

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP**

University of Poitiers, Poitiers, France
Tuesday, June 12th to Friday, June 15th, 2012

SPRING 2012 WORKSHOP AGENDA

New Approaches to Transnationalism and Migratory Circulation

Research Director: Emmanuel Ma Mung [Emmanuel.mamung@univ-poitiers.fr]

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Over the past two decades, scholars in migration studies have paid increasing attention to the linkages maintained by migrants with their country of origin. Distinct conceptual and methodological frameworks have been developed in France and the US focusing on the circulation of migrants, their cross border practices and the implications of those practices. The research field “New Approaches to Transnationalism and Migratory Circulation” proposes to question methods and concepts essential to transatlantic comparisons; it also aims to contribute to developing a transatlantic network, involving well-established scholars as well as PhD students from France and the United States.

This is the first of two workshops designed to help students prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals in their chosen field. The two goals of the first workshop are 1) to map the research field with respect to contributing disciplines, methods, sources, and area knowledge; and 2) to help prepare fellows for their pre-dissertation summer research. (The goal of the second workshop will be to focus on the mechanics and methods of writing a dissertation proposal).

Participants in the workshop are drawn from sociology, geography, political science, history, literature, and from a variety of institutions in France and the United States. Their diverse themes of analysis include Ethnic businesses, Diaspora mobilization, Muslim transnationalism, high-skilled migration, and long distance nationalism. Students plan to conduct research in the United States and France as well as in a broad range of countries including West Africa, Spain, Brazil, Dubai or China.

WORKSHOP READINGS AND RESOURCES

Readings and other resources will be placed on the section of the DPDF online workspace devoted to this field. Students will receive separate explanations and detailed instructions about the access and use of the DPDF digital platform.

WORKSHOP ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments should be uploaded on the DPDF online workspace unless otherwise noted:

- **Due June 8, 2012:** Each fellow should prepare a five page (double-space) statement specifying the research question(s) you are asking, describing the method(s) you will employ, and discussing the type of field study you envisage (data sources, methodology). During one of the “project sessions”, you will be asked to present your project in 10 minutes. Set out in

a concise way: what are the research questions (including general orienting questions and more specific question)? What are the methods? What sorts of evidence will be considered and assessed? And how do questions, method, and evidence fit together?

- **By the beginning of the workshop:** you will be assigned to introduce the discussion of one fellow's project. You will be asked to carefully read and discuss the document. In your comments, highlight the strength and weaknesses of the project; propose alternative research questions and possible readings and methodology. Please plan to speak initially for 6-7 minutes on the paper. These discussions should not aim to evaluate or assess the project but rather to introduce our discussions by focusing attention on key issues of research questions, methods, and evidence.
- **By the beginning of the conference:** in order to prepare the first day conference and debate with the speakers, read the required texts on transnationalism. Those who use the circulatory migration approach are requested to read the conceptual section of the Migrinter report on circulatory migration (see bibliography for more details).

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 12th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #1: Introduction and debate with conference speakers

The goal this session is to build on the discussions of the opening conference to map the research field. After a brief introduction by research directors of the general purposes of the workshop, fellows will be invited to participate in an open debate with conference speakers (Robin Cohen, Kamel Dorai, Laurent Faret, and Peggy Levitt). The purpose of the debate is to launch a collective discussion on migrant cross border socialities, to formulate innovative questions and to confront and challenge existing approaches. The second part of the session will be dedicated to one-to-one discussions with the conference speakers.

9-9.30: Introduction

9.30-10.30: Debate with conference speakers

10.30-12.00: face to face meeting with speakers

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #2: Global flows and local dynamics

The project sessions will focus on student proposals, which have been (roughly) grouped in thematic clusters. We will have about forty-five minutes to discuss each proposal. Presentations will be followed by discussant's comments and open discussion focusing on research questions, methods, and evidence.

This first panel examines the interrelations between transnational logics and local social dynamics: to what extent cross border social fields affects the building of local communities and state policies and politics? And conversely, how can we account for the impacts of inter-community relations in the making of long distance relations?

Sadio Soukouna (Paris I): The Logics of the decentralized cooperation North South: A comparative analysis of the realities of international action of the French and Canadian cities in relation with Malian immigrants.

Discussant: Niandou Touré

Tristan Brown (Columbia): The Storm Beneath the Surface: Chinese Muslim Trading Diasporas and the Making of Modern China

Discussant: Anne Bouhali

Nancy Khalil (Harvard): Living Terrorfied: (un)Welcoming Transnationalism

Discussant: Josepha Milazzo

Amelia Schubert (Colorado University, Boulder): Impacts of outbound marriage on Korean community in China

Discussant: Jess Auerbach

Wednesday, June 13th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #3: Weaving cross border bridges

The second panel is presents works on cross border social formations in the making. We will examine an array of groups and strategies of long distance bonding in a North-South and South-South context.

