environment and Planning A*, 41(3), 668–681.

Banks, M. (2010). Autonomy Guaranteed? Cultural Work and the “Art–Commerce Relation.”

*Journal for Cultural Research*, 14(3), 251–269. doi:10.1080/14797581003791487

Banks, M., & Milestone, K. (2011). Individualization, Gender and Cultural Work. *Gender, Work &*

*Organization*, 18(1), 73–89. doi:10.1111/j.1468-0432.2010.00535.x

Blair, H., Culkin, N., & Randle, K. (2003). From London to Los Angeles: a comparison of local

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Christopherson, S. (2002). Project work in context: regulatory change and the new geography of

media. *Environment and Planning A*, 34(11), 2003–2015.

Christopherson, S. (2008). Beyond the Self-expressive Creative Worker An Industry Perspective

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Eikhof, D. R., & Haunschild, A. (2006). Lifestyle Meets Market: Bohemian Entrepreneurs in

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Ekinsmyth, C. (2002). Project Organization, Embeddedness and Risk in Magazine Publishing.

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Frenette, A. (2013). Making the Intern Economy: Role and Career Challenges of the Music

Industry Intern. *Work and Occupations*, 40(4), 364–397. doi:10.1177/0730888413504098

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- Gill, R., & Pratt, A. (2008). In the Social Factory? Immaterial Labour, Precariousness and Cultural Work. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 25(7-8), 1–30. doi:10.1177/0263276408097794
- Hesmondhalgh, D. (2010). Normativity and Social Justice in the Analysis of Creative Labour. *Journal for Cultural Research*, 14(3), 231–249. doi:10.1080/14797581003791461
- Hesmondhalgh, D., & Baker, S. (2010). “A very complicated version of freedom”: Conditions and experiences of creative labour in three cultural industries. *Poetics*, 38(1), 4–20.  
doi:10.1016/j.poetic.2009.10.001
- Hesmondhalgh, D., & Baker, S. (2013). *Creative Labour: Media Work in Three Cultural Industries*. Routledge. (Selected Chapters)
- Hughes, C. (2012). Gender, craft labour and the creative sector. *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, 18(4), 439–454. doi:10.1080/10286632.2011.592187
- Jarvis, H., & Pratt, A. C. (2006). Bringing it all back home: The extensification and “overflowing” of work: The case of San Francisco’s new media households. *Geoforum*, 37(3), 331–339.  
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- Kaye, J., & Davis, C. H. (2011). If it ain’t on the page, it ain’t on the stage: screenwriting, national specificity and the English-Canadian feature film. *Journal of Screenwriting*, 2(1), 61–83.  
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- Kennedy, H. (2010). Net work: the professionalization of web design. *Media, Culture & Society*, 32(2), 187–203. doi:10.1177/0163443709355606

- Kloosterman, R. C. (2010). Building a Career: Labour Practices and Cluster Reproduction in Dutch Architectural Design. *Regional Studies*, 44(7), 859–871.  
doi:10.1080/00343400903236873
- McGregor, A., & Gibson, C. (2009). Musical work in a university town: The shifting spaces and practices of DJs in Dunedin. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 50(3), 277–288. doi:10.1111/j.1467-8373.2009.01401.x
- McGuigan, J. (2010). Creative labour, cultural work and individualisation. *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, 16(3), 323–335. doi:10.1080/10286630903029658
- McKinlay, A., & Smith, C. (2009). *Creative labour: working in the creative industries*. Palgrave Macmillan.
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Vinodrai, T. (2006). Reproducing Toronto's Design Ecology: Career Paths, Intermediaries, and Local Labor Markets. *Economic Geography*, 82(3), 237–263. doi:10.1111/j.1944-

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Vinodrai, T. (2013). Design in a downturn? Creative work, labour market dynamics and institutions in comparative perspective. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*, 6(1),

159–176. doi:10.1093/cjres/rss011

Watson, A. (2012). Sociological Perspectives on the Economic Geography of Projects: The Case of Project-Based Working in the Creative Industries. *Geography Compass*, 6(10), 617–631.

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### **Section 3: Aesthetic Labour in the Creative Economy**

Brook, P. (2009). The Alienated Heart: Hochschild's "emotional labour" thesis and the anticapitalist politics of alienation. *Capital & Class*, 33(2), 7–31.

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Bryson, J. R. (2007). The "second" Global Shift: The Offshoring or Global Sourcing of Corporate Services and the Rise of Distanced Emotional Labour. *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography*, 89, 31–43. doi:10.1111/j.1468-0467.2007.00258.x

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#### **Section 4: Emerging Issues in Labour Geography**

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- Hesmondhalgh, D. (2010). User-generated content, free labour and the cultural industries. *Theory and Politics in Organization*, 10(3/4), 267–284.
- Hracs, B. J. (2012). A Creative Industry in Transition: The Rise of Digitally Driven Independent Music Production. *Growth and Change*, 43(3), 442–461. doi:10.1111/j.1468-2257.2012.00593.x
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*Additional readings as required.*