

Society for Francophone Postcolonial Studies

Postgraduate Study Day

‘Negotiating Borders in the Francophone World’

**University of Birmingham**

**Friday 1st June 2018**

Keynote Speakers

Prof. Charles Forsdick (University of Liverpool)

Dr. Charlotte Hammond (Cardiff University)

Professional Development Workshop: Prof. Kate Marsh (University of Liverpool)

**Call for Papers**

Borders come in many different forms, both visible and otherwise. Whereas hard borders demarcate specific geographical territories and are inscribed in law, soft borders can be thought of as the constructed socio-cultural barriers that stand between ‘us’ and ‘them’. Talk of borders in both senses dominates the international news agenda, perhaps now more so than ever. Traditionally concerned with geo-political rivalries and colonial expansion, today such discourse is shaped by two competing phenomena: the breaking down of borders brought on by globalisation, on the one hand, and their restoration driven by processes of securitisation in response to mass migration and the perceived threat posed by global terrorism, on the other.

Over the course of the Study Day, we will explore the many borders that currently criss-cross and structure the postcolonial francophone world, as well as those which have done so historically. Intended to showcase work undertaken by postgraduate students, we invite participants to interpret the conference theme and contribute to the notion of borders in the broadest possible terms.

Our aim for this event is to facilitate debate by providing a friendly and supportive environment in which new researchers within the field of francophone postcolonial studies can share and discuss their work.

Potential topics include, but are by no means limited to:

* Nationalism and regionalism
* Securitisation
* Social, cultural, religious and political exchange
* Mobility and identity formation
* Migration and multiculturalism
* Global 1968
* Language
* Spatial and temporal boundaries
* Economic development
* Terrorism and conflict
* Ecocriticism and the border between nature and humanity

Please send the title of your paper, along with your name, contact details, institution and an abstract of up to 300 words to: [sfpspg2018@gmail.com](mailto:sfpspg2018@gmail.com) by **Friday 16th March**. You will receive confirmation of acceptance by **Friday 13th April**.

For more information see: <http://sfpspgstudyday.wordpress.com/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sfpspg2018>

Organising Committee: Ally Lee (University of Warwick), Bethany Mason (University of Birmingham), Abdelbaqi Ghorab (Lancaster University).

\*Please note: to participate in the workshop, you must become a member of the Society for Francophone Postcolonial Studies. Please visit <http://www.sfps.ac.uk/membership/> to learn of the numerous benefits that come with membership.