

**'The Middle East re-mapped'
Monday 5 June 2017**

Time: 10.00 – 16.00

Location: Anthropology seminar room, Department of Anthropology

Concept: Reflecting a wider interest in 're-mapping area studies' at UCL, the aim of this workshop is to explore how the Middle East might be rethought and re-drawn today. We invite short contributions from researchers from across the social sciences, arts and humanities that address the question of how to map the Middle East, whether conceptually, creatively, or through empirical research. The workshop will be organised around three broad themes: Creatively approaching the Middle East; Beyond Borders; and Outsiders Within and Insiders Without.

Overview of event

Time	
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee
10.30 – 11.15	Keynote Speech Yael Navaro (Anthropology, Cambridge) 'Encrypted Arabic: Language as a Materiality at the Contested Turkish/Syrian Frontier'
11.15 – 11.45	Discussion
11.45 – 12.00	Coffee
12.00 – 13.30	'Outsiders Within and Insiders Without' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh (Geography): <i>'Reflections on refugee-refugee relationality in the Middle East'</i> • Georgios Kritikos (IAS and Harokopio University, Athens): <i>'Outsiders Within 'Sanity' and Insiders Without 'Sanity''</i> • Ulrike Flader (Anthropology, Bremen) <i>Union of Communities – 'Concept of Hope and Target of Destruction'</i> • Estella Carpi (DPU-Bartlett): <i>'Rethinking social memberships in the Middle East'</i> • Tyler Fisher (SELCS): <i>Rebaptism and Reintegration of Rescued Yezidis</i> • Sarah Hawkes (Institute of Global Health) tbc
13.30 – 14.15	Lunch
14.15 – 15.45	'Creatively approaching the Middle East' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mai Abu-Moghli (IoE): <i>'Re-thinking research i/on the Middle East'</i> • Beverly Butler (Archaeology): <i>'Heritage Rites – Magical Thinking & Efficacious Objects: Creativity and 'Acting Back' in Refugee Camp life'</i> • Katayoun Shafiee (IAS and Warwick) <i>'Re-mapping the Middle East Technopolitically: BP's Infrastructural Work in southwest Iran'</i> • Andrew Barry (Geography): <i>'The Political Geology of Anatolia'</i>
15.45 – 17.00	Moving Forwards

Biographies

Dr Yael Navaro Reader in Anthropology at the University of Cambridge. She is the author of *Faces of the State: Secularism and Public Life in Turkey* (Princeton UP, 2002) and *The Make-Believe Space: Affective Geography in a Postwar Polity* (Duke UP, 2012) Until recently, she has been conducting full-time research (January 2012 – December 2016) as Principal Investigator on a European Research Council (ERC) project: “Living with Remnants: Politics, Materiality and Subjectivity in the Aftermath of Past Atrocities in Turkey” (REMNANTS).

Dr. Mai Abu Moghli is UCL Active Citizenship strand manager, and a British Palestinian human rights activist, practitioner and academic based in London. Mai holds a PhD from the UCL Institute of Education. Her PhD research focus was on human rights education in Palestinian Authority schools in the Occupied West Bank. Mai holds a Masters degree in human rights from the University of Essex and has worked extensively in the fields of human rights and education in the MENA region. She is a policy member of the Palestinian policy network (Al-Shabaka) and an associate member of the SOAS Centre for Palestine Studies. Her current research focus is on violence in all boys Palestinian Authority Schools, refugee education and formation of identity in refugee situations.

Dr Beverley Butler is a Reader in Cultural Heritage at UCL Institute of Archaeology. Her key interests include: Critical Heritage perspectives, ‘Heritage Wellbeing’ and the transformative ‘efficacies of heritage’ particularly in contexts of marginalisation, displacement, conflict and extremism. Beverley has on-going long-term fieldwork research in the Middle East – notably in Egypt, Palestine and Jordan. Her long-standing research collaboration with Dr Fatima Al-Nammari (Petra University Jordan) includes: *Dislocated Identities and ‘Non-places’ – Heritage, Place-making and Wellbeing in Refugee Camps* (2011- ongoing). Beverley is Co-Investigator on a new joint ESRC/AHRC Global Challenges Research Fund research project with Professor Helen Chatterjee in collaboration with the Helen Bamber Centre which looks at the role of creative arts and cultural activities in improving health and wellbeing.

