STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA (435) • Founded: 1956

This seminar provides a lively forum for scholars engaged in the advanced study of Africa. Faculty and visiting scholars from Columbia University, Barnard College, and neighboring institutions actively participate in its regular series of sessions. Discussions focus on theoretical and comparative approaches to the study of colonial and contemporary states, built environments and ecologies, gender, the arts, media, cultural studies, and processes in political mobilization and leadership.

CHAIR/S: **Casey McNeill**; **Rhiannon Stephens** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Mylkah Djacko**

2025–2026 MEETINGS

September 17 — *Who Will Use Your History? How Will It Be Interpreted in Future Years?*
Winifred Armstrong
Lauren Stark, New York University Libraries
Lydia Walker, The Ohio State University

October 15 — *Sediments of Meaning: A Military History of Mapungubwe National Park, 1932–Present*
Jacob Dlamini, Princeton University

December 3 — Joint meeting with (769) *An Interspecies Contact Zone: Locusts and Humans in Colonial Burundi (1924–1939)*
Benoît Henriet, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium)

January 28 — *Mistaking Order for Anarchy: Territory, Mobility, and Security in the Sahel*
Casey McNeill, Fordham University

February 25 — *Socialist De-Colony: Black and Soviet Entanglements in Ghana's Cold War*
Nana Osei-Opare, Rice University

April 8 — *"A Model C School in the Township": Cape Town's Marketplace of Schools and the Reproduction of Racial Capitalism*
Amelia Simone Herbert, Barnard College; Columbia University

2026-2027 CHAIR/S: **Casey McNeill**, cmcneill5@fordham.edu; **Rhiannon Stephens**, rs3169@columbia.edu