Cities & Citizenship

Engin Isin

Negotiating How We Live Together

The concentration of diverse social groups in cities is one of the most significant social and political issues of our time. While the composition of social groups is different in diverse cities such as Beirut, Cairo, Delhi, Istanbul or Toronto, they all face the same challenge: How do we negotiate our differences and learn to live together?

A Better Shared Understanding

Cities and Citizenship represents an international and interdisciplinary network of scholars who collaborate to explore citizenship as the art of negotiating difference and living together in and through cities. Documented and disseminated through the Citizenship Studies Media Lab (CSML) and its web portal, this important research enhances our capacity to recognize and innovate new citizenship practices.

The Cost of Not Acting

The conflicts between social groups over the redistribution of resources and the recognition of rights continue in and through cities. Without interdisciplinary, collaborative and innovative research into how citizenship is practiced and experienced (and policies based upon that research), these conflicts inevitably result in vicious cycles of violence, poverty, inequality, injustice and resentment, which make cities ungovernable.

Real-World Solutions to Real-World Challenges

Real-world challenges demand different angles, different approaches, and different attitudes. Interdisciplinary and collaborative, York University research delivers relevant insights and meaningful solutions that address today’s complex social issues.