Rethinking Migration

Part of Borders and Belonging: A Series of Events on Human Migration and leading up to Non-citizenship, UC Santa Cruz’s 2016-17 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation John E. Saywer Seminar on the Comparative Study of Culture, this free, public two-day conference brings together scholars in the humanities and social sciences to expand the discourse on migration by analyzing key, emerging, and enduring terms in migration studies.

The conference will take place on Friday, May 6, and Saturday, May 7, 2016, at the Merrill Cultural Center at Merrill College on the UC Santa Cruz campus.

Friday, May 6, 2016, Merrill Cultural Center
8:30-9:00am: Coffee and pastries

9:00-9:05am: Welcome
Catherine Ramírez, Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz

9:05-10:30am: Keynote #1
Rhacel Salazar Parreñas, Sociology and Gender Studies, University of Southern California: “Serial Labor Migration: Exclusion and Domestic Worker Patterns of Temporary Labor Migration”

10:30-10:45am: Coffee break

10:45am-12:30pm: Panel #1: Labor & Precarity
Shannon Gleeson, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University, and Marcel Paret, Sociology, University of Utah: “Precarity and Agency through a Migration Lens”

Sarah Swider, Sociology, Wayne State University: “Employment Configurations: A Spatial Analysis of Precarious Labor”

Steve McKay, Sociology, UC Santa Cruz: “Agents of Precarity: Intermediaries, Institutions and the Vulnerable Lives of Migrant Workers”

Moderator: Veronica Terriquez, Sociology, UC Santa Cruz

12:30-2:00pm: Break for lunch

2:00-3:45pm: Panel #2: (Il)legality & (In)security
Lisa Marie Cacho, Latina/Latino Studies and Asian American Studies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: “De Facto Status Crime: Legitimizing Violence, Legalizing Discrimination”
Felicity Amaya Schaeffer, Feminist Studies, UC Santa Cruz: “Remote Identification: Criminalizing the ‘Hidden Intent’ of Migrant Embodiment”

Susan. B. Coutin, Anthropology and Criminology, Law and Society, UC Irvine: “Deferral”

Moderator: Gabriela Arredondo, Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz

3:45-4:00pm: Coffee break

4:00-5:45pm: Panel #3: Detention, Deportation, Asylum

Rachel Lewis, Women and Gender Studies, George Mason University: “Precarious Temporality: Neoliberalism, Sexual Citizenship, and the Global Deportation Regime”

Daniel Kanstroom, Boston College Law School: “The Forgotten Deported: Towards Better Understanding and a Declaration of Rights”

Moderator: Pat Zavella, Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz

Saturday, May 7, 2016, Merrill Cultural Center
8:30-9:00am: Coffee and pastries

9:00-9:05am: Welcome
Catherine Ramírez, Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz

9:05-10:30: Keynote #2
Alicia Schmidt Camacho, American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration, Yale University: “Defending Migrancy: In/against the Violent Orders of State Sovereignty and Transnational Capitalism”

10:30-10:45am: Coffee break

10:45am-12:30pm: Workshop #1
Adrián Félix, Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz: “Mythologies of Transnational Citizenship: The Political Life Cycle of Mexican Migrants”

Ruben Espinoza, Sociology, UC Santa Cruz: “From Farm to Factory: The Making of Precarious Union Labor”

Juan Poblete, Literature, UC Santa Cruz: “Americanism/o: Intercultural Border Zones in Post-social Times”
Respondent: Shannon Gleeson, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University

12:45-2:00pm: Break for lunch

2:00-3:45pm: Workshop #2
Cecilia Rivas, Latin American and Latino Studies, UC Santa Cruz: “El otro norte: Rethinking Migration, Orientations, and Intersections”

Angie Bonilla, Literature, UC Santa Cruz: “Mediations of Migrant Suffering in Testimonio and Documentary Film”

Kirsten Silva Gruesz, Literature, UC Santa Cruz: “‘Poor Eliza’ On the Border: Abolition, Public Feeling, and the Migrant Woman’s Body”

