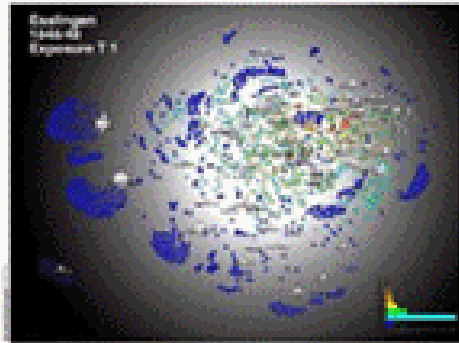


Four-Campus Video-Conference Series, F-W-S 2005-06 Human Sciences and Complexity



February 24: Friday, 1:30-3:20 **Adam Kuper** (Anthropology,
Brunel University, London. and Fellow of the British Academy)

"Endogamy, adultery and homosexuality: an ethnographic perspective on the Bloomsbury Group."

Abstract: Working on kinship in historical perspective in a complex, stratified modern society I have been driven to what were, for me, unexpected conclusions. Structural approaches are notoriously unsuited to the study of change, neglectful of agency, and ill-fitted to the analysis of choices. I was therefore committed to think rather in terms of ego-centred networks, personal strategies of marriage and residence, and the individualistic exploitation of family connections. To my surprise, however, I discovered high levels of endogamy and localisation of kinship networks in 19th and early 20th century England. These were not in remote villages but in the urban heart of the country. There was even a recurrent structure – I call it, with all due reservations, a system of clan endogamy – which might endure for several generations. I shall be giving an example of a somewhat bizarre transformation of this structure that characterised the Bloomsbury Group, a modernist movement of writers and artists in the early 20th century. Their endogamy was extreme, though it took novel and even shocking forms.

Video Conference Locations for Participants

UCLA: 285 Powell Library - vidcon@ucla.edu

UCSD: 260 Galbraith Hall (CLICS) - mgibsen@ucsd.edu

UCR: A139 Olmsted Hall - mcap@ucr.edu

UCI: 120 Social Science Tower - Mike Miller (949)824-7581

Powerpoint on-line at <http://tinyurl.com/ea4m>