



Encounters and Intersections: Religion, Diaspora and Ethnicities

Conference – 9th-11th July, 2008,
St Catherine's College, Oxford

This conference takes encounter and intersection as its frame. It explores the nature of relations between different faith and ethnic groups, between diasporic and indigenous citizens and between convivial, and not so convivial, multicultures in current, complex, post colonial contexts. We are interested in patterns and trends in contemporary identity practices, the intersections between social identities and how intersection and multiplicity are experienced and lived.

Encounters can be hostile, intimate, violent, anxious, celebratory, defensive, banal or historic. Participants can feel consumed, tolerated, included, marginalised or empowered. In policy terms, encounters can be read through the lens of 'community cohesion', the 'duty to integrate' or the 'clash of civilisations'. How do different forms of encounter organise (and how are they organised by) particular relational spaces? How do they create and reflect 'contact zones'? How do people negotiate multiple identities of faith, class, ethnicity, gender, nationality, place, etc? What are the social, political and ethical consequences?

This conference is organised by the ESRC/AHRC Programme on Religion and Society (www.religionandsociety.org.uk), the AHRC Programme on Diasporas, Migration and Identities (www.diasporas.ac.uk) and the ESRC Programme on Identities and Social Action (www.identities.org.uk). It will show-case the interdisciplinary research taking place in the UK on these themes across the arts, social sciences and humanities.

The conference includes a keynote address from Prof. Paul Gilroy (London School of Economics) and author of *After Empire*, *The Black Atlantic* and *Ain't no Black in the Union Jack*.

There will be panels on *Living Intersections – New British Identities* and *Encounters – Materials, Spaces and Performances* highlighting the research being conducted in the three Programmes. The conference will include parallel sessions of paper presentations, photographic and poster exhibitions, a conference dinner, drinks receptions and many opportunities for discussion and networking with researchers from a wide range of disciplinary and intellectual perspectives.

We welcome submissions to present papers (20 minutes plus 10 minutes for questions) on the conference themes. Your paper might present some empirical findings, it might consist of a performance, a theoretical review, critique and new argument; it might consist of a textual analysis, raise provocative questions or analyse one case, site or context. Abstracts should be submitted to Katie Roche (k.a.roche@leeds.ac.uk) by the 28th of February, 2008 including full contact details for all authors.

St Catherine's College (www.catzconferences.co.uk), the conference venue, is a well-appointed and welcoming site in the heart of Oxford. Accommodation and meals for those who require them will be available in the College. Please see the registration form for more details. The deadline for registration for this conference is the 9th of June, 2008.



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

**Encounters and Intersections:
Religion, Diaspora and Ethnicities Conference
9th - 11th July, 2008,
St Catherine's College, Oxford**

All bookings will be acknowledged with receipt and confirmation of a place. Please ensure you provide your full details below and return to Kerry Carter (address below) no later than **9th June 2008**

PERSONAL DETAILS	
Title and name:	
Institution:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
Mobile:	
Email:	

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS	
Do you need any assistance to participate in the Conference (e.g. Wheelchair access)?	
Dietary Requirements :	

CONFERENCE FEES

The full conference package (£250) includes:

- 2 nights accommodation with breakfast (9th and 10th July)
- 2 conference Dinners
- All conference sessions,
- Refreshments and lunch on the 10th and 11th July

I wish to attend the full conference: YES/NO

Alternatively you can book a day rate with one night's accommodation for £160 which will include:

- 1 night accommodation with breakfast
- A day of conference sessions
- Lunch/refreshments and Dinner if required

Please state the day you wish to attend:

.....

Please state the night you wish to

stay:.....

Dinner required on which evening:

.....

A daily rate can also be booked (£100) this includes:

- A day of conference sessions
- Lunch/refreshments and Dinner if required

Please state the day(s) you wish to attend:

.....

Dinner required on which evening:

.....

BOOKING FORM

Please reserve place (s) at this conference at cost

Cheque payments:

I enclose a cheque to a total of £_____

*(Cheques must be in sterling and drawn on a UK bank. Please make payable to **The Open University**)*

Credit/debit card payments:

Please debit my card with £_____

Card type: VISA/MASTERCARD/SWITCH/SOLO (delete as appropriate)

Card no: _____

Expiry Date: ____/____

Card security code (last 3 numbers on back of card): _____

Issue no: (debit cards only) _____

Start date (if applicable): _____

Please note that there can be no refunds 4 weeks after receipt of your payment.

Please send this form by **post for both cheques and credit/debit cards, as it is not secure to send credit card data by any other electronic means including email.**

To:

**Kerry Carter
Social Sciences
The Open University
Walton Hall
Milton Keynes
MK7 6AA**

