



**“Europe – Migration – Identity”
Summer Seminar**

Date: August 25-27, 2011
Location: University of Minnesota
Conveners: Donna Gabaccia (U Minnesota) / Sally Gregory Kohlstedt (U Minnesota) / Jan Logemann (GHI)

This workshop aims to bring together established scholars and graduate students from both sides of the Atlantic for a three day seminar on the themes of migration, identity formation, and Europe. The seminar builds on the University of Minnesota’s special emphasis on migration history and a new collaborative research project at the German Historical Institute, “Transatlantic Perspectives: Europe in the Eyes of European Immigrants to the United States, 1940-1980” (www.ghi-dc.org/tp). The seminar aims to promote exchanges between scholars engaged in the field of migration and emigration research and those who are interested in processes of “Europeanization” in the modern era (after 1850).

A central question will be what “Europe” meant to migrants abroad on several levels – ranging from the personal, to the professional, to the political. Can we trace the emergence of “European” identities among different groups of migrants and, if so, what form did they take? To what degree are such identities comparable to the crystallization of national identities within migrant communities in nineteenth century America? How far did personal migration experiences impact changing perceptions of European homelands? We welcome a variety of disciplinary, methodological, and topical approaches to issues of changing and hybrid identities among migrants of different backgrounds, predominantly in Europe and the United States.

We invite contributions from emerging historians, sociologists, anthropologists, and others from the humanities and social sciences who are in the early stages of their PhD research; support will be available for those presenting. Over the course of three days, the summer seminar will allow graduate students from different academic cultures to show-case their work, receive in-depth feedback and network across disciplines. Topical sessions based on pre-circulated papers will bring together the ongoing research of graduate students with contextualizing comments by established scholars in the field. The program will also include accompanying lectures and a concluding plenary discussion. The University of Minnesota is located at the heart of the Minneapolis / St. Paul metropolitan area. We are planning excursions into sites showcasing the rich immigration history and diverse immigrant communities of Minneapolis and an introduction to the extensive collections of source materials archived at the Immigration History Research Center.

Please send applications with a project description along with a proposed paper topic and how it would relate to the seminar’s overarching themes (700-1,000 words) to Ashley Narayan (narayan@ghi-dc.org) by **December 10, 2010**.

We are particularly interested in ongoing dissertation research that engages one of these themes:

- Identification with Europe among Migrants and Refugees
- National Identity and European Identity Compared
- Europeaness as a Hybrid Identity
- Immigrant Communities: Towards “European-Americans”?
- Identity Formation in Labor Migration and Political Migration Compared
- Migrants and Émigrés in Transatlantic Networks: Politics, Sciences, Business, Professions

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