



Geographies of Boundaries and Borderlands

Geography Graduate School Intensive Course

Friday-Saturday, 5-6 June 2009

Department of Geography, University of Joensuu

The *Geographies of Boundaries and Borderlands* intensive course focuses on geographical aspects of and research on boundaries and borderlands. Borders have not been a popular topic in contemporary academic discussions as concepts such as space of flows, networks, fluidity or de-territorialisation instead have been frequently used to describe the new spatialities of a globalised and 'borderless' world. Contrary to these discussions, the reference point of this course is that *borders are not disappearing, but rather are becoming more complex*. Firstly, national borders remain but they have become blurred and semi-permeable. While some activities are allowed to cross these borders, some others are prevented to do so. Secondly, borders exist, emerge and change at other spatial scales than the national, of which we have seen examples at the level of European integration, as well as at the local and regional scale in contemporary administrative reforms. Thirdly, there are geographical boundaries other than territorial ones, as networks, cultures, organisations and various social processes create boundaries through practices of exclusion and inclusion.

The course welcomes doctoral students who are interested in changing borders, borderlands or practices of exclusion and inclusion. Student papers do not necessarily have to be directly related to borders as other topics can be addressed. Students wishing to participate in this intensive course should send their abstracts (200 words) and personal information (name, affiliation) to Taru Kontkanen (see below) by 15 May 2009. The graduate school will reimburse – within reason – travel and accommodation costs of doctoral students presenting papers.

Guest lecturers:

Dr. Pirjo Jukarainen (Tampere Peace Research Institute, Finland) is a specialist in borderlands, North-West Russia, nationalism, youth research, gender and the military.

Dr. Olivier Kramsch (Radboud University Nijmegen/ Nijmegen Centre for Border Research, the Netherlands) is a specialist in cross-border governance, governmentality, borderlands, and spatial scales.

The course is organised concurrently with the University of Joensuu's conference *Europe beyond East-West Division*, offering participants the possibility to listen to such internationally-known scholars as Anna Temkina, Anssi Paasi, Liam O'Dowd and James W. Scott. The conference programme can be found at: http://www.joensuu.fi/border/JoY_40/Programme_Online.pdf.

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