The Latin American Studies Center presents:

Café break series

September 21, 3:30-5:00
Francis Scott Key 2120 (Merrill Room)

“International Networks, Nuclear Energy and Nonproliferation in Latin America”
Isabella Alcañiz, Dept. Government and Politics

This talk covers nuclear rollback and the role of skilled bureaucrats in advancing peaceful cooperation in nuclear energy. It examines the transformation of Argentina and Brazil in the 1980s and 1990s from proliferation risks to leaders of the Nonproliferation Regime. The talk answers two related questions: Why did Argentina and Brazil decide to scale back their nuclear programs? And why did they decide to do this together, effectively coordinating nuclear policy reform in the Southern Cone? In brief, when skilled bureaucrats face significant spending cuts they become more active in transnational professional networks to compensate. Using the toolbox of social network analysis, Alcañiz tests her theory beyond Argentina and Brazil and finds that it holds across Latin America.

Dr. Isabella Alcañiz is a Postdoctoral Researcher and Visiting Professor at The Joseph Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania. She is currently working on a book manuscript entitled “Bureaucratic Networks, Nuclear Energy, and Nonproliferation in Latin America.” Dr. Alcañiz holds a PhD in Political Science from Northwestern University.