

# “Fit to Work” as a Barrier to Reproductive Justice:

Labour and Student Migration from Southeast  
and South Asia to Japan

03 NOV 2026 (TUESDAY) / 15:30 -17:00 / D2-LP-03

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**What happens when migrants are welcomed as workers and students, yet their reproductive lives are treated as incompatible with the purposes of their migration?**

This lecture examines how the expectation that migrants remain “fit to work” shapes reproductive injustice along labour and student migration corridors from Southeast and South Asia to Japan. It approaches “fit to work” not simply as a medical assessment, but as a broader institutional logic that prioritises productivity and treats pregnancy, childbirth, and caregiving as disruptions.

**Moderator:** Dr Isabella Ng

**Organised by** Department of Social Sciences and Policy Studies (SSPS), EdUHK

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