

Breakout session 1

Consider how Richard Hall uses a specific theoretical, indeed practical approach, namely Marxism or dialectical materialism, to make sense of the changing role of academic labour and its relationship to higher education governance. Then consider how Richard Hall situates higher education within a set of political and economic trends we might call 'neoliberalism' or 'neoliberalisation', thereby arriving at a particular conception of neoliberalism by way of Marxist analysis – 'authoritarian neoliberalism'.

In groups reflect on the following questions:

- What is your understanding of neoliberalism? Is there more than one way to understand neoliberalism?
- How do you theorise and apply neoliberalism in your work, if at all? Provide concrete examples.
- What types of concepts and perspectives are pertinent to your analysis?