

E58.2165.095.SP12
Spring 2012 Intersession, London, UK
10:00am - 1:00pm
NYU London, 6 Bedford Street

Dr. Radha S. Hegde
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Student Residence Location:

Byron Court
Mecklenburgh Square, London

Course Description

This course examines the emergence of transnational communities, recent patterns of migration and the role of media forms and practices in redefining culture and national belonging. We will explore how media practices define culture and identity for diasporic groups within the landscape of global cities. What role do media and technology play in the (re)imagining of cultural politics, nationalism and everyday life in the context of global relocations? What does it mean to negotiate the global and local in various aspects of immigrant lives? Through field trips, field work, discussion and lectures, students will be exposed to these contemporary issues and research.

Course Objectives

To expose students to current research and theory drawn from interdisciplinary sources in the comparative study of global mobility, media texts and practices in the context of urban landscapes.

Evaluation

Students are expected to actively participate in daily seminars. Your participation, involvement in discussions, and level of engagement in class will be graded. (20%)

Class blog postings – five ethnographic reflections: Identify an area of interest that you will focus on for the paper - post a series of five short ethnographic reflections during the course (about 300 words each). Entries: January 4, 6, 8, 10, 17 (30%)

Final Research paper (15) on a topic of interest that is related to the issue of transnational cultures, communities, and media practices. The paper will combine theoretical discussion and data from research conducted on a specific question. (50%)

Required Texts

Sam Selvon, *Lonehy Londoners*, New York: Longman (buy at any bookstore or online site)
Course Reader available from New University Copy
11 Waverly Place (between Mercer & Greene)
212.473.7369

Campus/Classroom Location - London

NYU London
6 Bedford Square
[Google Map](#)

All class sessions will meet at NYU London, 6 Bedford Square at 10am, *unless noted otherwise*. Class timings and locations are subject to change so please check Blackboard and email communication regularly.

Pre Trip

- Start following the suggested websites to follow current issues concerning immigration
- Get a head start on the readings -- we will be very busy in London, so prepare accordingly and try to read as many of the assigned texts before your arrival in London
- Identify an area of interest that you will focus on for the paper
- *Suggested:* Watch *Dirty Pretty Things*, a film directed by Stephen Frears (2002) before the trip

In London:

- Orientation, Monday, January 2 – 5pm, Byron Court Residence - Mandatory
- We will meet every morning from 10:00am - 1:00pm (unless notified otherwise) for lecture and discussion.
- We will also have workshops either in the morning, or at designated times for project consultation; discussion of field notes will be ongoing throughout the course.
- Class trips and field visits are a significant part of the learning experience and you are expected to attend all of them. Blog postings are expected to be thoughtful reflections on field visits.
- In case of emergency, the NYU London Exchange can be accessed by dialing **0800-316-0469** (if phoned from the UK) or **011-44-800-316-0469** (if dialed from the US). Students should select option 2 for the NYU in London Duty Phone. You can reach the course instructors in case of emergency as well (dialing from the UK).

Radha Hegde @ 011 7327428957

Jackie Rohel @ [Local number TBD]

Post trip

- Final papers are due on February 13, via email.

Mandatory Orientation | London | Monday, January 2

5pm Byron Court Student Residence

ALL students are expected to attend.

Websites to follow: *We will list websites of interest and related information on Blackboard but here are some to get started.*

- Open Democracy
<http://www.opendemocracy.net/globalization-migrationeurope/issue.jsp>
Follows issues on globalization, mobility, borders, etc – all themes related to this course.
- The Guardian, BBC and other British media for current immigration related articles
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/immigration>
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/>
http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/static/in_depth/uk/2002/race/short_history_of_immigration.stm
- Migrant Rights Network
<http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/>
Twitter Feed: http://twitter.com/migrants_rights Facebook Page: <http://on.fb.me/hZk9A6>
- Links for Southall Field Trip:
<http://www.thesouthallstory.com/the-people/>
<http://travel2.nytimes.com/2006/01/29/travel/29dayout.html>
<http://www.brilliantrestaurant.com/>
This may prove helpful for more information on the South Asian diaspora, and we will be visiting this section of London on 5 January.
- Praxis: The Place for People Displaced
<http://www.praxis.org.uk/>
Familiarize yourself with this site, we will be visiting the organization while in London.
- European Council of Refugees and Exiles
<http://www.ecre.org/>
- Home Office and Rules regarding immigration to the UK
<http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/>
- Untold London is a good site to follow for information on London's transnational communities
<http://www.untoldlondon.org.uk/>
- Museum of London Docklands: London, Sugar & Slavery
<http://www.museumindocklands.org.uk/English/EventsExhibitions/Special/LSS/>
We will be visiting this museum with a guided tour by Dr. Tom Wareham on 12 January.
- Dark Matter 101, edited by Ash Sharma
<http://www.darkmatter101.org/site/>
- Migration Museum
<http://www.migrationmuseum.org/>
- Transport for London: Tube & Bus Maps, General Info
Maps: <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/gettingaround/1106.aspx>
General: <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/>

