



World Affairs Council
of Western Michigan

Great Decisions Global Discussions

February 5th: “China in the World: Conundrums of a Socialist Market Economy”
Dr. Badrinath Rao, Associate Professor of Sociology and Asian Studies, Kettering University

China has ambitious plans for global leadership with their “One Belt, One Road” initiative. Yet the country faces major challenges: the economy, the environment, energy, governance and corruption. How will China respond to these challenges and how will it affect the global community?

Dr. Rao is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Asian Studies in the Department of Liberal Studies at Kettering University. He is also a licensed attorney in Michigan. He obtained his JD from Wayne State University School of Law in Detroit, Michigan. Earlier, he earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

His main areas of research interest include Constitutional Law, Environmental jurisprudence, social and economic rights, Law and Politics, the sociology and philosophy of law, Sociology of religion, development, social justice and human rights in India and China, and, the society, politics, culture, and law of South Asia, China, and the US.

Dr. Rao has taught in five countries: India, China, the United States, Spain, and Canada. He was a visiting faculty in the Master’s Program at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law, University of the Basque Country, Oñati, Spain in 2005-07. Dr. Rao was also a Visiting Professor at the Institute of Asian Studies in Sichuan University, Chengdu, China in 2009. In 2014, he was a Visiting Professor at the Southeast University in Nanjing, China. In the summer of 2017, Prof. Rao was a Visiting Faculty at the School of Law in Hunan University, Changsha, China. Currently, he is a Guest Professor at the School of Law in Harbin Institute of Technology in Harbin, China. Besides, he has lectured in 33 Chinese universities on issues concerning law, social sciences, and leadership and ethics.

Two options to attend:

12-1 p.m.: Recital Hall in the Covenant Fine Arts Center at Calvin College

6-7:15 p.m.: Aquinas College Performing Arts Center

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