Respondent: Alicia Schmidt Camacho, American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration, Yale University

3:45-4:00pm: Coffee break

4:00-5:45pm: Closing remarks & discussion
Alicia Schmidt Camacho, Shannon Gleeson, and Catherine Ramírez

Conference Participants
Leisy J. Abrego is Associate Professor of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UCLA. Trained as a sociologist, she studies families, Central American migration, and Latino immigrants’ lived experiences of US immigration laws. Her book, Sacrificing Families: Navigating Laws, Labor, and Love across Borders (Stanford University Press, 2014), examines the well-being of Salvadoran immigrants and their families both in the United States and in the home country.

Gabriela F. Arredondo is Associate Professor and incoming chair of Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She holds a PhD in History from the University of Chicago. Her research and teaching interests range from migration histories and critical race formations in the Américas to comparative Latina/o histories and Chicana Feminisms.

Angie Bonilla is a PhD candidate in Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her research interests include Central American diaspora studies, visual culture with a focus on transnational fluidity, migration and sexuality, and media culture. Her dissertation, “Global Mediatiations of Central American Migrancy in Contemporary Latin/o American Cultural Studies,” focuses on representations of Central American migration in Latino and Latin American literature, film, and performance art.
Lisa Marie Cacho is Associate Professor of Latina/Latino Studies and Asian American Studies, with affiliations in Gender and Women’s Studies, English, and the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her book, *Social Death: Racialized Rightlessness and the Criminalization of the Unprotected* (New York University Press, 2012), won the John Hope Franklin award in 2013 for best book in American Studies.

Alicia Schmidt Camacho is Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration at Yale University. She is the author of *Migrant Imaginaries: Latino Cultural Politics in the US-Mexico Borderlands* (New York University Press, 2008). Her current scholarship examines unauthorized migrant passages through Central America, Mexico, and the United States to address the regime of criminalization and expulsion at work in the region.


Ruben Espinoza is a PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His dissertation focuses on the interaction between upward mobility and precarious labor in the food system. His research interests include Latino sociology, social mobility, precarious labor, the sociology of food, low-wage work, migration, and transnationalism.

Adrián Félix is Assistant Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His work is on México-US migration, migrant transnationalism, and the politics of race, ethnicity, and citizenship. He is completing a book manuscript tentatively titled *Transnationalism in Life and Death: The Political Life Cycle of Mexican Migrants*.

Shannon Gleeson earned her PhD in Sociology and Demography from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2008. She joined the faculty of the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations in the fall of 2014, after six years in the Latin American and Latino Studies Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her research focuses on the experiences of low-wage workers, the role of immigrant documentation status, and legal mobilization.

Kirsten Silva Gruesz is Professor of Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz. A literary and cultural historian of the Latina/o United States, her concern is not simply to recuperate or recover a Latina/o presence prior to the 1980s, when this demographic comes into broad visibility, but more profoundly to re-orient the paradigms


Rachel Lewis is Assistant Professor in the Women and Gender Studies Program at George Mason University. She has published articles on queer migration and LGBTQ human rights in *Feminist Formations, Sexualities, The Journal of Lesbian Studies, The International Feminist Journal of Politics*, and *Women and Music: A Journal of Gender and Culture*.

Steve McKay is Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Labor Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His research focuses on labor, migration, gender, racial formation, and globalization. His current book project, *Born to Sail? Race, Masculinity, and the Making of Filipino Seafarers*, is on the rise and reproduction of ethno-national labor niches in the global economy. He is also working in the Santa Cruz area on *Working for Dignity*, a series of community-initiated, student-engaged research projects focusing on low-wage work, wage theft, immigration, and the affordable housing crisis.

