

Care as Ethics, Labour or Emotion: A Reading Course in Feminist Theory

Equivalent to 6,5 or 7,5 credits (see “Credits and Literature”)

For PhD students

Spring 2022, Chalmers University of Technology (online over Zoom)

Course contact: angelica.wagstrom@chalmers.se

Dates and Location

All seminars will be held over Zoom, every third Tuesday at 16-17.30 GMT+1

January 18, February 8, March 2, March 22, April 12, May 3, May 24

Course/Seminar Description

In this seminar series we explore the concept of care through feminist readings within strands of materialist ecofeminism, feminist ethics, Marxist feminism, posthumanism, and more. Further concepts related to care, such as emotional labour and social reproduction, are also covered.

Credits and Literature

The course can be attended as either a seminar series without examination, or as a reading course. In the latter case, the student needs to agree with their supervisor on form of examination and corresponding credits.

The course/seminar series is divided in seven differently themed sessions. The students are expected to read the texts assigned for each seminar, amounting to approximately 250-300 pages per session. The finishing two sessions are specific to research on energy transition and the Swedish welfare system, and the course can be taken with or without attending these. If the student chooses to attend only the five first sessions, the credits for the course corresponds to approximately 6,5 credits (1350 pages of reading), and if attending all seven sessions, the credits amount to approximately 7,5 credits (1500 pages of reading), but this is up to each student and supervisor to decide.

Apart from the readings, course/seminar attendees are encouraged to send a few questions for discussion the day before the seminar, to all participants. Comments and suggestions for alternative or additional readings are welcome as the course unfolds.

Examination

The examination is decided individually for each student, in agreement with their supervisor. One example is active participation in all (5 or 7) course sessions and submission of a text as part of a monograph or draft article.

Reading List

Session 1: Care Ethics and Feminist Theory of Care (257 pages)

Barnes, M. (2012). *Care in Everyday Life: An Ethic of Care in Practice*. Bristol: The Policy Press. Pp. 11-34 (chapter 2) (total: 24 pp).

Fisher, B. and Tronto, J. (1990). Toward a feminist theory of caring, in: E.K. Abel, M.K. Nelson (Eds.), *Circles of Care: Work and Identity in Women's Lives*, Albany: State University of New York Press, pp. 35–62 (total: 27 pp).

Gilligan, C. (1982). *In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Pp. 24-63 (chapter 2) (total: 40 pp).

Noddings, N. (2013 [1984]). *Caring: a relational approach to ethics and moral education*, 2nd ed. University of California Press. Pp. xiii-xix (Preface to the 2013 edition), 7-29 (chapter 1) and 79-103 (chapter 4) (total: 55 pp).

Tronto, J.C. (1993). *Moral boundaries: a political argument for an ethic of care*, Routledge, London. Pp. 77-91 (part of chapter 3) and 101-180 (chapters 4, 5 and 6) (total: 95 pp).

Tronto, J. C. (1995). Women and caring: what can feminists learn about morality from caring? In V. Held, ed. *Justice and Care: Essential Readings in Feminist Ethics*. Boulder: Westview Press, 101-116 (total: 16 pp).

Session 2: Care and Social Justice in a Global Context (246 pages)

Barnes, M. (2012). *Care in Everyday Life: An Ethic of Care in Practice*. Bristol: The Policy Press. Pp. 61-146 (chapters 4-7) (total: 85 pp).

Held, V. (1995). Introduction. In V. Held, ed., *Justice and Care: Essential Readings in Feminist Ethics*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1-6.

Held, V. (2006). *The Ethics of Care: Personal, Political, and Global*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 9-43 (chapters 1 and 2), 76-104 (chapters 5-6) and 154-168 (chapter 10) (total: 79 pp).

Lister, R. (2003 [1997]). *Citizenship: Feminist Perspectives*, Campling, J. (ed.), 2nd ed. Pp. 101-106 (part of chapter 4), 130-138 (part of chapter 5), and 182-190 (part of chapter 7) (total: 24 pp).

MacGregor, S. (2004). From Care to Citizenship: Calling Ecofeminism Back to Politics. *Ethics Environ.* 9: 56–84. <https://doi.org/10.1353/een.2004.0007> (28 pp).

Nadasen, P. (2021). “Rethinking Care Work: (Dis)Affection and the Politics of Caring.” *Feminist Formations* 33(1): pp. 165-188. (24 pp).

Session 3: Social Reproduction and Gendered Division of Labour (270 pages)

Bakker, I. and Gill, S. (2019). Rethinking power, production, and social reproduction: Toward variegated social reproduction. *Capital & Class* 43(4): pp. 503-523. (21 pp).

Barca, Stefania. (2020). *Forces of Reproduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 62 pp.

Dalla Costa, M. and James, S. (1997). Women and the Subversion of the Community. In Hennessy, R. and Ingraham, C. (eds.) *Materialist Feminism*, pp. 40-53. New York & London: Routledge (14 pp).

