Based on his forthcoming biography of Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Professor Lázaro Lima will explore how Sotomayor's life story is admired in American culture as a fulfillment of an exhausted "American dream." With critical questions of inclusion, social mobility, and assimilation, Lima creates a chronological narrative through the social, historical, and cultural happenings that surround the first Latina Supreme Court Justice.

Lázaro Lima, PhD, is a scholar of US Latino Studies and American Studies at the University of Richmond where he holds the E. Claiborne Robins Distinguished Chair in the Liberal Arts. Lima’s teaching, research, and scholarship focus on the historical, literary, and visual technologies of representation that emerged after the US-Mexican War (1846-48) and gave rise to what today we understand as Latino forms of civic personhood.