June 8
D-DAY LANDINGS AND THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY: 80 YEARS LATER
FEATURING
GERHARD L. WEINBERG

June 15
HOW BASEBALL BECAME AS AMERICAN AS APPLE PIE
FEATURING
MATTHEW ANDREWS

June 29
HISTORICAL REFLECTIONS AT THE END OF A UNC CAREER
FEATURING
LLOYD KRAMER
Democracy and our Social Fabric

In 2024 we’re thinking about democracy at Carolina Public Humanities. As we transition to the sunnier and slower-paced summer days of a complex election year, we’ll focus on the myriad ways people—through their actions and social connections—support democratic societies.

Our summer seminars will explore diverse topics all linked to democracy in some way: the complex international collaboration that led to the D-Day landings in 1944, the meaning of baseball within modern America’s changing nationalist narratives and social values, and the perennial human questions about the meaning of a “good life.”

We’re also presenting a panel discussion on the history of voting rights, an evening of live music and conversation, and an ongoing discussion of great books that will all encourage neighbors to learn, question, and consider together.

These humanities-centered conversations will remind us that all debates, conflicts, and changes—no matter the scale—develop among people whose lives are woven together in a rich social fabric of different experiences and voices.

Join us to explore the lively stories, essential insights, and shared inspiration that the humanities can offer. You’ll be glad you did.

Carolina Public Humanities Welcomes New Leadership

We are happy to introduce two dynamic members of our team and community who will help CPH serve the people of North Carolina into the future.

Vicki Rovine, a professor in UNC’s Art and Art History department, will be the new director of CPH beginning July 1. Dr. Rovine specializes in African art, with a focus on African textiles and dress practices, and on Africa’s presence in early 20th century European visual culture. She earned an MA and PhD from Indiana University. Early in Dr. Rovine’s career, she worked as an educator at Chicago’s Field Museum and later as a curator at the University of Iowa Museum of Art (now the Stanley Museum of Art). These experiences helped foster her deep and enduring appreciation for the value of engagement between the academic and public worlds. Dr. Rovine has partnered with CPH to deliver lectures on campus and at community colleges around the state. She previously served as director of the UNC African Studies Center.

Ann Lemmon has been named vice-chair of the CPH Advisory Board. Ms. Lemmon is a double Tar Heel, with a BA in English and psychology and an MBA from Kenan-Flagler Business School. After a career in corporate management and management consulting, Ms. Lemmon returned to Chapel Hill to join the UNC System Office, where she traveled throughout the state working with constituent institutions as secretary of the University. She later joined the Office of the Provost at UNC-Chapel Hill, from which she retired in 2019. Ms. Lemmon has been an active participant in CPH’s programming, contributing valuable insights during seminars and Great Books reading groups. Her primary hobby is traveling the world.
WEEKEND SEMINARS

Join us for diverse seminars featuring UNC scholars sharing research and insights into topics that resonate across history and spark a deeper understanding of the present. Multiple-seminar, first-timer, and Carolina Alumni membership discounts are available. Visit humanities.unc.edu for more information.

a DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR seminar

D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy: 80 Years Later
featuring Gerhard L. Weinberg

JUNE 8
9:00 am–12:00 pm
In person and virtual

The United States joined the war against Nazi Germany in late 1941, but the complexities of an invasion into western Europe caused long delays before Allied forces could launch a military campaign in France. Critics agitated for an all-important “Western front” to force the diversion of German armies from Eastern Europe and end the Nazi occupation of France. In this seminar to mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944, Gerhard Weinberg will analyze how Allied conflicts influenced the planning for a cross-channel military operation and various strategies to destroy Nazi power across Europe. Professor Weinberg will examine the ways in which events of that pivotal era shaped both the final phases of World War II and a historical legacy that continues into our own time.

TOPICS
Struggles Over a Western Front, 1939–1944
Military Realities in and after June 1944

Gerhard L. Weinberg is William Rand Kenan, Jr., Professor of History Emeritus. He is an internationally known expert on all aspects of the Second World War and the author of the award-winning masterwork A World at Arms: A Global History of World War II.

How Baseball Became as American as Apple Pie
featuring Matthew Andrews

JUNE 15
9:00 am-12:00 pm
In person and virtual

Baseball was one of the most popular sports in the United States throughout much of the 20th century, and it was also entangled with wider issues in American history, including rituals of nationalism, racial and class hierarchies, images of masculine celebrity, and the emergence of new media and advertising. UNC’s award-winning teacher of sports history, Matt Andrews, will go to the CPH pitcher’s mound to deliver an insightful historical commentary on baseball’s influential role in modern American mythologies and in the struggle for civil rights and Black equality.Offering new perspectives on “America’s pastime,” this seminar will situate the pleasures of swinging for the fences in an expansive historical ballpark and explore how the game has included painful social strike-outs along with some socially significant grand slams.

