Favelas: Race, Urban Poverty and Policy in Brazil

Panelists:

"Examining Favelas: Are They Really Places of Racial Segregation or More Areas for the New Urban Poor?"

Ney dos Santos Oliveira, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Rio de Janeiro
Visiting Scholar at Hunter College, City University of New York

"Mandating Social Inclusion: Current Brazilian Public Policies and Strategies for Racial Justice"

J. Michael Turner, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program
Hunter College, City University of New York

Professor Oliveira’s new thesis assesses the contemporary favela community that presently demonstrates a situation both of economic decay and increasingly an urban refuge for middle class inhabitants. The contradiction of the contemporary favela Professor Oliveira posits is the result of government neglect for popular housing in Rio de Janeiro.

It is in the context of the Durban summit that Professor Turner will present his talk analyzing recently announced Brazilian government policies on social and racial inclusion. His talk will discuss the efficacy of policies such as compensatory programs, affirmative action, and quotas in dealing with systemic problems of marginalization that too often have characterized the reality of so many African descendant Brazilians.

Ney dos Santos Oliveira is Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Rio de Janeiro. Currently spending his post-doctoral sabbatical at Hunter College’s Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center and Hunter’s Department of Urban Studies, Dr. Oliveira’s research examines racism and urban poverty in Brazil and the United States.

J. Michael Turner is the Director of Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program, Co-founder of the Global Afro Latino and Caribbean Initiative (GALCI), and Professor of History at Hunter College, City University of New York. Professor Turner’s interest in social justice for African-descendants in Brazil has expanded to developing advocacy programs in conjunction with the Franklin H. Williams African Diaspora Institute and Caribbean Cultural Center for Afro Latino NGOs in Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay, Panama, Venezuela, Honduras, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Barbados, and the Dominican Republic.

Location
Room 9205 (Ninth Floor)
The Graduate Center
365 Fifth Avenue
(Between 34th and 35th St.)

Tuesday
November 11
5:00 p.m.

To reserve, send email to brazilproject@gc.cuny.edu or leave message at 212 817-2096