



## **CCIG Keynote Lecture - Wednesday, 26 May 15:00 - 16:30 (followed by a reception)**

The Open University, Walton Hall, (Berrill Lecture Theatre), Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA  
<http://www3.open.ac.uk/contact/locations.aspx>

**Rhacel Parreñas**, Professor, American Civilization and Sociology,  
Brown University

Cultures of Maternalism: the Legal Construction of Migrant Domestic Workers as 'One of the Family' - a comparative perspective

This lecture compares the citizenship of migrant domestic workers in the countries of Denmark, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States. It specifically examines the politics of the following programmes: the au pair programme in Denmark, the kafala programme in the United Arab Emirates, and the Labor Certification Program in the United States. In varying degrees, families in these three countries depend on the labour of migrant domestic workers to do care giving work, leading to the implementation of state programmes that facilitate the legal incorporation of these workers. While domestic work is constructed as a basis of entry for labour migration, it at the same time remains an occupation unprotected by labour laws in each of these three states. Consequently, foreign domestic workers are legally constructed as “one of the family” rather than conceived of as a worker. This is the case in liberal democratic states, social democratic states, and autocratic states. The similar policies on foreign domestic workers across various welfare regimes suggest that their experiences could be an instructive springboard to the continued culture of maternalism around the globe.

Rhacel Salazar Parreñas is Professor of American Civilization and Sociology at Brown University. She is the author of three books on women's migration including the award-winning study on migrant Filipina domestic workers in Rome and Los Angeles, *Servants of Globalization: Women, Migration and Domestic Work*. Professor Parreñas is currently writing a book on the labor and migration of Filipina hostesses in Tokyo's nightlife industry, which she plans to complete while a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in 2010-2011.

**RSVP** Sarah Batt ([a.s.c.batt@open.ac.uk](mailto:a.s.c.batt@open.ac.uk)) to confirm your attendance. For further information about CCIG Forums and keynotes, please contact James Ash ([james.ash@open.ac.uk](mailto:james.ash@open.ac.uk)).