



Migrations and Borders in the United States: discourses, representations, imaginary contexts

March 29-31, 2017, University Grenoble Alpes, France

Co-organized by:

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Migration studies are at the core of American history. Whether voluntary or involuntary, migrations peopled the continent. Waves of immigration have created an American identity which is continuously modified by new arrivals and changing patterns of cultural transmission and dominance. While cultural mobility seems to be an unstoppable global phenomenon, local resistance, mainly among minorities, is observed. Cultures—or cultural traits—also migrate on their own, disregarding borders.

The international borders of the United States have evolved from a moving ‘frontier’ line and have reached their present state in the 19th century. International borders have evolved from porous to tight, first on the Mexican border, and after 9/11, also on the Canadian border. ‘Borderland’ studies (Herbert Bolton) date back to the early decades of the 20th Century but experience a renewal. Other internal ‘borders’ are continuously shifting: borders between different land-use areas—protected vs unprotected, land lost or gained by Native American Nations, land claimed as Hispanic ‘land grants’, gentrified neighborhoods, urban sprawl and imploding cities.

The present conference aims to analyze all forms of discourses, representations and imaginary contexts linked to migrations and borders—in the broad sense—in the United States.

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Migrations et frontières aux États-Unis : discours, représentations, imaginaires / Migrations and borders in the United States: discourses, representations, imaginary contexts

Programme (version du 20 janvier 2017)

Université Grenoble Alpes, 29-31 mars 2017

Maison des Langues, 1141 av. centrale - 38400 Saint-Martin-d'Hères

Mercredi 29 mars 2017 - Wednesday, March 29, 2017

9h30-10h: registration, coffee

Registration desk open, coffee

10h-10h20: Opening speech

Catherine Delmas, director of Ecole Doctorale (en attente de réponse)

Codirectors: Susanne Berthier and Paul Otto

10h30-12h30: session 1: Borders/history 1): Salle Jacques Cartier, Maison des Langues

1. Cantrell, Gregg (Texas Christian University, USA): Imagination, Representation, and Reality in the Peopling of Anglo-American Texas: Stephen F. Austin as Visionary and Pragmatist
2. Farhat, Sirine (Université Paris 8, France) : Migrations volontaires et/ou forcées : L'exode des français de Saint-Domingue à Charleston, Caroline du Sud
3. Hirschberg, Mairena (European University Institute, Florence, Italy): Making Good Citizens: The Conception of Ruralism of the New York Children's Aid Society
4. Jefferson, Robert F. (University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, USA): Dark Passages: African American World War II GIs, Blackness, and Border Town Life and Cultures in 1940s Southern Arizona

12h30-14h: lunch

Buffet

13h30-14h: registration

Registration desk open

14h-15h: keynote (Southern Border)

Ariadna Estvez Lopez (Centre for Research on North America of the National Autonomous University of Mexico): Migration Biopolitics and Asylum Law in the USA

15h-15h30 Coffee Break

15h30-17h30: parallel activities

15h30-17h30 (session 2: Borders/representation 1): Salle MLC 003, Maison des Langues

1. Avila, Theresa (Latin American and Latin@ art and culture): Mapping Imagined Regions and Communities: Constructs of Place and Belonging in Atlases and Maps of the New World
2. Benabed, Fella (Badji Mokhtar – Annaba University, Algeria): Crossing Linguistic Borders: The Case of Spanglish in Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street*
3. Cohen, Deborah (University of Missouri-St. Louis, USA): Immigration Regimes in Transition: The Discursive Border between Immigrants and Migrants"
4. Farid, Sonia (Cairo University, Egypt): Being Arab-American: Stereotyping and Representation in Arabian Jazz

15h30-16h30 but reserve room until 17h30 (session 3: time/room to be defined in accordance with students' schedule)

Otto, Lynn (Poetry Workshops):

What We Carry, What We Cross: A Creative Writing Session on Migrations and Borders.

Facilitated by Lynn Otto

Explore your own relationship to place in this generative creative writing workshop. We'll examine some poems and prose to see how others have explored this territory, and then attempt our own explorations with a series of writing prompts. You may come away from the session with some surprise discoveries about yourself, with fresh insight into the conference themes, and with new creative work. No creative writing experience necessary.

Thursday, March 30, 2017

8h-30-9h: registration

Registration desk open, coffee

9h-12h parallel sessions

9h-11h30 (Session 4 : Life on the border) Salle Jacques Cartier, Maison des Langues

1. Vecchio, Diane C. (Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina, USA): Entrepreneurs in the post-Civil War South: Jewish Peddlers, Merchants and Manufacturers in the South Carolina Upcountry
2. Fortuné, Cléa (Université Paris 3, Sorbonne Nouvelle, France) : Communauté(s) et sécurité dans la ville frontalière de Douglas, Arizona
3. Gil-García, Óscar F. (Binghamton University, State University of New York, USA): An Emergent Clandestine Migrant Economy: U.S. Immigration Enforcement and the Making of a Human Smuggler
4. Melnick, Jeffrey (University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA): Creepy Crawling in Los Angeles: the Manson Family and Cultural Mixing as Apocalypse
5. Joyce, Ryan (Tulane University, New Orleans, USA & École Normale Supérieur de Paris, France): Queering Boarders: Haitian-American Migrations and the American HIV/AIDS Movement

9h-11h30 (session 5: Borders/representation 2) Salle MLC 003, Maison des Langues

1. Goldberg, Robert A. (Tanner Humanities Center at the University of Utah, USA): Religion as Boundary Marker in an American City
2. Reinoza, Tatiana (Dartmouth College, USA): Mirage of Sanctuary: Austin and the Representation of Undocumented Subjects
3. Sharim, Yehuda (Rice University, USA): As Borders Are Crossed: Violence, Race, and Migrant Realities
4. Zwart, David (Grand Valley State University, Michigan, USA): Remembering Immigration: Ethnicity in the Rural Midwest after World War II
5. Biserna, Helena (Aix-Marseille-Université, France) : SoundBorderscapes. Listening to the border critically
6. Servian, Claudie (University Grenoble Alpes, France) : L'Atlantique : frontière perméable ou étanche chez les chorégraphes étatsuniens du XX e siècle ?

