

**Protest:**

a peaceful act of solidarity expressed through speech or a form of turbulent and deliberately disruptive resistance in which the bodily presence of the protesters makes a powerful demand for political change.

**Post-Political:**

the idea that societies no longer govern by explicit political discourses and political instruments, but by subtle coercive constellations of representational regimes.

SPRING SYMPOSIUM

March 7, 2025

# Protest in the Post-Political Era



UNIT FOR  
CRITICISM AND  
INTERPRETIVE THEORY

Co-Sponsored by the Spurlock Museum

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

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# PROGRAM

9:00-9:10	<b>Welcome</b> D. Fairchild Ruggles	12:30-1.15	Lunch for speakers and moderators at Intermezzo Café in the KCPA
9:10-9:15	<b>David Wilson</b> “What Do We Mean by Post-Political?”	1:15-2:00	<b>Christina Foust</b> “Revisiting Anarchy amid the Collapse of (a) Hegemony: Tactical hopes for a second Trump presidency” Moderator: Lena Shapiro
9:15-10:00	<b>Ashwini Vasanthakumar</b> “Forget Persuasion: Protest as Refusal and Rehearsal” Moderator: David Wilson	2:00-2:45	<b>Asef Bayat</b> “Protests in a Post-Gramscian Moment” Moderator: Anke Pinkert  Break
10:00-10:45	<b>Richard Gilman-Opalsky</b> “The Post-Political is also always Pre-Political: Real Horizons of Revolt” Moderator: Ken Salo  Break	3:00-3:45	<b>Ekow Yankah</b> “Black Patriotism and Protest” Moderator: Colleen Murphy
11:00-11:45	<b>Sara Safransky</b> “What Time is it? Freedom Struggles and the Crisis of the University” Moderator: Luvell Anderson	3:45-4:30	<b>Juan González</b> “Mass Protest in the U.S. and Resistance to Empire in the Global South” Moderator: J. David Cisneros
11:45-12:30	<b>Cristóbal Bianchi</b> “The Span of Protest: Poetic Action as Resistance” Moderator: Sara Bartumeus	4:30-5:15	<b>Discussion</b>
		5:15-6:00	Reception Spurlock Museum Rotunda