

“Doing” Transnational Historical Sociology

Intensive graduate course in Sociology for Winter Term 2018

Yael Berda

January 10th – January 18th 2018 9am – 12 noon in 450 William James Hall*

*Except 9am – 2 pm Friday, January 12 and Tuesday, January 16 to accommodate visits to Widener Library and Center for Geographic Analysis

Sociologists have analyzed empires through the entire history of the discipline. Using imperial frameworks as a unit of analysis was fruitful for learning about state formation and consolidation of power, the innovation of governance methods in multicultural settings, migration and political membership and the relationship between state violence, law, economic extraction, and the growing repertoire of toolkits of government. This intensive course incorporates primary historical, administrative and legal source from the Roman, Mongolian, Mughal, Ottoman and British Empires, withfrom historians, sociologists and economists to provide basic skills to design a transnational historical research project, using historical archives, and particularly administrative data. Students will focus on methodological dimensions of transnational historical projects, will practice searching archive material from the British Empire (at Widener library) and are encouraged to bring their own research project to the course for discussion.

This intensive course is designed for graduate students in Sociology (but also open political science, economics, law and public policy interested in conducting transnational historical research using archival data)