

SEMINAR SERIES: SPRING 2025

Time & Location

- **11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**
- **BRNG 6138 Conference Room**
- **Lunch will be provided for attendees**

January 27, 2025

“The Obstacle and Opportunity of Writing a ‘Useable Past’: On Chronicling the Classroom Culture Wars as They Happen”

Dr. Natalia Mehlman Petrzela

Natalia Mehlman Petrzela is Professor of History of the New School. She is author of *Fit Nation: The Gains and Pains of America’s Exercise Obsession* (University of Chicago Press, 2023) and *Classroom Wars: Language, Sex, and the Making of Modern Political Culture* (Oxford University Press, 2015). She is co-producer and host of the podcast *Welcome to Your Fantasy*, from Pineapple Street Studios/Gimlet, co-host of the *Past Present* podcast, and host and executive producer of the BBC podcast, *EXTREME*.

February 17, 2025

“Detroit as a Carceral Space: Documenting Police Violence and Community Activism through Research Collaborations”

Dr. Matthew Lassiter

Matthew Lassiter is the Louis Evans Professor of History and the co-director of the Carceral State Project at the University of Michigan. He is author of *The Suburban Crisis: White America and the War on Drugs* (Princeton University Press, 2023), *The Silent Majority: Suburban Politics in the Sunbelt South* (Princeton University Press, 2006), and co-editor of *The Myth of Southern Exceptionalism* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

April 7, 2025

“The Fall of Saigon and the End of History”

Dr. Andrew Bellisari

Andrew Bellisari is an assistant professor in the Department of History at Purdue University. He specializes in the history of decolonization in North Africa and Southeast Asia and his research addresses questions related to warfare, post-colonial state- and nation-building, and civil society. Previously, he was a founding faculty member at Fulbright University Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City and a Vietnam Program Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School.