5/1/22  **Timetable for the Critical Realism UCL Reading Group,** 10/1/2022 to 14/3/2022 6.00-7.00 pm London time, GMT. We have suggested readings. More details about them in later sessions will be sent later in the term. You may prefer to look at the readings after the sessions, and if they are not in your university library perhaps you could ask librarians to order them. The reading list is at the end of this timetable. Link to the course <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/critical-realism-reading-group-tickets-212378538927>

|   | Date | Presenters + readings | CR concepts |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 10/1/22 | Host: Rob Faure Walker (RFW)Priscilla Alderson (PA)READINGAlderson, 2013:48-50, 57-61; Faure Walker, 2021; Gorski, 2013; Bhaskar 2016:173-5; Bhaskar 2017.  | INTRODUCTION TO BASIC CRITICAL REALISMMemory of Roy Bhaskar (David Graeber video)Being and knowing, Natural necessity - EAR Emergence of ‘Extremism’, seen and unseen, what CR adds; Under-labouring; 7 tenets of positivism, interpretivism in natural + social sciences; ontology, epistemology, epistemic fallacy ACTIVITY How could EAR analysis be used in your research? |
| 2 | 17/1/22 | Host: RFWYana Manyukhina (20 mins)PATamaki Yoshida (10 mins) READINGAlderson, 2013: 50-51, 55-57; Yoshida 2011; Manyukhina et al., 2017Manyukhian 2018; Archer, 2003: 1-16; Archer 2013. | FURTHER BASIC CRITICAL REALISM: STRUCTURE AND AGENCYAgency and identity formation, life style choicesArcher’s internal conversationsStructure and agency; closed and open systems; transitive, intransitive; TMSA; morphogenesis; morphostasisPhysical punishment in schools ACTIVITY How could structure and agency analysis be used in your research? |
| 3 | 24/1/21 | Host: RFW PAAbdullahi Haji-Abdi (10 minutes)Andrew Sayer (20 minutes)READINGAlderson 2013:28-38; Haji-Abdi 2016Sayer 2011: Chapter 2, 23-58, and Chapter 8, 246-252. | VALUES AND POWERSearch for truth; fallibility; theory-practice consistency; being serious; epistemic fallacy; two kinds of power The Somalian diaspora in London Facts and values, implications for social science.ACTIVITYHow do values and power relate to your research? |
| 4 | 31/1/22 | Host: PARFW Wendy Sims-Shouten Leigh Price (20 mins) DiscussionREADINGFaure Walker 2021; Price 2016: 109-29Sins-Shouten etal., 2007. 2018 | APPLIED CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS - DCASemiotic triangle; TINA; DCA + Prevent How I have used critical realist discourse analysisInduction. Deduction, abduction, retroduction DREI(C) Climate change research. Work in South Africa and NorwayACTIVITY: How might applied critical discourse analysis and/or retroduction help your research? |
| 5 | 7/2/22 | Host: RFWPA Brenda Hayanga (10 mins)READINGAlderson 2021: 128-32, 136-7. | FOUR PLANES OF SOCIAL BEINGTransitive and intransitive; open and closed systems;Four planes of social being, global ↔ local, quantitative ↔ qualitative; making connections; interdisciplinary researchElderly British-Africans in LondonACTIVITYHow could the four planes be used in your research? |
| 6 | 14/2/22 | Host: RFW PARosa MendizabalREADINGAlderson et al. 2020.Mendizabal 2017.  | TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE (MELD)Dialectic; absence; difference and change; emergence; dialectical critical realism. Four stages of MELD, transformative change; malign, benign and mini MELDMELD and research in Mexican neonatal unitsACTIVITYHow could your research involve MELD? |
| 7 | 21/2/22 | Host: RFW PA  Attenders present their power pointsSam Porter (20 mins) READINGPorter 2015Alderson 2021: 25-36  | REALISM + SCIENCEPossibility of naturalism, interdisciplinary research; ontological realism; epistemological relativism, judgmental rationality Critical realism and realist evaluation, the debate. ACTIVITY/FOLLOW UPHow could your research be interdisciplinary? |
| 8 | 28/2/22 | Host: PARFW Attenders present their power pointsGary Hawke (25 minutes) ReadingBhaskar 2016, Chapter 6; Bhaskar 2017 ed. Hawke. | META-REALITYTranscendental CR, demi-reality, MELDARZ Memories of working with Roy and writing the book (Bhaskar 2017), Meta RealityACTIVITYHow does Meta-Reality relate to your research?  |
| 9 | 7/3/22 | Host: RFWPA Attenders present their power pointsXiao Qu READINGAlderson 2021: 167-180; Qu 2019;Molyneux 2012 | CHANGING THE WORLD?Examples of applied critical realism and research related to policy and practice: Religion, conflict, peace, justice, utopias, eudaimoniaInclusive education and Confucianism in China ACTIVITY How might your research relate to policy or practical change?  |
| 10 | 14/3/22  | Hosts: RFW + PAAttenders present their power pointsDouglas PorporaREADINGPorpora 2015: 188-208 | CRITICAL REALISM AND YOUR RESEARCHReview of course. Q&A. Comments on what you gained, themes that could have been clearer. Seven commitments of social research ACTIVITY Write a ‘private journal’ account of your experience of the course and your plans for using it. |

