Migration, Immigration, Diaspora

March 9-10, 2017
Center for European Studies, Lower Level, 27 Kirkland St, Cambridge, MA

Organized by GSAS graduate students: Tommy Jamison, Rafi Stern, Chloe Bordewitch, Kelly Brignac, Ruodi Duan, Aden Knaap, and Georgia Whitaker

Human migration, immigration and diasporas have played a fundamental role in world development and continue to do so. The forced and free movements of people throughout history intersect with some of the most important subjects of urbanization, imperialism, slavery, capitalism and globalization. This conference seeks to discuss cutting-edge studies that take up the subject of migration in international, regional, and global historical context, for any era from Antiquity to the present, and proceeding outward from any world region.

The 2017 keynote speaker is Paul Kramer, Associate Professor of History, Vanderbilt University. Professor Kramer’s primary research interests are in modern U.S. History, with an emphasis on transnational, imperial and global histories, American social thought, and the politics of inequality. His first book, The Blood of Government: Race, Empire, the United States and the Philippines (University of North Carolina Press; Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2006), explores the imperial politics of race-making between U.S. and Philippine societies in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. It was awarded the Organization of American Historians’ James A. Rawley Prize and the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations’ Stuart L. Bernath Book Prize, and was a finalist for the Philippines’ National Book Award in the Social Science category. Prof. Kramer writes for the New Yorker and Slate on themes relating to the history of the United States in the world. His forthcoming book is on intersections between immigration policy and US foreign relations.

Migration, Immigration, Diaspora will feature twelve papers by graduate students studying in seven countries. Their research on migration, immigration, and diaspora spans the 13th to the 21st centuries and touches nearly every continent:

From Smugglers to Middlemen: The Early Modern Japanese Diaspora in Southeast Asia
**Pierre-Emmanuel Bachelet**, ENS-Lyon

Idle and Dangerous: Vagrancy Policing in a Southern Port City, 1852-1868
**John Bardes**, Tulane University

A Dispersed Diaspora: Haitians in Chicago, 1935-2010
**Courtney Cain**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Once Migrant Always Displaced? Exploring Diasporic Consciousness and Shifting Narratives of Belonging across Three Generations of Urdu Speakers in Bangladesh
**Isha Dubey**, University of Aarhus

The Conveyor Belt to Nowhere: Memory and Resistance at a Western Saharan Phosphate Mine, 1973-1976
**Sarah Gilkerson**, University of California, Davis

Aichmalosia: Captivity, Ransom, and Letter-Writing in Byzantium and Its Neighbors, c. 1204-1453
**Alasdair Grant**, University of Edinburgh

A Community on the March: The Mormon Battalion and the Militancy of Migration
**David Krueger**, Harvard University

From China to Nigeria: Migration of Chinese Industrialists and Nigerian Industrialization in the 1960s
**Shaonan Liu**, Michigan State University

The Royal Navy, Legal Pluralism, and Authority in Early Colonial Sierra Leone, 1670-1815
**Tim Soriano**, University of Illinois-Chicago

Corruption, State Agents under Surveillance, and the Business of Human Smuggling in 1920s Mexican Borderlands
**Abraham Trejo Terreros**, El Colegio de Mexico

Sojourners and Transnationalism: Emigrant Communities in Chaozhou, 1949-1958
**Hui Wang**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Genie Yoo**, Princeton University

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