



# THE POST- ENLIGHTENMENT UNIVERSITY

*A public lecture by*

## GIANNI VATTIMO

*Tuesday, November 28, 2006*



*5 p.m.*

*University Room, Hyde Hall, UNC*

Gianni Vattimo is Professor of Philosophy at the Dipartimento di Filosofia, Università degli Studi di Torino (Italy). He is an internationally recognized public intellectual and politician, and a world leading scholar in the following areas: ethics, aesthetics, politics, religion, post-colonial epistemology, postmodernism, technology, literature, art, European studies, and cultural theory.

***Also: Wednesday, November 29, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Roundtable discussion with Gianni Vattimo  
University Room, Hyde Hall***

*With Lawrence Grossberg (moderator, UNC-CH), Ann Burlein (UNC Charlotte), Arturo Escobar (UNC-CH), Federico Luisetti (UNC-CH), Walter Mignolo (Duke), Randall Styers (UNC-CH), and Kenneth Surin (Duke).*

This lecture addresses the “myth of unity” that has haunted western thought for centuries and its implication for the university. Starting with Kant, the lecture turns to Heidegger's notion of “the end of metaphysics.” This event followed the factual dissolution of the “modern” unity of the world, with the progressive dissolution of colonialism and eurocentrism, which also marks the origin of post-modernity. A post-Enlightenment vision of the role and nature of the university, as well as any vision of emancipation and of the possibility of reaching “the good life,” depends more and more on the negation of the authority of the one.

***Sponsored by The University Program in Cultural Studies, The Institute for the Arts and Humanities (IAH), UNC Graduate and Professional Student Federation, The Department of Romance Languages and Literature, The Provost's LGBTQ Advisory Board and the UNC-CH Program in Sexuality Studies, The Center for European Studies, The John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute (Duke University), The University Center for International Studies, The Working Group on Globalization, Modernity/Coloniality and the Geopolitics of Knowledge, The Working Group on Nation Building and Popular Culture (both of The UNC-Duke Consortium in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation), The Department of Communication Studies Graduate Student Association, The Department of English and Comparative Literature, and The Institute for Critical Theory (Duke University).***