Emily Mitchell-Eaton is a PhD candidate in Geography at Syracuse University and the 2016-17 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Scholar in Non-citizenship at the Chicano Latino Research Center at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her fields of interest include migration and diasporas, US empire, critical ethnic studies and racial formations, citizenship, critical legal studies, militarism in the US Pacific islands, and feminist and queer theories. Her dissertation, “Negotiating ‘Free Association’ in the US Colonial Present: Intra-Empire Migration from the Marshall Islands to Arkansas,” is a study of Marshallese migration to Northwest Arkansas, “new destinations of empire,” and new racial formations. She holds an MPA in Public Administration from Syracuse University and a BA in Latin American Studies and Portuguese from Smith College.
Marcel Paret is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Utah and Senior Research Associate with the South African Research Chair in Social Change at the University of Johannesburg. Examining the politics of class formation in South Africa and the United States, with a particular focus on protest, labor markets, migration, and citizenship, his work appears in *Review of African Political Economy*, *Critical Sociology*, *Citizenship Studies*, *International Sociology*, *African Affairs*, *International Labor and Working Class History*, and *Latino Studies*.

Rhacel Salazar Parreñas is Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies at the University of Southern California. She writes on women's labor migration in economic globalization. Her latest book is *Servants of Globalization: Migration and Domestic Work* (Stanford University Press, 2015).

Juan Poblete is Professor of Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He is the author of *Literatura chilena del siglo XIX: entre públicos lectores y figuras autoriales* (Santiago: Cuarto Propio, 2003), editor of *Critical Latin American and Latino Studies* (University of Minnesota Press, 2003), and co-editor of *Andrés Bello* (with Beatriz Gonzalez-Stephan, IILL, 2009), *Redrawing The Nation: National Identities in Latin/o American Comics* (with Héctor Fernández-L’Hoeste, Palgrave, 2009), *Desdén al infortunio: Sujeto, comunicación y público en la narrativa de Pedro Lemebel* (with Fernando Blanco, Santiago: Cuarto Propio, 2010), *Sports and Nationalism in Latin America* (with Héctor Fernández L’Hoeste and Robert McKee-Irwin, Palgrave, 2015), and *Humor in Latin American Cinema* (with Juana Suárez, Palgrave, 2015). He is currently at work on three book projects: one on labor and affect in Latin American cinema, another on US Latino Cultures in a transnational context, and *Angel Rama y la Crítica Cultural Latinoamericana*.

Catherine Ramírez is Associate Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies and director of the Chicano Latino Research Center at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She is currently writing *Assimilation: An Alternative History*.

Cecilia M. Rivas is Associate Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her book, *Salvadoran Imaginaries: Mediated Identities and Cultures of Consumption* (Rutgers University Press, 2014), explores a diverse range of sites where the nation’s postwar identity is forged. Her current areas of research include the structural conditions and migratory process of Central Americans in transit through Southern Mexico. She is also writing a book about modernity and nationalism in El Salvador.

Felicity Amaya Schaeffer is Associate Professor of Feminist Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and author of *Love and Empire: Cybermarriage and Citizenship Across the Americas* (New York University Press, 2013). Her current project, *Tracking Migrants*, analyzes how Latina/o migrants are branded deviant and criminal threats in and by the United States, and asks, What alternative knowledges and imaginaries point us to other possibilities for coexistence and for temporalities of justice that refuse the current order of segregating bodies and territories?
Sarah Swider is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Wayne State University and author of *Building China: Informal Work and the New Precariat* (Cornell University Press, 2015). Her research interests include informal and precarious labor, gender, and global inequality, and migration. Her current research focuses on the migrant workforce which has developed as part of China’s integration into the global economy.

Veronica Terriquez, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, received her PhD in sociology at UCLA, her Masters degree in education at UC Berkeley, and her BA in sociology at Harvard University. Her research examines how individuals’ demographic characteristics, as well as their ties to civic organizations, schools, and other institutions, reproduce or challenge patterns of social inequality. She has prior experience working as a community organizer and volunteer for various education reform, immigrant rights, labor rights, and racial justice efforts. She is the principal investigator of the California Young Adult Study and the Youth Leadership and Health Study.

Pat Zavella is Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her most recent book is *I’m Neither Here Nor There: Mexicans’ Quotidian Struggles with Migration and Poverty* (Duke University Press, 2011). Her current project is on the movement for reproductive justice by women of color.