

STUDIES IN HISTORICAL TRAUMA AND TRANSFORMATION

Whiteness and Ignorance in Contemporary South Africa

at the Perold Building
on the Rooi Plein



Prof Melissa Steyn

Melissa Steyn is professor in the Faculty of Humanities at Wits University and founding director of the Wits Centre for Diversity Studies. She holds a SARChI Chair in Critical Diversity Studies, a field she has been developing in Higher Education since her tenure at the University of Cape Town.

Professor Steyn is best known for her work on whiteness in post-apartheid South Africa, and her lecture will draw from her extensive publications in this area. Her critically acclaimed book *Whiteness just isn't what is used to be: White identity in a changing South Africa* won the 2002 Outstanding Scholarship Award in International and Intercultural Communication from the National Communication Association in the United States. Her co-edited books include *The Prize and the Price: Shaping Sexualities in South Africa* (2009), *Performing Queer: Shaping Sexualities in South Africa* (2005), *Under construction: Race and identity in South Africa Today* (2004), and *Cultural Synergy in South Africa: Weaving Strands of Africa and Europe* (1996).

Professor Steyn's awards include, recipient of the University of Southampton Diamond Jubilee International Fellowship (2017); being featured as one of Routledge's Sociology "Super Authors" for 2013, a campaign that celebrates the contribution of some of the most popular authors to the field of Sociology; the South African Council for Higher Education National Excellence in Teaching Award (2010); and the University of Cape Town's Distinguished Teacher's Award (2009).

Light snacks will be served after the lecture.

Wednesday, 14 March 2018

12h15 - 13h30

Perold Building on the Rooi Plein

First Floor, Room 1018



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