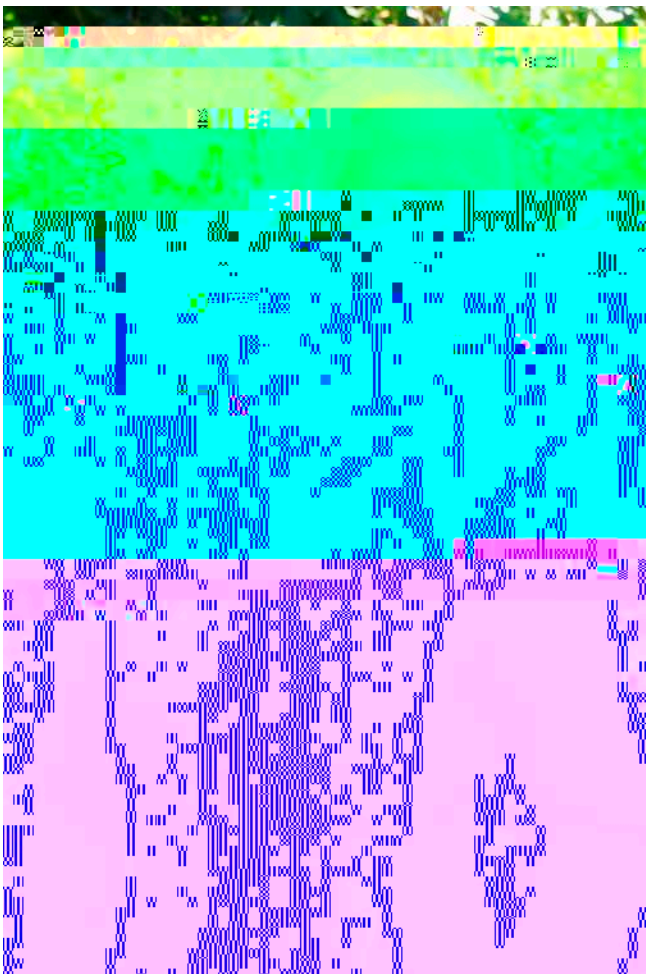


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## Undoing the *Demos*: Neoliberalism and Political Life

This lecture examines the damaging effects of neoliberal reason on democratic principles and ideals. I argue that the value and values of democracy are challenged today not merely by the unrestrained power of finance capital and large corporations, or by extreme and growing economic inequality. Rather, they are undermined by an economic form of reason and governance that is undoing the constituent terms of democracy--freedom, equality, citizenship, rights, and above all, popular sovereignty.



**Wendy Brown**, Class of 1936 First Professor of Political Science at UC Berkeley, is a scholar of Western political thought, both historical and contemporary, who aims to make political theory illuminate contemporary problems. She is a visiting faculty member of the University of London (Birkbeck) Critical Theory Summer School. Her current research examines challenges for democracy generated by neoliberal governance and austerity politics. Recent books include *Walled States, Waning Sovereignty*; *Regulating Aversion: Tolerance in the Age of Empire and Identity*; and *Edgework: Critical Essays in Knowledge and Politics*.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015 4 p.m.  
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