

Annual Thesis Conference
18 April 2009—9:00 am Jefferson Hall



Brief Welcome

Prof. Michael Smith, Program Director

Panel One—9 :00 am

Bernice Denira Ramirez

*Hope is Not Enough: the High Stakes of
Immigration Reform and the Obama
Administration*

Marta P. Cook

*Winning Back the ‘Values’ Voter: The Religious
Progressive Movement and a Development of a
Framework Connecting Liberals and Christian
Communities*

Jamelle Bouie

*No Party but the Grand Old Party: Evangelicals,
Civil Rights and why the Democratic Party
Can’t Close the “God Gap”*

Brief commentary and discussion

Panel Two—10:05 am

Allison Lorraine Scott

*From Integration to Reconciliation: Christian
Theology as a Resource for Racial
Reconciliation*

Laura Harris

*“Seeing the Population Issue Whole:” Population
Policies, Reproductive Rights, and Demographic
Goals*

Christian West

*Branquemento: The Myth of Racial Democracy
and Color-Blind Racism in Brazil*

Brief commentary and discussion followed by a
very short break

Panel Three—11:10 am

Matthew Trumbo-Tual

*Education and the problem of assimilation: The
subversive tradition of French literature*

Kathleen Connelly

*Class Values: The Relationship between Social
Class and Morality in America*

Quynh Vu

*Neoliberalism and Education: How Americans
Misappropriate the Free-Market Model*

Brief commentary and discussion followed by a
lunch recess. Please note the time to reconvene:
1:15 pm, sharp.



Panel Four—1:15 pm

Jordan Rodakis

Baby Did a Bad, Bad Thing: Fantasy and Power in Girls Gone Wild

Hamza Shaban

Closer to Conversation: Freedom, Objectivity, and the New Media Environment

Jamin An

Institutional Arrangements: The Politics of Art Museums

Brief commentary and discussion

Panel Five—2:20 pm

Patrick Casey

A Question of 'Resolve': The Potential for Institutional Theory to Improve IMF Assessment of Program-Country Reform Capacity

Gautam Malhotra

Neo-Liberal Capitalism & the Relative Perspectives of Globalization: The Cosmopolitan Elite and the Lower Socio-Economic Class

Sidharth Sethi

Seeing the State and Civil Society from the Mumbai Slum

Brief commentary and discussion

Panel Six—3:25 pm

William A. Callison IV

From Radical Critique to Political Withdrawal: The Critical Theory of Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse and Habermas

Jessica Haney

Fragment and Fugue: Voices of the Postcolonial Self

Jia Angeli Carla Tolentino

Here Is Not Merely a Nation: Writing the New American Dream

Brief commentary and discussion

Panel Seven—4:30 pm

Manal Tellawi

Roadblocks to Palestinian Statehood: An Examination of U.S. Attitudes Towards Palestinian Self-Determination

Melissa Batchelor Warnke

Deconstructing the Memorial Museum: A Critical Analysis of the Intersection of Global Conventions and Local Healing in Post-Genocide Rwanda

James Thomas Anderson

Between Principles and Pragmatism: Nongovernmental organizations and competing approaches to humanitarian relief aid

Brief commentary and discussion



Thanks to Bailee Barfield and Brittany Reid for their work in arranging this conference.

