What is this thing called race?
RACE: the power of an illusion
Episode II—The Story We Tell
Tuesday, October 19 • 6pm
Recital Hall, Moss Performing Arts Center
Admission: FREE

Explore, discuss, and challenge assumptions while asking, “What Is This Thing Called Race?”

Episode II of this three-part film series, "Race: the power of an illusion," uncovers the roots of the race concept in North America, the 19th century science that legitimated it, and how it came to be held so fiercely in the western imagination. The episode is an eye-opening tale of how race served to rationalize, even justify, American social inequalities as "natural."

Each episode is followed by a panel discussion moderated by Teresa Coons. Episode II (Tuesday, October 19) panelists include:

- Sage Douglas Remington, two-spirited American Indian, social activist
- Sally Schaefer, former CEO of Hilltop
- Steve Schulte, Professor of History, Mesa State College
- Sarah Swedberg, Associate Professor of History, Mesa State College

“Race is one topic where we all think we’re experts. Yet ask 10 people to define race or name ‘the races’ and you’re likely to get 10 different answers. Few issues are characterized by more contradictory assumptions and myths, each voiced with absolute certainty. ...We hope this series can help clear away the biological underbrush and leave starkly visible the underlying social, economic and political conditions that disproportionately channel advantages and opportunities to white people. Perhaps we can shift the conversation from discussing diversity and respecting cultural difference to building a more just and equitable society.”
—Larry Adelman, Executive Producer

The Planning Committee for this project includes representatives from Foundation for Cultural Exchange, Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado, Mesa County Libraries, Mesa State College Sociology Club, Newman Center, La Raza of Mesa State College, Rocky Mountain PBS and Luis Ibanez-Dalponte.

Episode III—The House We Live In, followed by reception and celebration of diversity 6pm, November 2, St. Joseph’s Parish Center
For more information please call Tom Acker, Mesa State College, 970-248-1068.