12h-14h: Lunch

14h-15h: keynote Northern Border

Victor Konrad (Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada): The Borders between the United States and Canada: Evolving Imaginaries and Representations of the Other North American Dyarchy

15h-15h30: coffee break

15h30-17h30 parallel sessions

15h30-17h30 (session 6: Ethnic communities and regional studies 1) Salle Jacques Cartier, Maison des Langues

1. Artan-Bayhan, Z. Selen (CUNY, USA): Constructions and Boundaries of Turkish-ness: Immigrant Imaginations in the United States
2. Cadinot, Dominique (Aix-Marseille-Université, France) : Entre arabité et islamité : les frontières identitaires de la communauté arabo-américaine
3. Der Sarkissian, Anouche (Université Paris Ouest, France) : Frontières intra-communautaires : l'exemple des Arméniens de Los Angeles
4. Michaud, Marie-Christine (Université de Bretagne Sud, France) : Des frontières géographiques aux frontières virtuelles à New York. De la Petite Italie à Chinatown

15h30-17h30 (session 7 : Border policies 1) Salle MLC 003, Maison des Langues

1. Cullison, Jennifer (University of Colorado Boulder, USA): Conflicting Visions? INS "Humane" Detention in the Face of Increasing Border Security, 1952-1980
2. DeHaan, Kathleen (College of Charleston, SC, USA): "Dear Vladek: Here nobody steals the milk:" Immigrant or American? The Common Council for American Unity and The Letters From America Campaign
3. Ettinger, Patrick (California State University, Sacramento, USA): Imagining immigrant meanings: American ethnics and the demise of national origins policy
4. Fofack, Eric Wilson (University of Dschang, Cameroon) : Etats-Unis d'Amérique, le nouvel eldorado Africain : enjeux et contraintes de l'immigration africaine au XXI^e siècle

Friday, March 31st, 2017

9h-12h: parallel sessions with coffee break 10h-11h

9h-12h (session 8: Ethnic communities and regional studies 2) Salle Jacques Cartier, Maison des Langues

1. Dolan, Thomas (George Washington University, USA): Empty Space: Unsettling Empire in Arab Detroit
2. Swartwood, Jeffrey (Ecole Polytechnique, France): Warped mirrors: shifting representations and asymmetrical constructs on the border(s) of the American Southwest
3. Tocilovac, Marko (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France) : Construction esthétique et fabrique politique du paysage frontalier mexico-américain
4. Fryer, Heather (Creighton University, Omaha, NE, USA): Wartime Security, Catholic Activism, and New Trails East: The Migration of Los Angeles Japanese Americans to Father Flanagan's Boys Town, Nebraska during World War II

9h-12h (session 9: Borders/policies 2) Salle MLC 003, Maison des Langues

1. Messmer, Marietta (University of Groningen, Netherlands): Neoliberalizing State Responsibilities: Effects of an Increasing Privatization of U.S. Border Security
2. Ouaked, Saïd (Université de Limoges, France) : Une « frontière sécuritaire » ? Sécurité nationale, immigration et soft power américains au 21ème siècle
3. Rangel Torrijo, Hugo (UQAM, Canada – Universidad de Guadalajara – CUCI, Mexico) : Le mur identitaire vs la coopération transfrontalière Etats Unis- Mexique
4. Wiebel, Jon (Allegheny College, Pennsylvania, USA): Realizing Governmental Ambitions: Policing Insiders and Outsiders through Immigrations Reforms in the 1990s

12h-14h: lunch

14h-18h Parallel sessions with coffee break 15h30-16h

14h-18h (session 10: Crossing diverse borders) Salle Jacques Cartier, Maison des Langues

1. DePaoli, María Teresa (Kansas State University, USA): Can the Undocumented Immigrant Speak? Exploring Decolonial Thinking in Mexican and Latino/a Literature and Cinema
2. Fries, Marie-Hélène (Université Grenoble Alpes, France): Nanotechnology frontiers in the US: from international scientific discourse to local imaginary contexts
3. Price, Virginia B. (Federal government, USA): City Movement: Communal Art and Contested Neighborhoods in Chicago
4. Rubin, Rachel (University of Massachusetts Boston, USA): Merle Haggard and the Poetics and Politics of Migrant Identity Formation

14h-18h (session 11: Indians crossing domestic and international borders) Salle MLC 003, Maison des Langues

1. Strigler, Marie-Claude (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France): The Osage, “en route” to new country since their origin
2. Clerici, Naila (University of Genoa, University of Torino): The long red road, migrations, relocations, deportations in the history of the First Americans

3. Nichols, Roger L. (University of Arizona, USA): Indians and Trans-Border Migration: Opportunity and Refuge
4. Pelletier, Julie (University of Winnipeg, Canada): Unwanted Indians on the U.S./Canadian Border: Claims to Wabanaki Identity in Maine
5. Tiro, Karim (Xavier University, Cincinnati, USA) : La déportation des Amérindiens de l'Etat de l'Ohio vers l'Ouest

19h30: conference banquet