

The Philosophy Department  
presents a colloquium by

**Jarrett Zigon, PhD**

Associate Professor, University of Amsterdam

*From the Politics of the Subject  
to a Politics of a Situation*

**TOPIC:** The crisis of contemporary politics is two-fold: It can be articulated as the problem of motivation to action and the problem of the “what” of political action. I argue that the two-fold problem can be drawn to the fact that the ontological condition of politics today provides a basis for what could be called the politics of the subject, which is characterized by political moralism. I diagnose the crisis by examining a particular instance of human rights, language and practice—*voice*. I then proceed to offer notes on an alternative form of politics that I see exemplified in anti-drug war political activism.

**Friday, November 8, 2013, 2:30 PM**  
**Sakamaki Hall C-308**

Dr. Zigon teaches in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology. He has been a member of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, a postdoctoral research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, and a visiting scholar at Columbia University. Among his recent publications are *HIV is God's Blessing: Rehabilitating Morality in Neoliberal Russia* (2011, University of California Press), *Making the New Post-Soviet Person: Narratives of Moral Experience in Contemporary Moscow* (2010, Brill), and *Morality: An Anthropological Perspective* (2008, Berg).

Everyone is welcome to attend.

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