



The Department of History

HISTORY WORKSHOP

TUESDAYS 12:30-1:30 ON ZOOM

SPEAKS-WARNOCK LECTURE



DR. MARISA FUENTES

Rutgers University
April 5, 2022

Zoom ID:
968 7068 4304
PW: UDHistory

RETHINKING SOCIAL DEATH: 'REFUSE SLAVES,' DISPOSIBILITY, AND THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

This paper considers the category of "refuse slaves," those designated sickly and sometimes unsellable by slave traders in the era of the transatlantic slave trade. By thinking with and against, Orlando Patterson's famous concept of "Social Death" describing the general condition of enslavement, I trouble the concept in reference to "refuse slaves," the archive, and the trends in the historiography of the slave trade.

SPEAKER BIO

Marisa J. Fuentes is the Presidential Term Chair in African American History and Associate Professor of History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Rutgers University.

Her publications include the award-winning book *Dispossessed Lives: Enslaved Women, Violence, and the Archive* (2016). Her most recent work appears in *Small Axe*, *English Language Notes*, and *Diacritics*.

Fuentes' new research focuses on the transatlantic slave trade, racial capitalism, and black disposability.