Pre Trip Readings

- Selvon, S. (1989). *The Lonely Londoners*. New York: Longman.
- Kureishi, H. (1994). My Son the Fanatic, *The New Yorker*, 28 March. p. 92.
- Marcus, George (1995) Ethnography in/of the World System: The Emergence of Multi-Sited Ethnography. *Annual Review of Anthropology*, Vol. 24. (1995), pp. 95-117.
- Foner, Nancy (2005). *In A New Land*. New York: New York University Press. (Chapters 5, 6)
- Morley, David (2000). *Home Territories: Media, Mobility and Identity*. London: Routledge. (Chapters 5, 7)

WEEK 1

Tuesday 01/03 Session 1: Globalization and Mobility

- Readings: Appadurai, A. (1996). Global ethnoscapas: Notes and queries for a transnational anthropology, from *Modernity at Large*. Durham: Duke University Press, pp. 48-65.
- Rath, Jan, (2007) The transformation of ethnic neighborhoods into places of leisure and consumption. *Center for Comparative Immigration Studies*. Working Paper 144.
- Papastergiadis, Nikos (2000). *The Turbulence of Migration*, Polity. (Chapters 4, 5)
- Hall, S. (2004). Divided city: the crisis of London. *OpenDemocracy*

Field trip: History of Transnational Communities | Walking Tour of London East End
Leave together from NYU London at 12:15pm for the East End
Tour starts at 1:00pm, at Whitechapel Tube Station, Street Level Exit

Wednesday 01/04 Session 2: Migration and Social Networks

- Readings: Vertovec, Steven. (2011). Super diversity and its implications. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 30. 6, 1024-1054.
- Williams, Lucy (2010). Social networks of refugees in the United Kingdom: Tradition, tactics and new community spaces. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 32, 5, 865-879.
- Jill Rutter's pieces in the Guardian on immigration: (online resource)
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/profile/jillrutter>

Guest Speaker: Jill Rutter | Policy and Research Officer at Daycare Trust

Thursday 01/05 Session 3: Diasporic Space & Identity

- Readings: Dudrah, Rajinder (2010). Haptic urban ethnoscapas: Representation, diasporic media and urban cultural landscapes. *Journal of Media Practice*, 11, 1, 31-45.
- Hall, Kathleen (1995). There's a time to act English and a time to act Indian: The politics of identity among British-Sikh teenagers. In S. Stephens (Ed) *Children and the politics of culture*. Princeton: Princeton University press.
- Hall, K. (2004). The ethnography of imagined communities. *Annals of the American Academy of Political & Social Science*. 595. pp. 108-121
- Buettner, Elizabeth (2008). 'Going for an Indian': South Asian restaurants & the limits of multiculturalism in Britain. *The Journal of Modern History*, 80: 865-901.

Guest Speaker: Ash Sharma | School of Social Sciences, Media and Cultural Studies | University of East London.

Field Trip: Visit to Southall with Ash Sharma (leave together from NYU London)
Lunch at Brilliant Restaurant (1:30pm)

Friday 01/06 Session 4: Gender & the Politics of Representation

- Readings: Williamson, Milly & Khiabany, Gholam (2010). UK: The veil and the politics of racism. *Race & Class*, 52:2, 85-96
- Hegde, Radha (2010). Eyeing Publics: Veiling and the performance of civic visibility. In Daniel Brouwer & Robert Asen (Eds.) *Public Modalities*. University of Alabama Press. 154-172.

Guest Speaker: Milly Williamson | Senior Lecturer in Film & Television, School of Arts | Brunel University

Saturday 01/07 Session 5: The Cultural Politics of Food and Migration

- Readings: Cook, Ian & Harrison, Michelle (2007). Follow the thing: West Indian hot pepper sauce. *Space and Culture*, 10, 1, 40-63.

Field Trip: Morning market visit 10am-12pm (leave together from NYU London). Additional details will be announced and posted on Blackboard.

