My Travels in Lunacy: Mental Illness in the Early American

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Mental illness became a significant concern of Americans by the mid-18th century. Discussions about mental illness and mental health increasingly appeared in debates over community, citizenship, and nationhood. Anxiety about madness wove its way into private and public writings, in everything from diaries to political speeches. This was not just popular neurosis; medical science increasingly hypothesized a link between civil freedom and insanity.

Please come with your lunch, bring your faculty and staff colleagues, and enjoy the last presentation of the fall Colloquium series.