

Conference Title: The Territory of “a People”: Questioning Community

Date: Friday-Saturday March 3rd and 4th.

Place: Boston College

Boston College Philosophy Department and Clough Center for Constitutional Democracy:

Keynote Speakers:

Michael Hardt, Professor of Roman Studies at University of Duke;

Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Law at Emory Law School;

David Wood, W. Alton Jones Professor of Philosophy, Professor of European Studies, and Professor of Art at Vanderbilt University;

Marcia Sá Cavalcante Schuback, Professor in Philosophy at Södertörn University

Call For Papers:

In the contemporary political discourse, the fate of people are easily affected with universalized categories and concepts: citizens, strangers, others, refugees, immigrants, Americans, Mexicans, Jewish, Muslim, British, Non-British, European, non-European, etc. We seek to critique these so-called borders and de-borderings in a genuine philosophical activity of thinking and dialectic.

What is “a people”? Where does a “gathering” of people take place? What is the memory of this place? How do the pre-established organization of geography and relics—unconscious history—begin to *make sense*? This conference problematizes the notion of community and sheds light on the multiple forces of attraction that affect bodies coming together in a geopolitical movement. Thus, we are going to delve into the conditions under which such a gathering of “a people” might come to pass while preserving the phenomenon of their multiplicity and singularity. Also, the ecological and geographical attractions of the place which draw bodies into them.

The papers are going to be put in three domains of **Politics, Ecology and Aesthetics**.

Here are some general titles and themes we are going to work with:

- the interplay of law, constitutions and social contracts within and in the formation and organization of community.
- the role of affects in political organization
- the relation of the economy, commodity and capital in the formation of a community
- the dialectic of nation state and globalization
- emigration and adaptation of the nomadic body

- environmental and ecological perspectives on human communities
- the interplay of human ecologies, social ecologies and political ecologies
- the intersection of animality and civilization
- Umwelt, animal world's and the ecology of affects
- the role of imagination and narrative in community
- the intersection of sexuality and body with community
- history and interpretation as productive of a community
- the community of myth and the myth of community

Submitted Papers should not exceed 3500 words, and written with the goal of a 20 minute presentation in mind. Please prepare submission for blind review, and include name, title and institutional affiliation on a cover page.

Submissions and inquiries should be sent to:

bcclough2017@gmail.com

The deadline for submissions is *December 15th, 2016.*

To know more about the conference and see the updates please visit:

www.bc.edu/cloughcenter/events/2016-2017/philosophy-conference