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The Fay Gale Centre for Research on Gender



Eating history: food, body, and temporality in the postindustrial era

Presented by Hannah Landecker

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Event details

Date: Thursday 10th
September 2015

Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm

All welcome

Venue: Wills Building (off
Wills court), 553 Seminar
Room, University of Adelaide

RSVP: Tuesday 8th September
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Campus Map:

<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/campuses/northtce>

Scientific or technical things and ideas are also cultural, literary, political and philosophical in nature. However, modern disciplines have divided things up in very particular ways - the sociologist Émile Durkheim described it as the way in which individuals were understood as productive only if they "plowed their own furrow." Many aspects of our industrialized world produce objects and processes, from climate change to endocrine disruptors, that challenge these classical distinctions between science and society, nature and culture. The task before the social sciences today is to stop plowing, and to start thinking about how to get out of the furrows. In this talk, I use examples from my own research at the intersection of metabolic sciences and historical and social theory to discuss how to live and think productively with and beyond older disciplinary domains.

Bio: Hannah Landecker holds a joint appointment in the life and social sciences at the University of California Los Angeles, where she is the Director of the Institute for Society and Genetics, and an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology. Her PhD in Science and Technology Studies from MIT was followed by a postdoc at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, and several years teaching medical anthropology at Rice University, before moving to UCLA in 2008. She is the author of *Culturing Life: How Cells Became Technologies* (Harvard, 2007), and a body of work on the use of film technology in the life sciences. Her research draws on and contributes to issues central to feminist science studies: the commercialization of life and reproduction, biology as a site of social engineering, implications of epigenetics for the social and self-governance of pregnancy, and philosophical tensions between plasticity and determinism in biomedical explanations of human nature and disease. A/Prof's visit is supported by an Interdisciplinary Research Fund Grant and the Fay Gale Centre for Research on Gender.