



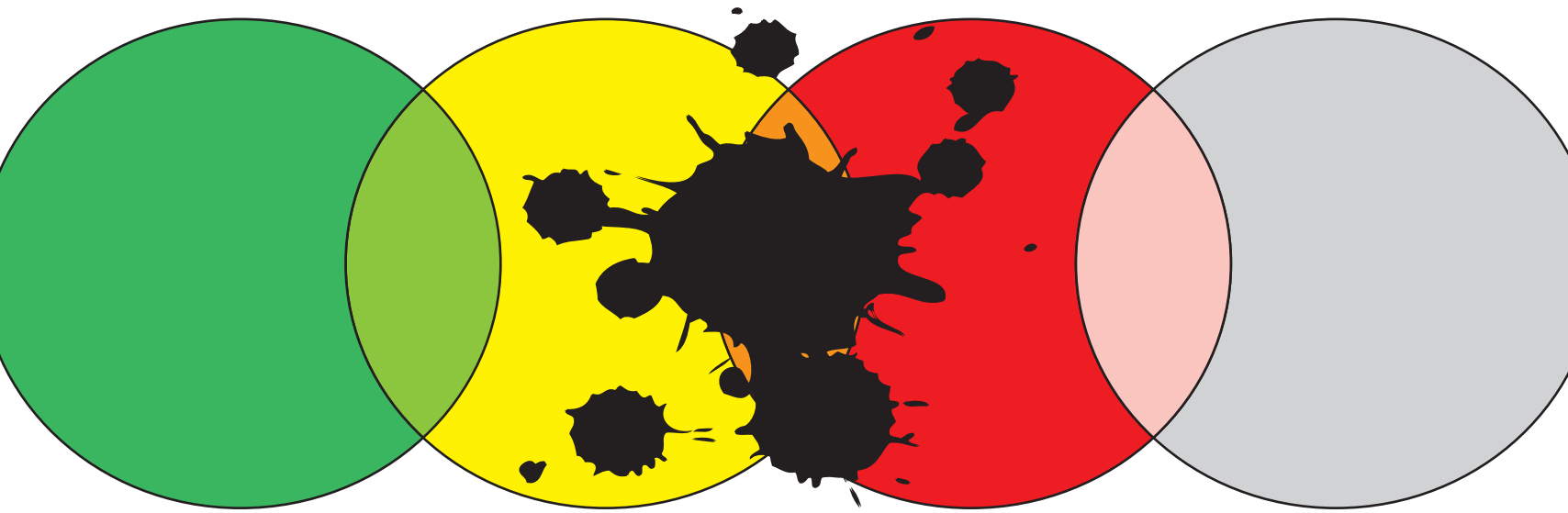
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Humanities Institute, Department of Political Science,
Department of Geography, and Institute for Japanese Studies

Kojin Karatani

Historical Stages of World Capitalism

Where do we stand in the history of world capitalism? This apparently simple question proves to be complex. World capitalism seems to develop in a linear and gradual fashion, but its changes also involve periodic, cyclical oscillations. The cycle oscillates between liberalistic and imperialistic phases. Since the 1980's, we have been living through an imperialistic phase. With the appearance of President Trump, our historical position becomes more visible.



**Thursday, 13 April 2017
3:00-5:00 pm
250 Knowlton Hall
275 West Woodruff Avenue**

Kojin Karatani was born in 1941 in Amagasaki city, located between Osaka and Kobe. He received his B.A. in economics and M.A. in English literature, both from Tokyo University. Awarded the Gunzo Literary Prize for an essay on Natsume Soseki in 1969, he began working actively as a literary critic, while teaching at Hosei University in Tokyo. In 1975 he was invited to Yale University to teach Japanese literature as a visiting professor, where he became acquainted with Yale critics such as Paul de Man and Fredric Jameson. After publishing *Origins of Modern Japanese Literature* in 1980, Karatani proceeded from literary criticism to more theoretical studies ranging from *Architecture as Metaphor: language, number, money* to *Transcritique: on Kant and Marx*. At the same time, he made a political commitment to editing the quarterly journal *Critical Space* with Akira Asada. *Critical Space* was the most influential intellectual media in Japan until it folded in 2002. In 2000, Karatani also organized New Associationist Movement (NAM). Since 1990 he has taught regularly at Columbia University as a visiting professor of comparative literature. He has also taught as a visiting professor at Cornell and UCLA. He was a regular member of ANY, the international architects' conference which was held annually for the last decade of the 20th century. In 2006, Karatani retired from teaching in Japan to devote himself full-time to his lifework.

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