

You are warmly invited to the second in the seminar series Visual Methods and Ethnography in Interdisciplinary Research. The aim of the series is to bring together various research projects and approaches with the objective of discussing the role and potential of visual and ethnographic methods in academic research across academic disciplines.

We are a small group of researchers from different disciplines—Tourism (Louise Todd), Marketing (Kat Rezai) and Languages and Intercultural Communication (Mabel Victoria). We have drawn from various visual methodologies to enrich our teaching and research.

**When: 3rd April, Wednesday 2 to 4:30 pm**

**Where:** Room 3/09 Edinburgh Napier Business School, Craiglockhart Campus, 219 Colinton Rd, Edinburgh EH14 1DJ

**Speakers:**

**Brett Lashua, Leeds Beckett University**

**Visualising “the beach beneath the street”? Mobile bicycle cinema and urban subversion**

For urban activists such as Jane Jacobs, the central metaphor of the metropolis was visual: “think of a city and what comes to mind? Its streets” (Jacobs, 1961, p. 29); so too for urban theorist Kevin Lynch, who invited consideration of the “image of the city” (1960) in its paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks. This talk is also an invitation to (re)consider an urban imaginary, one that invokes “the beach beneath the street” (Wark, 2011) of the playable city, but also a city of protest, dissent and a call for a different city. I’ll share a project (with my colleague Simon Baker) about our bicycle-based cinema device—the “kino-cine-bomber”—as a vehicle to re-imagine disused buildings and obsolete urban infrastructure for re-animated public leisure spaces. Through a cinematic geographical lens, I focus on a series of Situationist-inspired interventions (e.g., dérive, constructed situation) using the kino-cine-bomber to identify buildings that could be removed—as architecture by subtraction—in Coventry. There, the River Sherbourne flows hidden beneath the city, culverted and capped, a relic of postwar urban planning no longer fit for purpose. I explore river “daylighting” plans by postgraduate architecture students using the kino-cine-bomber, first to trace the hidden river beneath the city streets, and then to project architectural designs where buildings may be repurposed as the river is revealed, the city re-imagined and re-visualised.

**Louise Todd, Edinburgh Napier University**

**City sites and sights: using artists’ approaches in subverting the tourist gaze**

Increasingly, travel and tourism practices have become a strategy for taking and sharing photographs. This is particularly apparent through the exponential growth of digital social media platforms as means of recording and displaying tourism settings and experiences on an instant basis. My presentation proposes an evolving methodology for subverting and extending today’s photo-normative tourist gaze (Urry, 1990). This uses an autoethnographic approach alongside the use of selected artists’ practices. I have chosen sites and sights to visit in selected cities and recorded the act of gazing in responding to the city, as a researcher, an artist and a tourist. In exploring my own sensory response to these city sites and sights, I have drawn from the ideas and work of visual artists and writers who engage with cities. Having explored multi-sensory means of recording places and spaces through drawing and other arts-based approaches, I have produced a series of my own work. This responds to the city and presents a subverted and extended tourist gaze of sites and sights. In my presentation, I will discuss a selection of this work, which is currently in progress, and I will reflect upon my research process as it continues to develop.

For catering purposes, please register by 29th March:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/visual-methods-and-ethnography-in-interdisciplinary-research-2-tickets-57584966184>

**Next in the series: 8th May, 2 to 4:30**

**John Harvey, University of Nottingham:** Network analysis and visualisation techniques to inform ethnographic and longitudinal research

**Diane MacLean, Edinburgh Napier University:** Murder in Paradise: Mediating Memory and Oral History of Historical Crime Through Documentary Film

**Andrew Kincaid, Edinburgh Napier University:** Behind the Mask: Offering e-projectives as a methodological alternative

For more information about the series, please contact, Louise Todd (L.Todd@napier.ac.uk), Kat Rezai (K.Rezai@napier.ac.uk) or Mabel Victoria (M.Victoria@napier.ac.uk)