

Simon Alexander McMahon

Born: 20/11/83, British

Email: simon.mcmahon@kcl.ac.uk / Tel: (+44) 7916 051080

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/europeanstudies/people/stuprof/resprof/mcmahon.aspx>

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

PhD Candidate, European Studies and International Studies, King's College London (UK)

Title: Symbolic politics and the political mobilisation of identity: a study of Romanian migration in Italy and Spain

1st supervisor: Dr Alexander Clarkson

2nd supervisor: Dr Simona Talani

Visiting Researcher, GRITIM Interdisciplinary Research Group on Immigration, Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona, Autumn 2011):

Visiting supervisor: Prof. Ricard Zapata-Barrero

Research interests: migration studies, citizenship, sociology of ethnicity, social movements, European Union politics

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Edited book

Developments in the Theory and Practice of Citizenship (Cambridge Scholars Publishing) [forthcoming]

Chapters in edited collections

"Un caso di emigrazione qualificata: gli accademici italiani in Inghilterra" [An example of highly qualified emigration: Italian academics in England], in *Italiani nel Mondo 2012* (Edizioni Idos) [due Spring 2012]

Peer reviewed journal articles

"Assessing the impact of European Union citizenship: the status and rights of Romanian nationals in Italy" in *Journal of Contemporary European Studies* (paper accepted, forthcoming)

"Social attitudes and political debate on immigration: Spanish perceptions of Romanian immigrants" in *Journal of Identity and Migration Studies*, 5:1, 2010

Editor-reviewed book reviews

Caponio, Tiziana and Maren Borkert (eds.) "*The Local Dimensions of Migration Policymaking*" (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press) in *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism* (due Spring 2012)

Simon Teune (ed.) "*The Transnational Condition: Protest dynamics in an entangled Europe*" (USA: Berghahn Books) in *CEU Political Science Journal*, 7:2, 2012

Mark Bevir, "*Democratic Governance*" (New Jersey: Princeton University Press) in *Journal of Global Analysis*, vol. 2, 2010

Selected press and online publications

Where is Europe on Libya?, Ideas on Europe: Europe on the Strand, 18th May 2011

(<http://europeonthestrand.ideasoneurop.eu>)

Italy is failing North Africa's refugees, The Guardian, 6th April 2011

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree>)

The English Defence League: building an Islamophobic European community?, Ideas on Europe: Europe on the Strand, 3rd March 2011

Too many immigrants, too little English?, Open Democracy 5th February 2011 (<http://www.opendemocracy.net>)
As the dust settles II: what lies below the surface of the student protest?, Open Democracy 4th December 2010
As the dust settles: the significance of the national student demo, Open Democracy, 11th November 2010

Conferences

Finding their voice? Romanian immigrant associations underground in Rome, Dirty Cities International Conference 2011, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, King's College London, UK

Symbolic politics and interrelating identities: perceptions of Romanian migrants in Italian and Spanish parliamentary debates, IMISCOE 8th Annual Conference 2011, Panel 29: Social Attitudes to Political Mobilization, Warsaw, Poland

Immigration, Europe and the nation: the symbolic politics of Romanian migration to Spain and Italy, European Sociological Association Annual PhD Workshop 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

Symbolic politics and Romanian identities in Spain, European Studies Research Group 2010, London, UK

Race and recession: Immigration and the economy in British political discourse, Reflections on the Global Economic Crisis 2010, King's College London, UK

TEACHING POSITIONS

August 2011: **Visiting Lecturer, Applied Seminars of Development Studies**

Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of West Bohemia (Czech Republic)

Short course on citizenship, immigration and asylum policies in the European Union, exploring their legal and normative foundations and the political interests behind them.

Sept. 2010 – June 2011: **Teaching Fellow, The Integration of the European Union**

Department of European and International Studies, King's College London (UK)

Twice-weekly seminars on the 2nd year Undergraduate course covering the history, politics, law and economics of the European Union and EU policies. Also a weekly office hour for one-on-one guidance to students.

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Sept. 2009 – Feb. 2010: **Research Assistant, The Big Opportunity, London Civic Forum (UK)**

Lobbying and advocacy work for over 600 voluntary and charity sector organisations in London's East End, producing short policy briefs and case studies on community engagement and urban redevelopment programs.

Feb. 2007 – March 2008: **Project Assistant (Voluntariado Estamos Contigo A.C, Guadalajara) (Mexico)**

Qualitative research in impoverished areas on a 'life histories' project and a participative diagnosis of the community's economic, political and social problems through interactive presentations and smaller focus groups.

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, European and International Studies, King's College London (in progress)

Visiting Researcher, GRITIM Interdisciplinary Research Group on Immigration, Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona, Autumn 2011): Visiting supervisor: Prof. Ricard Zapata-Barrero

Visiting Researcher, Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute (Florence, Spring 2011): Visiting supervisor: Prof. Rainer Bauböck

MA in Democracy and Government La Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

Thesis: Immigration and the 2008 elections: the use of discriminatory discourse in Italian politics. (Distinction)

MA in Philosophical Studies (1 year of study and no thesis) La Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico

BA (Hons.) Comparative American Studies The University of Warwick, UK & La Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

OTHER TRAINING COURSES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Sept. 2010 – April 2011: **Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice (King's College London, UK)**

Taught and practical modules on didactic and pedagogic theories and methods in University Education.

Sept. 2010 – Dec. 2010: **Advanced Training in Qualitative Research Methods (King's College London, UK)**

Sept. 2010 – Dec. 2010: **Theory and Methodology in the Social Sciences (King's College London, UK)**

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Contributing writer, Europe on the Strand blog 2010-Present, London (UK)

Conference Organiser, 'The European Union: finding its place in a changing world' September 2011, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Centre for European Studies, King's College London (UK)

Postgraduate Conference Organiser, 'Developments in Contemporary Citizenship' July 2011, European Studies Postgraduate Research Group, King's College London (UK)

Seminar series organizing committee member, blog editor & webmaster 2010-2011, European Studies Postgraduate Research Group, King's College London (UK)

LANGUAGE ABILITY

English (Mother tongue), Spanish (Fluent), Italian (Fluent)

FUNDING GRANTS, PRIZES AND AWARDS

Anglo-Spanish Society Santander Scholarship

King's College London-Santander Bank Study Abroad Award

European Sociological Association PhD workshop prize

King's College London Postgraduate Fund Award

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN)

University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES)

European Sociological Association (ESA)

COMPUTING ABILITY

Microsoft Office packages (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.) and Open Office equivalents; Atlas.Ti discourse analysis program; Wordpress & Blogger online editing, social networking

OTHER EXPERIENCES AND INTERESTS

I have been a keen photographer in Argentina, Mexico, Spain and Italy. I have also been active in voluntary activities, such as being a volunteer carer for mentally-handicapped children at the Fundación Síndrome de Down Madrid, Spain.

References are available on request