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Migration and homes: a one-day workshop

16th June 2014, UCL
10am - 6pm, followed by a Reception



This event is sponsored by the Migration Research Unit, UCL Department of Geography and funded from grants from the UCL Environment Institute and UCL Grand Challenge of Intercultural Interaction

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Welcome to **Migration and homes: a one-day workshop**.

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Front
cover
photo:



A 'family house', Buea Cameroon. Designed to look like a single house, the building actually contains multiple apartments for different groups of the same family.

Photo credit: Ben Page

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Programme

UCL Department of Geography, University College London, 26 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AP

- 10.00am **Claire Dwyer** (UCL) – Welcome and Introduction – Room 113, First Floor
- 10.10am **Ben Page** (UCL)
*Licensed to leave: a son, a brother, a father, an American and his house in a
Cameroonian village*
- 10.40am **JoAnn McGregor** (University of Sussex)
*Sentimentality or speculation? Diaspora investment, casino economics and the
politics of property in Zimbabwe*
- 11.10am **Luke Freeman** (UCL) – (Discussant)
- 11.40am-12.00pm Coffee – Maconochie Room
- 12.00pm **Katie Walsh** (University of Sussex)
Home-making among English return migrants in later life
- 12.30pm **Kate Smith** (UCL)
*'Home building', return migration and the eighteenth-century East India Company
family*
- 1.00pm **Tariq Jazeel** (UCL) – (Chair & Discussant)
- 1.30pm-2.30pm Lunch – Maconochie Room
- 2.30pm **Steve Taylor** (University of Northumbria)
Land, Migration and Identity: Changing Punjabi Transnationalism
- 3.00pm **Annabelle Wilkins** (QMW)
Home and work for Vietnamese migrants in the East End of London
- 3.30pm **Pushpa Arabindoo** (UCL) – (Chair and Discussant)
- 4.00-4.30pm Tea – Maconochie Room
- 4.30pm **Caroline Melly** (Smith College, Mass.)
Embouteillage, migration and urban transformation in Dakar, Senegal
- 5.30pm-6.00pm Plenary panel – **Victor Buchli** (UCL), **Ann Varley** (UCL) and **Claire Dwyer**
(UCL)
- 6.30pm Reception, followed by dinner at Dim T, 32 Charlotte Street, London W1T 2NQ
www.dimt.co.uk

Presenters

Claire Dwyer is co-editor of *New Geographies of Race and Racism*, Aldershot Ashgate (2008) and co-editor of *Transnational Spaces*, London Routledge (2004). Her recent work on *Faith in Suburbia in London and Vancouver* has led to collaborations with artists and communities as well as a touring exhibition. Her blog on the project can be found at: <http://faithinsuburbia.wordpress.com/>

Ben Page is an author of *Development and the African diaspora: place and the politics of home*, London, Zed Books (2008). His current work analyses migration and the new middle class in Cameroon (where he has been working since 1994), which has led to an interest in houses, architecture and domesticity.

JoAnn Mcgregor is an editor of *Zimbabwe's New Diaspora: Displacement and the Cultural Politics of Survival*, Oxford, Berghahn Books (2010) and the author of *Crossing the Zambezi: The Politics of Landscape on a Central African Frontier*, Oxford, James Currey (2009). She recently completed an ESRC funded project on *The transnational politics of exile and solidarity: Zimbabweans in Britain from 1965* which relates recent African diaspora to the experiences of a previous generation of exiles from the era of decolonization and the Cold War.

Luke Freeman's current book project *The Pen and the Spade: dilemmas of education in Highland Madagascar* examines the role of schooling in an isolated rice-growing valley with an extraordinarily high level of engagement and success in formal education. His work on migrants' homes in Madagascar was published in 2013: 'Separation, Connection, and the Ambiguous Nature of Émigré Houses in Rural Highland Madagascar', *Home Cultures*, 10(2) 93-110.

