Creating Home: National Literature as a Window on Belonging

Thursday, April 11th
4 p.m. – Meeting Room – III floor

Speaker:
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Chair:
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In this paper, I explore how “national literature” is used to create, reinvent, and reposition the nation vis-à-vis the globe. Using the cases of Lebanon, Argentina, and South Korea, I explore how these different kinds of nations produce different kinds of national literatures, who is included as a national writer, and what kinds of work national literature is expected to do. I examine the conditions under which national literature enables countries to cope with immigration and to scale shift, or claim a more prominent position, in the global cultural hierarchy.