



Asien-Orient-Institut – Fachbereich Gender Studies – Interuniversitäres  
Doktoratsprogramm Gender Studies

Public Lecture of Serene J. Khader

## Decolonizing Universalism A Transnational Feminist Ethic

Thursday, October 18, 2022, 04.15–06.00 pm  
Room SOC-F-106, Rämistrasse 69, 8001 Zürich

**Serene J. Khader** is a visiting professor in the inter-university doctoral program in Gender Studies in Switzerland for the fall semester of 2022. She is the Jay Newman Chair in Philosophy of Culture at Brooklyn College and Professor of Philosophy and Women's and Gender Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center. Serene Khader is interested in the values that underlie feminist theory and political practice, and much of her research focuses on issues related to women in the global South. She is currently writing a trade book entitled *The Freedom Myth* about why we need to stop thinking feminism's core value is freedom and start thinking it's equality.

Her most recent book, *Decolonizing Universalism: A Transnational Feminist Ethic* (Oxford University Press 2018) asks what values should guide transnational feminist solidarity. Khader shows how feminism can respect cultural and religious differences and acknowledge the legacy of imperialism without surrendering its core ethical commitments.

The public lecture is supported by the Department of Gender Studies at the University of Zurich, the Center for Gender Studies at the University of Basel, the Interdisciplinary Center for Gender Studies at the University of Bern and the Swiss Association for Gender Studies. The lecture is part of the interdisciplinary lecture series "universitas - Universality" of the Competence Center Zurich Medieval Studies.