

HIST 495: Senior Research Seminar: Psychedelic Psychiatry

Dr. Wendy Kline

Fall 2020 | Tuesday and Thursday | 12:00-1:15pm | UNIV 319



Students in HIST 495 will have the unique opportunity to encounter what historians do and discover why they love to do it. This senior research seminar brings students face to face with archival documents at the Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center. We will work with the Psychoactive Substance Research Collection and the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center LSD Professional Training Program Study Files, among other collections. After introductory reading on the history of mental health in the U.S., students will spend time in the archives learning how to read, interpret, and write about archival documents. This course will address the following questions:

- ♦ **How do ideas about medicine and health reflect broader attitudes and values in American history and culture?**
- ♦ **What are the risks and benefits of controversial cutting-edge research, such as that on psychoactive substances (like LSD) in changing the field of medicine?**

Note: This course meets requirements for Purdue's Medical Humanities certificate.