Why the “human sciences” have become the target of a major government crackdown in Iran today. This talk will focus upon a specific intellectual shift in contemporary Iran. Today’s intellectual environment draw its vision of social change from the social sciences rather than philosophy, reflecting complex underlying conceptual and practical shifts since the long struggle for modernity and democracy that shaped the twentieth century. The terms of public discourse has shifted from the post-revolutionary worldview grounded in the Bazghash be khish (return to roots) and Gharbzadegi (Westoxication) to an open-ended pragmatic politics. Human sciences, in this context, embody ideas of azadi (liberty) and jam’eh-e madani (civil society).

Monday, April 27, 2015 | 2:00PM | 10383 Bunche Hall
*A Lecture in English

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