Eve Darian-Smith (Anthropology, UCSB) explores the connections between religion, race and rights in the development of modern western law, and directly confronts the assumption that law is an objective, rational and secular enterprise. Examining the wider historical context of the current Wars on Terror, Darian-Smith argues that the forces of religious fundamentalism and neoliberalism together have resulted in a “re-racialization of the world”, and play significant roles in limiting the practical implementation of an international human rights discourse. Whether looking at contemporary issues of law and governance, or landmarks from the past, Darian-Smith concludes that it is the interconnectedness of religion, race and rights that must be examined in order to glean the wider contexts of western law’s positive and negative development.