TOPICS
The Mythology of Baseball in American Culture
Baseball, Civil Rights, and Social Change in Modern America

Matthew Andrews is a teaching professor and advisor for undergraduate students in the History Department. He has received numerous awards for his courses on sports history, including a Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and The Daily Tar Heel has named him “UNC’s best professor” three times since 2016.
We’re born without choice about when our lives began, the cultures in which we grew up, or the physical traits that influence the identities that others ascribe to our own selfhood. Living within these parameters of time, culture, and physical bodies, however, we all encounter disappointing setbacks as well as self-affirming achievements. How does the meaning of both failure and success influence each human life—and how do people interpret both their worst and best experiences as they move into old age? These are questions that Lloyd Kramer will explore in his final seminar before retirement as CPH director. Historians and philosophers have long debated the causes and consequences of both personal and social failures, and they have also argued endlessly about whether a successful life flows from wealth, fame, power, love, work, or spiritual knowledge. Join us for historical reflections on the ways in which we all seek to define failure or a “good life”—no matter how far we have advanced in the always-evolving cycle of life.

**TOPICS**

What is the Meaning of Failure in Human Lives and National Cultures?

What is the Meaning of a Successful Life?

What Does the History of our Professional Lives Tell us about Failure and Success?

A panel discussion with our speaker, CPH Executive Director Max Owre, and the audience

*Lloyd Kramer has been a professor of history at UNC-Chapel Hill since 1986 and director of Carolina Public Humanities since 2014.*

---

**SPECIAL EVENT**

**The Voting Rights Act of 1965 and its Legacy in the Elections of 2024**

_in collaboration with Chapel Hill Public Library_

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18**

6:00–7:45 pm

The annual Juneteenth celebration of Black history and the Black struggle for equal rights provides the context for this special panel discussion and community conversation. Drawing on the personal insights and historical perspectives of local scholars and community leaders, panelists will reflect on how the Voting Rights Act of August 1965 helped to transform American politics, how the Act has been altered over the past 60 years, and how its legacy may affect the elections of 2024. Join us and add your insights to this important Juneteenth public conversation.

**PANELISTS**

**Christopher Clark,** Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

**Reginald Hildebrand,** Associate Professor (Emeritus) of African and Afro-American Studies; NC Freedom Park Founding Board Member

**Danita Mason-Hogans,** Community Leader and Activist; Project Coordinator, Critical Oral Histories, Duke Center for Documentary Studies

**MODERATOR**

**Alexandra Odom,** PhD Candidate, History Department; African American Studies Librarian

This event is free and open to the public.
Remarkable written works await. Join our community of readers this summer for explorations of diverse, classic texts facilitated by UNC faculty. Reading groups meet in person at Chapel Hill locations from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. We also offer a limited number of virtual seats for some sessions. Each participant will receive a copy of the book before the first discussion. Space is limited, so sign up early to reserve your spot!

Tuesdays, June 4 and 11
Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich
Graham Culbertson, Teaching Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature

Tuesdays, June 18 and 25
Four Quartets by T.S. Eliot*
Hilary Lithgow, Teaching Professor of English

* This Great Books group will meet outdoors (with a rain back-up site) and read much of Eliot’s poem aloud. Due to the special set-up, we will not be able to offer virtual seats at these sessions.

An Evening with Django Haskins

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5
6:00–7:30 pm
Join us for music and conversation with songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Django Haskins. In addition to performing solo, Haskins leads the band The Old Ceremony and is one half of the duo Au Pair with The Jayhawk’s Gary Louris. His love of language, honed from an early age, contributes to his special brand of “literate rock.” Haskins will share his amazing music and the stories behind the work—including his marathon songwriting binge during Covid—in an intimate evening on the Flyleaf stage.
**SUMMER 2024 CALENDAR**

For information, discounts, and to register for our programs, visit our website at humanities.unc.edu or call us at 919.962.1544.

- **WEEKEND SEMINARS**
- **GREAT BOOKS READING GROUPS**
- **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Program speakers may change based on extenuating circumstances. For updated program information, visit humanities.unc.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 4 and 11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>Love Medicine</em> by Louise Erdrich</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am–12:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40 in person with limited virtual seats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>Music at Flyleaf</em> – Django Haskins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00–7:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy: 80 Years Later</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am–12:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$65 in person; $30 virtual viewing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>How Baseball Became as American as Apple Pie</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am–12:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$65 in person; $30 virtual viewing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18 and 25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>Four Quartets</em> by T.S. Eliot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am–12:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40 in person only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>The Voting Rights Act of 1965 and its Legacy in the Elections of 2024</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00–7:45 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <em>Historical Reflections on Failure and Success at the End of a UNC Career</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am–12:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$65 in person; $30 virtual viewing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**CAROLINA K-12 TRANSITION: A NOTE FROM OUTGOING DIRECTOR CHRISTIE NORRIS**

There are few better examples of the University meeting its mission of statewide public service than Carolina K-12’s support of teachers in each county of the state, whether through our creation of innovative curriculum materials or by facilitating engaging professional development experiences, retreats, and workshops. For the past 12 years, while serving as director of Carolina K-12, it has been an inspiration to witness the dedication, brilliance, scholarship, and creativity of North Carolina’s K-12 teachers as they work tirelessly to enhance the experiences of students across our state.

