

# DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES SPRING 2024 SEMESTER

## *Power and Privilege on the Appalachian Trail*

The 2200-mile Appalachian Trail (AT) runs from Georgia to Maine and represents one of the crown jewels of the United States and its panoply of local, state, and national public lands. A select few hike the entire trail in a year, more hike the entire trail over a period of years, and many enjoy portions of the trail as day visitors. Of long-distance hikers, most are men, nearly all are white, and what limited statistics we have suggest change comes slowly.

This look at Power and Privilege on the AT promotes awareness of the need for diversity and asks questions about how this example might reveal truths closer to home.



**Edward Carmien, Ph.D.**

- Ed is a Professor of English at Mercer County Community College, where he's taught since 2005. He mainly teaches college writing, but also teaches Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature, among other courses. At one time or another he's served on and led various college committees, edited *Kelsey Review*, and is a known co-conspirator of Good Trouble.
- A published writer, Ed writes both fiction and non-fiction and has received awards for both. Information about his publications can be found at his website: [edwardcarmien.com](http://edwardcarmien.com).
- He's been section-hiking the Appalachian Trail since 2013, beginning with an overnight in New Jersey close to the AMC Mohican Outdoor Center near the Delaware Water Gap. The longest time he's spent "on trail" is 20 days. Overall, he's completed 930 miles of its almost 2200-mile length, has hiked and camped in all weather conditions, amicably met wildlife and, health permitting, intends to hike the whole thing. He's already completed more of it than Bill Bryson...Ed has thoughts about the AT and isn't afraid to share them.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17**  
**12 NOON – 1 PM**  
**COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING - CM 108**

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