Dalla Costa, M. (2021). *Family, Welfare, and the State: Between Progressivism and the New Deal*. 2nd edition. Common Notions. Pp. 7-20 (chapter 1) and pp. 79-96 (chapter 5) (total: 30 pp).

Federici, S. (2019). *Re-Enchanting the World: Feminism and the Politics of the Commons*. Oakland, PM Press. Pp. 15-25 (“Introduction to the New Enclosures”) and 175-187 (“From Crisis to Commons”) (total: 24 pp.)

Federici, S. (2020). *Revolution at Point Zero*. Oakland, PM Press. Pp. 11-18 (“Wages Against Housework”), 59-72 (“On Affective Labour”) and 101-122 (“The Reproduction of Labour Power in the Global Economy and the Unfinished Feminist Revolution”) (total: 42 pp).

Fraser, N. (2016). Contradictions of Capital and Care. *New Left Review* 100: 99-117 (19 pp).

Fraser, N. (2017). Crisis of Care? On the Social Reproductive Contradictions of Contemporary Capitalism. In Bhattacharya, T. (ed.) *Social Reproduction Theory: Remapping Class, Recentering Oppression*, pp. 21-36. London: Pluto Press.

Mies, M. (2014 [1986]). *Patriarchy and Accumulation on a World Scale: Women in the International Division of Labour*, 2nd Edition. London: Zed Books. Pp. 28-38 (part of chapter 1), 44-73 (Chapter 2) (total: 41 pp).

Session 4: Emotional Labour and the “Care Sector” (284 pages)

Folbre, N. (2002). *The Invisible Heart: Economics and Family Values*. The New Press. 288 pp. Pp. 22-108 (chapters 2-4), pp. 159-184 (chapter 7) and pp. 209-232 (chapter 9) (total: 136 pp.).

Hochschild, A. (2012). *The Managed Heart*. University of California Press. 352 pp. Pp. 3-23 (chapter 1), and 89-198 (chapters 6-9) (total: 130 pp).

Vincent, C. and Braun, A. (2013). Being ‘fun’ at work: Emotional labour, class, gender and childcare. *British Educational Research Journal* 39(4): 1-18.

Session 5: More-than-human Care, Care and Nature (307 pages)

Bauhardt, C. (2019). Nature, care and gender: Feminist dilemmas. In Bauhardt, C. and Harcourt, W. (eds.) *Feminist Political Ecology and the Economics of Care*, pp. 16-35 (chapter 2). Abingdon & New York: Routledge. (20 pp).

Haraway, D. J. (2016). *Staying with the trouble: Making kin in the Chthulucene*. Durham: Duke University Press. Pp. 2-8 (Introduction) and 99-116 (chapters 4 and 5) (total: 25 pp).

Harcourt, W. and Bauhardt, C. (2019). Introduction: Conversations on care in Feminist Political Economy and Ecology. In Bauhardt, C. and Harcourt, W. (eds.) *Feminist Political Ecology and the Economics of Care*, pp. 1-15 (chapter 1). Abingdon & New York: Routledge. (15 pp).

Hultman, M. and Pulé, M. P. (2018). Caring for the ‘glocal’ commons. In *Ecological Masculinities: Theoretical Foundations and Practical Guidance*, pp. 163-185. (23 pp).

Puig de la Bellacasa, M. (2017). *Matters of Care: Speculative Ethics in More than Human Worlds*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 221 pp.

Puig de la Bellacasa, M. (2018). Intertwining beyond–critical reading as a labour of care. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 11(3): 274-276 (3 pp).

Session 6: Care in a Swedish Context (96 pages)

Mulinari, D., and Lundqvist, Å. (2017). Invisible, Burdensome and Threatening. The Location of Migrant Women in the Swedish Welfare State. In Ålund, A., Schierup, C-U., and Neergaard, A. (eds.) *Reimagineering the Nation: Essays on Twenty-First Century Sweden*, pp. 119-141 (22 pp).

Selberg, R. (2012). *Femininity at Work: Gender, Labour and Changing Relations of Power in a Swedish Hospital*. Arkiv förlag. Pp. 15-74 (chapters 1 and 2) and 307-320 (chapter 10) (30 pp). (74 pp).

Session 7: Care in Energy Research (53 pages)

Hargreaves, T. and Middlemiss, L. (2020). The importance of social relations in shaping energy demand, *Nat. Energy*. 5: 195–201. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41560-020-0553-5>.

Lorenz-Meyer, D. (2017). Becoming responsible with solar power? Extending feminist imaginings of community, participation and care. *Australian Feminist Studies*, 32(94): 427-444.

O’Sullivan, K. C. and Chisholm, E. (2020). Baby it’s hot outside: Balancing health risks and energy efficiency when parenting during extreme heat events. *Energy Research & Social Science* 66: 1-4.

+ TBA: forthcoming article. (approximately 25 pages)