The Transnationalism of Jim Crow: Institutionalizing Anti-Blackness in Germany During and After WWII

Dr. Tracey Owens Patton
Professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism
Adjunct African American and Diaspora Studies in the School of Culture, Gender, and Social Justice

Friday, October 15, 2021 • 4:10 p.m.
Wyoming Union Center Yellowstone Ballroom, WU 220B
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There is a sense that WWII represented a seminal moment in racial thought and that the realization of the Holocaust was transformative in the role of race-thinking by state agencies and popular institutions, particularly in the U.S. Dr. Owens Patton’s research challenges this assumption, particularly since Black American soldiers went back to a country that held steadfastly to Jim Crow, which included anti-miscegenation laws. Separating race and racism in Germany and in the United States becomes impossible to untangle because they are braided together. Moving through time from Colonialism, WWI, and WWII, this presentation focuses on issues of race, racism, propaganda, and ultimately how importing Jim Crow democracy into post-WWII Germany becomes a cross cultural affair as it ultimately contributed to Anti-Blackness in Germany.

The President’s Speaker Series encourages and honors individual faculty members who have been especially successful in balancing the research, educational, and service goals of the university. The series calls attention to individuals who have made significant, well-rounded contributions to the university’s standing. A committee composed of the series’ previous honorees nominate candidates for the series. From this list of nominees, a faculty member is selected and asked to prepare a public presentation on a topic of national interest. The criteria for selection include a long-term national recognition for research and/or creative activity and the ability to communicate with all members of the university community.

The President’s Speaker Series will follow the University of Wyoming’s recommendations on masking, social distancing, and event capacity for voluntary public performances. As of July 1, 2021, event participation is at full capacity, and masks are recommended but not required. These recommendations are subject to change.

Reception to follow immediately after in Wyoming Union Center Yellowstone Ballroom, WU 220C.
For further information contact the Office of Research & Economic Development at (307) 766-5353.