



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences | Department of History

HISTORY *comes*

ALIVE

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ADMISSION IS FREE

Serious — and sometimes not so serious — inquiries into the past, highlighting a variety of historic experiences.



Photo courtesy of the Detroit News Collection, Walter P. Reuther Library.

THE ORIGINS OF THE WAR IN SYRIA

Don Matthews
Wednesday, September 21, 2016
Oakland Center, Banquet Room B

Since 2011, Syria has descended into a brutal civil war, which has brought Russian involvement, a major refugee crisis and the emergence of ISIS. This lecture explores the historical roots of the war and its recent developments.

TELEVISION AND THE PRESIDENCY: EISENHOWER TO REAGAN

Bruce Zellers
Tuesday, October 25, 2016
Oakland Center, Banquet Room A

Dwight Eisenhower was the first president to systematically employ television as a mechanism for campaigning and governing. John Kennedy was a master of the medium and one of its earliest beneficiaries. By the Reagan era, the presidency had become a long-running scripted show. These developments transformed the “bully pulpit” that is the presidency without necessarily strengthening it. Can the presidency function effectively when organized and presented as a reality TV series?

MEDIEVAL ADVENTURISM, CRUSADE AND THE QUEST FOR POLITICAL POWER: THE CASE OF BOHEMOND OF ANTIOCH

James Naus
Wednesday, November 9, 2016
Oakland Center, Gold Rooms B and C

The turn of the 12th century marked a crucial period of transition for medieval nobles, as ambitious “new men” challenged the traditional means by which they defined their group. This talk will consider the career of Bohemond of Antioch, the son of a cattle poacher turned duke, who, in the space of a decade, rose from a landless warlord to become the prince of Antioch in 1098. Bohemond’s spectacular rise to power offers us a unique glimpse into the changing ambitions of medieval nobles, the flexible ways in which they adapted and controlled membership in their social grouping, and the shifting means by which they maintained and pursued political power.

A TYRANNY OF DEVELOPMENT: TERRA NULLIUS AND THE POLITICAL ECOLOGY OF LARGE-SCALE LAND TRANSFERS IN ETHIOPIA

Getnet Bekele
Wednesday, January 18, 2017
Oakland Center, Gold Rooms B and C

One of the alarming features of the confluence of the world economic downturn with the global food and energy crises has been the intensification of the large-scale land acquisitions it has unleashed. According to the World Bank, more than sixty million hectares of agricultural land have changed hands in the last decade as a result of that process. Ethiopia is one of the countries that has become a magnet for transnational agribusiness in search of land for food and biofuels production in the global south. This talk examines these issues to underscore how a tyranny of development is emerging in Ethiopia.

AFRICAN AMERICANS IN MICHIGAN: PATTERNS, PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS

De Witt Dykes
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Oakland Center, Gold Rooms B and C

The history of African Americans in Michigan is filled with triumph and tragedy, hopes and fears, problems and progress. This lecture provides an overview of some of those past experiences, drawing on specific examples to illustrate larger patterns and trends. It also supplies the historical context for present-day challenges and opportunities.

THE DETROIT RACE RIOT OF 1943

Karen Miller
Tuesday, March 14, 2017
Oakland Center, Gold Rooms B and C

At the height of World War II, Detroit was thrown into total turmoil for three days. The city’s riot was one of the nation’s worst civil disturbances, with 34 killed and over \$2 million in property damage. The riot threatened war production, but more importantly, it also revealed a level of racial discord that continued to plague the city for generations.

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Join us for this informative and entertaining series offered by OU’s Department of History.

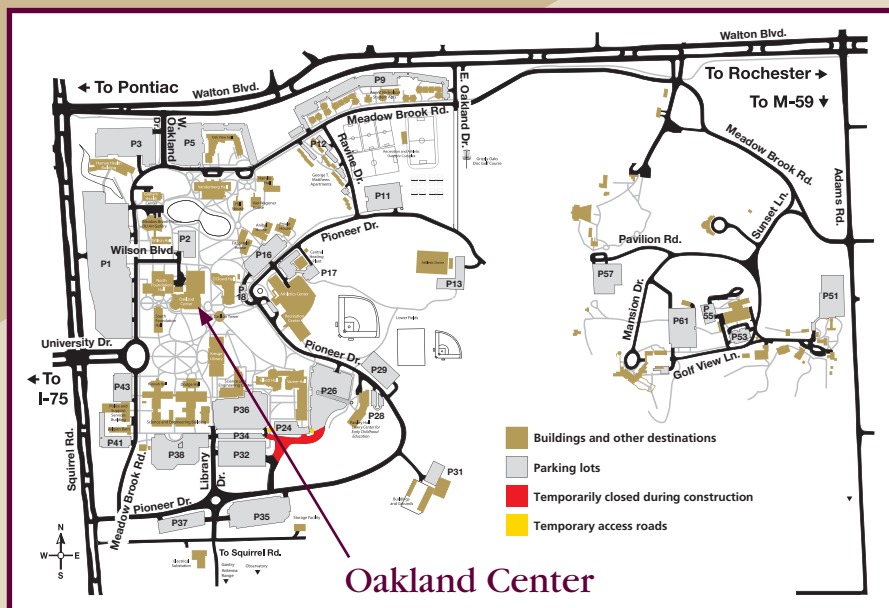
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TELL US IF YOU'RE JOINING US | Admission is free, but reservations are requested.
To reserve your space, call (248) 370-3511 or email jkessler@oakland.edu.

All HISTORY COMES ALIVE
lectures will be held at 7 p.m.
in the Oakland Center on the
campus of Oakland University.

ABOUT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

When it opened in 1957, Oakland University provided its quality education to 570 students. Today, more than 20,000 students take part in the experience that better prepares them for a rapidly changing workplace and society, and to be leaders for the future. Oakland University's distinguished faculty includes world-class scholars and researchers who offer college students and the community the opportunity to learn from some of the most prominent educators in their fields.



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