

Visiting Speaker Series 2015-16 Term 2

The Art of Neighbouring: Managing Relations across Chinese Borders

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19 Jan 2016 (Tuesday)

4:30 – 6:00pm

Room 1118, 11/F,

Yasumoto International Academic Park



Dr. Zhang's research interests include social change, transnational migration and mobility, gender and development in the context of Asia. Her work places a central focus on multiple forms of borders and mobilities, governance, and global circulations. In particular, her research explores migrant experiences and subjectivities, borders and transgressions, and how global flows and circulations transform the technologies of governance in everyday life. Before joining UNE, Juan completed her PhD at Macquarie University, and was a Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.

Over the past decades, living in proximity to an increasingly powerful China has gained new meanings. "Rising China" – the nation, the notion, and the buzzword – sparks dreams and triggers fears. Borders that were closed during the Cold War era have again become zones of contact and exchange. Old trade routes are revived, new economic corridors established, and remote border towns turned into special zones. In this context, engaging in multiple neighboring relations has become a necessity for those living in these zones of contact and exchange. In this seminar, I aim to develop the notion of "neighbouring" as a productive framework to describe the varied experiences and politics of relation-making across China's borders. Neighbouring is understood as both agency and experience. The processes and realities of relation-making across China's borders shape life and identities in profound and lasting ways.

Free Admission

The talk is conducted in English

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