



United World College–USA

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For Immediate Release

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Challenging Empire: On Insurgent Knowledge and Social Justice Public Talk on April 4 at UWC-USA

Building on Martin Luther King's 1967 speech "Remaining Awake During a Revolution," Dr. Chandra Talpade Mohanty will explore what constitutes revolutionary change in today's world at a public talk in the Student Center of the United World College-USA in Montezuma on April 4 at 7pm.

Mohanty's talk will offer tools to map the US imperial state and privatization/structural adjustment and will look at current examples of the refashioning of democracy as it is reflected today in war, higher education and prisons. Chandra will also examine the ways of thinking about citizenship and implications for social justice work in the US.

Mohanty became well-known after the publication of her influential essay "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses," in which she articulates a critique of the political project of Western feminism in its discursive construction of the category of the "Third World woman" as a hegemonic entity. Mohanty states that Western feminisms have tended to gloss over the differences between Southern women, but that the experience of oppression is incredibly diverse, and contingent on geography, history, and culture.

In 2003, Mohanty released her book *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. In this work, she argues for a bridging of theory and praxis, and the personal and the political. Major themes addressed include the politics of difference, transnational solidarity building, and anti-capitalist struggle against globalization.

Mohanty is originally from Mumbai, India. She holds a PhD and Master's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as a Master's degree and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Delhi in India. She is professor of Women's Studies at Syracuse University.

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United World College-USA is located in the northern New Mexico town of Montezuma, six miles from Las Vegas, NM. UWC-USA is one of 12 United World Colleges located on five continents dedicated to making education a force to unite people, nations, and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. Founded in 1982, UWC-USA offers a unique program of academic and experiential education for 200 students from over 80 countries.