CCIS SEMINAR:

Book Launch

Undocumented Politics: Place, Gender, and the Pathways of Mexican Migrants

By: Abigail Leslie Andrews

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM

ERC Conference Room 115

Author: Abigail Leslie Andrews, (PhD, UC Berkeley)

Abigail Andrews is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Urban Studies at UC San Diego and co-director of the Mexican Migration Field Research Program. Her research focuses on gender, grassroots agency, and state power. She is particularly interested in the "everyday politics" of marginalized groups including indigenous peasants, deportees, and undocumented immigrants.
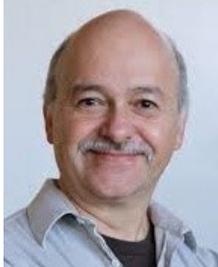
Discussant: Luis Escala Rabadán, (PhD, UC Los Angeles)

Luis Escala Rabadán is Professor at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (El Colef) in Baja California and the Director of the Department of Cultural Studies. For over 15 years, Dr. Escala Rabadán has studied Mexican migrants and political advocacy.
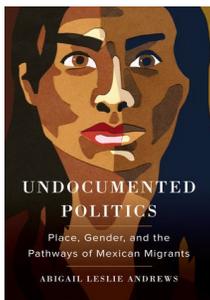
*Undocumented Politics: Place, Gender, and the Pathways of Mexican Migrants (*University of California Press, 2018) traces migrant communities' struggles for rights and resources across the U.S.-Mexico divide. For two years, Dr. Andrews lived with unauthorized migrants and their families in the mountains of Oaxaca, Mexico, and the barrios of Southern California. By setting two distinct groups side-by-side, Dr. Andrews reveals how local laws, policing, and power dynamics shape migrants' political agency. Yet she insists that the process does not begin or end in the United States. Rather, migrants interpret their destinations in light of the different hometowns they leave behind. As they do, their counterparts in Mexico must also come to grips with migrant globalization. Finally, Dr. Andrews upends assumptions about gender and migration. She exposes how U.S. policies abet gendered violence. Yet, Dr. Andrews also uncovers how men and women transform patriarchy as they fight to belong. Thus, the book reveals how the excluded find unexpected spaces for political voice.

For more information please call 858-822-4447 or email aminvielle@ucsd.edu