

ANDREAS GLAESER

Professor of Sociology
The University of Chicago
Presenting February 28, 2020



WORKSHOP

Thursday, February 27 | 4:30 PM | BUS 4-16

Institutions, Politics, and Power: A Hermeneutic Perspective

SMO SPONSORED SPEAKER SERIES

Friday February 28 | 10:30 AM
5-13 Eric Geddes Lab (Business Building)

Imagining Alternative Social Orders: The Historical Role of Transcendences

In comparison with the past, the Europeanoid present is remarkable for the absence of realistic counter-imaginaries to the currently instituted social order. Until quite recently socialism held wide appeal as counter-imaginary to the liberal nation state. Before that, liberalism itself was operational as a counter-imaginary to absolutist monarchy. Even in the middle ages, biblically inspired millenarianism provided a counter-point to feudal rule. In search for the reasons behind the disappearance of realistic counter-imaginaries, this paper looks at the historical role that transcendent absolutes such as God, essences, and natural law have played in the generation and adoption of political counter-imaginaries.”
