

Seminar

Reimagining Infrastructure

- Friday, 14th June 2024, 12:00 – 19:00 (BST)
- A130, College Building



High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe, reproduced under Creative Commons 4.0

Abstract

This workshop will explore how methods in the arts and humanities can help us to rethink what infrastructure is, what it looks and feels like, and its development and provision, particularly as these are constructed through histories of empire and colonialism in Britain.

Ranging from housing and transport to sewers and energy grids, the workshop understands infrastructure as the everyday materials that enable (or, when they fail, prevent) people from living their lives.

It's aim is to allow participants to "reimagine infrastructure" through knowledge exchange and by using methods from the arts and humanities.

The workshop will connect people working as academic researchers, community organisers, policy makers, and service providers.

The programme includes: a presentation from the UK's first [Infrastructure Humanities Group](#), based in Glasgow; a session with the [Portland Inn Project](#), who use the arts to build community-led infrastructure in Stoke-on-Trent; an "ethno-graphic" workshop led by [Kremena Dimitrova](#), where participants will rethink infrastructure through drawing and arts practices; and a final reflective session featuring panel discussants with different knowledge specialisms.

Registration is available on this page. Participants from all backgrounds are welcome to attend.

If you have questions or would like to discuss beforehand, please get in touch with the convener, [Dom Davies](#).

Programme

All workshop sessions will take place in the A130 lecture theatre, on the first floor of the College Building. All lunch, tea, coffee, and refreshment breaks will take place in A227, on the second floor of the College Building.

- From 12.00: Lunch
- 12.45-13.00: Welcome and Introduction
- 13.00-14.00: Infrastructure Humanities Group

Articulating Infrastructure: Methods and Perspectives

Rhys Williams, Senior Lecturer in English, Glasgow

Henry Ivry, Lecturer in 20th/21st Century Literature, Glasgow

Chair: Professor Gargi Bhattacharyya, University of the Arts London

- 14.00-14.30: Tea and Coffee
- 14.30-15.30: Portland Inn Project

Planning Long Term: Participatory Governance for Community-Led Change

Rebecca Davies, Co-Director, Portland Inn Project

Anna Francis, Co-Director, Portland Inn Project

Chair: Anubha Sarkar, Lecturer in Global Creative Industries, City

- 15.30-16.00: Tea and Coffee
- 16.00-17.00: Practical Session

Mapping the Politics and Poetics of Infrastructure through Comics

Kremena Dimitrova, PhD Researcher and Lecturer in Visual Culture,
Portsmouth

- 17.00-17.30: Refreshments
- 17.30-19.00: Plenary Panel

Reimagining Infrastructure

Alexis Harris, Housing Policy Manage, Greater London Authority

Charmaine Brown, Senior Lecturer in LLTE, University of Greenwich

Louis Moreno, Senior Lecturer in Visual Culture, Goldsmiths

Chair: Dom Davies, Senior Lecturer in English, City