

**The Lebanese Emigration Research Center
at Notre Dame University – Louaizé
in cooperation with the Netherland Institute in Beirut
has the pleasure of inviting you to a lecture entitled**

“Gentrification by Cappuccino: Ethnic Businesses and Cool Boutiques”



Lecture

The urban economic transformations that took place in the closing decades of the twentieth century worked out unfavorably for many low-skilled immigrants. The spatial concentration in inner-city working-class neighborhoods is perceived as a sign of socioeconomic deprivation and failing social-cultural integration—or, what is worse, of immigrants’ unwillingness to become part of the mainstream and contribute to it. And although a number of immigrants have set up shop and become entrepreneurs, politicians and professionals are often skeptical about their entrepreneurial qualities. In this lecture, we shall explore the following:

- Who are the ethnic entrepreneurs?
 - How do ‘traditional ethnic shops’ relate to commercial gentrification?
 - Why is it that only ethnic cool boutiques catering to the middle class are seen as legitimate participants in the urban process and are consequently eligible for government support?
- What are the factors that make of these entrepreneurial efforts successful or unsuccessful enterprises?

Lecturer: Dr. Jan Rath

Professor of Urban Sociology, Head of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and member of the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES) and the Center for Urban Studies at the University of Amsterdam. He is also Coordinator of the Erasmus Mundus Master Program in Migration and Social Cohesion (MISOCO), member of the IMISCOE Research Network, and the European Chair of International Metropolis. He is the author, editor or co-editor of numerous articles, book chapters, reports and books on the sociology, politics and economics of post-migration processes, the latest of which is a book entitled *Selling Ethnic Neighborhoods* (Routledge, 2012)

Moderator: Dr. Eugene Sensenig-Dabbous

Associate Professor at the Faculty of Political Science, Public Administration and Diplomacy and an Adjunct Research Associate at the Lebanese Emigration Research Center at Notre Dame University.

Place: Abou Khater Auditorium NDU Main Campus – Zouk Mosbeh. **Date & Time:** Wednesday May 9th 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

For further information, please write to lerc@ndu.edu.lb or call 09-208992