



# Civic Activism in South Korea: the Intertwining of Democracy & Neoliberalism



**SEUNGSOOK MOON**  
Professor of Sociology  
Vassar College

During this talk, Professor Moon will discuss her new book that illuminates complex ways in which neoliberalism simultaneously undermines and enables democracy in South Korea. The book demonstrates these contradictory interactions by focusing on three different types of “citizens’ organizations”: a large national advocacy organization run by professional staff activists, two medium-size local branches of a national feminist organization run by mostly volunteer women activists, and a small local organization run by volunteer activists with a focus on foreign migrants. Democracy and neoliberalism are major keywords that convey aspirations, challenges, and problems of our era, as well as globally practiced modes of ruling. As many societies in the world have undergone neoliberal transformation not only in the economy, but also in culture and politics, this case study has global implications for how to assess our daily lives and how to envision a better world.



10:30 AM - 12:00 PM



Friday  
25 October, 2024



**Durham 240**  
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