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University of Washington | College of Arts & Sciences | Box 353710 | Seattle, Washington | 98195-3710
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Lecture

ALICIA SCHMIDT CAMACHO
American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, & Migration
Yale University

Thursday, October 25, 2012
4:00 pm
Communications 120

Migrant Personhood and the Definition of Sovereign Power in North America

Alicia Schmidt Camacho examines the migrant circuit linking Central America, Mexico, and the United States as an integrated whole. By taking a migrant-centered approach to the complex issues of state security, political sovereignty, and immigration regulation, she argues that the criminalization of unauthorized migrants has been central to a North American project of governance that is profoundly anti-democratic in nature. Migrant movements seek to protect basic human and labor rights by voicing alternative frameworks for defining belonging and citizenship.

Alicia Schmidt Camacho is Sarai Ribicoff Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, & Migration at Yale University. Her scholarship concerns the femicide in Ciudad Juárez, transnational migration, border governance, and social movements in the Americas. She is the author of *Migrant Imaginaries: Latino Cultural Politics in the Mexico–U.S. Borderlands* (NYU Press, 2008), and is currently at work on a second book project entitled, *The Carceral Border: Social Violence and Governmentality on the Frontiers of Our America*. She serves on the board of Junta for Progressive Action, a community agency serving the Latina/o community of Fair Haven, and is a contributor to local and transnational projects for immigrant and human rights.

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For more on the *B/ordering Violence* Seminar Series, visit depts.washington.edu/uwch/programs/initiatives/bordering-violence