**Discipline and Place**

**IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THE HUMANITIES**

*A lecture series for graduate students, Sept-Nov 2020*

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**LeidenGlobal** is a collaborative effort by the following academic and cultural institutions:

- Leiden University:
  - Humanities
  - Archaeology
  - Law
  - Social Sciences
- African Studies Center Leiden (ASC)
- International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS)
- Netherlands Center for the Near East (NINO)
- Roosevelt Institute for American Studies (RIAS)
- Royal Institute for Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV)
- National Museum of Antiquities (RMG)
- National Museum of Ethnology (RMV)

Jointly, the expertise of the scholars associated with these institutions extends to many parts of the world, including Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, North America, and Russia and the Caucasus, through fields of enquiry and themes ranging from archaeology to international relations, and from temple iconography to new media. As such, Leiden offers a truly global perspective.

LeidenGlobal aims to raise the visibility and the impact of academic and cultural scholarship and events for a wider audience, and to build partnerships with the media, government, the corporate sector, and NGOs; and to strengthen local collaboration in scholarly endeavours such as grant applications and graduate training.

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**Set-up**

- The series will be convened and moderated by LeidenGlobal staff, with two online sessions a week scheduled in Microsoft Teams at 17:00 from mid-September to the end of November, and a pre-recorded lecture of ca 30 min, that will be available one week prior to the online discussion.

- For preparatory reading, speakers assign texts that are freely available on the web or in the Leiden University digital library. ‘Texts’ is taken broadly, and while speakers are welcome to assign scholarly essays, they are equally welcome to draw on other kinds of writing (e.g. life writing, scholarly / political / activist manifestos, fiction, all manner of ‘reporting’) and audio-visual material (e.g. exhibitions, catalogues, documentary / fictional film, photography, web lectures). Whatever they feel will best prepare the ground for their lecture, and is available to the students online.

- Assignments are selected for (i) relevance to the speaker’s own research, (ii) relevance to the central questions of this course, (iii) significance, and (iv) accessibility to a student audience of widely varying background and specialization. They are accompanied by questions to the students, and by propositions to advance in-class discussion that will take place online.

- Speakers pre-record their lecture of about 30 minutes, which will be made available for the students to watch prior to the online class. The reading material and lecture will be discussed in a live online session with the speaker, course coordinator and fellow students.

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info@leidenglobal.nl
During the course, students will work towards a ‘think piece’ (2,000 words) written for their supervisors, in which they reflect upon the course. The final session will include a discussion of key points from these draft papers. Once they are finalized, students discuss them with their supervisors. Whether or not this is considered (creditable) assessment is up to the student’s home institute / faculty and their supervisors.

After the final session, students are asked to evaluate the course online.

Students are expected to attend all online sessions. Incidental exemptions may be requested from the course convenor Elena Burgos Martinez.

Admission

- The course is specifically designed for PhD candidates and Research MA students registered at LeidenGlobal partner institutions, but students from other institutions are also eligible to attend. All students should first consult with their advisors before applying.
- Students can register for this course at www.leidenglobal.org/courses. The deadline for applications is 12:00 PM on the 10th of September 2020. Applicants will learn of their admission status no later than the 15th of September 2020.
- Admission is at the discretion of the LeidenGlobal executive committee. If student interest exceeds current capacity, admission will have to be capped, and we will try to expand capacity for subsequent editions.

Central questions

The course will engage with many sub-disciplines in the social sciences and the humanities. Each session will be taught by a guest lecturer from one of these fields who will speak to important aspects of his/her discipline. Coherence is ensured by overarching themes we ask each of the lecturers to address – themes that will then be discussed extensively in class by the course coordinator. These themes include:

- Decolonising curricula
- Diversity in approaches to knowledge
- The situatedness of scholarship, as reflected in things like:
  - the history of the field and the questions it asks
  - the trajectory of the individual researcher
  - the nature of the data
  - issues of theory and methodology
  - institutional and socio-cultural contexts
- Positionality, i.e. imagining, timing, and placing others and selves
- Language
- Translation: interlingual, intercultural, intermedial, interdisciplinary, etc
- Objects and agency
- Scholarship and activism
- Public understandings of scholarship and societal issues, and their interaction.

‘Discipline’ and ‘place’ mean many things to many people. Disciplinarily, thematically and regionally defined fields of inquiry are not mutually exclusive or antagonistic, and stand to benefit from interaction. The course does not underwrite any single definition or inventory of disciplines or places, be this linked to particular points in time and space, scholarly method, political persuasions, or other coordinates. Rather, it offers an entry point for a debate on where we find ourselves that retains its relevance today in novel, striking ways.
Programme
Online discussions are every Tuesday and Thursday evening from September 17th until November 19th 2020 from 17:00-18:00 hrs. in Microsoft Teams.

Programme LeidenGlobal Course ‘Discipline & Place’

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Introduction: Area Studies (LeidenGlobal)</td>
<td>Elena Burgos Martinez, Pieter ter Keurs</td>
<td>Thu 17 Sept</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Geography</td>
<td>Ruben Gonzalez Vicente</td>
<td>Tue 22 Sept</td>
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<td>3. Gender Studies</td>
<td>Ratna Saptari</td>
<td>Thu 24 Sept</td>
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<td>4. Law</td>
<td>Adriaan Bedner</td>
<td>Tue 29 Sept</td>
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<td>5. International Relations</td>
<td>Nankiung Choi</td>
<td>Thu 01 Oct</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>6. Archaeology</td>
<td>Alexander Geurds</td>
<td>Tue 06 Oct</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>7. Political Economy</td>
<td>Ward Berenschot</td>
<td>Thu 08 Oct</td>
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<td>8. Literary Studies</td>
<td>Kamila Krakowska Rodrigues</td>
<td>Tue 13 Oct</td>
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<td>9. Midway reflection</td>
<td>Elena Burgos Martinez</td>
<td>Thu 15 Oct</td>
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*No class on Tue 20 and Thu 22 October 2020*

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<td>10. Philosophy</td>
<td>Stephen Harris</td>
<td>Tue 27 Oct</td>
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<td>11. On Collecting</td>
<td>Pieter ter Keurs</td>
<td>Thu 29 Oct</td>
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<td>12. Anthropology</td>
<td>Eirik Bähre</td>
<td>Tue 03 Nov</td>
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<td>13. Linguistics</td>
<td>Maaike van Naerssen</td>
<td>Thu 05 Nov</td>
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<td>14. Philology</td>
<td>Peter Bisschop</td>
<td>Tue 10 Nov</td>
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<td>15. The Study of Religion</td>
<td>Ab de Jong</td>
<td>Thu 12 Nov</td>
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<td>16. History</td>
<td>Jan-Bart Gewald</td>
<td>Tue 17 Nov</td>
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<td>17. Conclusion</td>
<td>Elena Burgos Martinez, Pieter ter Keurs</td>
<td>Thu 19 Nov</td>
<td>Online</td>
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