## UC RIVERSIDE

## POLITICAL SCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES



## **ALISA BIERRIA**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR,
DEPARTMENT OF GENDER STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

## STRUCTURAL RACISM WITHIN REASON

Alisa examines reasons and the politics of intention through an analysis of structural racism. She discusses two key black feminist critiques of reason — Patricia Hill Collins' discussion of "controlling images" (2000) and Michelle Cliff's concept of the "mythic mind" (1982) — to propose "controlling intentions" as a framework to theorize how structural racism produces fictive intentions used to rationalize the criminal punishment of survival and justify that outcome as common sense. As an example, she analyzes how Marissa Alexander's intentions and intentional actions were replaced by controlling intentions in her 2011 Stand Your Ground hearing to illustrate how reason provides a vehicle through which structural racial/gendered violence becomes naturalized within the law.

TIME

Monday, May 15, 2023 12:00PM-1:20PM **LOCATION**Skye Hall 173

**ZOOM DETAILS** 

Meeting ID: 991 3277 2457

Passcode: 586644