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**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
ANTHROPOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES
SEMESTER 1, 2020**

Friday, May 1st, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Precarity and the Pandemic: Talking about Trauma

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Abstract

Following research into the conditions and experiences of academic precarity, the talk is in response to calls from Australian sociologists and universities to turn our attention to the COVID-19 crisis. This is done by taking seriously the idea, which stretches from experts in the news media to laymen on social media, that many if not all of us are experiencing trauma or will be traumatised by the pandemic. Using social systems theory and cultural trauma literature to guide the discussion, three contexts that have been touched by the pandemic are considered: casual university tutors working from home, a senior-focused not-for-profit operating in Perth, and community building efforts by the International Bateson Institute.

Bio

Christian Mauri is a Perth-based sociologist and sessional educator. His 2019 Doctoral thesis, "The Precariat, Ph.D.", brings together class analysis and social systems theory to address the changing situations of academics in Australian universities, and his publications can be found in the *Journal of Cultural Economy*, *Time and Society*, *Social Structures of Global Academia* (Routledge), and *The Postdoc Landscape: Invisible Scholars* (Academic Press). His public work includes coordinating the monthly Fremantle Network event, "Politics in the Pub", hosting warm data labs for the International Bateson Institute, and working alongside Chorus Kitchens to provide introductory IT training to senior citizens.



This seminar will be conducted via Zoom. To start or join please click:

<https://uwa.zoom.us/j/93463908434?pwd=aW9ZSE9lK1VwcGkwUHJlWjJKWlBOUTo9>
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