

UC Graduate Students Present Exciting New Research

Tuesday, December 11
12 noon – 1 pm
1111 Franklin Street, Room 5320

Office of Research Distinguished Scholar Speaker Series
Sharing the Knowledge

Who profits and who pays when employment is ‘flexible’?

Who constitutes ‘the public’?

How does global industrial restructuring affect local workers?

**Vice Provost for Research Lawrence Coleman invites you to join us,
as graduate students funded by the Labor and Employment Research Fund (LERF) share their discoveries.**

Flexploitation: Time and Power in the Day Labor Industry

Gretchen Purser is a graduate student in Sociology at UC Berkeley. She has conducted ethnographic fieldwork in a leading day labor company in two U.S. cities, examining how specific organizational practices in the ‘on-demand staffing’ industry push the burden of employment uncertainty onto the workforce.

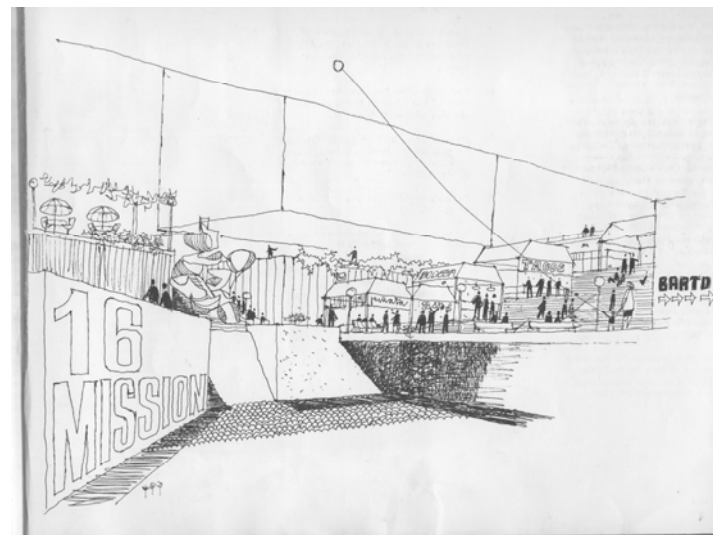
Gretchen’s talk will focus on the temporal dimensions of work brought about by ‘flexible’ employment, as well as how workers in this precarious segment of the labor market experience and understand that uncertainty.



A Socio-spatial History of the Public Sphere in San Francisco's Mission District, 1906-1973

Ocean Howell is a graduate student in Architecture at UC Berkeley. He is writing a history of public spaces in San Francisco’s Mission District, focusing on what they reveal about the varieties of liberalism ascendant during the Progressive Era, the New Deal, and the Great Society.

In each of these eras, the Mission District provides fascinating insights into the concept and practice of liberalism, as business elites, white workers, and multi-ethnic residents struggle over the meanings of public interest, market expansion and social justice.



The Changing Scope of California Strawberry Production: Impacts on Local Labor Markets

Marcos Lopez is a graduate student in Sociology at UC Santa Cruz.

The pending loss of the fumigant methyl bromide, along with rising land, water, and labor costs has made it difficult for California-based strawberry growers to remain competitive in a global market. In his research, Marcos is conducting interviews with growing company officials in Watsonville, CA, and San Quintin, Baja California, Mexico to analyze how industry restructuring affects local labor markets.

