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In

Partnership with: Center for Jewish Culture * Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Frederick Douglass Unity House * Leduc Center for Civic Engagement * Political Science

Present

A Special 3-Part Spring 2014 SEMINAR SERIES
"PLURALISM in Culture, Politics, & Science in America"

...on AHA! NIGHTS (Mar-Apr-May) in DOWNTOWN NEW BEDFORD

PART I:

Thurs., MAR 13 @ 6:30p

UMass Star Store CVPA Lecture Hall (715 Purchase St., New Bedford)

"The Politics of Pluralism"

Guest Lecturer:

Rajiv Malhotra, Infinity Foundation

Discussant:

Prof. Avery Plaw, UMass Dartmouth



Pluralism deals with the ability to respectfully accept differences. Today it is fashionable for political and religious leaders to lay claim to pluralism, but is it genuine? If so, why would so much religious and political tension continue? This talk will peel this onion and examine the necessary conditions for pluralism. Referencing two of his books - *BEING DIFFERENT* and *INDRA'S NET* – Rajiv will explain the roles played by exclusivity, centrism, and some metaphysical principles inherent in the Abrahamic faiths. Rajiv will search for what it will take to reach the ideal of mutual respect that is required for harmonious diversity.

RAJIV MALHOTRA is an Indian-American researcher, writer, speaker and public intellectual on current affairs as they relate to civilizations, cross-cultural encounters, religion and science. Rajiv is a "game-changer", having influenced thinkers around the world. He provides fresh perspectives on India, comparative religion, globalization, and East-West relations. The author of hundreds of articles and several books, including, most recently, "*Being Different: An Indian Challenge to Western Universalism*", and, "*Indra's Net: Defending Hinduism's Philosophical Unity*", Rajiv Malhotra is founder-director of Infinity Foundation in Princeton, NJ.

LIGHT SNACKS SERVED

coming events

PART II - APRIL 10 - "The Pluralism of Science"

PART III - MAY 8 - "The Rise of Pluralism in America"