



presents the Fall 2013

COLLOQUIA SERIES

**NEW RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND GENDER  
GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES**

**FRIDAY, October 11**

**1:30-3:00PM**

**201 INTERNATIONAL CENTER**

**Vanessa Holden**

**Department of History**

## **“Free Issues”: Free Women of Color in Nat Turner’s Southampton County**

Southampton County is famous for being the site of America’s most famous slave rebellion. Often scholarship regarding the event that sent shockwaves from Boston to New Orleans explores the personality of the rebellion’s purported leader, Nat Turner, or the political turmoil known as the Virginia Debates that entailed a serious consideration of the merits of manumission in the state of Virginia. Dr. Holden’s current work on Southampton County foregrounds the community that produced the rebellion to better understand the local experience of loss, grief, and slave resistance. Central to her approach is the place of African American women, free and enslaved, in that community. Dr. Holden’s presentation will explore what the lives of free women of color teach us about the Southampton Rebellion of 1831.

**Vanessa M Holden** is an assistant professor in the Department of History at MSU. Her research focuses on the history of African American women and slave resistance.

**This event is free and open to the public.**