



The Lawrence Badash Memorial Lecture Series:
**Einstein's War:
How World War I Made Relativity**

NOV
13
WED

4:00 – 5:30 PM
McCune Conference Room, 6020 HSSB

MATTHEW STANLEY
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Einstein's ascent to worldwide celebrity was, in large part, not his own doing. The 1919 confirmation of the German Einstein's theory of general relativity by British astronomers soon after the end of the First World War made him an emblem of how science could rise above nationalism and petty patriotism. But in fact international science – and relativity with it – was nearly shattered by the war. It was only the dedicated efforts of pacifist scientists, chiefly A.S. Eddington, that pulled both Einstein and his theory from behind the trenches and onto the front pages of newspapers around the globe.

Matthew Stanley teaches and researches the history and philosophy of science at NYU. He holds degrees in astronomy, religion, physics, and the history of science and is interested in the connections between science, religion, and the wider culture. In addition to two earlier books, he is the author of *Einstein's War: How Relativity Triumphed Amid the Vicious Nationalism of World War I* (Dutton, 2019), the story of how pacifism and friendship led to scientific revolution.

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