Katie Walsh is an editor of *The new expatriates: postcolonial approaches to mobile professionals* London, Routledge (2012). She is currently collecting life-stories from older people in Britain, focusing on narratives of home, belonging, and British migration over the life-course. This project pays particular attention to domesticity and intimacy, exploring the way in which older people's current sense of belonging is shaped by their experiences of diaspora.

Kate Smith's current book project *Materials Goods, Moving Hands: Perceiving Production in England, 1700-1830* demonstrates how representations of production shaped consumer cultures in the long eighteenth century. She is currently a Research Fellow on *The East India Company at Home, 1757-1857* project in which she tracks officials and their families as they returned to Britain. She explores the objects they returned with and the country houses they bought, built and rented once home to show how Britain's global and imperial connections shaped material culture in this period.

Tariq Jazeel is the author of *Sacred Modernity: nature, environment and the postcolonial geographies of Sri Lankan nationhood* Liverpool, Liverpool University Press (2013). Tariq works at the intersections of postcolonial and critical theory. In current research, he continues to focus on 'tropical modern' architecture and planning in South Asia; on the relationships between politics, aesthetics, and the spatialities of dissent.

Steve Taylor is the author of a series of articles on Punjabi transnationalism including most recently '*Home is Never Fully Achieved ... Even When We Are In it: Migration, Belonging and Social Exclusion within Punjabi Transnational Mobility*' in the journal *Mobilities* (online advanced access). He is currently working on a study of migration from Punjab, India to the UK, with a particular focus upon meanings and experiences of 'home' and 'belonging' within Eastern Punjabi Transnational Communities and the impact of out-migration upon 'development' within Punjab.

Annabelle Wilkins has undertaken fieldwork on the experiences of home, education and activism among women on the Thai-Burma border. Her current research looks at home, work and migration in the East End of London since 1945. Using life history interviewing and material culture approaches she is examining relationships between home and work for migrants from a range of communities in London. Her work will inform the development of exhibitions and learning resources at the Geffrye Museum.

Pushpa Arabindoo trained as an architect and urban designer and has current research interests in the political economy of diasporic pilgrimage in India. In this research she examines the relationship between the resident Indian middle classes and the non-resident Indian (NRI), a specific manifestation of the Indian diaspora. It treats the NRI as a pilgrim-tourist during their regular 'return visits' to India and seeks to understand diaspora beyond the traditional discourse of nostalgia for cultural symbols.

Caroline Melly's current book project examines how state officials and urban residents in Dakar, Senegal articulate complex and contradictory visions of a new era in the capital's postcolonial history, one that follows the structural adjustment reforms of the 1980s and 1990s. This period is characterized by an intense interest in transnational migration out of the country (to destinations like Europe, the United States and the Middle East) and by a focus on large-scale investment and entrepreneurialism. Her research broadly considers how transnational processes and linkages, such as migration, foreign investment regulations and practices, development discourses, and technology and media, are transforming urban spaces and livelihoods in contemporary Africa. Her ethnographic research involved an internship at the national investment promotion agency, which was looking to create a program for migrants to invest; mobile interviews with cab drivers navigating the city; and extensive work with return migrants, investors and residents who considered themselves excluded from transnational networks.

Victor Buchli is the author of *The Anthropology of Architecture*, Oxford, Berg (2013). Victor has been managing editor of the *Journal of Material Culture*, and is founding and managing editor of *Home Cultures* – an interdisciplinary journal for the critical study of the domestic sphere. Victor works on architecture, domesticity, the archaeology of the recent past, critical understandings of materiality and new technologies and the anthropology of sustainability and design.

Ann Varley has worked on issues of housing, homes, households, tenure gender and aging in urban Mexico since the 1990s. Her most recent book *Decoding Gender* (edited with Helga Baitenmann and Victoria Chenaut) was published by Rutgers University Press in 2007; a revised and translated version was published in 2010 by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México with the support of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, UNIFEM.

