

Research suggests that most Americans sincerely reject racism and sexism, but nevertheless exhibit patterns of implicit bias in their thoughts, feelings, and actions. Implicit biases shape our decisions about whom to trust and whom to ignore, whom to promote and whom to imprison.

In this talk, I discuss some of the implicit biases most problematic for students and faculty in higher education. Where do these implicit biases come from? How do they influence us? What can we, as individuals and members of larger institutions, do to combat them?

Understanding and Overcoming **Implicit Bias** in Higher Education

Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 6-8 p.m.

(Reception 6-6:30 p.m.)

New UU Multipurpose Room

Alex Madva is a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at UC Berkeley. He studies the implications of research on implicit bias for philosophy of mind, philosophy of race, and feminism, with an emphasis on issues of prejudice and discrimination. He did his graduate work at Columbia University.

His dissertation, *The Hidden Mechanisms of Prejudice*, examines the psychological nature of implicit social biases, and argues that understanding their particular character informs what we ought to do to address their harms. He is especially interested in the ways that individual changes and institutional reforms can be mutually reinforcing in the struggle against prejudice, discrimination, and inequality.

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