The Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud Center for American Studies and Research (CASAR)

cordially invites you to a lecture entitled

Occupied Fantasy
Literary Enclosures in the Age of Finance Capital

By Dr. Jordana Rosenberg, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Tuesday, October 16, 2012 | CASAR office, Building 37 (behind the old observatory) | 5:00 – 7:00 pm

How can we develop a literary analytic for the period that is commonly understood as the age of finance capital: the 1970s to the present? In this talk, I will argue that the politics of dispossession in Palestine are central to the history of the rise of finance capital in the US and globally. Because the rise of finance is rooted in neocolonial occupation, as well as in the intensification of U.S., carceral regimes, technologies of policing, and the super impoverishment of the toiling classes, dispossession in Western Asia is knitted together with dispossession in the US. Together, these two fronts of dispossession should guide us in contextualizing the literature of the age of finance. Via a close reading of U.S. fantasy and science fiction by author Samuel Delany, I seek to show how a Palestine-oriented historical analytic shifts our understanding of US literary form from the mid-1970s to the present.

Jordana Rosenberg is Associate Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Dr. Rosenberg is the author of “Critical Enthusiasm: Capital Accumulation and the Transformation of Religious Passion” (Oxford University Press, 2011), and, with Amy Villarejo, the co-editor of „Queer Studies and the Crises of Capitalism“ (GLQ 18.1, 2011), as well the co-editor, with Chi-ming Yang, of “The Dispossessed Eighteenth Century” (The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation, January 2014). Dr. Rosenberg is the author of articles that appear or are forthcoming in GLQ, ELH, Radical History Review, The Blackwell Companion to GLBTI/Q studies, and The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation, among others. Dr. Rosenberg's current book project is titled, “Apertures of Enclosure: the Form of Dispossession in the Ages of Finance.”