

**DURHAM
UNIVERSITY**

**14 / 16
JUNE 2017**

**I COULD BE
A REFUGEE**

BORDERS, REGIMES, DISPOSABILITY
A SYMPOSIUM ON MIGRATION AND STATE VIOLENCE

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
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SPONSORED BY THE PROGRAM IN LATINO/A STUDIES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH AT DUKE UNIVERSITY
& THE SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES AT DURHAM UNIVERSITY

Durham University Institute of Advanced Study
Cosin's Hall, Palace Green

Cross-Language
Dynamics

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Borders, Regimes, Disposability

A symposium on migration and state violence

“Borders, Regimes, Disposability” is an international symposium that brings together several scholars from across disciplinary affiliations and different parts of the world. Our three-day academic itinerary will provocatively engage in, inquire, and rethink the manifold and unstoppable movements, expulsions of bodies, figurations of borders, and processes of bordering that are impacting and directing our critical junctures around these themes. The intellectual exchange—deliberative, complementary, and perhaps even conflicting—is intended as a means for contributors to work through and build on their scholarly questions, commitments, and contributions, thereby complicating standard notions on the figure, or the ideological shape, of the migrant. How are we conceptually handling and theorizing the unfolding but also intersectional scholarly archive of the migrant and migration? What are the conditions through which expelled others are made, and what is their relation to the future, to the quest of and claims for inclusion, which may oftentimes transcend conventional understandings of citizenship and the nation? What new concepts of meaning are we generating as a tool of engagement, as an animating but lasting epistemology that helps us register the regimes of global social motion including their agentive responses?

Structured as a series of 6 workshops, the symposium seeks to interrogate the idea of borders themselves, which despite the myriad crossings are by too many analysts still treated as fixed and even static, and in relation only to bodies moving across “autonomous” or sovereign territories. What of borders that exist within territories as well, mapped along imaginaries of desirable and undesirable bodies, bodies at risk and even pre-risk bodies, the latter referring to bodies already marked and mapped as transgressive and disposable?

We will examine the idea of the migrant. How is this figure changing in the context of neoliberal globalization? In short, has the migrant become less the figure captured in the 1960s and 1970s paradigms of migration, of those moving from instability to stability or from unstable to stable regions of economic development, thereby balancing socio-economic inequalities? Might the gendered migrant be better apprehended as a fugitive fleeing from one state of crisis into another, and therefore be an expression of the generalized state of abjection and disposability? Might the contemporary conjuncture of “borders, regimes, disposability” be rehearsing a state of “history under conditions of impossibility”—a tale that exceeds the exploitation story?

Wednesday 14 June

Welcome

St Chad's College, Williams Library and Senior Common Room
18 North Bailey

12:00-1:00

Introduction and opening remarks

Janet Stewart – Head of School
School of Modern Languages and Cultures (MLAC)

Nicholas Saul – Director (Arts and Humanities)
Institute of Advanced Study (IAS)

John Nash – Deputy Head of Faculty (Research)
Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Andy Byford – Co-Investigator, Transnational Strand
AHRC-Funded Open World Research Initiative (OWRI)

Francisco-J. Hernández Adrián
Durham University

Claudia Milian
Duke University

1:00-2:00

Wine reception and lunch

Introductory Workshop: Borders

Institute of Advanced Study
Cosin's Hall, Palace Green

3:00-5:30

Francisco-J. Hernández Adrián
Durham University

“Borders Regimes: *Oscuro animal* and the Colombian Interior”

Claudia Milian
Duke University

“Crisis Management and the LatinX Child”

Book Launch / Discussion

5:30-6:30

Noam Leshem
Durham University

“Life after Ruin”

Life After Ruin: The Struggles over Israel's Depopulated Arab Spaces (Cambridge University Press, 2017)

End of session

Thursday 15 June

Workshop 1 – Discourses / Regimes

10:00-11:15

Russell Contreras
The Associated Press

“Immigration, Politics, and Public Discourse”

11:30-12:45

John Morán González
University of Texas at Austin

“State Violence, Representation, and the Production of History”

1:00

Lunch

Workshop 2 – Hemispheric Connections / Disruptive Borders

2:30-3:45

Peter Baker
Durham University

“In the Shadows of Politics: The Visual Economy of Contemporary Indigeneity in Bolivia”

4:00-5:15

Kirsten Silva Gruesz
University of California, Santa Cruz

“Abolition, Public Feeling, and the Migrant Woman’s Body”

End of session

Friday 16 June

Workshop 3 – Aesthetics of Crisis / Regimes of Violence

10-11:15

Marc Botha
Durham University

“Addressing Generic Force: The Transhistorical Migration of
Violence in the Concrete Poetry of Ian Hamilton Finlay”

11:30-12:45

Janet Stewart
Durham University

“Extractive Seeing”

1:00

Lunch

Workshop 4 – Archipelagic Borders / Disposability

2:30-3:45

Kerstin Oloff
Durham University

‘From the *novela de la caña* to Junot Díaz's “cake-eater”: World-
Literature, the World Food System and the Dominican Republic’

4:00-5:15

Michaeline Crichlow
Duke University

“Governing the Present: Vistas, Violence, and the Politics of
Making Place”

Closing Workshop: Disposability

5:30-6:30

Group discussion

End of session