



**WILLIAM & MARY**  
**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF**  
**AMERICAN HISTORY & DEMOCRACY**

Spring 2021

Dear Students,

I am delighted to welcome you to the Pre-College Program in American History at William & Mary! This summer, you will spend three weeks reading about American History, taking virtual visits to museums and historic sites, participating in discussions, and writing about what you have learned. At the end of the three weeks, you will have thought critically about key ideas in American History, made new friends, and earned three college credits from William & Mary for your work in a college-level class.

Each morning you will have a virtual visit to a historic place with your instructor and all the students in your class. These visits will give you a chance to see places where key events in American History took place and to learn about the people - male and female; Indian, Black, and White; enslaved and free; young and old - who shaped and experienced these events. You will also be able to see material objects that people made and used.

After a break for lunch or a late morning snack, you will join your seminar discussion. This is a time when you, your instructor, and the members of your seminar group will discuss the ways in which your reading assignments intersect with the information you learned during the morning's visit. It is going to be a busy - at times intense - three weeks that we hope you will enjoy.

Day 1 of the program will be here before you know it, and there is much to be done before then. The Admitted Students section of the Pre-College website provides everything you need to prepare for the upcoming summer. To begin, download the Pre-College Program Handbook which contains the Registration Forms you must sign and return to NIAHD. Please get in touch with the NIAHD office ([precol@wm.edu](mailto:precol@wm.edu)) if you have any additional questions about your class, or what to expect.

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