

The Department of Anthropology presents
the Silver Medal Award Guest Lecture

TUESDAY
**MAR
26**

THE UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF TRUST



**FILIPPO
OSELLA**

PROFESSOR OF
ANTHROPOLOGY AND
SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES
AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF SUSSEX (UK).

Mobilities, trade networks and the life-world of Indian export agents in China

The talk explores the lifeworld and practices of Indian export agents in China, suggesting that whilst they seek to cultivate networks of friendships and mutual trust with their Chinese suppliers and Indian clients, trust is always in short supply. Moreover, trust is a complex and contradictory resource which in itself does not necessarily ensure economic gains. The talk will argue that the nature of export business is such as to require the careful management of mistrust and suspicion within a rhetoric or aesthetic of mutual trust, in which affective relations and economic interests are simultaneously conflated and separated from each other.

Filippo Osella's books include *Islam, Politics and Anthropology* (with B. Soares, 2010), *Islamic Reforms in South Asia* (with C. Osella, 2012) and *Religion and the Morality of the Market* (with D. Rudnycky, 2017). His current research focuses on trading networks between China, India and West Asia. He has recently begun research on artisanal fishers' attitudes towards risk in Kerala (India).

WHEN

Tuesday, March 26, 2019
5:00 p.m.

WHERE

Environment 3 (EV3), 1408

Celebration to follow in the Psychology, Anthropology, Sociology Lounge, 3005

All welcome | No registration

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