

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
A.R. SANCHEZ, JR. SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WESTERN HEMISPHERIC TRADE



IBC BANK & COMMERCE BANK 2018-2019 KEYNOTE SPEAKER SERIES

“Illiberal Reformers: Race, Eugenics, and American Economics in the Progressive Era”



PRESENTED BY:

Thomas C. Leonard, Ph.D.

Research Scholar, Council of the Humanities
and Lecturer, Department of Economics
Princeton University

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

TAMIU Student Center Ballroom (SC 203)

Reception 5:30 p.m. | Lecture 6 p.m.

Open to the public. Free of charge.

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Texas A&M International University
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Research Scholar, Council of the Humanities and
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Princeton University

Thomas C. Leonard is an historian of economics at Princeton University, where he is a Research Scholar in the Humanities Council, and a Lecturer in the Department of Economics. Princeton has twice awarded him the Richard D. Quandt Prize for teaching excellence, and he has taught a generation of Princeton students to understand economic ideas in their historical, legal, and ethical contexts.

Professor Leonard is a leading scholarly authority on American economic life during the late 19th and early 20th centuries – its participants, theorists, and regulators. He is best known for his book, *Illiberal Reformers: Race, Eugenics and American Economics in the Progressive Era*. In 2017, the History of Economics Society awarded *Illiberal Reformers* the Joseph J. Spengler Prize for book of the year. *Illiberal Reformers* has been reviewed by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Bloomberg View*, and *The New Republic*, and by more than forty other general interest and scholarly journals.





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*Race, Eugenics & American Economics
in the Progressive Era*

ILLIBERAL *Reformers*

THOMAS C. LEONARD



Illiberal Reformers tells the story of the progressive reformers who led the Progressive Era crusade to dismantle laissez-faire, and who remade the American economy with a new instrument of reform, the administrative state. Who were the progressives? How did they convince the powerful to adopt new theories of how the economy worked and how it should be governed. What made the progressives illiberal, and, in particular, how did racism and eugenics inform their reform crusade? How much do the progressive ideas and institutions of 100 years ago matter today?

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