



Between Borders: Exploring Spaces of Exclusion and Belonging in Global Migration – 9th June 2017

'Ours is a time of the triumph of borders, an epoch of border fetishism. Borders determine how the world looks. The map represents the world as a mosaic of unities, of nations, with clear outlines and distinct in different colours. Borders are constructed to designate difference.'

-Khosravi, Shahram (2010) *'Illegal' Traveller: An Auto-Ethnography of Borders*, London: Pelgrave Macmillan, p. 1.

The world today can be viewed as made up of divided nation states, each of its constituent parts following differing ideologies and degrees of securitised, patrolled and monitored borders. Do these frontiers create difference? Are they a symptom of fragmented world views? Or merely forms of maintaining control, order and regular migration? How do these spaces affect identities? On what level do they form an obstacle to mobility? These are some of the big questions for today's globalising world and we hope to be able to address them at the UCL Migration Conference 2017.

The 6th Annual Migration Conference will be held on the 9th June 2017 and we are currently accepting abstracts for papers to present on the day. Organised by MSc students from the Global Migration programme in collaboration with the UCL Migration Research Unit, the conference will be hoping to delve deeper into themes around borders and the different types of community they engender.

The audience will be made up of a wide range of academics and post graduate students from varying backgrounds offering the chance for rich, diverse, and inter-disciplinary discussion and feedback throughout the day. The field of research is particularly topical and relevant in the current political climate and would benefit from thematic and analytical focus. As such critical engagement into notions of exclusion, belonging and identity and their relation to borderspaces should prove both rewarding and timely.

We, the organisers, note the growing importance of new voices, analysis and pioneering and innovative thought. To this end we would like to open our call for papers to all graduate students, especially those reading for a PhD or undertaking post-doctoral research. We recognise the theme crosscuts many disciplines and research areas so would particularly welcome papers with an inter-disciplinary nature and focus.

The day will be split into 3 panel discussions with a keynote speaker (TBA). Papers may address but are not limited to the following themes:

1. Borderlands as a space of identity production, reassertion and indefinision

- Boundaries of culture, identity and difference
- Transnational identities
- Migrant identity and generation, intersectionality and definition

2. Traversing borders – legal and practical challenges of geo-political barriers to movement

- Citizenship in the nation-state
- Migration and human rights
- Criminalisation and securitisation of migration

3. National challenges – the politics of borders and exclusion

- Gendered and racialised politics of belonging
- The rise of the far-right, alt-politics and populism.
- Diversity versus monoculturalism? Discourses of integration, assimilation and acculturation

Should you wish to participate in the conference please send an abstract of no more than 300 words to: geog.migrationconference@ucl.ac.uk Please include the title of your paper, your full name, institutional affiliation, a short biography, and a contact email address. The deadline for entries will be the 6th March 2017. Further detail on registration for the event, cost and ticket information will be announced on 27th March 2017.

Presentations on the day will be no longer than 20 minutes to allow time for question and answer panel discussion. All applicants will be notified by 27th March 2017. Please note, the organising committee cannot cover travel or visa costs so these must be considered before confirmation.

Please feel free to get in touch with any queries around the conference or the potential fit for your paper as we hope to invite papers on a diverse range of themes.



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UCL Global Migration Conference



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