



CHRISTOPHER H. BROWNE CENTER
for INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



THE ISIS APOCALYPSE: THE HISTORY, STRATEGY AND DOOMSDAY VISION OF THE ISLAMIC STATE

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016
12-1:30pm**

Golkin Room, Houston Hall
(3417 Spruce Street)

Join the Browne Center for International Politics, Perry World House, and the Robert A. Fox Leadership Program for a special lunchtime discussion. FOOD PROVIDED.

The Islamic State is one of the most lethal and successful jihadist groups in modern history, surpassing even al-Qaida. How has it attracted so many followers and conquered so much land in its relatively brief existence?

Will McCants will discuss the Islamic State's history, tactics, and goals, and the many ways in which it is more ruthless, more apocalyptic, and more devoted to state-building than any of its predecessors or current competitors.

McCants's recently-published book, *The ISIS Apocalypse*, is based almost entirely on primary sources in Arabic—including ancient religious texts and secret al-Qaida and Islamic State letters that few have seen—and explores how religious fervor, strategic calculation, and doomsday prophecy shaped the Islamic State's past and foreshadow its dark future.

Will McCants is a senior fellow in the Center for Middle East Policy and director of the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at Brookings Institution. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Johns Hopkins University and has served in government and think tank positions related to Islam, the Middle East, and terrorism, including as State Department senior adviser for countering violent extremism.

*Interested in attending? Please pre-register here: <http://goo.gl/forms/HON3kZdyIT>.
Walk-ins are also welcome.*