

FEMINIST STUDIES BOOK TALK

SURROGATE

HUMANITY

RACE, ROBOTS, AND THE POLITICS
OF TECHNOLOGICAL FUTURES

NEDA ATANASOSKI

WITH DISCUSSANT NICK MITCHELL

In *Surrogate Humanity*, Neda Atanasoski and Kalindi Vora trace the ways in which robots, artificial intelligence, and other technologies serve as surrogates for human workers within a labor system entrenched in racial capitalism and patriarchy. Analyzing myriad technologies, from sex robots and military drones to sharing-economy platforms, they show how liberal structures of antiblackness, settler colonialism, and patriarchy are fundamental to human-machine interactions, as well as the very definition of the human. Yet, even as engineers design robots to be more perfect versions of the human - more rational killers, more efficient workers, and tireless companions - the potential exists to develop alternative modes of engineering and technological development in ways that refuse the racial and colonial logics that maintain social hierarchies and inequality.

MARCH 13, 2019

4:00PM - 5:00PM

Humanities 1, 202

