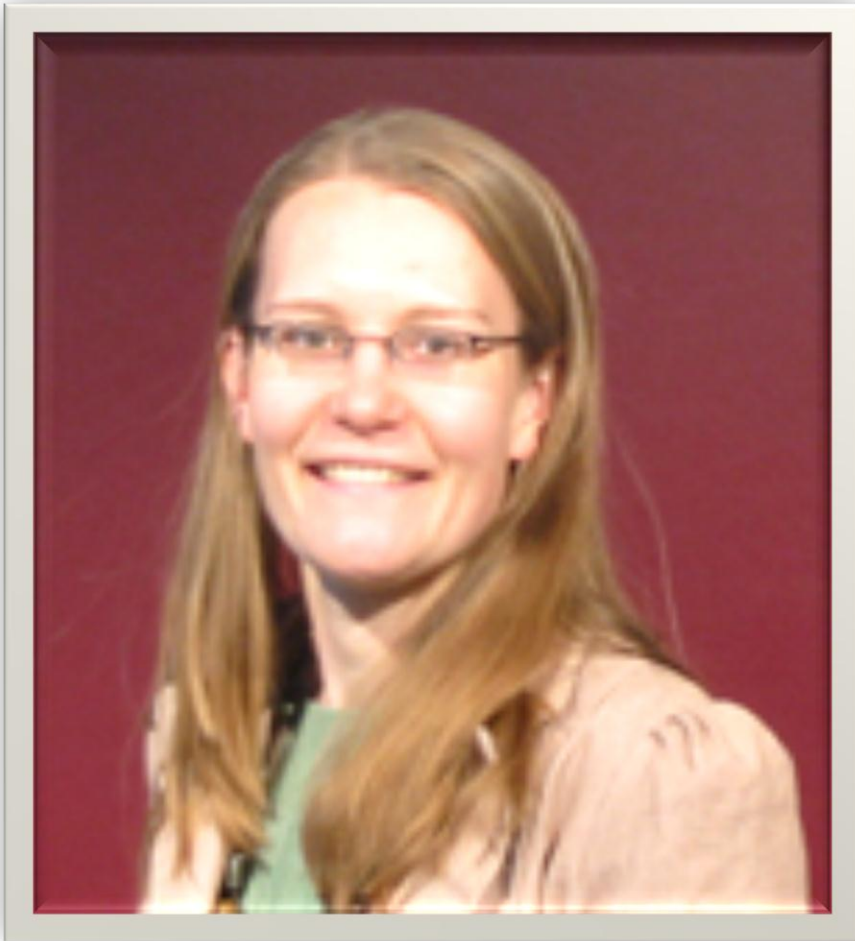




# Western

Centre for Research on  
Migration and Ethnic Relations

## Fall Colloquium Series 2013



### ***Dr. Christina Clark -Kazak***

*Professor Christina Clark-Kazak is Associate Professor in International Studies at York University's bilingual Glendon campus. She is Editor-in-Chief of Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees and past president of the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies.*

## ***Beyond the victim-villain dichotomy: Political strategies of Congolese young people in Uganda.***

*This presentation provides insight into the politicized nature of daily life in refugee contexts in Uganda and the ways in which young Congolese migrants attempt to influence decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods. Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted over an 18-month period in Kampala and Kyaka II refugee settlement, Uganda, the presentation explores the political experiences of Congolese young people as they engage in dynamic decision-making processes at family, community and policy levels. Young people in the study not only seek to make sense of the politicized contexts in which they live; they also attempt to influence decision-making processes through formal mechanisms and informal, 'non-political' channels, such as education and music. Revealing the complex trajectories of young refugees as political actors shaping current and future politics, these experiences counteract prevailing discourses regarding refugee young people as either apolitical passive victims, or politically radicalized individuals engaging in sensationalized activities such as child soldiering. Indeed, the presentation problematizes these stereotypes by exploring refugee young people's nuanced understandings of complex power relations and deliberately situating them within broader networks, contexts and relationships.*

**Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**4:00 pm - SSC 5220**

**Refreshments 3:30 pm SSC 5230**

**All Welcome !**

**For more info: merassis @uwo.ca**