Exceptional Empire?
The United States and the Turn from Colonialism in the Twentieth Century

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Why did the United States turn away from formal colonialism after its so-called “imperial moment” of the turn of the twentieth century? Why does it now do empire through informal, non-territorial modalities? A common claim is that the United States has a unique “style” of empire – an exceptional empire from which its founding institutions and anti-colonial values flow – and this explains America’s turn from colonialism. But this talk will suggest a different answer altogether, one which looks away from the metropole and to the sites of its impact aboard and the broader global field in which empires are embedded.

Wednesday, March 4th  4:30 – 6pm
Alumnae Lounge

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