

**“FAMA AND THE FOUNDING FATHER:
FRONTIER RUMORS IN THE SEVEN
YEARS’ WAR”**



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Young George Washington, defending Virginia in the Seven Years' War, faced the problem of rumor. The local populous panicked at hints of Indian assault. Phantom enemy forces encouraged dangerously bad deployments of forces. What's more, the rumors of astonishing Indian military power and stealth fed the growing distrust of his dominion's Cherokee allies. This talk follows Washington's confrontation with rumor in order to explore the power of rumor in history. It draws on Professor Dowd's new book, *Groundless: Rumors, Legends and Hoaxes on the Early American Frontier*.

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4:10 P.M.

STEPS, ROOM 280

RECEPTION FOLLOWING