Migration Research Centre

Founded in the 1988, the Migration Research Unit (MRU) undertakes research, teaching and consultancy on migration. Although based in the Department of Geography the MRU supports an interdisciplinary network of researchers working on migration at UCL and launched a new interdisciplinary MSc in Global Migration in 2010. Our research focuses broadly on diasporas and transnationalism, asylum and refugees, national and international migration policies, theorising mobilities, development and migration and measuring and mapping migration and ethnicity.



UCL Environment Institute

The UCL Environment Institute provides the forum for environmental research in UCL, focusing in particular on stimulating cross-disciplinary research to tackle complex environmental problems.



UCL Grand Challenges

The UCL Grand Challenge of Intercultural Interaction is an institution-wide programme to examine the causes and features of social and cultural diversity, assess their implications, and devise new ways to think about them.

The programme also works to create new modes of collaboration across disciplines at UCL and to develop partnerships with institutions and organisations from the public, private and third sector. Building on these approaches, it seeks to enhance the impact of UCL's research, to influence intellectual debate, shape policy development and engage the wider public.



MSc in Global Migration

An interdisciplinary degree

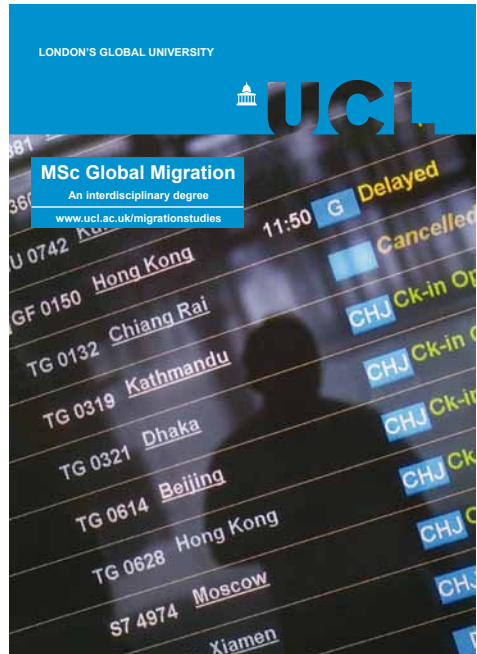
Migration in today's globalised world stands at the heart of key national and international debates: over migrants' and asylum seekers' rights and citizenship, state security and border management, development in the global South, ageing populations in the West, the globalization of skilled labour markets and other issues.

UCL has internationally recognized expertise in the field of migration. It has two established research units, the Migration Research Unit (MRU) within the Department of Geography, and the Centre for Research on Economic Analysis of Migration (CREAM) within the Department of Economics. UCL researchers are actively engaged with debates on a broad range of migration topics, from the latest developments in domestic, European and international law, analyses of state and global migration regimes, intersections between migration, health and disease, explorations of identities and cultural change, to ethnographic, visual and literary representations of migration and displacement. Migration research at UCL has a strong international dimension, benefiting from extensive networks across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

The MSc programme is interdisciplinary in scope, and offers the best of migration teaching and dissertation supervision from across UCL Faculties. The departments involved include: geography, anthropology, laws, economics, SSEES, development planning, Institute of Global Health and others. This range makes the programme unique among migration studies programmes. MSc students will benefit from the consolidation of migration expertise across UCL and beyond through programmes such as the London Migration Research Network, a departmental migration seminar series and a vibrant and expanding body of PhD students working in the field of migration.

The course combines policy and theoretical debates over migration. It is aimed at students who wish to work with migrants and asylum seekers in different parts of the world, who aspire to posts in UN, EU, national policy think-tanks, government research and policy departments, NGOs, community-based and grassroots organizations, and at students wishing to pursue doctorates in the interdisciplinary field of migration studies.

www.ucl.ac.uk/migrationstudies



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