Biological Futures

in a GLOBALIZED WORLD

Winter Quarter Colloquium Series

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Biopolitics and Its Problems: A Genealogical Pragmatist Approach

Contemporary humanities and social sciences research are abuzz with discourse surrounding the intersections of the biological, the political, and the ethical, typically framed in terms of biopolitics and bioethics. While there are many ways of understanding these intersections, an approach that might be referred to as 'genealogical pragmatism' focuses on analyzing relevant practices in terms of the challenging problems they pose and the reconstructive resolutions to these problems toward which we might contribute.

Background reading is available online to anyone with a UW NetID at the Biological Futures in a Globalized World Colloquium GoPost: https://catalyst.uw.edu/gopost/board/suzelong/26086/

Colin Koopman is Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and 2011-12 Robert F. and Evelyn Nelson Wulf Professor in the Humanities at the University of Oregon. He is the author of Genealogy as Critique: Problems of Modernity in Foucault (forthcoming with Indiana University Press, 2012) and Pragmatism as Transition: Historicity and Hope in James, Dewey, & Rorty (Columbia University Press, 2009). He has published articles in Philosophy and Social Criticism, The Journal of the Philosophy of History, Foucault Studies, The Review of Metaphysics, Metaphilosophy and elsewhere, and recently guest edited an issue of History of the Human Sciences titled "Foucault Across the Disciplines".