Cleveland, the country’s fifth-largest city as recently as 1920, and one of the most important destinations for black Southerners during the Great Migration, has been relatively understudied by urban historians. Building on findings from *Surrogate Suburbs* his recently-published history of the city’s African American middle class, Todd Michney will explore the validity of the mid-20th century slogan popularized by boosters, “Best Location in the Nation,” for black Clevelanders and particularly in comparison to patterns of race relations seen in the nearby Great Lakes metropolises of Chicago and Detroit.