Alex Lee (University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign): Building Atop Sedimented Histories: South Korean Professional Migrants in Dubai

Discussant: Amelia Schubert

Niandou Touré (Paris I): Highly qualified international migration and the development of the Southern countries, in the case of Malians in France and Morocco

Discussant: Kathleen Sexsmith

Josepha Milazzo (Aix-Marseille University , Autonomous University of Barcelona): Bolivians of rural Spain, between cosmopolitan rural practices and transnational constructions or the geography of an international migration system

Discussant: Sihé Neya

Jess Auerbach (Stanford University): Rocking the Boat: South-South Migration between Angola and Brazil and the Quest for a New World Order

Discussant: Nancy Khalil

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #4: Methodologies of cross border studies

Fellows will be presented some innovative methodologies for the study of multi-sited fieldworks and human mobilities.

Parallel sessions of one hour will be organized on

- “Cartographing mobility” (Cédric Audebert),
- “Multi-sited ethnographic research” (Benoit Hazard),
- “The use of film and photography technics” (William Berthomière),

- “Archives and archivist work” (Yann Scioldo Zurcher),
- “Web analysis of virtual diaspora” (Dana Diminescu, tbc).

Thursday, June 14th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #5: Transnational economies and economics of transnationalism

During the third project session, we will explore the socio-economic dimension of cross border practices. We will see how economic activities can buttress mobile socialities. And conversely, any social formation generates its moral economy.

Anne Bouhali (University of Toulouse 2 Le Mirail): Arabic souks: A spatial study of the globalisation of marketplaces in the Middle East and Northern Africa.

Discussant: Niandou Touré

Kathleen Sexsmith (Cornell University): Transnational moral economies in comparative perspective: Veracruzano workers on New York dairy and Florida fruit farms.

Discussant: Alex Lee

Marwa El Chab (EHESS, Paris): Lebanese traders in West Africa: business networks over time and place

Discussant: Tristan Brown

Sihé Neya (Paris I): Returns migration of Burkinabè of Ivory Coast and the construction of transnational life spaces

Discussant: Sadio Soukouna

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #6: Mapping fields

Based on requested and recommended readings, this session aims to map the research fields through a discussion of the kinds of research questions/hypotheses that have already been asked, and this from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The intent is to survey the different disciplinary contributions and highlight good case studies.

Friday, June 15th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #7: Looking Forward

Students will meet with their respective research directors during three parallel round tables. The aim is to finalize each project and plan the summer research. Students briefly sum up what they want to get out of their field study. We consider some strategies for making the best use of the period of summer research, and ways of avoiding some common pitfalls. We will also discuss the process of moving forward towards the preparation of a dissertation proposal. And we will discuss our plans for the September workshop.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP
Radisson Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Wednesday, September 12th to Sunday, September 16th, 2012
FALL 2012 WORKSHOP AGENDA**

New Approaches to Transnationalism and Migratory Circulation

Research Director: Thomas Lacroix [Thomas.lacroix@univ-poitiers.fr]

Research Director: Emmanuel Ma Mung [Emmanuel.mamung@univ-poitiers.fr]

Research Director: Khachig Tölölyan [ktololyan@wesleyan.edu]

This is the second of two annual DPDF workshops designed to help graduate student fellows prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals in their chosen field. The two goals of the second workshop are 1) to help fellows synthesize their summer research; and 2) to develop revised drafts of dissertation proposals, either for committee or funding purposes. The workshop challenges fellows to consider their summer research and proposal development within the context of contributions to their research fields. In this, the goals of the fall workshop are closely related to the project of mapping a research field that began during the spring workshop in Minnesota.

Fellows will come out of the second workshop with supportive networks, consisting of both mentors and cohorts of new scholars carrying out research in their fields, as well as intellectually mature dissertation proposals. Can we promise this? Deliver how?

WORKSHOP READINGS AND RESOURCES

Any new readings and other resources will be placed on the section of the DPDF online workspace devoted to this field.

WORKSHOP ASSIGNMENTS

[Note for RDs: The following are placeholders, examples of the kinds of assignments that could go here; RDs are certainly not limited to these. Some of these may already be posted on the workspace, but any related to the proposal should be listed below.]

All assignments should be uploaded on the DPDF online workspace unless otherwise noted:

- **Revised dissertation proposal, Deadline [September, the 5th]:** Using student and faculty feedback you've received from the spring workshop and the input from your fieldwork, submit a revision of your first draft.
- **Comments, Deadline [September, the 12th]:** (Prior to the workshop) Read all proposals and compile brief comments in preparation for workshop discussions. List a series of key points paying attention to the following issues: is the research object and questions clearly stated? Is the methodology coherent and what are the avenues for improvement? Is the proposal suitable with regard to the objectives of the author (for a funding bid or as a committee report)? Comments will be handed over to the fellows during the workshop so that they can use them to rewrite and improve their paper.

