Two principal trends define this post-Cold War, post-9/11 era of globalization. First is the spread of market economies under the neoliberal aegis colloquially known as the Washington consensus. The second, more fitful development is the spread of democracy. The initial wave saw democracies emerge in post-communist, Central and Eastern Europe countries and post-Apartheid South Africa. The current wave began with the uprisings in the Middle East known collectively as the “Arab Spring.” Similar popular protest is afoot in the established democracies: particularly the anti-corruption movement in India, but also the Occupy Wall Street movement that has spread across the United States and to Western Europe. Professor Winter will be talking more about the distinction between the two trends and how they reflect different conceptions of freedom and democracy.

Steven L. Winter joined the Wayne State University Law School in 2002 as the Walter S. Gibbs Professor of Constitutional Law. After law school, Professor Winter clerked for Judge Paul R. Hays of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He served as an Assistant Counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. and worked on more than a dozen Supreme Court cases at LDF. He also served as a consultant for the Helsinki Watch Committee and the Central Intelligence Agency. He has written numerous articles and teaches Constitutional Law, Federal Courts, Civil Procedure, and a variety of seminars on topics in legal theory.