The Allegheny College History Department
Presents Guest Speaker

Dr. Ernest Freeberg
Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Head of the
History Department at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

On

“America’s First Energy Crisis —
The Great Horse Flu of 1872”

In the fall of 1872 an epidemic spread through the horse and mule population of North America, debilitating these animals from Toronto to Nicaragua. The months-long plague stopped the American economy in its tracks wherever it arrived, revealing how essential horse power was to American life in the late 19th century. The epidemic appeared just at the time when new sources of mechanical and electrical power had been invented, producing a change in the human relationship to animals in the 20th century that some scholars have called “the Great Separation.”

Monday, April 20th ♦ Schultz Hall East Alcove ♦ 12:20 pm

This lunchtime talk is funded by the Beazell Fund and Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society. Refreshments and desserts will be available during the talk. For more information, contact Ken Pinnow at kpinnow@allegheny.edu.