



## **ISM SEMINAR**

Summer Term 2014-15

**Speaker:** Dr Mark Thompson, Judge Business School, University of Cambridge

**Title:** The social potency of affect: Identification, power, and the immanent structuring of practice (with Hugh Willmott)

**Date:** Wednesday 29 April 2015

**Venue:** B1.19 WBS Scarman Road

**Time:** 14:00

**Abstract:** We address the centrality of affect in structuring social practices, including those of organizing and managing. Social practices, it is argued, are contingent upon actors' affectively charged involvement in immanent, yet indeterminate social relations. To understand this generative involvement, we commend a temporally-sensitive, critically-oriented theoretical framework, grounded in an affect-based ontology of practice. We demonstrate the relevance and credibility of this proposal through an analysis of the interactions of Board members in a UK consulting company.

**Biography:** Mark has 22 years of information systems and change management experience and is currently Strategy Director and Co-owner, Methods Group, where he has created two thriving startups since 2011 (Methods Advisory and Methods Digital). He is a member of the National Audit Office's Digital Advisory Panel, and was until recently a Main Board Member, Intellect UK (now TechUK), and is also a member of the CBI 21<sup>st</sup> Century Public Services Task and Finish Group. Prior to Methods, Mark was a Change Management Consultant at Accenture.

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This seminar has been organised by the iSM Group.