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Hornsby Lecture Series Features Author Michael Bérubé on Agreeing to Disagree

Winthrop University

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Hornsby Lecture Series Features Author Michael Bérubé on Agreeing to Disagree

Quick Facts

- Bérubé will be hosted by Winthrop's Master of Liberal Arts program and its Hornsby Lecture Series, which brings thought-provoking thinkers and writers to campus to present public lectures on topics of particular significance.
- This year's lecture, "Pulp Fiction,' Contemporary Philosophy, and the Fine Art of Agreeing to Disagree," draws on Quentin Tarantino's 1994 film, "Pulp Fiction," classic American novels, and on recent political controversies, ranging from the U.S. debt ceiling to the place of Islam in Western societies.



Michael Bérubé

ROCK HILL, S.C. – Modern society has more ways to communicate than ever before and also as many reasons to disagree.

Author Michael Bérubé will appear at Winthrop on Oct. 6 and will challenge his listeners to find ways to agree to disagree – and will suggest why people should agree to form societies in which such disagreement is possible.

Bérubé will be hosted by Winthrop's [Master of Liberal Arts program](#) and its **Hornsby Lecture Series**, which brings thought-provoking thinkers and writers to campus to present public lectures on topics of particular significance. This year's lecture, "**Pulp Fiction,' Contemporary Philosophy, and the Fine Art of Agreeing to Disagree**," draws on **Quentin Tarantino's 1994 film, "Pulp Fiction,"** classic American novels, and on recent political controversies, ranging from the U.S. debt ceiling to the place of Islam in Western societies.

The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. in **Plowden Auditorium** in the [Withers/W.T.S. Building](#).

Bérubé teaches courses in American literature, African-American literature, Disability Studies, and American Fiction at Penn State University. He heads up the Institute for the Arts and Humanities there and will assume the presidency of the [Modern Language Association](#) in 2012.

Recognized as a **leading voice in advocating a wide-ranging liberalism** in institutions of higher learning, **Bérubé** draws a sound and credible balance between openness to all views and respect for intellectual depth. His essays and public lectures draw from classic literature, film, pop music, social controversies, and present-day politics as he challenges his audience to engage in "wide, vigorous, and meaningful discussion" while being rightly skeptical and critical toward those views that are not supported by "the weight of empirical evidence and the historical record."

He is the [author of several books](#) on cultural studies, disability rights, liberal politics, and debates in higher education, and since 2004 has been a blogger on these and other topics.

Bérubé earned his B.A. from Columbia University in 1982 and his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia in 1989. Before taking his position at Penn State, **Bérubé** held a professorship at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Bérubé lives in State College, Penn., with wife Janet Lyon. Together they have two sons, Nick and Jamie.

The **Hornsby Lecture Series** is made possible through an endowed fund established by **Lynn and**

Clarence Hornsby of Rock Hill, S.C.

The Oct. 6 lecture is both a cultural and global learning event for Winthrop students.

For more information, contact **Tim Boylan**, director of the Master of Liberal Arts program, at 803/323-4572 or the program's main office at 803/323-2369.

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