**The Department of History presents a public lecture by**

**Dr. Brian Porter-Szűcs**

**University of Michigan**

**Polish History and the Politics of Martyrdom**

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjIzfvvkPbYAhUKn1MKHepqCswQjRwIBw&url=https://www.pirancafe.com/2016/12/21/monument-struggle-martyrdom-bydgoszcz-nine-images/&psig=AOvVaw3JoRpqFZy9S0CtY3XcUw8L&ust=1517073362704096)

Most presentations of Poland’s past focus on the themes of sacrifice, victimization, and heroic resistance in the face of implacable evil.  Such stories are not necessarily false, but they do make it hard to see the diversity, nuance, and complexity that actually characterize Polish history.  Even worse, martyrologies have been deployed in recent years as political weapons,turning history into

an ideological battleground.

**Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Oakland Center, Banquet Room A**

**Brian Porter-Szűcs** is Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of History at the University of Michigan and the author of numerous works on the history of Poland, nationalism, Catholicism, and antisemitism.

**Open to all OU students, faculty, staff, and the general public**