UNEXPECTED BONDS OF UNION

UNLOCKING OUR DIVERSE PAST TO IMAGINE A MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE

May 19, 2016
12 noon
in the Biella Room

This book talk will showcase the remarkable nineteenth-century Americans who forged personal bonds across religious, racial, and political divides to create a strong-enough Union, one capable of waging war against the Confederacy while also undermining slavery. Professor Ford's focus will be on an especially divided region of the country, the Ohio-Kentucky borderlands, where some of the worst racial violence of the antebellum era took place. Yet even in this harsh region, white and black Americans imagined and created a Union prepared to strike against slavery. In this talk, Ford will seek to show that the United States has a longer, deeper history of imagining an inclusive society than we typically think.

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