



CYCLE DE CONFERENCE
DE LA MAPS 2010 / 2011

**TRANSFORMATIONS !
Les sociétés remodelées
par les mobilités?**



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les mobilités?**

Quels sont les effets de la circulation croissante des personnes, des idées, des objets et des biens ? Comment gérer la diversité ethnique, culturelle et religieuse qui caractérise nos sociétés ? Avons-nous affaire à de nouvelles formes d'inégalités ? Comment les individus, mais également les institutions publiques, p.ex. l'école ou l'Etat-nation, réagissent-elles à ces formes de mobilités ? Sur le plan scientifique, les théories classiques des sciences sociales sont-elles encore pertinentes dans un monde mobile, globalisé et transnationalisé ? De telles questions sont dans tous les agendas politiques, que ce soit à l'échelle internationale, nationale ou régionale. Raison pour laquelle nous proposons de réfléchir, lors d'un cycle de conférences, à la manière dont nos sociétés contemporaines se transforment : sommes-nous confrontés à des ruptures ou au contraire à des continuités ?

Nous avons pour ce faire invité des conférencières et des conférenciers venant de différentes disciplines pour nous présenter leurs recherches et positionnements sur la manière dont les sociétés se transforment à la rencontre des logiques globales, régionales et locales.

Lieu Aula du bâtiment principal de l'Université de Neuchâtel, Avenue du Premier-Mars 26, 2000 Neuchâtel

Horaire Mardi, 18.15-20.00h (excepté la conférence d'Olivier Godechot)

Plus d'information sur unine.ch/maps

SEMESTRE D'AUTOMNE

5 octobre 2010

Mirjam de Bruijn, African Studies Centre, Leiden University (NL)

Mobile Africa Revisited: New Communication Technology and Changing Mobility Patterns in Chad and Cameroon

The recent 'boom' in mobile telephony in Africa shows the importance of communication for Africans. How can we explain this development in relation to the idea that Africa is the mobile continent, as is increasingly stated in the analysis of African societies? In this lecture I investigate these issues for two 'mobile' communities in Africa, based in the Grassfields in Cameroon and in Central Chad. Central in the analysis is the relation between histories of mobility, marginality, and the appropriation of communication technologies.

16 novembre 2010

Remise du prix Nexans et conférence des lauréates

Nicole Wichmann, Forum suisse pour l'étude des migrations et de la population (SFM), Université de Neuchâtel (CH)

Le dilemme entre inclusion et exclusion: le cas des politiques d'intégration en Suisse

Laurence Crot, Institut de Géographie (IGG) et Réseau MOVE, Université de Neuchâtel (CH)

La ville durable en mouvement

1er décembre 2010 (mercredi)

Olivier Godechot, CNRS, Ecole Normale Supérieure (F)

Getting a Job in Finance. The Strength of Collaboration Ties

We would like to challenge the overemphasizing focus of the weak ties argument on information. Even in Granovetter, 'weak ties' that seem more helpful for getting jobs are generally former colleagues. One reason for this feature is not that former colleagues increase ego's information but rather that they value the pursuit of past collaboration. We examine then the consequence of collaboration ties hypothesis in the financial industry labor market. Based on results of previous research, we explain why collaboration ties may be so valuable. In finance, the labor market values the assets that financial operatives take with them from one firm to another, such as knowledge, know-how, customers. Since assets are to a certain extent shared among coworkers, it is worth hiring business relations, former colleagues or moving in teams: it enables a better transfer of assets such as idiosyncratic working routines, distributed knowledge, or joint customers. To demonstrate our claims we rely on an online survey launched with eFinancialCareers.fr collected in 09/2008 among French financial employees.

Conférence en français

14 décembre 2010

Benedikt Korf, University of Zurich (CH)

Moving gifts, or: Reciprocity Across Borders

Jacques Derrida once suggested that there was no such thing as a free gift. When we give gifts to victims of natural disasters, for example, these gifts enter into a chain of obligations and global geographies of reciprocity. Indeed, gifts "move" across borders, or more precisely, they are often moved by brokers, humanitarian agencies that transform donations into projects in disaster-affected places. This chain of transformations produces several layers of reciprocity and obligations, between donators, brokers, recipients, but also: local politicians, the media etc. This reciprocity across borders is particularly pertinent in disaster that have gained high attention in the media, as media attention places additional pressure on aid brokers to demonstrate how they have moved gifts to different places. In this talk, I will look at aid given after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and trace the moving of the gift, its subsequent transformation and will analyze the multi-local connections of reciprocity and the moral geographies that these transformations entail.

SEMESTRE DE PRINTEMPS

8 mars 2011

Jaan Valsiner, Clark University (USA)

Moving through the Horizon: Personal-Cultural Construction of Experience

Cultural psychology is oriented to find out how human beings in any societal context organize their lives by semiotic resources. In this talk I will cover the issues of human cultural development – creation of personally unique meaning complexes ("personal cultures") in the transaction with culturally organized life environments. The latter are set up to provide full coverage of the perceptual experiences with culturally patterned materials – visual scenes and acoustic framing of the ongoing activities. Such framing takes the form of ornaments – visual, acoustic, or olfactory – that set the stage for personal meaning-making.

29 mars 2011

Thomas Faist, University of Bielefeld (D)

Cultural Diversity and Social Inequalities

In recent decades, cultural diversity in West European societies has, in terms of religions, languages, ethnic we-groups, transnational ties, and countries of origin, once more undergone immense growth. The argument advanced here is that while modes of incorporation such as assimilation and multiculturalism emphasize the social integration of migrants in the host societies on a national scale, the vague term diversity harbors innovative measures in two respects. Firstly, diversity not only addresses the incorporation of migrants, but also how the organizations of dominant society deal with cultural pluralism. Secondly, diversity can then be understood both as an individual competence of migrants as members of organizations, and as a set of programs which organizations adopt to address cultural pluralism. Yet if diversity is understood as going beyond a mere management technique, the question arises how social inequality can be dealt with. Existing approaches such as "boundary making" usually conflate characteristics of diversity with social inequality itself. One answer solution to this problem is a social mechanismic approach which traces the production of inequalities out of manifold markers of diversity. As an example, the analysis focuses on the intersection a new form of diversity, namely transnationality as a way of life, with other markers of heterogeneity.

24 mai 2011

Clôture du cycle et événement spécial