Deconstructing Race/
Reconstructing Difference
Beyond the U.S. Paradigm

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Abstract:
In this moment of a turn to identity politics in the United States, mitigating the detrimental impacts of its ideologies and hierarchies predicated on the idea of race is ever more important. Based on a conceptual framework of “micro-cultures” drawn from analyses of extensive, ethnographic interviews with informants who are socially defined within each of the five main, ascribed racial categories in the U.S., this presentation argues for a new approach beyond the color-bind that current narratives or race and difference are trapped within. I further argue that the role of education is imperative in understanding the complexities and contradictions of how race and difference are enacted and also critical for challenging and progressively changing these social constructions in the U.S. and internationally.

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12:45 – 14:00
Room 408 - 410, Meng Wah Complex, HKU

About the speaker:
Jabari Mahiri is a Professor of Education and the William and Mary Jane Brinton Family Chair in Urban Teaching. He is Faculty Director of the Multicultural Urban Secondary English MA and Credential Program, Faculty Advisor and Principal Investigator of the Bay Area Writing Project, and a board member of the National Writing Project. He also was a board member of the American Educational Research Association from 2014 to 2017 and board chair of REALM middle and high schools in Berkeley, California from 2011 to 2017. Before coming to UC Berkeley, he taught English in Chicago Public Schools for seven years.


~ All are welcome ~
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