

College for Seniors

A series on Race in Black and White

The History and Legacy of Lynching in North Carolina: The Past is not Past--Part 1

Tuesday, May 8

9 - 11 a.m.

Manheimer Room

Seth Kotch, Ph.D., assistant professor of digital humanities in the Department of American Studies at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

We will examine the history of lynching in North Carolina, with an eye toward the United States and the South more broadly. Dr. Kotch will examine the history of lynching in America, the South and North Carolina, including analysis of the photographs taken at such events and case study descriptions, anti-lynching activism from the 1880s through the 1940s, and the relevance of the study of this history to current challenges.



The History and Legacy of Lynching in North Carolina: A Game Called Salisbury --Part 2

Tuesday, May 15

11:30 a.m - 1:30 p.m.

Manheimer Room

Susan Barringer Wells, in her book *A Game Called Salisbury*, weaves century-old news reports and oral history into a family saga of tragic proportion. Her teenaged ancestor Addie Lyerly discovered the gruesome scene of her family's murder. For the crime, Jack Dillingham, Nease Gillespie and teenager John Gillespie were taken from a jail cell to an oak tree in Salisbury, North Carolina, where they were lynched and mutilated. The heinous act spawned a children's game of ropes and make believe. What actually happened on the night of August 6, 1906, may have been the game's first folly. Come learn from the author about a relatively unknown chapter in North Carolina's history. We will also consider the lasting legacy of lynching with special guest speaker **Dr. Dwight Mullen**, professor of political science at UNC Asheville.