Dick Gregory & The Civil Rights Movement

Friday, February 24, 2017
Tallent Hall, Room 182  10 AM to 12 noon

As the nation reflects on African American history during the month of February, this course will offer a unique examination of a figure who played an underappreciated role in the black freedom struggle and other social justice movements that gathered momentum in the second half of the twentieth century. Dick Gregory was the Jackie Robinson of stand up comedy in the early 1960s, and he put his fame, wealth, and public persona at the service of the civil rights movement, partnering with all of the prominent leaders and organizations, and emerging as a leader in his own right by the end of the decade. Professor Edward Schmitt will offer a portrait of this compelling figure, and share aspects of his biographical research on Gregory, including excerpts from interviews he conducted with the comedian/activist this past fall.

Edward Schmitt is an Associate Professor of History at UW-Parkside, where he has taught since 2002. He teaches courses on recent U.S. history, African American history, and several other topics. His first book, President of the Other America: Robert Kennedy and the Politics of Poverty, was published in 2010, and he is currently working on a biography of Dick Gregory. You can learn more about his research at his Facebook page, Dick Gregory and the Movement: A Research Odyssey — http://www.facebook.com/dickgregorybook.

Questions? Call Frances Kavenik at 262-654-7570 or email to: kavenik@uwp.edu

Dick Gregory registration deadline: Friday, February 10, 2017  Member $5  Guest $10

Name ___________________________________________________________ Check #__________

Phone _______________________________ Email ________________________________________

Emergency contact name & phone ___________________________________________________

Deliver cash registration fee to Vanessa at the ALL office in Tallent Hall. Checks should be payable to UW Parkside/ALL; deliver or mail to Vanessa. Credit card registration fees must be submitted online! Watch for an email with the registration LINK on or about the first Monday of each month. Note: as classes fill, members signing up get preference.