

**WHO:** The American Ethnic Studies Department and the SBCC Ethnic Studies Club welcomes all students, faculty and staff

**WHAT:** Special Lecture and Video on 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery Marches

**WHEN:** Wednesday, February 12 from 12:45-1:45 PM

**WHERE:** WCC105

**WHY:** In honor of Black History Month and the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery Marches and the Voting Rights Act of 1965



Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month.

Fifty-five years ago, on March 7, 1965, hundreds of people gathered in Selma, Alabama to march to the capital city of Montgomery. They marched to ensure that African Americans could exercise their constitutional right to vote — even in the face of a segregationist system that wanted to make it impossible. As the world watched, the protesters—under the protection of federalized National Guard troops—finally achieved their goal, walking around the clock for three days to reach Montgomery, Alabama. The historic march, and Martin Luther King, Jr.’s participation in it, raised awareness of the difficulties faced by black voters, and the need for a national Voting Rights Act.

So please come and join the American Ethnic Studies Department and the Ethnic Studies Club as we learn about this history changing event through a brief lecture overview to a video on the Marches and their impact. In its wake, a nation galvanized to further the fight for equality and justice.

Questions? Contact Prof. Craig Cook, American Ethnic Studies and Advisor of Ethnic Studies Club

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