

Historicizing Secular Studies Across the Discipline

December 9th, 2022

Program

9:00 - Coffee and light breakfast

9:15-10:30 - Speaker 1: Amy Alemu, “Maps of Spring:” Anti-colonial History and Counter-Secular Agency”; Respondent: Lucia Hulsether. Moderator: Nicholas Low.

10:45-12:45 Roundtable discussion: “The past, present, and future of the secular.”

1. First Hour: *From your particular research and disciplinary vantage, when did the secular emerge as a category and why? What problems or questions did it set out to solve? What historical conditions were relevant at the time?* Moderator: Daniel Steinmetz-Jenkins
2. Second Hour: *From your particular research and disciplinary vantage, is secular still useful? Why or why not, and under what conditions? What terms or discourses may have emerged as more useful or accurate to the relevant research questions and problems?* Moderator: Justin Reynolds

12:45-1:45 - Catered Lunch in James Room

2:00-3:15 - Speaker 2: Susanna Ferguson, “Gender, Secularism, and Science in the Modern Arab World”; Respondent, Cemil Aydin. Moderator: Michelle Sanchez. .

3:30-5:00 - Closed-Door Session

7:30 - Dinner at Toscano in Harvard Square