It has become increasingly apparent that there are many points of contact between design and social science disciplines. In many respects, these have arisen in an ad hoc fashion, and there has been relatively little sustained reflection on what broader lessons can be drawn.

The CSISP seminar series on ‘Design and Social Science’ aims to explore these points of contact through a range of discussions that address such key topics as theory, practice, research, user, object, product, audience etc. Though the immediate objective is to enhance mutual understanding across disciplinary practices, it is also hoped that this series can serve as a platform for opening up interdisciplinary research futures.

Week 2 | Wed January 16 | 4.00 - 6.00pm
Alex Wilkie: ‘Prospecting users: user centered design and commercial social science’

Week 4 | Wed January 30 | 4.00 - 6.00pm
Matt Ward: ‘Disruption, disturbance and deviation: towards a definition of design’s critical practice’

Week 7 | Wed February 20 | 4.00 - 6.00pm
Matt Watson (Sheffield University): ‘Product design and the practices of everyday life’

Week 9 | Wed March 5 | 4.00 - 6.00pm
Jennifer Gabrys: ‘Museum of failure: electronics, obsolescence and archives’

Week | 10 Wed March 19 | 4.00 - 6.00pm
Mike Michael & Bill Gaver: ‘Design and social sciences: what, where, when next?’