



15 June 2012, Universität Zürich, Karl Schmid-Strasse 4, Hörsaal KO2-F-152

The Governance of Infection: On the Politics and Poetics of Contagion

Public Keynote Lecture by Professor David Armstrong and
Interdisciplinary Round Table Discussion

In films like Steven Soderbergh's *Contagion* the world is portrayed as never more than a cough or sneeze away from a major pandemic, one that could spell the end of the human race. Today, concerns over microbial organisms transgressing national borders in a globalized world have both undermined and reinforced state efforts to control disease. But why are microbes



considered such a global threat, and is the threat just a matter of “hype”? Who or what is behind these narratives of contagion, and why has contagion been the object of so much fear and fascination over the past few decades? These and other questions are at the centre of a two-day workshop beginning on 15 June with a public discussion involving leading experts in the field.

Public Round Table Discussion, 10:00 – 12:00

Professor Flurin Condrau, Institute and Museum of the History of Medicine, University of Zurich

Professor Lars Hangartner, Institute of Medical Virology, University of Zurich.

Professor Nicolas Müller, Division of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital Zurich

PD Dr. Margot Mütsch, Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Zurich

Professor Werner Wunderli, University of Geneva

Moderators: Carlo Caduff, Mark Honigsbaum, Janina Kehr

Keynote Lecture, Professor David Armstrong, 18:00 – 19:30

David Armstrong is Professor of Medicine and Sociology at King's College London. He is the author of *Political Anatomy of the Body: Medical Knowledge in Britain in the 20th Century* (Cambridge University Press) and numerous articles on the history of medicine and infectious disease.

For full workshop programme see <http://www.mhiz.uzh.ch/Forschung.html>