Dr. Estella Carpi is Research Associate at UCL-Development Planning Unit and Humanitarian Affairs Advisor at Save the Children UK. She is a social anthropologist who is coordinating a new project, *Refugee Self-Reliance and Humanitarian Action in Urban Markets* at UCL. Her research interests lie primarily in humanitarianism, refugee migration, welfare, and politics of aid.

Dr. Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh is Director of the *Refugee in a Moving World* network and is Co-Director of the Migration Research Unit at the Department of Geography. Elena specialises in forced migration and conflict-induced displacement, with a particular thematic interest in gender, generation and religion, and a regional focus on the Middle East and North Africa. She is currently the PI of two major projects: *Local Community Experiences of Displacement from Syria* (funded by the AHRC-ESRC) and *Analysing South-South Humanitarian Responses to Displacement from Syria: Views from Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey* (funded by the European Research Council).

Dr Ulrike Flader is senior researcher in the Department of Anthropology and Cultural Research, University of Bremen. She holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Manchester and a MA from Hamburg University. Her research circles around questions of citizenship in multi-ethnic societies, governmentality, political subjectivity, social movements and everyday resistance practices.

Dr Tyler Fisher is Lecturer in Peninsular Spanish Literary Studies at UCL. He carried out doctoral research on metaliterary devices and theology in late sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century Spanish poetry. He was subsequently Queen Sofía Research Fellow and Lecturer in Spanish at Exeter College, Oxford (2008-2011).

Dr Georgios Kritikos is Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies and Associate Professor of Historical Geography at Harokopio University in Athens in Greece. His research interests focus on refugees in the inter-war and modern period, on nationalism and identities in space. This research has been published in books, chapters in volumes and in articles. His current research project at the Institute of Advanced Studies is to examine how refugee flows served the rise of nationalism in Europe.

Dr. Ruth Mandel, Vice-Dean International, Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences, teaches in the Department of Anthropology at UCL. She has long been engaged with issues of xenophobia and migration. Her award-winning book *Cosmopolitan Anxieties: Turkish challenges to citizenship and belonging in Germany* (Duke University Press) has been widely reviewed, and recently was published in French. Another book, *Markets and Moralities: Ethnographies of postsocialism*, reflects her work in post-Soviet Central Asia. She is currently completing a book stemming from her research in Kazakhstan, about international development aid and media. She is the co-founder of the UCL-based series of conferences/workshops, *Engaging Refugee Narratives: Perspectives from Academia and the Arts*, the third event of which will take place June 16-17.

Dr Katayoun Shafiee, Visiting Research Fellow, Institute of Advanced Studies. She completed her PhD in the departments of History and Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at New York University. She was previously a post-doctoral research fellow at the National University of Singapore. As a visiting research fellow at the IAS, she has finalized the publication of her book manuscript, *Machineries of Oil: An Infrastructural History of BP in Iran*, forthcoming in 2017 with MIT Press. The book brings together histories of the Middle East with interdisciplinary thinking in science and technology studies to rethink the politics of the Middle East through a study of the British-controlled oil industry in Iran. Her project at IAS is to write an infrastructural history of risk in the building of a large-scale dam in southwest Iran, along the Persian Gulf, while continuing to consider the centrality of technologies of energy development in shaping political disputes in the twentieth century.

Professor Andrew Barry is Chair of Human Geography at UCL. He is a political geographer, who has a particular interest in the politics of science and technology. His books include *Material Politics: Disputes along the Pipeline* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), a study of the politics of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline.