

The Department of History and the European Studies Program  
presents

## “Human Rights and History”



Guest speaker: **Prof. Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann**

An Associate Professor of late modern European history at the University of California, Berkeley, Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann has published on topics ranging from post-Enlightenment sociability and social thought to the recent history of human rights. He is currently writing a history of everyday life in Berlin during and in the immediate aftermath of World War II. Recent publications include *Seeking Peace in the Wake of War: Europe, 1943-1947* (co-editor, 2015).

Like “globalization,” human rights have become a key concept to explain the transformations of our contemporary world. Yet historians have started to explore this history only very recently. In the last 10 years, human rights historiography has emerged as a vibrant, incessantly growing field, together and alongside with global history. In this talk, Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann will discuss some of the most contested research questions within this new field. How can we trace the origins of human rights ideas and institutions without doing history backwards; i.e., without projecting our current understandings of individual human rights onto the past? Conversely, how convincing are some of the revisionist arguments within the recent historiography of human rights, in particular the claim that human rights history began only in the late 1970s?

Registration: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/human-rights-and-history-tickets-21428605536>

Lunch will be available for up to 20 registered guests only

Friday, February 26, 2016

12:00-2:00pm

H&SS (Humanities and Social Sciences Building), Galbraith Conference Room, #4025



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