

GILLIAN ROSE

British Academy Fellow and University of Oxford Professor

Data Bodies, Smart Bodies and Sensible Bodies: Posthuman Corporeality in the Digitally Mediated City

The Department of Geography and Environmental Systems welcomes
Professor Gillian Rose For a Distinguished Departmental Seminar

March 29th, Noon, UMBC Performing Arts and Humanities Building 127

Digital technologies of various kinds are now the means through which many cities are made visible and their spatialities negotiated. From casual snaps shared on Instagram to elaborate photo-realistic visualisations, digital technologies for making, distributing and viewing cities are more and more pervasive. This talk will explore some of the implications of that digital mediation for the bodies assembled in digitally mediated urban spaces. What forms of embodiment are being made visible in these digitally mediated cities, and how? Through what configuration of urban temporality, spatiality and sociality? And how should that picturing be theorised? Drawing on recent work on the visualisation of so-called 'smart cities', the lecture will suggest the scale and pervasiveness of digital imagery now means that notions of 'representation' have to be rethought. Cities and their inhabitants are increasingly mediated through a febrile cloud of streaming image files; as well as representing cities, this cloud also operationalises particular ways of being urban. The lecture will explore some of the implications of this shift for both theory and method as well as critique.



Gillian Rose is Professor of Human Geography at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of the British Academy. She is the author of *Feminism and Geography* (Polity, 1993), *Doing Family Photography* (Ashgate, 2010) and *Visual Methodologies* (Sage, fourth edition 2016), as well as a many papers on images, visualising technologies and ways of seeing in urban, domestic and archival spaces. She is leading the ESRC-funded project *Smart Cities in the Making: Learning from Milton Keynes*; her particular interest is how digital visualisations of many kinds operationalise smart cities (SCiM-MK.org). She also curates the digital | visual | cultural series of events (dvcultural.org). Gillian's webpage is at www.geog.ox.ac.uk/staff/grose.html; she blogs at visual/method/culture and can be found on Twitter @ProfGillian.