

Conversation on Diversity



White Privilege and the Politics of Identity

Facilitated by Jill Swiencicki and Chris Fosen, Professors of English

Wednesday, April 15
Noon - 1:00 pm
BMU 210

Whiteness is a racial category that has great meaning in terms of granting social power, privilege, and legitimacy to those who are recognized as part of that category. In this presentation, we will talk about the history of the category "white" in the U.S., about the assumptions behind the term, and the way it structures social and political beliefs, values, and practices. We will ground these analyses in specific examples from the 2008 Presidential election, arguing that whiteness, even in 2009, still functions to legitimate racist ideas, promote unqualified birdbrains, and prevent new structures for social equality from emerging.

Bring your lunch and join us!

Beverages and snacks will be served

Contact The Office of Diversity (898-4764) for more information

