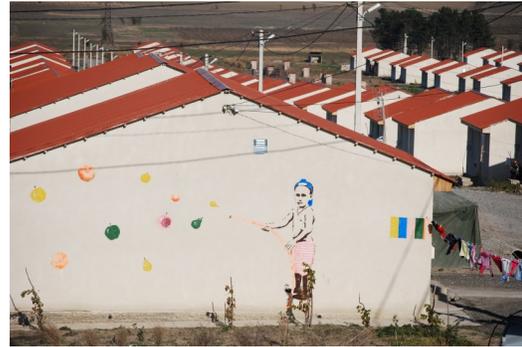




**The Institute for Advanced Study**  
presents

A Research Seminar by **Elizabeth Dunn**  
Fall 2015 Residential Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study



## *Unsettled: Displacement and Humanitarianism in the Republic of Georgia*

Humanitarian aid is meant to be temporary relief in the wake of crisis. Yet, for more than 58 million displaced people around the world, humanitarian aid has become a chronic condition. Trapped in camps or makeshift housing, and dependent on aid for survival, most people who are forced to migrate by war or disaster remain in protracted displacement for years or even decades. Why do displaced people remain trapped for so long? What new forms of existence does humanitarianism create, and why do they make it so difficult for displaced people to rebuild their lives? *Unsettled* argues that humanitarianism is a chronic condition not just because it poses not only technical problems of governance and management for donors and aid agencies, but because it opens up existential dilemmas that must be resolved by displaced people themselves. It is not only conflict that damages the displaced: the very aid meant to help them reforge “normal” lives prevents them from doing so. Based on 16 months of fieldwork in an IDP camp in the Republic of Georgia, the book shows how humanitarian aid damages displaced people's bodies, limits their ability to plan for the future, inhibits the building of community, and constrains their ability to act politically.

**Elizabeth Dunn**, Associate Professor of Geography and International Studies at Indiana University Bloomington, is the author of *Privatizing Poland*.

**Friday, October 16, 3pm—4:30pm**

**Global and International Studies Building, Room 0005**

Refreshments will be served

Attendance is by invitation only. An excerpt from the work in progress will be circulated to attendees prior to the event. Please indicate your intention to attend so that we may send you the text.

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