When the City of Charlottesville decided to remove a Robert E. Lee statue, far-right groups rallied through the spring and summer of 2017. Public opinion split on how to respond to white supremacist menace: “ignore” or confront?

Dr. Jalane Schmidt is a professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia, where she studies and teaches classes on African diaspora religions, whiteness and religion, and protest. She is also an organizer with Black Lives Matter Charlottesville. She will share how anti-racist activists counter-protested in the face of lethal threat and discuss the imperative of not conceding public spaces to white supremacists.