Dr. Bernstein will discuss the emergence of interracial civil rights activism in mid-twentieth century Los Angeles. Her work places multiracial communities of the U.S. West at the center of U.S. civil rights history. She will focus on how concerns about 1930s-era Nazi activities in Los Angeles, an increasingly multiracial wartime community, and fears of Cold War red baiting helped facilitate Jewish Americans’ involvement in interracial social justice efforts, and how that involvement mattered to the rest of Los Angeles and to the nation.

Wednesday, February 29, 2012
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
MH 2.01.36

Dr. Shana Bernstein is an Associate Professor of History at Southwestern University. Her areas of expertise include 20th century civil rights, comparative race and ethnicity, the U.S. West, the U.S. in the World.
Dr. Bernstein will discuss her new project on progressive-era environmental justice campaigns in Chicago’s poor, immigrant neighborhoods. Her project studies how Chicago Settlement house workers like Jane Addams, Mary McDowell, and Alice Hamilton joined their working-class Stockyards and Hull House neighbors to fight environmental inequities in the workplace, neighborhoods, and at home in pursuit of healthier communities.

Dr. Shana Bernstein is an Associate Professor of History at Southwestern University. She is the author of *Bridges of Reform: Interracial Civil Rights Activism in Twentieth-Century Los Angeles*. 