“Misunderstandings during Interracial Interactions”

Interpersonal interactions can be enjoyable, rejuvenating, and fulfilling; but they can also be anxiety-provoking, exhausting, and disappointing. More often than not, these latter descriptors characterize interactions that occur across racial lines. Because of negative attitudes and expectancies, and oftentimes despite good intentions, interracial interactions are fertile ground for stress and misunderstandings. Nonetheless, interacting with out-group members can be valuable and is a requisite aspect of a multicultural society. In this talk, I will discuss how Whites’ and ethnic minorities’ interpersonal concerns with prejudice during interracial interactions often result in individuals having divergent experiences in the same situation. In essence, I hope to illustrate that it is possible for multiple realities to exist within an interracial encounter, leaving Whites and ethnic minorities feeling as if they live in two different worlds.

Monday, January 23, 2017
3:30 p.m.
Gilmer 190

Coffee/cookies at 3:15pm.
Reception will be held after the talk.