- **Fieldwork presentation, Deadline [September, the 12th]:** prepare a 10 min. exposé for the first Workshop session, synthesizing the key comments and lessons you received during the spring workshop and over the summer. The exposé should explain how you have altered and improved your research questions and what your subsequent methodological options are.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 12th

6 p.m.: **Registration and welcome reception**
 Workshop materials (badges, agenda, etc.) will be distributed at registration.
Dinner on your own

Thursday, September 13th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: **Plenary Session on Funding and DPDF Alumni Experiences**

This session, in which all 2012 fellows will attend, includes a roundtable discussion with representatives from major funding sources in the humanities and social sciences. The discussion will involve trends in dissertation funding, best practices in preparing proposals for various funders, and making the transition from dissertation to postdoc opportunities. The plenary will also include a discussion with DPDF alumni about career trajectories following the DPDF fellowship.

2 to 5 p.m.: **Workshop Session #1: Summer Research - Successes and Challenges (group session)**

This session will be conducted in three parallel groups of students with their respective research directors. The aim of this session is, firstly, to help the students to reflect upon the comments they received during the spring workshop and the lessons they learnt during their fieldwork and how this feeds into their research project and secondly to lead them to clarify their objectives regarding the workshop: what are the strengths and weaknesses of their proposal and what do they want to do with it: submit a bid for funding, write an intermediary report for their research committee, outline a working paper or article, etc.

The fellows will present during ten minutes what they did over the summer, what worked what did not, what are the research questions and methodological options that emerged, etc. This session will also address items stemming from the plenary session, as well as differences between writing for a committee versus writing for a funder.

Friday, September 14th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: **Workshop Session #2: Tracing cross border networks and practices (Plenary session)**

Plenary sessions are meant to provide feedback to the fellows. During 40 minutes, students will receive comments from the other participants. When providing feedback, it may be helpful for fellows to recognize any differences in feedback for a committee proposal versus a funding proposal.

Marwa El Chab (EHESS, Paris): Lebanese traders in West Africa: business networks over time and place

Sadio Soukouna (Paris I): The Logics of the decentralized cooperation North South: A comparative analysis of the realities of international action of the French and Canadian cities in relation with Malian immigrants.

Sihé Neya (Paris I): Return migration of Burkinabè of Ivory Coast and the construction of transnational life spaces

Josepha Milazzo (Aix-Marseille University, Autonomous University of Barcelona): Bolivians of rural Spain, between cosmopolitan rural practices and transnational constructions or the geography of an international migration system

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #3: Multi-sited studies in across border context (Plenary session)

Tristan Brown (Columbia): The Storm Beneath the Surface: Chinese Muslim Trading Diasporas and the Making of Modern China

Niandou Touré (Paris I): Highly qualified international migration and the development of the Southern countries, in the case of Malians in France and Morocco

Anne Bouhali (University of Toulouse 2 Le Mirail): Arabic souks: A spatial study of the globalization of marketplaces in the Middle East and Northern Africa.

Jess Auerbach (Stanford University): Rocking the Boat: South-South Migration between Angola and Brazil and the Quest for a New World Order

Saturday, September 15th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #4: The local meets the global: ethnographies of transnationalism (Plenary session)

Kathleen Sexsmith (Cornell University): Transnational moral economies in comparative perspective: Veracruzano workers on New York dairy and Florida fruit farms.

Alex Lee (University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign): Building Atop Sedimented Histories: South Korean Professional Migrants in Dubai

Nancy Khalil (Harvard): Living Terrorfied: (un)Welcoming Transnationalism

Amelia Schubert (Colorado University, Boulder): Impacts of outbound marriage on Korean community in China

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #5: Revising Proposals (Group session)

The Research Directors meet with their respective students. The session aims to finalize the students' proposals. It will provide the possibility for fellows to discuss the biggest hurdles they face in revising their proposals, once they've all received feedback.

Sunday, June 3rd

9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.: Workshop Session #6: Wrapping Up and Next Steps

The session will be the occasion to clarify the steps fellows should take following the conclusion of the program, whether it's sorting issues out with their advisors, calling funding agencies for clarifications, submitting a conference or working paper, not losing sight of the work they did in the program as they prepare for qualifying exams.

This will also be the time for discussing field building going forward, and how the group might continue the dialogue, and possibly expand their network, after the program ends (e.g., conferences, discussion boards, etc.)