

DIALOGUES

FROM THE

Global South

**Seminars by Rafael Estrada Mejia, Ph.D.
State University of São Paulo (UNESP),
Presidente Prudente, Brazil**

The seminars “Dialogues from the Global South” aim to disseminate the wealth of world humanities and social science traditions within and across national borders. Decentering knowledge grants greater global visibility and recognition to scholarly production beyond Euro-American localities. These seminars invite an open dialogue with scholars who are trained in the global South and who work on less explored areas of inquiry.

The first speaker of the seminars is Rafael Estrada Mejía (Ph.D. UNICAMP, 2010). Dr. Estrada Mejía is a cultural and applied anthropologist trained in Latin America and Europe, and specialized in the ethnography of knowledge and biographical methods, urban resettlements, social ecology, and migration and transnationalism (Colombia, Brazil, Spain, Italy, and France). He is a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Geography at the Universidade Estadual de São Paulo (UNESP), and was Visiting Scholar in the Department of Anthropology at UD in spring 2016. He has published extensively in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.



Tues., Oct. 25, 2016 | 5:00 pm | Gore 208 (Reception will follow)

GUEST LECTURE

Living the Life: Fear, Privatism, and Presentism in Elite Brazilian Condominiums and US Gated Communities

Since the 1970s, luxurious enclosed housing developments have proliferated throughout Brazil and have become one of the preferred housing options for the elites. In this presentation, gated communities are studied as the new version of the colonial Portuguese fort with four main functions: to render impossible the entrance of the undesirable; to hide the existence of strategic wealth, to offer surveillance of the enemy, and to defend its resident from public life and the assumed excessive, marked sociability that characterizes life outside the walls. Dr. Estrada Mejía compares the main characteristics and functions of gated communities in Brazil and the United States—where this housing type originated.

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Fri., Oct. 28, 2016 | 4:30 pm | Gore 115 (Event limited to students)

A DIALOGUE WITH STUDENTS

Humanitarian Government and the Management of the (Un) desirables: The Case of Colombian Refugees in Brazil

This talk addresses the role of humanitarian intervention as a means for control and policing in the management of those deemed (un)desirables. Based on a micro-political approach and ethnographic fieldwork with Colombian refugee populations in the city of São Paulo (Brazil), Dr. Estrada Mejía examines the political, economic, and social consequences of the years 2000-2010, the period with the largest displacement of Colombian refugees in history. He seeks to visualize the characteristics and relationships of contemporary urban spaces such as shelters in the processes of subjectivation of refugee populations.

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