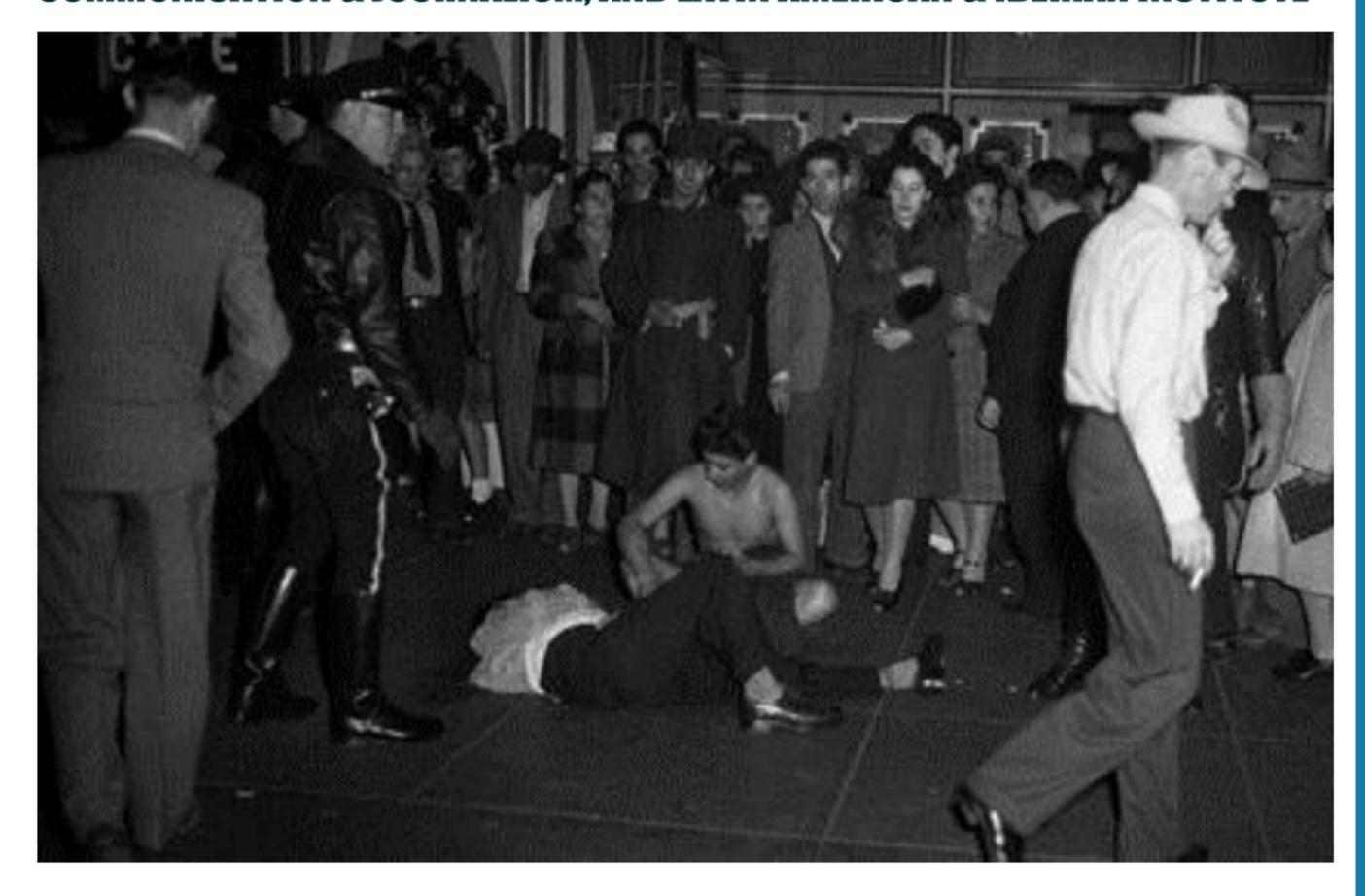
SPRING 2018 C&J COLLOQUIUM SERIES

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Lisa A. Flores is Associate
Professor in the Department
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most recent work examines
historic narratives of
immigrants and immigration,
mapping an argument of race
making, particular at the
intersections of nation,
citizenship, and labor.

Citizen Made Alien: Gender, Race, and Violence in the Politics of War PRESENTED BY DR. LISA A. FLORES

On the evening of June 4, 1943, the streets of Los Angeles erupted. A group of 40-50 sailors, stationed in the area, came into the city and began what ultimately resulted in a week-long race riot that local and national media quickly named a "Zoot Suit War." On that first night, the sailors, allegedly seeking vengeance for attacks by so-called "Zoot-Suiters," mostly Mexican-American youth dressed in zoot suits, reportedly headed directly for Mexican-American neighborhood haunts—beer joints, theaters, restaurants, street corners—in search of the youth. In this presentation, I analyze dominant local and national coverage of the June violence to show how the circulation of threat invoked tropes of what I am calling a blackened violence in ways that layered both foreignness and racialness on Mexican American youth and that called for the legitimate violent containment of that alien threat.



When: Friday, April 6th, 12-1:30pm Where: C&J 119 Food & beverages provided!

