



Neuro & the Readable Mind

6pm, June 6 | Court Room, Senate House



An event of *The Human Mind Project* with **Nikolas Rose**.

Live broadcast on Periscope

The Human Mind Project Seminar Series

Neuro & the Readable Mind

18:00-19:30 | 6 June 2016

Court Room, Senate House



If we can 'read' the mind in the brain itself, what then?

The human body was made legible long ago. But what of the human mind? Is it possible to 'read' the mind, for one human being to know what another is thinking or feeling, their beliefs and intentions? And if I can read your mind, how about others – could our authorities, in the criminal justice system or the security services? Some developments in contemporary neuroscience suggest the answer to this question is 'yes'.

While philosophers continue to debate the mind-brain problem, a range of novel technologies of brain imaging have been used to argue that specific mental states, and even specific thoughts, can be identified by characteristic patterns of brain activation; this has led some to propose their use in practices ranging from lie detection and security screening to the assessment of brain activity in persons in persistent vegetative states. In this talk, Nikolas Rose will explore some of the epistemological and ontological mutations involved, and consider some implications of this materialization of the readable, knowable, transparent mind.

Nikolas Rose is Professor of Sociology and Head of the Department of Social Science, Health and Medicine at King's College London. His work explores how scientific developments have changed conceptions of human identity and governance and what this means for political, socio-economic and legal futures.

Programme

Opening remarks by **Mattia Gallotti**, School of Advanced Study, University of London

18:00 **Nikolas Rose**

Professor of Sociology and Head of Department of Social Science, Health and Medicine at Kings College London

19:00 Discussion

19:30 *Wine reception*

The event will be chaired by **Colin Blakemore**, School of Advanced Study, University of London.

This event is part of *The Human Mind Project Seminar Series*.