OUR STORIES MATTER SPEAKER SERIES

How do white supremacists and Neo Nazis categorize different racial groups? Psychologist Dr. Kevin Volkan will trace racist and anti-Semitic beliefs in Europe to a global eugenics movement which culminates in Nazi Germany. We will also examine how Nazi racial categorization has influenced modern groups proclaiming white superiority.

How do selective uses of artworks from the past support discourses of hate in the modern world? In this brief talk, art historian Dr. Alison Locke Perchuk will examine how Greek statues, medieval sculptures, and even Michelangelo’s David have been twisted to present a view of European art history as a world of Whiteness and Europe as the White homeland. In the United States, groups like Identity Evropa use images of ancient and medieval art in their propaganda to draw college students interested in a heroic past to join a movement whose actual roots lie not in the medieval world but in such early twentieth century groups as the Klu Klux Klan or, in Europe, the Nazis.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7TH
5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM BROOME 1320

At their best universities are fundamentally in the business of refining the materials and processes by which humans create better stories for all of us. Whether we are researching the latest flu virus, the history of Nazism, the effect of ocean warming on salmon, how emotions affect our thinking, or practices of social media bullying, the fundamental purpose of all research is to create more accurate stories that improve our lives. The fact that human life before our understanding of germs was decidedly more brutal is only one obvious example. To better serve this mission CI’s Centers for Multicultural Engagement (CME) and Integrative Studies (CIS) are co-sponsoring this monthly speaker/discussion series.