



Australian  
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HRC SEMINAR

## Habit's Pathways: Repetition, Power, Conduct

**Tuesday 6 October 2020**

**4.30 - 5.30pm**

### Speaker

**Prof Tony Bennett**

University of Western Sydney and  
ANU

### Location

**Online seminar**

### Enquiries

**E** [hrc@anu.edu.au](mailto:hrc@anu.edu.au)

**T** 02 6125 4357

**This seminar is free and open to  
the public**



How are we to understand the political roles that habit has played in the exercise of different forms of power? In this lecture, Prof Bennett develops two lines of argument in relation to the question. The first considers how conceptions of habit as a form of repetition following the course of a path-way have informed the ways in which various kinds of authority (religious, philosophical, scientific) have sought to direct the conduct of selected populations. How this pathway is constructed – Prof Bennett's second argument – depends on how habit is placed in relation to other aspects of personhood: the senses, will, reflex, instinct, the nervous system, brain and consciousness.

**Professor Tony Bennett** is Research Professor in Social and Cultural Theory in the Institute for Culture and Society at Western Sydney University and an Honorary Professor in the Humanities Research Centre at the ANU. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and of the Academy of the Social Sciences in the UK, and has held previous professorial positions at Griffith University, The Open University, and the University of Melbourne. His research spans the fields of cultural studies, cultural sociology, and museum studies, and he has served as a director of nationally funded research centres in Australia and the UK. He is the author/editor of over 30 books. His most recent publications include *Making Culture, Changing Society* (2013), *Collecting, Organising, Governing: Anthropology, Museums and Liberal Government* (co-author, 2017), *Museums, Power, Knowledge* (2018), *Fields, Capitals, Habitus: Australian Culture, Social Divisions and Inequalities* (convening author and editor), and *The Australian Art Field: Practices, Policies, Institutions* (convening editor).

Presented by:

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