



RUTGERS–NEW BRUNSWICK
Graduate School of Education



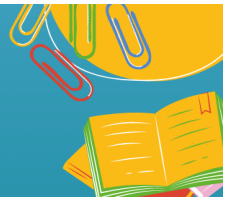
**“I Too Am America”: Memory, Meaning,
and 100 Years of Black History Month**

Christopher M. Span
Dean and Distinguished Professor
Graduate School of Education
Rutgers University-New Brunswick

12:00pm–1:00pm
Thursday February 26, 2026



Learning Sciences
Lunch & Learn



**Connect with colleagues during this hybrid presentation at the GSE (Room 124).
Lunch will be provided! Can't attend in person? Join us remotely via [Zoom!](#)**

This conversation weaves personal reflection with historical analysis to explore the centennial of Black History Month as both commemoration and a call to action. Drawing on my work as a historian of the African American experience, I examine how memory, struggle, and achievement shape the evolving meaning of Black history in public life, classrooms, and communities, while reaffirming the enduring power of the Black presence in the American story.

Christopher M. Span is Dean and Distinguished Professor of the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. He is a historian of education whose scholarship focuses on the educational history of African Americans in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. He is the author of multiple books and numerous scholarly articles that have significantly shaped scholarly understanding of Black educational experiences and institutions during this period.