

Illuminations

Ernesto Laclau

Owain Smolovic-Jones

Thursday 17th March Christadoulou (Central) Meeting Room (CMR1)

15.30

Owain Smolovic-Jones of the *Department of Public Leadership and Social Enterprise (PuLSE)* will be giving the second talk in the ***illuminations*** series.

Ernesto Laclau was a formidable political theorist whose work carries great significance for how we think of political alliances and identity. Reaching beyond the realm of formal politics, Laclau's work holds promise for organization studies, as it offers a set of radical but practical concepts that can be used to explore the political dynamics of organizations and organizing. Come along to the latest in the Illuminations series to discuss:

- ***Why the ontological ground upon which we walk, work and relate is contingent to its core but all the more meaningful for it.***
- ***Why Jeremy Corbyn won the Labour leadership spectacularly and will spectacularly fail to win the general election.***

- ***Why Marxists are wrong about class as a privileged identity.***
- ***Why empty signifiers are the most meaningful signifiers of all:
Justice for OU staff!***
- ***Why organizations can be institutionally committed to equality but
particularly sexist in practice.***
- ***How Gotham City is a model of denial and ignorance and why it
doesn't deserve good leadership.***
- ***This will be a session overflowing with a surplus of fun, intrigue
and, in all likelihood, some rattling good rows. See you in the
(contingent) pit.***

Illuminations is a series of informal talks from colleagues in the OU on a range of key theorists who exert powerful influence within the social sciences. The format is a short presentation on some aspect of their work, followed by a general discussion on their insights, influence and interpretation in different settings. The aim is to provide a general introduction and create ongoing discussion. All are welcome.

For further details contact leslie.budd@open.ac.uk