

**The Department of Justice Studies &
The College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Present
A Guest Lecture on**

**The Clash of Orientalism and Occidentalism
Whither US-Iranian Relations?**

**Monday February 23, 2015
11:30 am – 12:45 pm**

Montclair State University
University Hall, Room 1040
Montclair, NJ

By

**Anahita Arian,
University of Groningen
(Netherlands)**



Synopsis

The 1979 Iranian revolution fueled a number of domestic, regional and international repercussions. One of the dramatic consequences was the change in Iran's relationship with the United States. While allies prior to the revolution, they became adversaries. In her talk, Anahita Arian explains why this drastic shift is rooted in constructed images in international relations. These images are based on Orientalist and Occidentalist notion and are highly problematic. The scholar discusses how these fabricated identities affect US-Iranian foreign policies. While they have led to a stalemate over the years, these images can change. Ms. Arian argues that if successful, the current negotiations between the two states may inaugurate a future in which US-Iranian relations are peaceful instead of hostile.