HOW RACIAL STEREOTYPES WRONG
A POLITICAL ETHICS OF BELIEF
SPRING 2024 DAVID NORTON MEMORIAL LECTURE

Friday, March 1 • 3:30 p.m.
GORE HALL, ROOM 104
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Reception to follow

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As racial stereotypes are beliefs about contingent matters of fact, it is puzzling how they could be proper objects of moral condemnation, resentment, and blame. Beliefs are not actions. They cannot be formed at will. And their assessment is usually taken to be a matter of their truth or falsity, not their moral permissibility or wrongfulness. This lecture attempts to specify where the moral problems with racial stereotypes lie. It does so, in part, by arguing that there is an underappreciated political ethics that should guide belief formation and intergroup relations in societies that have been deeply shaped by racial injustice.