

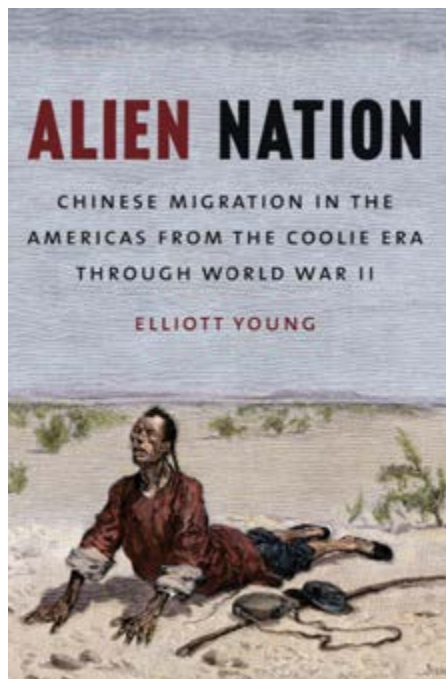
Asian Studies Center  
Center for Latin American Studies  
University Center for International Studies  
at the University of Pittsburgh  
present



# CHINESE MIGRATION

in Cuba, Mexico and Peru:

**FROM 19TH CENTURY COOLIE LABOR TO  
20TH CENTURY NATIONALIST SINOPHOBIA**



## ELLIOTT YOUNG

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250,000 Chinese “coolies” were transported to Latin America between 1847-1874, primarily to Cuba and Peru. Bound by 5-8 year contracts that in many cases had to be renewed, Chinese were treated similarly to African slaves. For liberal ideology, the contract was supposed to symbolize and guarantee freedom, and yet it did the opposite. This talk shows how the transition from slave to free labor allowed for a continuation of bondage and exploitation under the thin veil of individual free will. Although the Chinese “coolie” trade ended in 1874, Chinese migrants in Latin America faced a rising tide of nationalist xenophobia and racist violence in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

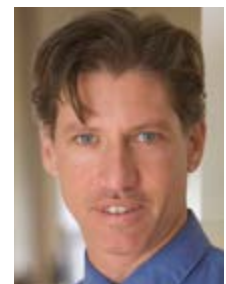
**FRIDAY**

**FEBRUARY 19**

**@ 3 PM**

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ELLIOTT YOUNG teaches Latin American and Borderlands history at Lewis and Clark College. He is currently director of the Ethnic Studies program, and has directed Latin American Studies and served as chair of the History department. In 2003, he co-founded the Tepoztlán Institute for Transnational History of the Americas, which brings together scholars from throughout North and Latin America for an intensive weeklong workshop on transnational history.



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