



## **Regions, Cultures and Governance: Regional policy perspectives**

Geography Graduate School Intensive Course  
Thu 27th-Fri 28th November 2008,  
Department of Geography, University of Oulu

Regions are back not only in geographic research but also in other academic fields as well as in broader societal practice and discourse. The revival of regional thinking has occurred in both cultural life and governance - often simultaneously. Respectively regional structures of governance have changed dramatically e.g. within such contexts as the EU where the re-scaling of the state has led to a supposed competition between 'regions' and where regional structures have been transforming. This tendency has been interpreted to result from both the neo-liberalization of the global economy and from a regionalist response. Respectively culture, identity and more broadly cultural imaginaries have become significant elements in regional thinking and development strategies. This intensive course will concentrate on current and emerging perspectives on region, governance and regional policy. The course is structured around the keynote lectures given by the visiting teachers and seminar sessions, where Ph.D. students will present their work in progress and will receive feedback from the lecturers.

Visiting teachers are:

**Dr. Iain Deas** (Planning and Landscape, University of Manchester). His research interests are urban policy evaluation, regional policy and institutional change, and measurement of urban socio-economic circumstances and patterns of deprivation.

**Dr. David C. Harvey** (Department of Geography, University of Exeter). His principal research focus is historical and cultural geography and heritage studies. He is particularly interested in South West Britain and the 'Celtic fringes' of the British Isles.

Students willing to participate this intensive course should send their abstracts (200 words) and personal information (name, affiliation) to contact persons (see below) by 7th November 2008. Graduate school will reimburse – in the limits of the budget – the travel and accommodation costs of the doctoral students presenting papers.

Contact persons: Academy Professor Anssi Paasi, Department of Geography, University of Oulu, tel. 044-3582819, e-mail: [anssi.paasi@oulu.fi](mailto:anssi.paasi@oulu.fi), Ph.D. Kaj Zimmerbauer ([kaj.zimmerbauer@oulu.fi](mailto:kaj.zimmerbauer@oulu.fi)) tel. (08)5531712 and M.Sc. Joni.Vainikka ([joni.vainikka@oulu.fi](mailto:joni.vainikka@oulu.fi)) tel. (08)5537853