POLITICAL SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM

Manhunt Presidency: Race, Obama and the Third World

Sankaran Krishna
Department of Political Science, UHM

In this talk, I argue that President Obama’s commitment to a creedal narrative of American exceptionalism and his understanding of the third world as a space of ontological deficit together made for a presidency that could neither mitigate the structural racism of the United States nor deflect a deeply racist foreign policy premised on an unending war against terror. By examining the murders of two American teenagers – Trayvon Martin and Abdulrahman Al-Awlaki- I argue that the very self-fashioning narratives that propelled Obama to the presidency of the United States stymied him when it came to effecting any substantive changes in the deeply structured racism than animates both its domestic and foreign policies.

Friday, November 17, 2017
2:30 – 4:00 pm
Light Refreshments will be served!
Partially sponsored by the Student Activity and Program Fee Board (SAPFB)
Saunders 624, Harry Friedman Room

NOTE: Colloquium is open to members and guests of the Department of Political Science
No recordings or videotaping permitted