



# Department of Geography --- Public Seminar Series

## *“The Integration Struggle in Europe: Geographical Considerations”*

Speaker:

Prof. Alexander B. Murphy

Professor of Geography and Rippey Chair in Liberal Arts and Sciences  
(Department of Geography, University of Oregon)

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2017 (Thursday)

Time: 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Venue:

Room AAB1217, Resource Centre, Department of Geography,  
Academic and Administration Building (AAB), Baptist University Road Campus  
Hong Kong Baptist University

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

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The post-World War II drive toward European integration was rooted in economic and political geographic circumstances that shaped the character and the ambition of the integration process. Despite its potentially radical nature, the integration project has been undermined by a combination of changing circumstances and an inability to free itself from the political-territorial logic of the traditional European state system. An exploration of the role geographic arrangements and understandings have played in the integration process provides insights into the challenges Europe is facing the wake of its financial crisis and the Brexit vote; it also demonstrates the importance of bringing a geographical perspective to bear on changes buffeting the global political-territorial order.

Alexander B. Murphy is Professor of Geography at the University of Oregon, where he holds the James F. and Shirley K. Rippey Chair in Liberal Arts and Sciences. He specializes in political, cultural, and environmental geography, with regional emphases in Europe and the Middle East. He is a member of the Academia Europaea, a Past President of the American Association of Geographers, and current Senior Vice President of the American Geographical Society. Alec Murphy is the author of more than 100 articles and several books, including *The Regional Dynamics of Language Differentiation in Belgium* (University of Chicago, 1988) and *The European Culture Area*, 6th ed. (with Terry Jordan-Bychkov and Bella Bychkova Jordan; Rowman & Littlefield, 2014). He is the recipient of numerous grants from the U.S. National Science Foundation, the Fulbright-Hays fellowship program, the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Rockefeller Foundation. He has received the highest award of the American Association of Geographers (Lifetime Achievement Honors) and several teaching awards.