

THE 59<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HAROLD J. PLOUS AWARD LECTURE

# Sherene Seikaly

## Exploring the Economic Forces of Mandatory Palestine

Monday, May 15, 2017 / 4:00 PM / FREE  
McCune Conference Room  
Humanities and Social Sciences Building



In a departure from the expected histories of Palestine, *Men of Capital* examines British-ruled Palestine in the 1930s and 1940s through a focus on economy by illuminating dynamic class constructions that aimed to shape a pan-Arab utopia in terms of free trade, profit accumulation and private property. This year's Plous Lecture seeks to position Palestine and Palestinians in the larger world of Arab thought and social life, moving attention away from the limiting debates of the Zionist-Palestinian conflict.

Sherene Seikaly is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Seikaly is the editor of the *Arab Studies Journal*, co-founder and co-editor of *Jadaliyya* e-zine, an editor of *Journal of Palestine Studies*, a policy member of Al-Shabaka, the Palestinian Policy Network, and an advisory member of R-Shief Online Archive Project. Seikaly's *Men of Capital: Scarcity and Economy in Mandate Palestine* (Stanford University Press, 2016) explores how Palestinian capitalists and British colonial officials used economy to shape territory, nationalism, the home, and the body. She has published in academic journals such as *International Journal of Middle East Studies* and *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies* as well as in online venues including *Jadaliyya*, *Mada Masr*, and *Tiber*.



The Harold J. Plous Memorial Award was established in 1957 to honor Harold J. Plous, Assistant Professor of Economics. The award is given annually to a faculty member of the rank of Assistant Professor or Instructor who has demonstrated outstanding performance by creative action or contribution to the intellectual life of the college community.