“Race and Memory At Our Public Universities”

Sponsored by the Department of History in collaboration with the Center for Humanities and the Arts, and Special Collections, Archives and Preservation

Dr. William Sturkey
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

William Sturkey, assistant professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, is a historian of Modern America who specializes in the history of race in the American South, with a particular interest in the histories of working-class racial minorities. He has also been centrally involved in recent conversations at UNC, and nationally, about race and memory at public universities in reaction to controversies over Confederate memory on that campus sparked by the removal and relocation of the “Silent Sam” monument and statue. His lecture will draw on those experiences.

Dr. Sturkey’s first book, To Write in the Light of Freedom, is a co-edited collection of newspapers, essays, and poems produced by African American Freedom School students during the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964. His second book, Hattiesburg: An American City in Black and White, is a biracial history of Southern Jim Crow that was published by Harvard University Press in March of 2019. Dr. Sturkey is currently working on a new project, tentatively titled To Be An American, which is a biography of the legendary Vietnam War hero Master Sergeant Roy Benavidez.

Wednesday / March 11 / 5:00-6:30 PM
British and Irish Studies Room, Norlin Library
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC / Event Contact: Paul.Sutter@colorado.edu