

The Empire Strikes Back: Why Donald Trump's Geographic Illiteracy is the World's Greatest Threat.

Bio:

Robert Huish is an associate professor of international development studies at Dalhousie University. He has researched, spent time in, and fled from heavily sanctioned countries that have been targets of U.S. hegemony and imperialism, which is why he's now turning his attention to Canada. Throughout his research, Huish has held close the teachings of Eduardo Galeano and José Martí, who illuminate the nature of United States imperialism and how it has transformed from the 19th century to the 21st while remaining true to its constitutional values. His recent publication, "[How the U.S. could in fact make Canada an American Territory](#)," explores how such imperialism is targeting Canada and that the experience of neo-imperialism in the Americas and beyond may provide a road map for Canada's future.

Abstract:

Donald Trump is not a big reader. He struggles with facts. He frequently spouts out made-up statistics, and either from a lack of concern or impartial disdain, he often hangs disparaging nicknames on his counterparts and opponents. However, perhaps the most significant shortcoming of the U.S. President is his abhorrent geographical illiteracy. In this presentation, Robert (Bob) Huish aims to unpack Trump's bluster from the actual imperialist ambitions of the American empire. Which rants and riffs should we be worried about? Which ones can be dismissed? Which ones are gutting the United States from within, and which ones are setting the course for devastating conflict? Drawing on decades-long research of U.S. imperialism in the Americas and the changing nature of international relations in the global South, Huish suggests that many of Trump's suggestions must be taken seriously as the U.S. pivots to demonstrations of strength, rather than dialogue, for its foreign relations. Most importantly, the resistance to the New American Empire will require a new skill set in geographies of activism, solidarity, and resistance, unlike ever before.

TOPOGRAPHIES

DGES Speaker Series

Dr. Robert Huish

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All are welcome

