

Center for Africana Studies Lecture Series

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

2:30 - 4:00 PM

Remsen Hall 233

Associate Professor of African American Studies
and the UCLA Institute for Society and Genetics

Dr. Terence Keel

University of California, Los Angeles

***"The dead speak, rarely we listen: Understanding
the Racial Politics of Death Investigation"***

Abstract: Autopsies conducted after a death under police custody have authority at the nexus of public health, forensic science, and state law. However, post-mortem medical examinations rarely establish police culpability even when evidence indicates otherwise. This is especially true for Black people who lose their lives during fatal police encounters. In this talk Dr. Keel shares his findings after studying over 600 autopsies from police-involved deaths throughout the U.S. and explains why postmortem analysis continually fails Black, Latinx, and underemployed communities.

