



Humanities Institute at Stony Brook

p r e s e n t s

Thursday, October 17th, 2013

4:30 p.m.

Humanities 1008

Reception to follow

Leerom Medovoi

Remediation: Pharmikons and the Politics of Environmental Health

This talk investigates the highly ambiguous phenomenon of environmental remediation, which has become a key corporate strategy for managing the implications of damage to both populations and environments. Using Derrida's reading of the Pharmikon and Grusin and Bolton's media studies analysis of "remediation," Medovoi suggests that, especially in the Global South, there is a toxifying as well as a curative thrust to promises of "environmental remediation" that deserves ecocritical consideration.

Leerom Medovoi is Professor and Chair of English at the University of Arizona. He was previously a Professor at Portland State University where he was the founding Director of the Portland Center for Public Humanities. He is the author of *Rebels: Youth and the Cold War Origins of Identity*. He writes on biopolitical theory as it pertains to histories of capitalism, race, permanent war, and the environment. His work has appeared in such journals as *New Formations*, *Social Text*, *Cultural Critique*, *Mediations*, *American Literary History*, and *Minnesota Review*. He was the recipient of a collaborative Miller Grant on "Understanding Sustainability: Perspectives from the Humanities" and is currently the PI on a multi-institutional Mellon/CHCI grant on "Religion, Secularism, and Political Belonging."

