



Geography, place and mobility: theory, methods and research practice

Geography Graduate School Intensive Course 23.5-24.5.2007,
Department of Geography, University of Oulu

The key themes of academic geography are always under a perpetual change. Nevertheless some key categories and themes seem to maintain their position in geography and to gain even new currency. Space, region and place are among the key categories that geographers belonging to various generations seem to find continually useful in their theorization and research practice. Also current geographical thinking finds these categories important but at the same challenges traditional fixed images associated with these categories: movement and mobility are found to be crucial elements in the globalizing world.

The purpose of this methodologically oriented intensive course is to scrutinize and shed light on the current meanings of these categories and the challenges they face in both geographic theory and planning practices. This will take place in the form of invited guest lectures and seminars. Ph.D-students will have a chance to present papers on their own research themes. Lectures will be given Prof. *Tim Cresswell* (Univ. of London) and Prof. *Ole Jensen* (Univ. of Aalborg). Cresswell has published several books and a number of articles on geography's key concepts and mobility (*Place: a short introduction* 2004, *On the Move: Mobility in the Modern Western World* 2006). Ole Jensen has studied spatial imaginaries and planning practices and has recently published a book (with Tim Richardson) "*Making European Space*" (2004).

Students interested in participating this intensive course should send their abstracts to Prof. Anssi Paasi not later than *April 13th 2007* (contact address below). Graduate school will subvent the travel and accommodation costs of the students presenting papers in the limits of the budget.

After the Graduate school event it is possible to participate the IGU Cultural Geographies Commission's conference on "*The Changing Cultural Geographies of Place, Region and Mobility*". Information on this conference is available on the Home page of the Department of Geography , University of Oulu (http://www.oulu.fi/geography/actual_events/index.html)

Contact person: Prof. Anssi Paasi, Department of Geography, University of Oulu, tel. 044-3582819, e-mail: anssi.paasi@oulu.fi