Labor Migration, Households, and Reproducing the "Transnational Housewife"

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Date: Friday November 15
Time: 3:00-5:00 PM
Location: 2101 Woods Hall Conference Room

Dr. Amy Bhatt examines how family formation, marriage and reproduction allow temporary Indian migrants to make claims on the U.S. state even though they are classified as "non-immigrant" workers who are expected to return to their home country of India. By creating transnational ties through the birth of children with U.S. citizenship and sponsoring family members, workers’ reproductive practices both align with the labor needs of technology corporations that seek temporary labor and diverge from the goals of the U.S. to curb immigration. Using ethnographic and online evidence, Dr. Bhatt examines how reproduction becomes a strategy for renegotiating the value of national citizenship in the face of neoliberal immigration and labor policies.