

Philosophy Colloquium

Fall 2025

November 13th

4:00 PM

214 Harriman Hall

*"Pens Not Property: Edward Said
and Sylvia Wynter on Forms of Life."*

Benjamin P. Davis



Abstract: This talk begins from the question of property in Edward Said's last interview. It then asks: What is the role of property within Sylvia Wynter's reading of "the horizon of humanity" in Jacques Derrida? Ultimately, this talk considers Said and Wynter together in offering an inquiry into the forms of life we have inherited and live within today.

Bio: Benjamin P. Davis is an Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Hispanic Studies at Texas A&M University. He is also a fellow at the Center on Modernity in Transition, a think tank advancing conversations on planetary social change, and President of the American Weil Society, a scholarly organization devoted to studying the mystic and philosopher Simone Weil. Davis is the author of three books: *Simone Weil's Political Philosophy: Field Notes from the Margins*, from 2023, as well as *Choose Your Bearing: Édouard Glissant, Human Rights, and Decolonial Ethics*, also from 2023, which is the prequel to this year's *Another Humanity: Decolonial Ethics from Du Bois to Arendt*.

Sponsored by Center for Changing Systems of Power, Department of Africana Studies,
Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and Department of Philosophy
Followed by reception and dinner 218 Harriman Hall

For Further Information Contact Alissa.Betz@Stonybrook.Edu 631-632-7590