

## OLLI at DU Syllabus – Spring 2024

*Distant Thunder: The Plight of Loyalist in the American Revolution*

Monday Afternoons Online; 6 weeks

Facilitator: Timothy J. Krueger

**RECOMMENDED BOOKS OR MATERIALS:** Required: “Distant Thunder” by Timothy J. Krueger, available on Amazon/Kindle Recommended: Sequel to above, “Something Essential” by Timothy J. Krueger

### **Weekly Topics**

#### **Class Period 1: April 15, 2024**

- Read Chapters 1-4 of “Distant Thunder” (pp. 1-43) covering Feb. 13-March 14, 1775
- The novel’s background, inspiration
- Events that preceded 1775
- What is absolutely historical in the book and what is “fleshed out” by the author
  - o Examination of primary documents used
- Questions/Discussion

#### **Class Period 2: April 22, 2024**

- Read Chapters 5-9 (pp. 43-100) covering March 15-May 7, 1775
- Lexington and Concord
- Questions/Discussion

#### **Class Period 3: April 29, 2024**

- Read Chapters 10-13 (pp. 100-150) covering May 7-May 17, 1775
- Actual instances of Loyalist imprisonment/exile
- Thompson’s War
  - o Primary Documents used
- Questions/Discussion

#### **Class Period 4: May 6, 2024**

- Read Chapters 14-17 (pp. 150-195) covering May 18-June 16, 1775
- The Royal Navy during the American Revolution
- Questions/Discussion

#### **Class Period 5: May 13, 2024**

- Read Chapters 18-20 (pp. 195-244) covering June 17-August 11, 1775
- Battle of Bunker Hill
  - o Primary Documents used

- **Difficulty/lag of communication (Lexington & Concord, Olive Branch Petition, Royal Proclamation—timing)**
- **Questions/Discussion**

**Class Period 6: May 20, 2024**

- **Read Chapters 21-25 (pp. 245-307) covering August 18, 1775-January 27, 1776**
- **Bombardment of Falmouth**
  - o **Primary documents used**
- **Admiral Graves and the Generals**
- **Sequel, “Something Essential”**
- **Questions/Discussion**