



Dr. Ayse Parla

**Thursday
Sept. 11, 2014
4:00 pm**

Anthropology Department
ANSO 2107, (the boardroom)
6303 NW Marine Drive,
Vancouver, BC

Anthropology Colloquia



ABSTRACT:

Taking my cue from the recent interest in 'ruins' as indexing both physical and social states of ruination, this talk will examine the historical and contemporary links between, on the one hand, physically abandoned buildings in Istanbul that were once Armenian minority schools, and on the other hand, the

different states of social abandonment undocumented Armenian migrant children find themselves in despite their limited and largely informal access to minority schools. My focus on ruins as not mere remnants of the past but as presently embodied states also seeks to explore how the denial of genocide induces melancholy and impedes mourning in the national education system to which Armenian children in Turkey both without and with formal citizenship are exposed.

BIO: Dr. Parla received her B.A. from Harvard University and her Ph.D. in Anthropology from New York University. She is currently Associate Professor of Anthropology in the programs in Cultural Studies and European Studies at Sabanci University, Istanbul. Dr. Parla has written on state-authorized virginity examinations in Turkey as modern forms of surveillance of young women's honor; the appropriation of Bulgarian Turkish migrants as refugees and ethnic kin in 1989 and the subsequent marginalization of post-1990s migrants from Bulgaria as part of the cheap informal labor force. She has published on questions of migration, citizenship, labor and ethnicity in various journals including *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*; *American Ethnologist*; *Citizenship Studies*; *Cultural Anthropology*; *Differences*; and *International Migration*. As a visiting scholar at Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Study, she is pursuing the current impediments to Armenian migrant children's access to education in Turkey within a broad historical perspective on minority education from the Ottoman Empire throughout the Republic nation-state.

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