The Office of Sponsored Programs Presents

Scholars Exchange

A Tuesday Morning Coffee Series Featuring 2014 PSC CUNY Research Awardees

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. • Faculty Commons N-227

Geoff Zylstra Social Science

Geographies of Servitude: Black Experiences of Industrialization in Philadelphia, 1830-1880

Racial segregation is deeply entangled with urban technological development and the idea of black servitude. This paper examines the rise of Jim Crow segregation in nineteenth-century Philadelphia by linking the development of racial separation with modern industrial technology. The creation of black neighborhoods, and the segregation of the city's streetcars and industrial workplaces perpetuated the idea of servitude for blacks while connecting whiteness with modern technology. As Jim Crow segregation replaced slavery as a racial dividing line in the mid-nineteenth century, Philadelphia's industrial development connected modern technology with whites while recreating a geography of servitude for blacks.



Photo by Andie Lessa

All Faculty Welcome





