

# UC SANTA BARBARA

## Global Studies Colloquium Series

Spring 2021 Wednesdays 12:30-2:00pm

<https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/84246564996>



**Mark Juergensmeyer**, UCSB  
Three Tensions in Global Studies

4/7



**Sushma Raman**, Harvard  
The Coming Good Society

4/14



**Anthony Giddens**, London  
Covid-19, AI and the Future of Work

4/21



**Walden Bello**, Manila  
A Conversation on Globalization

4/28



**Beverly Silver**, Johns Hopkins  
A Rising Tide of Social Protest

5/5



**Wasim Khaled**, Blackbird.AI  
When conspiracy ideas take hold

5/12



**Daya Thussu**, Hong Kong  
BRICS de-Americanizing the Internet?

5/19



**Andrea Declich & Luciano d'Andrea**, Rome  
Socialization of Science: Covid-19

5/26



**Satyajit Singh**, UCSB  
Raag Darbari & Governance

6/2

## Global Studies Colloquium Spring 2021

Wednesday 12:30-14:00 Zoom

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Quarter begins 3/29

4/7	Mark Juergensmeyer, UCSB	Three tensions in global studies
4/14	Sushma Raman, Harvard	The coming good society: New realities demand new rights
4/21	Anthony Giddens, London	Covid 19, AI and the future of work
4/28	Walden Bello, Manila	Conversation on globalization, Asia, China, and US
5/5	Beverly Silver, JHU	A new rising tide of global social protest? The early 21 <sup>st</sup> century in world-historical perspective
5/12	Wasim Khaled, Rochester	When conspiracy ideas take hold
5/19	Daya Thussu, Hong Kong	BRICS de-Americanizing the Internet?
5/26	Andrea Declich, Luciano d'Andrea, Rome	Socialization of science: The Covid 19 pandemic
6/2	Satyajit Singh, UCSB	Ethnography of administration: Fiction as practice

### **4/7 Mark Juergensmeyer, Three tensions in global studies**

*Chair: Giles Gunn, Global studies UCSB*

Three persistent tensions in global studies are 1) the focus on globalization versus global themes in specific studies, 2) the emphasis on theory and method versus problem-solving and practical training, and 3) global studies as central to the university's curriculum versus playing a role from a critical outsider perspective.

**Mark Juergensmeyer** is Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Global Studies, and founding director of the Global Studies Department and the Orfalea Center for Global Studies. He is author or editor of 30 books including the *Oxford Handbook of Global Studies*, *Religion in Global Civil Society*, and the award-winning *Terror in the mind of god: The global rise of religious violence*.

### **4/14 Sushma Raman, The coming good society: New realities demand new rights**

*Chair: Bishnupriya Ghosh, English and Global studies UCSB*

While human rights have accomplished a great deal in the past few decades and are under increasing attacks by authoritarians, rights must adapt to new realities or risk being consigned to irrelevance. Changes in norms and circumstances require the expansion of rights: What new rights, for example, are needed if we understand gender to be nonbinary? Does living in a corrupt state violate our rights? And emerging technologies demand that we think about old rights in new ways: When biotechnology is used to change genetic code, whose rights might be violated? What rights, if any, protect our privacy from the intrusions of sophisticated surveillance techniques? To preserve and promote the good society—one that protects its members' dignity and fosters an environment in which people will want to live—we must at times rethink the meanings of familiar rights and consider the introduction of entirely new rights. Now is one of those times.

**Sushma Raman** is the Executive Director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Sushma has over two decades of global experience launching, scaling, and leading social justice programs, and building the capabilities of grassroots human rights organizations and their leaders. Prior to joining the Carr Center, she was a Program Officer at the Ford Foundation and the Open Society Foundation, focusing on human rights and social justice initiatives. She has also taught graduate courses on topics including inter-sectoral leadership; global civil society; the NGO sector; and policy communications for decision makers. Sushma is the co-author, along with Bill Schulz (former CEO of Amnesty International USA) of *The Coming Good Society: Why New Realities Demand New Rights*, published by Harvard University Press. Sushma is the host of *Justice Matters* podcast, a contributor to *Foreign Policy* magazine, and a board member of RFK Human Rights.

