

## **HIS 401.03**

### **Senior Colloquium: Taking History Public**

Satisfies: EXP+, SPK, WRTD

Tuesdays, 3:30pm - 6:20pm

Professor Donna Rilling

In this seminar, we will examine relationships between history and collective memory, current cultural and political controversies, and real-world issues surrounding monuments, memorials, exhibitions, digital projects and websites, and other forms of historical representation and interpretation. We will investigate the ways that the study of the past is remembered and shaped by and into the present. In addition, we will consider how history engages and influences its public audiences, and shapes public knowledge and interpretations. We will do so by examining and visiting (individually or as a class) archives and historical exhibits and/or sites. Students must be able to travel at least once on their own to a museum, historic site, historical exhibit, etc. and write about these places using perspectives gained through the required course reading and discussions. We will also work together to “take history public” through digital or physical methods (to be determined!). In addition to reading, participation including regular contributions to discussion, periodic presentations (some formal, some not so formal) in class, and writing assignments, students will be guided through research and completion of a research paper of 10 to 12 pages. Note: this class must be taken for a grade, i.e., cannot be taken G/P/NC.