Cord J. Whitaker is Associate Professor of English at Wellesley College. Having published widely on medieval romance, religious conflict and race in premodernity and modernity alike, he advances work that troubles the powerful historical narratives that have denied the fullness of humanity to peoples around the world. The editor of *postmedieval*’s acclaimed issue “Making Race Matter in the Middle Ages” and the author of *Black Metaphors: How Modern Racism Emerged from Medieval Race-Thinking* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019), Whitaker has used his expertise in the Middle Ages and the history of race to explore and reconsider ideas fundamental to society and culture in the western world. In addition to his new book project on how Harlem Renaissance writers and intellectuals deployed medievalism as a tool for racial justice, Whitaker routinely writes and edits on modern politics for audiences outside academe—from serving as co-founder and editor-in-chief of *The Spoke: the blog of the Madeleine K. Albright Institute for Global Affairs* to publishing on the alt-right in *Politico* magazine. His scholarly activism extends to serving on and working to diversify the boards and committees of some of medieval studies’ most important and influential publications and organizations as well as helping to found and direct new organizations devoted to the advancement of scholars of color in premodern fields and to the study of race in premodernity.

This event is open to all UD community members. Please RSVP to Julia Hamer-Light (juliahl@udel.edu) for the Zoom link and reading materials.