ABSTRACT:

Borderlands, understood as moving spaces and representations, are key locations for exploring the many layers, actors and dimensions of the bordering process. In this lecture, I will investigate South Lebanon as a vantage ground for linking space with identity and thus highlighting how different narratives contributed to shape this borderland. First among the key actors, the Lebanese State ordering will be investigate in a historical perspective that will provide a reflexive perspective on the State constructing and de-constructing of its margins. Second, the Palestinian resistance movement is another major player who provided an alternative narrative for South Lebanon as a battleground for the sake of the Palestinian and Arab cause against Israel. Nowadays Palestinian refugees living there are experiencing the border as a network when they tried to reach their relatives in the occupied Palestinian territories. Hizbullah, a third key actor in the South, framed and b/ordered another narratives for the South through armed resistance, a religious ideology and more recently articulates memory and politics in a Museum that contributes to build the region as a borderscape. Finally, the local UN mission, UNIFIL, became a key actor mainly since the 2000s. It succeeded to redefine the borderline as a Blue line, thus reordering and monopolizing a piece of Lebanese sovereignty with international norms and a strong borderwork in erecting blue barrels along the line and mediating between foes.

READING LIST:


