

Professor Joseph O. Jewell, University of Illinois - Chicago

“In a White Man’s Place: Racial Boundaries and Middle-Class Mobility in Three Gilded Age Cities.”



Thursday
February 13, 2025
12:30-2:00pm

Parkes 222
1870 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208

Description: The months leading up to the 2024 presidential election saw the widespread use of race-class archetypes and narratives about the dangers of non-Whites making claims to middle class identities. At the turn of the twentieth century, similar racial projects emerged as White populations in Atlanta, San Antonio, and San Francisco responded to Black, Tejano, and Chinese American men’s pursuit of social mobility through public sector employment. In this presentation, I consider what Whites’ cultural and legal responses to the changing contours of the race-class nexus during the Gilded Age can tell us about contemporary middle-class racisms.

Joseph O. Jewell is Professor and Head of Black Studies at the University of Illinois - Chicago. His research examines how the race-class nexus is articulated and reinscribed during periods of social change.

**For Zoom info
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