Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has drawn significant international media attention since he competed and won the country’s election in 2016. Political analysts have largely associated Duterte’s rise to power with the emerging populism in the Western world, punctuated by the crises of liberal and social democracy in the US and parts of Europe. However, Duterte-style populism has its own agential, institutional, and historical-structural particularities. The lecture will sketch out key defining elements of an emergent “authoritarian populism” as a self-contradictory phenomenon in present-day Philippines whereby the contradictions themselves are the sources both of strength and weakness of the Duterte regime.