

GLOBAL FRIDAY PRESENTS

Friday, April 1, 2022

Appetites of the Planter Class: The Racial Politics of Eating Animals in British Colonial Narratives

This talk examines representations of meat-eating within two early narratives of British slavery and empire – Richard Ligon’s travel narrative *A True and Exact History of Barbados* (1657) and Daniel Defoe’s novel *Robinson Crusoe* (1719) – in order to show how the consumption of animals was tied to racialization and structures of white supremacy. This discourse around eating animals demonstrates how relationships with animals helped assemble biologically-grounded racial delineations, and attempted to make white supremacy and racial differences function within the body. Cultural representations of meat-eating within the contexts of British slavery and empire show how deeply relationships with animals were bound up in practices of racialization beyond metaphorical and descriptive notions of animality, and illuminate how the domination of animals was used to help secure and reproduce white supremacy and racial capitalism.



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12:00 – 1:30 PM

Online via Zoom Webinar: <https://unbc.zoom.us/j/68957333707?pwd=VXBWTDlic3dsSnBPaVI6ZTJjbWxLdz09>

Webinar ID: 689 5733 3707 Passcode: 756722

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Global Fridays gratefully acknowledges funding from the Faculties of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities; Business and Economics; Environment; Human and Health Sciences; Science and Engineering.