



IICAS - Institute for International,
Comparative and Area Studies
European Studies Speaker Series



**“The Social Sciences as Concept:
Wherefrom and Whereto?”**

Immanuel Wallerstein

Distinguished Professor of Sociology,
Binghamton University (SUNY), Emeritus
Senior Research Scholar, Yale University

**Wednesday,
November 28, 2012**

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Reception to follow

Seuss Room at
Geisel Library,
UC San Diego

Register at:

<http://iicas.ucsd.edu>

Event information:
iicas-events@ucsd.edu or
<http://iicas.ucsd.edu> or
(858) 822-5297.

Immanuel Wallerstein is the former President of the International Sociological Association (1994-1998), and chair of the International Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences (1993-1995). He writes in three domains of world-systems analysis: the historical development of the modern world-system; the contemporary crisis of the capitalist world-economy; and the structures of knowledge. Books in each of these domains include respectively *The Modern World-System* (4 vols.); *Utopistics, or Historical Choices for the Twenty-first Century*, and *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth-Century Paradigms*. In his introductory essay to *The Essential Wallerstein* (New Press, 2000), he writes: “I have argued that world-systems analysis is not a theory but a protest against neglected issues and deceptive epistemologies. It is a call for intellectual change, indeed for ‘unthinking’ the premises of nineteenth-century social science, as I say in the title of one of my books. It is an intellectual task that is and has to be a political task as well, because – I insist – the search for the true and the search for the good is but a single quest. If we are to move forward to a world that is substantively rational, in Max Weber’s usage of this term, we cannot neglect either the intellectual or the political challenge. And we cannot segment them into two hermetically-sealed containers. We can only struggle uneasily with pushing forward simultaneously to coming closer to each of them.”

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