

The University of Manchester

Possible Worlds



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School of Arts, Languages and Cultures



The Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts and Languages



V. Spike Peterson

(Professor of International Relations, University of Arizona)

II October 2016, 4-6 P. M.
Samuel Alexander Building, AII3
'Intimate Politics and Global Inequalities:
The pleasure and pain of border crossings'
Public Lecture

Co-organised by the Critical Global Politics Cluster and CIDRAL

In the spirit of the rallying cry 'the personal is political — and international', this 'in conversation' session provides an opportunity to share the journey of a leading scholar in International Politics, Leverhulme Visiting Professor V. Spike Peterson, as she reflects on her entry into, questioning of, and moving beyond Disciplinary International Politics (IP). Spurred by witnessing global inequalities during years of border crossings as a solo backpacker in Africa and Asia, Spike chose a doctoral program in IP, but soon found richer insights in critical social theory. Thus began three decades of boundary transgressing research examining the histories and complex intersections of gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity/race and nation, and extending IP by including the intimate.

Spike will review and reflect upon this journey, encouraging us to ponder up close (rather than the usual at-a-distance) some of what her research illuminates, including economics as a system of valorizations, affective dimensions of global householding, the political economy of informalized work in relation to structural inequalities and their corollary insecurities, and critical queering of marriage, citizenship and states/nations. It is a personal engagement by a 'seasoned' academic sharing her own journey and her current insights into how important the personal/intimate is for both understanding and challenging global inequalities.

This 'in conversation' session will be followed by a reception at Kro Bar to which all audience members are warmly invited.