

**Thursday,
Dec 5**

**FALL 2019
SEMINAR SERIES**



Demanding Development: The Politics of Public Goods Provision in India's Urban Slums

A Book Talk with the Author
Co-sponsored with the Comparative Politics Workshop

Adam Auerbach

Assistant Professor, School of International Service
American University



India's urban slums exhibit dramatic variation in their access to local public goods and services—paved roads, piped water, trash removal, sewers, and streetlights. Why are some vulnerable communities able to demand and secure development from the state while others fail? Drawing on more than two years of fieldwork in the north Indian cities of Bhopal and Jaipur, *Demanding Development: The Politics of Public Goods Provision in India's Urban Slums* (Cambridge University Press, 2019) accounts for the uneven success of India's slum residents in securing local public goods and services from the state. Auerbach's theory centers on the political organization of slum settlements and the informal slum leaders who spearhead resident efforts to make claims on the state—in particular, those slum leaders who are party workers. He finds striking variation in the extent to which networks of party workers have spread across slum settlements. *Demanding Development* shows how this variation in the density and partisan distribution of party workers across settlements has powerful consequences for the ability of residents to politically mobilize to improve local conditions.

12:00 - 1:30 PM | LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED

**CENTER FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY OF INDIA (CASI)
RONALD O. PERELMAN CENTER FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE & ECONOMICS
133 SOUTH 36TH STREET | SUITE 230
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104**