UNESCO Centre Guest Lecture

You are cordially invited to a UNESCO Centre at Ulster University Guest Lecture,

‘Teachers, Citizenship, and Memory: Implications for Post-Conflict Societies’

with

Elizabeth A Worden, Associate Professor, American University, Washington, DC

on

Wednesday 21st January, 2.30 pm,

in

Room 82C02, Ulster University Belfast Campus

Abstract:

Many consider citizenship education to be of vital importance for democratic societies because it teaches young people about the values, skills, rights, and responsibilities associated with democratic citizenship. Yet the actual teaching of citizenship is often a contested and complicated process. This talk will focus on the role of teachers, who often interpret and reinterpret citizenship curricula in their classrooms.

Some of the questions that will be explored are: How do teachers’ everyday lives and their social memory influence how and what they teach in the classroom? How can teachers reconcile the possible contradictions between ‘real life’ and what they teach in citizenship class? What are the implications of the role of teachers in post-conflict and divided societies?
Elizabeth Anderson Worden is an associate professor of education at American University in Washington, DC. Her primary research examines how governments foster identities and belonging through formal education during social and political transition. Dr. Worden’s recent book National Identity and Education Reform: Contested Classrooms (Routledge 2014) examines the intersection of social memory, national identity, teaching history, and educational reform in Post-Soviet Moldova. She has published articles in Compare: A Journal of Comparative Education, Journal of European Education, and Comparative Education Review.

Dr. Worden’s larger research interests include history teaching, memory, citizenship education, nationalism and national identity, and international exchange. She is a UK Fulbright Scholar for 2014-15 and while in Northern Ireland, she will investigate the way in which teachers’ everyday lives and their social memory affect how they teach citizenship.

Interest in this event is expected to be high and spaces are limited – please RSVP to James Dillon at j.dillon@ulster.ac.uk, by 5.00pm on Monday 19th January