

## CRITICAL DATA STUDIES SPRING 2020 DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

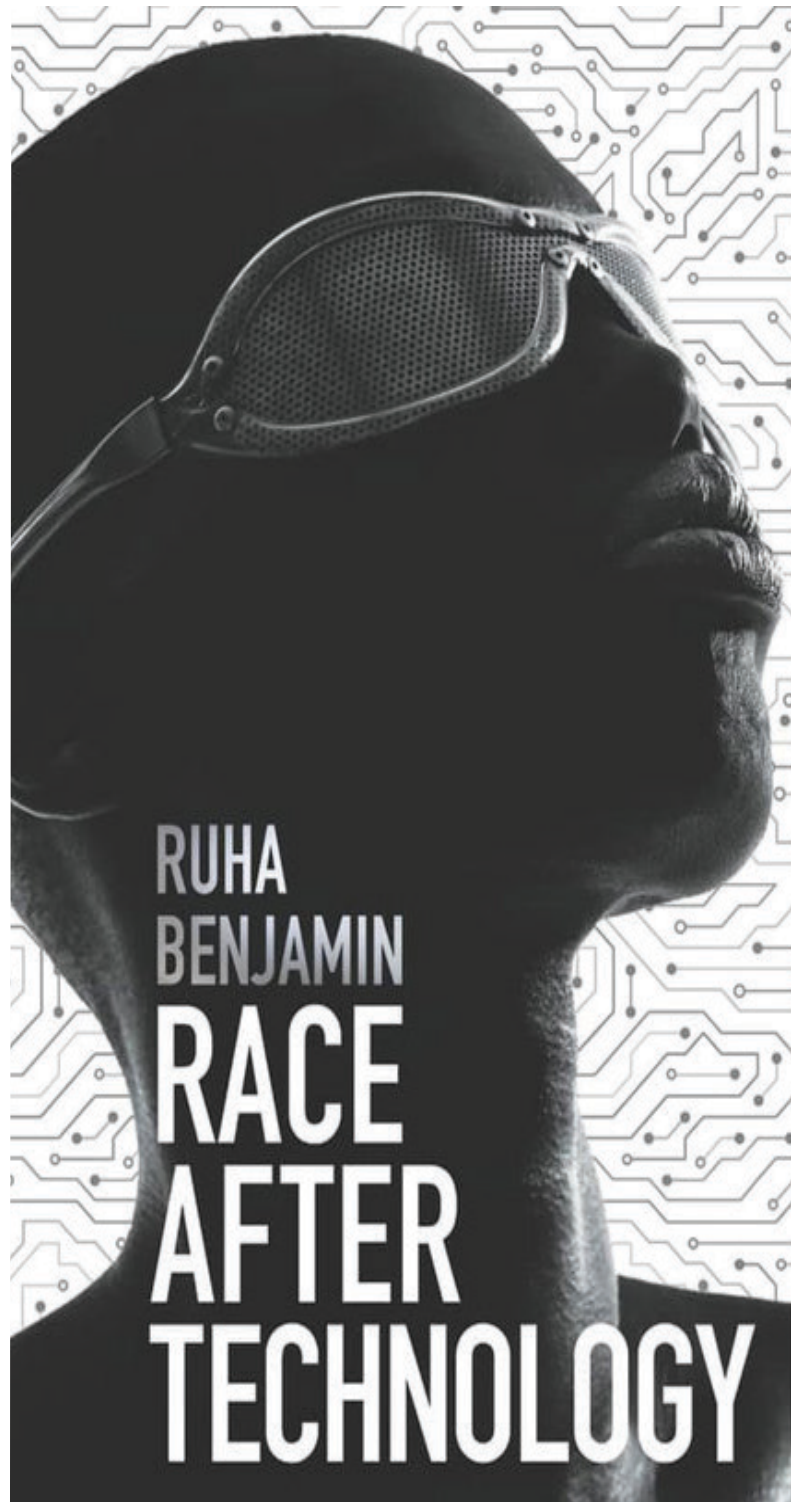
*"RACE AFTER  
TECHNOLOGY:  
ABOLITIONIST  
TOOLS FOR THE  
NEW JIM CODE"*

Feb 17, 5:30-7pm  
Fowler Hall  
Purdue University



Ruha Benjamin takes us into the world of biased bots, altruistic algorithms, and their many entanglements, and provides conceptual tools to decode tech promises with sociologically informed skepticism. In doing so, she challenges us to question not only the technologies we are sold, but also the ones we manufacture ourselves. Dr. Benjamin presents the concept of the "New Jim Code" to explore a range of discriminatory designs that encode inequity: by explicitly amplifying racial hierarchies, by ignoring but thereby replicating social divisions, or by aiming to fix racial bias but ultimately doing quite the opposite. We are asked to consider how race itself is a kind of tool designed to stratify and sanctify social injustice and discuss how technology is and can be used toward liberatory ends.

RUHA BENJAMIN is a professor of African American Studies and founder of the JUST DATA Lab at Princeton University. She is the author of *Race After Technology* (Polity) and *People's Science* (Stanford Univ Press), and the editor of *Captivating Technology* (Duke Univ Press).



Organized by the Critical Data Studies Collective in partnership with Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, Division of Diversity and Inclusion, DiversiKey, African American Studies and Research Center, NSF Center for the Science of Information, The Data Mine, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

Event Contact: <https://purdue.edu/critical-data-studies/contact.php>