**Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology**

**and**

**Atlantic Metropolis Centre**

**Citizenship & Social, Cultural, and Civic Integration Domain**

**http://pcerii.metropolis.net/graphics/Atlantic.gif**

**SPEAKER SERIES**

Precarious lives: Asylum seekers and refugees’ experiences of unfree/forced labour

Dr. Hannah Lewis

This paper is based on new research exploring the experiences of forced labour among people who are refugees and asylum seekers in England. The very nature of coercive employment practices for refugees and asylum seekers invoke lifeworlds outside the public gaze where acts of concealing and hiding are stitched into their everyday tactics

of survival. The paper will explore unfree/ forced labour in relation to the conceptual framework of precarity (Neilson and Rossiter, 2008; Waite, 2009). The notion of precarity has been recently politicised to suggest a platform for collective action to challenge both exploitative labour processes and a wider precarity (Foti, 2005). The

extent to which this doubled-edged understanding of precarity (as both a condition and a possible rallying point for resistance) has potential for understanding and challenging the working lives of refugees and asylum seekers engaged in forced labour will be

considered in this paper.

**Friday, November 25th, 2:30 p.m.**

**McCain, Room 1116**

**Reception to follow in SOSA Department**

**ALL WELCOME!**