#### **4/21 Anthony Giddens, Covid 19, AI and the Future of Work**

*Discussant: Harvey Molotch, NYU*

Try clicking on 'the future of work after the Covid 19 pandemic' on one of the major search engines. I just did so (March 16, 2021) and came up with 791,000,000 results. It will be even more by the time you read this synopsis. Give it a go and see. This is a debate going on around the world - and rightly so. The pandemic has produced huge dislocations in societies rich and poor. We are to a large degree in unknown territory in areas of life that stretch right through from the intimacies of personal life to global geopolitics. Work and the economy lie at the heart of almost everything, however, and the questions that have to be asked and in this domain are profound. They go well beyond issues like 'How far will people want to carry on working from home once the pandemic is over?' Education, including higher education, are themselves on the front-line, since much has been transferred online in these domains too. To get answers, I shall argue, we have to begin by analysing the pandemic itself, which is in some core respects quite different from anything that went before.

**Anthony Giddens** is a Member of the House of Lords in the UK Parliament, former Director (President) of the London School of Economics and a Life Fellow of King's College Cambridge, where he was a professor for many years. He is the author of over thirty books and co-founder of Polity Press, a leading publisher in the social sciences and humanities. His awards include the Prince of Asturias Prize, the European Book Prize and more recently the Arne Naess Prize for environmental studies. He has been a Visiting Professor at many US institutions, including UCLA and UCSB, and at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

#### **4/28 Walden Bello, A conversation**

A conversation on global political economy, Asia, China, the US, the far right

**Walden Bello** is Adjunct Professor of Sociology at the State University of New York Binghamton and retired professor of the University of the Philippines. He is a former member of the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines. Co-founder and senior analyst at Focus on the Global South, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. Author or co-author of 25 books and numerous

studies, including *Counterrevolution: The Global Rise of the Far Right* (2019) and *Paper Dragons: China and the Next Crash* (2019). Recipient of the Right Livelihood Award (aka Alternative Nobel Prize) and Outstanding Public Scholar Award of the International Studies Association.

**5/5 Beverly Silver, A new rising tide of global social protest? The early 21<sup>st</sup> century in world-historical perspective**

The central question addressed in this presentation is whether it makes sense to see the recent global wave of protests as the initial stages of a decades-long period of escalating social protests and revolutions, analogous to that which characterized the transition to British hegemony (in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century) and the transition from British to US hegemony (in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century). Drawing on a major new database compiled by the Global Social Protest Research Working Group at the Arrighi Center at Johns Hopkins University, the paper examines the relationship between the rise/decline of world hegemonies and rise/decline of global social protest, as well as the changing composition of protest over time. Our preliminary conclusion is that we have entered a long period of worldwide social unrest, revolts and revolutions with important analogies with past hegemonic transitions; however, resolutions that worked (at least temporarily) to contain previous waves of unrest are no longer sufficient in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century phase of historical capitalism; most notably due to the ecological limits of mass production/consumption capitalism, transformations in the nature of warfare, and the changing balance of power between global North and global South.

**Beverly J. Silver** is Professor of Sociology and the Director of the Arrighi Center for Global Studies at Johns Hopkins University. She is author of *Forces of Labor: Workers' Movements and Globalization since 1870* (which won the Distinguished Scholarly Book Award from the American Sociological Association and has been translated in over 13 languages). She is also co-author of *Chaos and Governance in the Modern World System* (with Giovanni Arrighi et al.). Among her recent articles are "Plunges into Utter Destruction and the Limits of Historical Capitalism" (2019) and "Crises of World Hegemony and the Speeding Up of Social History" (2021). This presentation will focus on new findings from her NSF-funded project entitled "Economic and Geopolitical Crises and Waves of Social Unrest, 1851-present".

**5/12 Wasim Khaled, When conspiracy ideas take hold**

What matters is not just the role of bots in social media but also what happens when the flywheel of conspiracy gets started with bots/manipulation and when the ideas take hold: much like Covid-19 they spread through communities fast and are very difficult to eradicate. The most pervasive narrative around the Capitol raid, that the 'unwashed masses' are easily taken by tin foil hoaxes, is a harmful one in that it misses that a very large portion of those charged were CEOs, doctors, lawyers and other 'upstanding members of society'. The tumor has metastasized further than most realize and now requires only small bumps to keep growing.

**Wasim Khaled** is CEO and co-Founder of Blackbird.AI. He is a serial entrepreneur with a background in computer science and human interface design. He has consulted and advised

governments, policy makers and corporations around the world on the nature of modern disinformation warfare and how these threats can be addressed. He has built companies spanning the software engineering, AI, marketing and ad tech sectors. He has 15 years of experience with Fortune 500 companies, built one of Inc 500's Fastest Growing Companies in America and was awarded Inc. 500's Asian Entrepreneur of the Year.

