

## **“Race Mixture in the Land of the Future”**

**Jerry Davila, University of Illinois,  
Champaign-Urbana**

**Thursday, April 11  
3:30 pm  
255 Old Horticulture**



The decolonization of West African nations reignited connections across the Atlantic world that had been severed under colonialism. In Brazil, the renewal of these connections was seen as an opportunity to define a sphere of political and economic influence that would drive its development as an industrializing future world power. Through the

1960s and 1970s, the Brazilian government and Brazilian intellectuals pursued opportunities across the Atlantic by promoting Brazil as a racially mixed and racially democratic nation. Dávila examines these crossings to understand dynamics of racial identity expressed in the experiences of Brazilians sojourning in West Africa.