**Reading list**

Alderson, P. (2013) *Childhoods Real and Imagined: Volume 1: An Introduction to Childhood Studies and Critical Realism*. London: Routledge.

Alderson P. (2021) *Critical Realism for Health and Illness Research*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Alderson, P., Sutcliffe, K. and Mendizabal, R. (2020) A critical realist analysis of consent to surgery for children, human nature and dialectic: the pulse of freedom, *Journal of Critical Realism,* 19(2) 159-71

Archer, M. (2000)*Being Human*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Archer, M. (2003) *Structure, Agency and the Internal Conversation.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Bhaskar, R. (1998 [1979]) *The Possibility of Naturalism: A Philosophical Critique of the Contemporary Human Sciences.* London: Routledge.

Bhaskar, R. (2008) *Dialectic: The Pulse of Freedom*. London: Routledge.

Baskar, R. (2016) Hartwig M. (ed) *Enlightened Common Sense: The Philosophy of Critical Realism.* London: Routledge.

Bhaskar, R. (2017) Hawke, G. (ed) *The Order of Natural Necessity*. *A Kind of Introduction to Critical Realism.* Amazon. £10. Gary’s Introduction is on <http://www.garyhawke.org/garys-foreword-to-the-order-of-natural-necessity-a-kind-of-introduction-to-critical-realism/>

Buch-Hansen, H. and Nielsen, P. (2020) *Critical Realism: Basics and Beyond*: Red Globe Press.

Gorski, P. (2013) What is critical realism and why should you care? *Contemporary Sociology,* 42, 5: 658-70.

Haji-Abdi, A. (2016) *Critical Realism, Somalia and the Diaspora Community*. Routledge.

Hartwig, M. (ed). (2007) *Dictionary of Critical Realism,* Routledge.

Faure Walker, R. (2021) *The Emergence of Extremism.* Bloomsbury.

Fairclough, N. (2005) ‘Discourse Analysis in Organization Studies: The Case for Critical Realism.’ *Organization Studies* 26(6): 915–939

Mendizabal, R. (2017) *A critical realist study of neonatal intensive care in Mexico*. PhD Thesis. London: UCL https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/1546182/

Manyukhina, Y., Emmel, N. and Middlemiss, L. (2017) Exercising moral agency in the contexts of objective reality: toward an integrated account of ethical consumer behaviour*. Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour, 47* (4), 418–434.

Manyukhina, Y. (2018) *Ethical Consumption: Practices and Identities. A Realist Approach.* London: Routledge.

Molyneux, J. (2012) *The Point is to Change It.* London: Bookmarks. £7. Explains Marxism and change.

Porpora DV (2015) *Reconstructing Sociology: the critical realist approach*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Porter, S. (2015) Realist evaluation: an immanent critique, *Nursing Philosophy*, 16(4): 18–28.

Price, L. (2016) Using retroduction to address wicked problems. In Næss, P. and Price, L. (eds) *Crisis System: A Critical Realist and Environmental Critique of Economics and the Economy*. London: Routledge, 109–29.

Qu, Xiao. (2019) *Inclusive Education in Chinese Primary Schools – A Critical Realist Analysis*. PhD Thesis, UCL. https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10081111/

Sayer, A. (2011) *Why Things Matter to People: Social Science, Values and Ethical Life.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Sims-Schouten, W. and Riley, S. (2018) Presenting critical realist discourse analysis as a tool for making sense of service users’ accounts of their mental health problems, *Qualitative Health Research, 29*(7), <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732318818824>.

Sims-Schouten, W., Riley, S.C.E. & Willig, C. (2007) Critical Realism: A presentation of a systematic method of analysis using women's talk of motherhood, childcare and female employment as an example. *Theory & Psychology, 17*(1), 127-150.

Yoshida, T. (2011) *Corporal Punishment of Children: A Critical Realist Account of Experiences from Two Primary Schools in Urban Tanzania*. PhD Thesis, UCL, https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10020614/