

"Pandemic Racism: Historical Patterns of Disease Burden"

Presented by Dr. Sean A. Wempe, Assistant Professor of Modern European History, California State University - Bakersfield

Friday, April 16th 2021 – 3:30-4:45PM EST via Zoom

Link to register is here

Dr. Wempe's talk will highlight how pandemics have, throughout history, exacerbated existing inequalities in societies, particularly in terms of race. The talk will focus on the Seven Pandemics of Cholera, the Third Pandemic of Plague, and the ongoing HIV/AIDS Pandemic as examples to help put the current racism and racial disparities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in context.

Dr. Sean A. Wempe is Assistant Professor of Modern European History at California State University--Bakersfield. Wempe specializes in the history of imperialism, internationalism, and the history of public health. His latest book, *Chronic Disparities: Public Health in Historical Perspective*, was released with Oxford University Press in 2020. That text surveys the history of the deployment of public health initiatives around the world exploring the societal factors and events that influenced its development and the cultural, political, religious, demographic, economic impact these practices have had on inequalities of race, class, and gender in an increasingly globalizing society. Wempe is also a content editor building a curriculum for primary and secondary students in the European Union on the history of pandemics as part of the *Historiana* project.

This presentation is sponsored by the UNCA Departments of History, Humanities, Health & Wellness, Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, and the Belk Chair in Humanities.