Recent empirical evidence seems to challenge the common idea that GCC countries represent an ‘exception’ with respect to migration issues. This also raises the question of whether the ongoing social process of migrant settlement will gradually force GCC states to adapt their policies to these new realities on the ground. The workshop will challenge the « exceptionalism » of the Gulf, on the basis of new theoretical and analytical approaches in both migration studies and in Gulf studies research.

9.30-10.15. Introduction: A theoretical challenge: is the Gulf the exception in Migration theories?

10.30 – 13.00 Session 1: The political economy of migration in the Gulf
Dr Martin Ruhs (Oxford University), Dr Philip Marfleet (University of East London), Dr Ghada Fayed (Doctoral Student, Oxford University), Dr Alaa al-Hamarneh (Mainz University, Germany).

14.00-14.45 Introduction: Spaces and transnational networks in Gulf migration: from regional integration to global perspectives

15.00 –17.00 Session 2: Cities, cosmopolitanism and transnational networks
Dr Marina de Regt (International Institute of Social History, Netherlands), Dr Nelida Fuccaro (SOAS, London), Amin Moghadam (Doctoral Student, Lyon University, France), Dr Andrew Gardner (Qatar University, Qatar), Dr Philippe Venier (Angers University, France).

17.00 – 18.00 Wrap-up session

ALL WELCOME, but registration is needed (before 16 June). A detailed programme is also available. Please contact Emanuela Paoletti: emanuela.paoletti@qeh.ox.ac.uk