BOOK EVENT
Co-sponsored with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Wednesday, August 29, 2018
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
340 Stephens Hall

SANDY KEDAR
Professor of Law, University of Haifa

**EMPTIED LANDS: A LEGAL GEOGRAPHY OF BEDOUIN RIGHTS IN THE NEGEV**

(Alexandre Kedar, Ahmad Amara & Oren Yiftachel, Stanford University Press, 2018)

The talk will introduce *Emptied Lands*, a book that investigates the protracted legal, planning, and territorial conflict between the settler Israeli state and indigenous Bedouin citizens over traditional lands in southern Israel/Palestine. The book places this dispute in historical, legal, geographical, and international-comparative perspectives, providing the first legal geographic analysis of the "dead Negev doctrine" used by Israel to dispossess and forcefully displace Bedouin inhabitants in order to Judaize the region. The book reveals that through manipulative use of Ottoman, British and Israeli laws, the state has constructed its own version of terra nullius. Yet, the indigenous property and settlement system still functions, creating an ongoing resistance to the Jewish state. *Emptied Lands* critically examines several key land claims, court rulings, planning policies, and development strategies, offering alternative local, regional, and international routes for justice.