Just as our state’s teachers rise to new challenges each day, I find myself called to do the same. In April I took on a new role as director of education for the NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources (DNCR), where I will promote the “Learning Happens Here” initiative, with the same goal of serving our state’s dedicated teachers in a time they need it most.

While it is hard to leave an organization I love deeply, my sadness is superseded by pride for all that we have accomplished together. The dedication and hard work of the Carolina K-12 and Carolina Public Humanities team—combined with the unwavering support of our partners, board members, and supporters—has resulted in significant progress in promoting innovative teaching practices and student engagement in the humanities. Most importantly, we have deeply celebrated teachers as professionals and scholars in a time when they feel underappreciated, devalued, and under-resourced.

Even with a change in leadership, Carolina K-12 will remain a beacon of support for teachers, and I look forward to exploring new paths of partnership between Carolina K-12 and DNCR. Our collective efforts to support educators and enrich K-12 education will continue unabated; our teachers deserve nothing less.
I’ve been honored to serve for the last ten years as the director of Carolina Public Humanities. Although our university and all other educational communities have faced the challenges of an extraordinary pandemic, intensifying political polarization, and expanding public skepticism about the social value of humanistic knowledge, our CPH team has developed imaginative new programs to “connect people through ideas” and to carry UNC’s humanities-based resources far beyond Chapel Hill.

It has been a privilege to help foster new partnerships across our state and university, but the continual development of our CPH vision has always depended on our talented, hardworking staff as well as the enduring support of generous donors, university leaders, and Advisory Board members who provide the essential financial foundation for every CPH project.

I deeply appreciate everyone who has helped me extend my intellectual interests and meet new friends during the years of my dialogical leadership at CPH, my long career in this great public university, and my engaging interactions with people and communities across North Carolina. These experiences have given me countless personal rewards, yet I also want to stress that our shared CPH mission may be even more important in 2024 than when individuals such as Maynard Adams and Warren Nord launched this program in 1979 and began to describe its public-facing aspirations.

People have long drawn on their knowledge of history, literature, philosophy, and the arts as they make difficult choices, respond to unexpected crises, or cope with the social turmoil and political conflicts in modern national cultures. As the great writer James Baldwin noted in a comment that we often share with new participants at CPH seminars, “You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who had ever been alive.”

Our mission at CPH builds on Baldwin’s account of how ideas, books, and art can connect us with people in every culture or historical era and then help us construct our own answers to the inescapable question that they also faced: “How should I take my ‘next uncertain step’ toward an unknown future?” The humanities remain essential because they help people take thoughtful actions in both their private and public lives and because they offer an empowering exchange with the vast experience of resilient human beings who have lived in other unsettled times or places.

CPH has always offered humanities-based knowledge and perspectives that can shape insightful responses to both new and recurring questions about whatever personal or public issues people must confront. Recognizing the many challenges of our own era, the CPH staff has used the humanities to defend the value of well-informed public education, address the threats of environmental change, and emphasize the historical importance of civic engagement and democratic political cultures.

Like everyone who has lived through difficult upheavals, we cannot know where our current conflicts will lead. We can nevertheless be certain that historical knowledge and humanistic education will be essential for the public health of our communities.

Our incoming director, Victoria Rovine, will work closely with the talented CPH staff and the generous, supportive CPH community to promote our firm commitment to “the importance of the humanities in fostering stronger democratic societies and a more humane world.”

I thank my CPH friends and colleagues for their extraordinary work, and I thank everyone who has participated in our programs while I’ve served as the director of Carolina Public Humanities. Finally, and more generally, I want to stress my deep gratitude for all I’ve learned and for all the friendships I’ve gained over these past 10 years. Our life-enhancing connections with other people enable each of us to flourish as human beings—and CPH has connected me with more interesting people than I can ever finally or fully thank.

Lloyd Kramer
Director of Carolina Public Humanities, 2014–2024
UNC Professor of History, 1986–2024
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023-2024 COHORT OF MAYNARD ADAMS FELLOWS FOR THE PUBLIC HUMANITIES

As part of their fellowship, these graduate students from a variety of disciplines developed projects to promote humanistic dialogue and discovery beyond the university. Regardless of their career paths, they will continue to serve as advocates for the humanities in North Carolina and beyond. For more information about the Adams Fellows, visit go.unc.edu/Adams24 or scan the QR code.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

CarolinaPublicHumanities
@unchumanities
@unchumanities
Carolina Public Humanities

CAROLINA PUBLIC HUMANITIES
Communities, Conversations, Creativity

UNC COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Carolina Public Humanities