

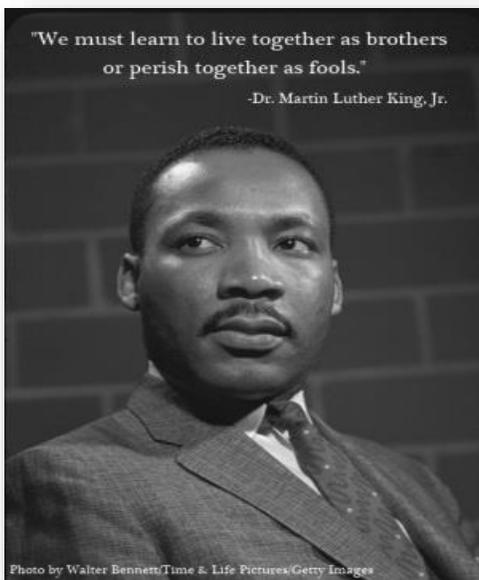
NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM CHAIR

Welcome to the Spring 2019 semester, kicked off annually by the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy. It seems with each passing year that his reminder to think critically is more urgently needed than ever. He wrote in 1947 at the age of 18: "To save man from the morass of propaganda, in my opinion, is one of the chief aims of education. Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction." Historians are trained to reserve judgement and to know that the truth, while elusive, is knowable, if only we examine our own biases, consult multiple perspectives, study context and above all evaluate evidence. While we are all too prone to take sides, we might also remember that reaching across divides, as Dr. King did, is the most effective way to foster understanding and promote justice- Dr. Tracey Rizzo, Department Chair, History



MAJORS' CORNER

UNCA's History Club is currently active and always welcoming new members! We will be holding several events throughout this semester, so be on the lookout for information and updates posted on bulletin boards and on the UNCA Now app. If you have any questions or wish to be included on our mailing list, please email us at uncahistclub@gmail.com.

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Ellen Holmes Pearson chaired and moderated the Digital Pedagogy Lightning Round session at the American Historical Association Conference 2019 meeting. This session showcased innovative teaching with digital tools.



ALUMNI OF THE MONTH



Mesha Maren, UNC Asheville Graduate

Mesha Maren's debut novel, *Sugar Run*, is forthcoming from Algonquin Books in January 2019. Her short stories and essays have appeared in *Tin House*, *Oxford American*, *Crazyhorse*, *Southern Cultures*, *Hobart*, *Forty Stories: New Writing from Harper Perennial*, and elsewhere. She is the recipient of the 2015 Thomas Wolfe Fiction Prize, a 2014 Elizabeth George Foundation grant, an Appalachian Writing Fellowship from Lincoln Memorial University, and fellowships from the MacDowell Colony and the Ucross Foundation. She is the 2018-2019 Kenan

Visiting Writer at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and also serves as a National Endowment of the Arts Writing Fellow at the Beckley Federal Correctional Institution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

42nd Annual Appalachian Studies Conference
AppalachA'ville

March 14-17, 2019

UNC Asheville, Asheville, North Carolina

<http://appalachianstudies.org/annualconference/>



The 42nd Annual ASA Conference will explore the theme "AppalachA'ville" by looking at the larger region of Appalachia through the experiences of our cities and financial centers. Special sessions of the conference invite participants to explore the tensions around maintaining sustainable urban development alongside rural culture and history. What does it mean to be a vibrant twenty-first century city in the traditionally rural region of Appalachia? Is there a difference between being an Appalachian city and a city in Appalachia? How can the region's population centers grow to provide jobs for residents while preserving and protecting the environment? How does a city retain its regional cultural identity while marketing itself as a place that tourists want to visit and businesses want to set up shop? In short, how do we engage with communities to be more inclusive and supportive and at the same time sustain our cultural roots, our landscape, our values? How does a city or town innovate in ways that enhance the life of the region? Bring your interests, your curiosity, your expertise and experience to the conference and explore AppalachA'ville with us.