

Black Television After Broadcasting: Globalization, Digitalization, and Portrayals of African American Life on Television

Professor Timothy Havens
monday

APRIL

06

12:00 to 1:00

Iowa City Public Library . Meeting Room A



African American television portrayals have been a hot political topic since the early days of the medium, and most observers agree that television content is intimately linked with the medium's industrial and technological practices. As television has become a worldwide industry, international forces have increasingly shaped domestic portrayals of African Americans. Simultaneously, the introduction of digital satellite channels, internet video distribution, and the delivery of television over mobile devices have encouraged portrayals that fit their programming needs. This talk surveys contemporary African American television programs that have a significant presence abroad in order to chronicle the kinds of portrayals of African Americans that are currently circulating worldwide, and to theorize how the global, digital, post-broadcasting environment encourages those kinds of portrayals.

Tim Havens is an associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies and the Program in African American Studies at the University of Iowa. He has published widely on the topics of television, globalization, and race. His book *The Global Television Marketplace* was published by the British Film Institute in 2006, and he is currently finishing a book project entitled *Black Television Traffic: Race, Media, and Globalization*. He is a former Senior Fulbright scholar to Hungary, and teaches courses in media industries, television studies, and African American cultural criticism.

Free and Open to the Public. Refreshments will be served!

This event is sponsored by University of Iowa International Programs,
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