Suggested Independent Field Trips/Exhibition:

Visit Edgware Road (near Marble Arch) for Middle Eastern communities in London:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgware_Road

British Museum

WEEK 2

Monday 01/9

Session 6: Migrants & Politics

Readings:

Bauman, Zygmunt (2004). *Wasted Lives*. Cambridge: Polity. (Chapter 3)

Pinson, Halleli, Arnot, Madeline & Candappa, Mano (2010). *Education, Asylum and the Non-Citizen Child: The Politics of Compassion and Belonging*. NY: Palgrave. (Chapters 2, 9)

Jones, Vaughan (2011). Migration: Lives, loves and language. *openDemocracy*, July 18. Available at: <http://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/vaughan-jones/migration-lives-loves-and-language>

Guest Speaker:

Vaughan Jones | Chief Executive | Praxis Community Projects

Field Trip:

Morning visit to Praxis Community Projects. Leave together from NYU London at 9:15am.

Tuesday 01/10

Session 7: Migration Policy & Activism

Readings:

Camilo, Juan (2010). *Migrant Capital: A Perspective on Contemporary Migration in London*. Migrant Rights Network: London.

Lowenheim, Oded & Gazit, Orit (2009). Power and examination: A critique of citizenship tests. *Security Dialogue*, 40, 2, 145-167.

Guest Speaker: Juan Camilo | Migration Rights Network

Wednesday 01/11

Session 8: Politics, Technology and Diaspora

Readings:

Williamson, Milly & Khiabany, Gholam (2011). State, culture and anti-Muslim racism. *Global Media and Communication* 7, 175-179.

Khiabany, Gholam (2010). *Blogistan*, London: I.B. Tauris. (Chapter 6)

Brinkerhoff, J. (2010). *Digital Diasporas*. Cambridge: University of Cambridge. (Chapter 2, 29-54)

Collins, Lauren (2011). England, their England, *New Yorker*, 4 July. pp. 28-34.

Guest Speaker: Gholam Khiabany | University of Sussex

Field Trip:

National Theater, *Comedy of Errors* @ 7:30pm

(Meet in Lobby of National Theater @ 7:00pm)

<http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/67501/productions/the-comedy-of-errors.html>

Directions: South Bank, London SE1 9PX: <http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/?lid=5328>

Thursday 01/12

Session 9: Transatlantic Histories

Readings:

Baucom, Ian (2005). *Specters of the Atlantic*. Durham: Duke University Press. (Ch. 1)

Field Trip/Discussion: Museum of London Docklands: London, Sugar & Slavery Tour with Dr. Tom Wareham @ 1:30pm

<http://www.museumdocklands.org.uk/English/EventsExhibitions/Special/LSS/>

Leave NYU London at 12:30pm to take Tube to Museum

Friday 01/13

Session 10: Connectivity and Mobility – wrap up

Readings:

Metykova, Monika (2010). Only a mouse click away from home. *Social Identities*, May 31, 325-338.

deLeeuw, Sonja and Rydin, Ingegerd (2007). Migrant children's digital stories: Identity formation and self representation through media production. *European journal of Cultural studies*, 10, 4, 447-464.

Final Project

In a research paper of roughly 15 pages, you will examine an aspect of immigrant life, identity/experience as transformed or inflected by media, communication and representation. Using the readings and class discussions as a point of departure, frame and elaborate on an area of your interest that falls within the framework of the larger themes of the course – mobility, transnational communities, media, communication and representation.

The paper is an opportunity for you to discuss your topic by bringing together 1) observations from your field trips and learning experience in London and, 2) an engagement with literature drawn from the readings, combined with at least 4-5 additional sources that address your chosen area.

In the paper, you will both describe and advance an argument to demonstrate the significance of your subject area. Below is a suggested structure, but you can choose other ways of developing/presenting your work as long as you cover these expectations.

Rationale for the chosen area

Introduce the area. What are the various aspects/ complexities in addressing the subject? Why is it a significant area in the context of the study of transnational communities in London? In short, set the rationale for the importance of this subject and the implications.

Description and Review

Lay out the issues to provide a comprehensive overview of the subject area. Incorporate details from your observations and field notes made while in London. Engage with the readings drawn both from course material and additional sources. The challenge is for you to integrate your mini ethnographies and field research with your readings and provide a critique.

Discussion and your commentary

Provide an overall summation and your thoughts about some research implications for further study.

This structure is to enable you to engage both with the larger landscape of migration and transnational forms of community and the particularities of your chosen area.

**Paper due February 13, 2011
via electronic submission as attachment in PDF format**