



THE CENTER FOR
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PRESENT

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 21

12 NOON
HUM 1 RM 210

FIRE & FLOOD: SETTLER COLONIALISM & PESSIMISTIC INDIGENOUS FUTURISMS

JODI BYRD, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Caught within the both/and of dystopic collapse, colonial fantasies of American futurities often reproduce themselves through nineteenth-century signs of the struggle for colonial dominance. This talk closely reads HBO's *Westworld* alongside LeAnne Howe's *Indian Radio Days* to consider how procedural elements of technological play produce dystopic visions of American collapse as the failure of indigenous futures.

Jodi Byrd is a Chickasaw decolonial thinker, writer, teacher, videogamer, and associate professor of English and Gender & Women's Studies at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a faculty affiliate of the National Center for Supercomputing Applications.

Co-sponsored by UCSC Critical Race & Ethnic Studies, Sociology, and History