A Century of America’s National Parks

*(begins September 14, 2016)*

On August 25, 2016 the National Park Service celebrates its centennial. Lauded by filmmaker Ken Burns as America’s “best idea,” national parks are some of the most iconic places in the United States. For more than a hundred years, American national parks have cordoned off vast tracts of land and unique landscapes from development, and have provided a ready source of education and recreation for the masses. This seminar will explore the long and storied history of American national parks and the National Park Service. We will consider what ideals motivated the creation of the first national parks, the social consequences of national park management, how national parks fueled the growth of an American tourist industry, and how the aims of the Park Service have changed in response to new ideas about recreation and nature. This seminar will serve as your historical guide to the nation’s national parks—a guide that can enhance the experience of visiting these unique places.

The seminar will be moderated by Dr. William D. Bryan, a 2014-2015 Fox Center Postdoctoral Fellow. The seminar will meet at the Fox Center from **7pm-9pm for four Wednesday evening sessions during the 2016 fall semester: Sep 14, Oct 19, Nov 9 and Dec 14.** Everyone from the Atlanta community is welcome and invited to join us for this free seminar. For further information or to reserve seating on a “first-come basis,” email the Fox Center at foxcenter@emory.edu, or call 404.727.6424.

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