

# STEM pushout and redirection: Institutional logics of disposability and accountability that impact the educational goals and experiences of HMoob American college students



## The Paj Ntaub Research Team

**4:00-5:30 pm, Wednesday, March 30, 2022 (US Central Time)**  
**University of Wisconsin-Madison**

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Institutional processes and logics have pushed out minoritized college students from STEM and other selective college majors, redirecting those students toward non-competitive and eclectic majors with higher graduation rates. This multi-year Participatory Action Research (PAR) project called *Our HMoob American College Paj Ntaub*, is based on a research partnership between HMoob American college student activists and educational researchers, to study the systems of oppression and inform advocacy to support HMoob American college students at a predominantly white university. Our studies have documented the institutional and socio-cultural factors—such as racial microaggressions, institutional invisibility, and coordinate processes of gatekeeping and deficit-oriented advising which *redirect* HMoob American students toward non-STEM programs. For this presentation, we employ the concept of *disposable subjects* to theorize the institutional processes that frame HMoob American students in order to preserve college graduation rates and suppress the STEM program rejection rates for students of color.

**Sponsored by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Asian American Studies Program and the Hmong Studies Consortium**

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