### **5/19 Daya Thussu, BRICS de-Americanizing the Internet?**

While the Internet continues to be dominated by the United States in terms of its infrastructure, economics and governance, this domination is increasingly being challenged by the BRICS (Brazil, Russian, India, China and South Africa) countries, notably China, Russia and India. China already has the world's largest Internet population, followed by India, primarily driven by mobile communications. With the world becoming increasingly mobile, networked and digitized, it is suggested that the BRICS communication flows will help to pluralize information and communication agendas and help create a new global communication order, leading to a de-Americanization of the Internet. The BRICS nations are playing an important role in this process, given their growing presence and assertiveness related to global cyber-issues, despite some strong divergences within the group. The paper discusses the process of de-Americanization within five domains: infrastructure, commerce, regulation, weaponization and surveillance of cyber space, and the developmental dimensions of the Internet. In all five domains, the contributions of the BRICS nations are delineated, especially in relation to the dominant agenda setters for the Internet, namely the US and the digital corporations based there.

**Daya Thussu** is Professor of International Communication at the Hong Kong Baptist University. He was Distinguished Visiting Professor and Inaugural Disney Chair in Global Media, 2018-19, at Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University in Beijing. For many years he was Professor of International Communication and Co-Director of India Media Centre as well as research advisor to the China Media Centre at the University of Westminster in London. Professor Thussu is the Founder and Managing Editor of the Sage journal *Global Media and Communication*. Author or editor of 20 books, his latest co-edited book is *BRICS Media: Reshaping the Global Communication Order?* Among his other main publications are: *Electronic Empires*; *International Communication - Continuity and Change* (third edition); *Media on the Move – Global Flow and Contra-flow*; *News as Entertainment: The Rise of Global Infotainment*; *Internationalizing Media Studies*; *Media and Terrorism: Global Perspectives* (co-edited); *Communicating India's Soft Power: Buddha to Bollywood*; *Mapping BRICS Media* (co-edited) and *China's Media Go Global* (co-edited). He is currently writing a book to be titled *Changing Geopolitics of Global Communication*.

### **5/26 Andrea Declich, Luciano d'Andrea, Socialization of science: the Covid 19 pandemic**

The talk focuses on the dynamic of socialization of science as one of the most relevant processes in late modern society. Poor socialization of science has profound effects on the relation between science and society, including on technology development, use of technology and emergency preparedness and response. The Covid-19 pandemic and how it is being managed (particularly in Italy) is an example of the effects that such a difficult relation brings about.

**Luciano d'Andrea** is senior researcher at Knowledge and Innovation (K&I), an independent social research center based in Rome. His research interests in the last decade have focused on science-society relations, as an observation field to analyze transformation processes in contemporary societies. He has also been taking part in research projects on public engagement with science and technology, gender equality in science, responsible research, knowledge brokerage, and the socialization process of science and innovation.

**Andrea Declich** is a Researcher at K&I. Socio-economist, has worked as a social researcher with several research and training institutes in programs and projects funded by public and private Italian bodies and by the European Commission, development banks, UN agencies. His activities span Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), social aspects of materials, small and medium enterprises and CSR, civil society, social capital and empowerment, water supply and sanitation, poverty and social exclusion, peace processes in conflict ridden societies.

#### **6/2 Satyajit Singh, Fiction as practice: Raag Darbari & Governance**

*Raag Darbari*, a work in vernacular fiction based in an imaginary village, Shivpalganj in Uttar Pradesh, is an important story of rural India, local politics and administration. Srilal Shukla's fiction mimics a village in rural India; its local institutions: the college, the village council and the cooperative. He depicts with dexterity the politics of the local elite that manages to not only subvert the developmental state and administration, but also make it a hub of clientelism, parochialism and corruption. The novel has multiple insights for a student of public administration, development and politics. Written in 1968, two decades after independence, it was perhaps the first critique of the developmental state, its bureaucracy and the democratic institutions of the country, served with black humor and irony. It questioned the institutions and values on which the new nation was built, and provided a mirror to the reality of everyday disruption. The political and administrative narrative of Shivpalganj mocked the dominant Weberian and Wilsonian concept of public administration. It showed that it was the local politics and its interplay with local institutions that was at the center of everyday administrative reality and local state craft, disbursing development and justice to the people. It was not just the formal administrative and political structure devised by the state but also informal institutions that determined the nature of state directed development. As we go about addressing concerns of state capacity and governance around the world, should we be limited to rational Weberian institutional reforms or step into the irrational political space that counters hegemony and democratizes the processes of everyday administration and governance?

**Satyajit Singh** is Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Department of Global Studies. His academic work is in rural India and policy work on state capacity and governance in the Asia-Pacific region for the World Bank and the UNDP inspired an examination of this vernacular novel. His last book is *The local in governance: Politics, decentralization & environment* (OUP 2016).