

# *Research Methods*

## **Lecture 5**

### **Interactive Multi-disciplinary Methodology**

- 1. Redefining research paradigms – the interactive multi-disciplinary approach**
- 2. A case study – the 1989 East and Central European Revolutions**
  - a) a range of multi-disciplinary causes**
  - b) initial methodology – J.S. Mill's ‘Method of Agreement’ and ‘Method of Difference’**
  - c) counterfactualism**

# *1. Redefining research paradigms*

- social science disciplinary divisions (and research divisions) derived from the dominant liberal ideology of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (divisions between self-contained arenas of economics and politics - market and state)
- residual arena of ‘irrational behaviour’ = sociology

***BUT*** throughout course of 20<sup>th</sup> century discipline variables increasingly overlapped and interacted as societies became more complex

## *2. A case study: the 1989 Revolutions of East and central Europe*

- a) causes of events of 1989 in  
Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania,  
Bulgaria, Poland, GDR (East Germany)
- b) John Stuart Mill's 'Method of  
Agreement' and 'Method of Difference'
- c) Counterfactualism ('New Economic  
Historians' – R.W. Fogel, G.R. Hawke –  
comparison of 'social savings' in U.S.A  
and Britain's 19<sup>th</sup> century industrialisation)

***HYBRIDISATION?***