

# New Approaches



# to Social Science Research

## & Their Implications for Doctoral Study in the Applied Social Sciences

Discussion group led by  
**Larry Susskind**

FORD PROFESSOR OF URBAN &  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING, DUSP

SPONSORED BY:  
MIT COLAB & URBAN

PLEASE NOTE:  
SPACE IS LIMITED.  
PLEASE CONTACT  
[JASMINEB@MIT.EDU](mailto:JASMINEB@MIT.EDU)  
IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN  
PARTICIPATING.

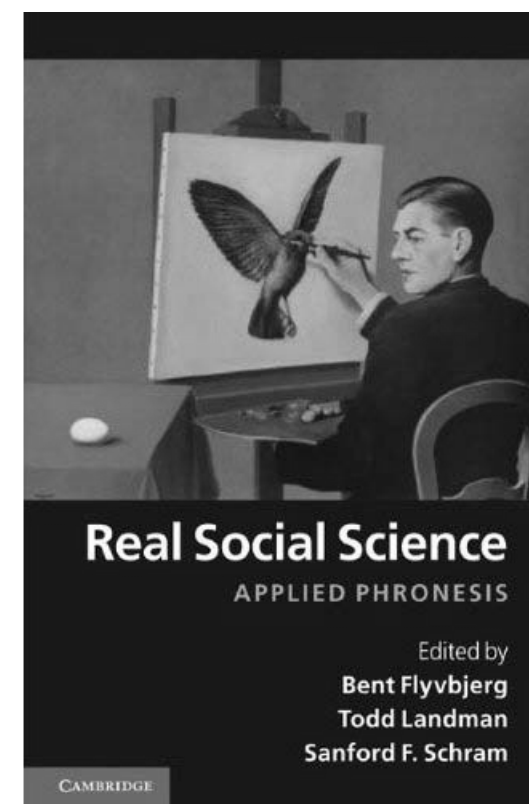


1

Feb 20th  
12:00 - 2:00  
Room 9-451

DISCUSSION OF  
**BENT FLYVBJERG'S  
MAKING SOCIAL  
SCIENCE MATTER:  
WHY SOCIAL INQUIRY  
FAILS AND HOW IT  
CAN SUCCEED AGAIN,**  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY  
PRESS, 2001

*Making Social Science Matter* presents a new approach to social science, including theoretical argument, methodological guidelines, and examples of practical application. Why has social science failed in attempts to emulate natural science and produce normal theory? Flyvbjerg argues that the strength of social science is in its rich, reflexive analysis of values and power, essential to the social and economic development of any society.



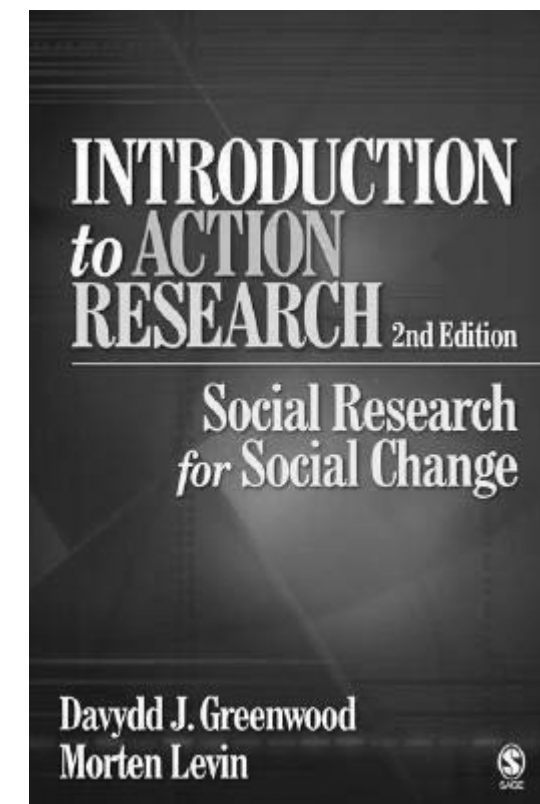
2

Mar 6th  
12:00 - 2:00  
Room 9-451

DISCUSSION OF  
**REAL SOCIAL SCIENCE:  
APPLIED PHRONESIS  
EDITED BY BENT  
FLYVBJERG, TODD  
LANDMANN AND  
SANFORD SCHRAM,**  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY  
PRESS, 2012

Review: "Built on Flyvbjerg's commitment to social science that 'matters', Flyvbjerg, Landman, and Schram's volume enriches the field with theoretical and methodological arguments and case studies extending and contending with each other in diverse locales and levels of social intervention. Anyone interested in socially-transformative social science will gain from it."

Davydd J. Greenwood, Cornell University



3

Mar 20th  
12:00 - 2:00  
Room 9-451

Participatory Action Research,  
Phronesis and Their Implica-  
tions for Doctoral Study in the  
MIT Department of Urban  
Studies and Planning

INVITED GUEST:  
**PROF. JOHN FORESTER**  
Department of City & Regional  
Planning, Cornell University

DISCUSSION OF  
**DAVYDD GREENWOOD  
AND MORTEN LEVIN,  
INTRODUCTION TO  
ACTION RESEARCH:  
SOCIAL RESEARCH AND  
SOCIAL CHANGE,**  
2ND EDITION,  
SAGE, 2006