



TEL AVIV אוניברסיטת
UNIVERSITY תל אביב

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities
The Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies

Contextualizing the Self: Creating and Recreating the First Person

An Interdisciplinary Workshop 2017 – 2018

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

14:15 – 15:45

Gilman Building, room 449

Chairman: Prof. Aviad Kleinberg

Lectures by:

José Moya

Barnard College, Columbia University

"Individualism and Solidarity: The Anarchist Search for a Social Self"

At a primary level, the self is not a socio-cultural construct but a biological condition. Organisms from bacteria to humans need a rudimentary form of self-awareness and the ability to recognize—by sight, sound, smell, molecular signature, etc.--others like and unlike themselves in order to survive and reproduce. Even the uniquely human capacity to be aware that we are self-aware reflects the particular hyper-evolution of our brains. What is a socio-cultural and historical product is precisely what the theme of this year's seminar indicates: our assumptions, reflections, and discussions about the interactions between the self and society.

Anarchism, as both ideology and social movement, offers us an ideal angle to explore this process. While classical liberalism emphasized individual liberty and Marxism social equality, anarchism demanded both and in an extreme, uncompromising manner. My first question thus will be how did anarchists attempt to reconcile two goals—unfettered individualism and total egalitarianism--that many political scientists see as non-complementary, or even contradictory in that, they claim, the more you have of one, the less you have of the other? My second question also tackles directing that of this year's seminar: How did a group that rejected laws, hierarchies, and externally imposed regulations intended "to cope with law-breakers, social transgressors and deviants"?

*** The lectures will be held in English

<https://www.contextualizing-the-self-workshop.com/>
