

American University of Beirut
Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Media Studies

Cordially invites you to a lecture entitled

Viability as an Anthropological Problematic

By

Dr. Ghassan Hage

**University of Melbourne's Future Generation Professor of Anthropology
and Social Theory**

Wednesday, October 16 at 6:00 pm
West Hall - Auditorium B

Abstract

The presentation looks at the way a centring on questions of viability can add to an analytical anthropological perspective. It will do so by examining the way the themes of defeat, decline and decay are woven into the trajectory of a working class militiaman struggling for viability in postwar Lebanon.

Biography

Ghassan Hage is the University of Melbourne's Future Generation Professor of Anthropology and Social Theory and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He has published widely on the comparative anthropology of racism, nationalism, multiculturalism, and migration. His earlier work include *White Nation: Fantasies of White Supremacy in a Multicultural Society* (1998) where he explores the desire for a white nation lurking in even the most cherished liberal Western ideals. Professor Hage has also written on the political dimensions of critical anthropology and its capacity for envisioning alternative futures of political engagement (*Alter-Politics: Critical Anthropology and the Radical Imagination*, 2015). His most recent publication, *Is Racism an Environmental Threat?*, is concerned with the intersection between racism and the ecological crisis. Professor Hage is currently finishing a book on the diasporic condition as a lenticular condition based on an ethnographic research on the transnational culture of the Lebanese diaspora. He will deliver the prestigious Ruth Benedict Lectures at Columbia University (NYC) in Spring 2020.