The Department of History and The Social Justice Learning Community are pleased to sponsor two public film screenings discussions.

Edward R. Murrow’s “Harvest of Shame” (1960)

Sunday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. in MGB 102

This 55 minute documentary, originally broadcast by CBS the day after Thanksgiving in 1960, is award-winning journalist Edward R. Murrow’s exposé of the plight of migrant laborers and their working conditions in the United States. Debate over the critical portrait of agricultural life and politics reflected the tensions and divisions of the Civil Rights Era with particular emphasis on the labor practices in northern Virginia. The airing of the documentary also raised questions of the role and responsibilities of media and of journalists that remain at the center of political discourse today.

The film will be introduced and discussion led by Assistant Professor of History John Weber, an expert on American labor and borderland issues.

“Dismal History” (2010)

Friday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in BAL 1012

This 47 minute documentary explores the stories of runaway servants and slaves --- white, black, and “maroon” --- and the communities they formed and inhabited in Virginia’s Great Dismal Swamp from the colonial era to the beginning of the 20th century. The film examines the existence and legacy of these rich and diverse communities and their ancestors many who settled and still live in areas adjoining the Great Dismal Swamp in Virginia and North Carolina.

The film will be introduced and discussion led by Professor of English Imtiaz Habib. Professor Habib produced this film in 2010 with ODU student Richard Green.

For further information or directions regarding these programs contact Mr. Kelly Duggins (kduggins@odu.edu) or 683-3931.

For further information on the Social Justice Learning Community contact Prof. Maura Hametz (mhametz@odu.edu).