

# AFGHANISTAN & THE COURSE OF US EMPIRE

A discussion of Afghanistan and the state of US empire with **Gilbert Achar** (Univ. of London), **Quan Tran** (Yale), and **Robert Vitalis** (Univ of Pennsylvania), moderated by **Chris Vials** (UConn).

**WED, SEPT 29 @ 4:00-5:30pm**

Zoom (contact [Christopher.vials@uconn.edu](mailto:Christopher.vials@uconn.edu) for link)

What do recent events in Afghanistan reveal about the course of US empire? What does the rapid seizure of the Afghan state by the Taliban reveal (and not reveal) about the place of the US in the Middle East and around the world? Do recent events signal an emerging trajectory in the terms of US military, economic, & cultural power? What shape might the Taliban government take, and what are some implications for the people of Afghanistan? How do the chaotic scenes of evacuation at the Kabul airport compare to the iconic “fall of Saigon” and how does the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan compare to the end of the US war in Vietnam? What is to become of Afghan refugees given the current geo-politics of asylum?

Organized by **UConn American Studies** and co-sponsored by **Middle East Studies, Asian & Asian American Studies, Political Science, and the UConn Humanities Institute**

