

Chair of Harvard's African American Studies Department to Speak at The University of Scranton

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The University of Scranton's Center for Ethics Studies will sponsor its annual spring lecture on April 28 at 8 p.m. Henry Louis Gates, W.E.B. Du Bois Professor of the Humanities at Harvard University, and chair of the Department of African and African American Studies, is this year's featured speaker.

The lecture, offered free of charge and open to the public, will be held in Eagen Auditorium in the Gunster Student Center on campus.

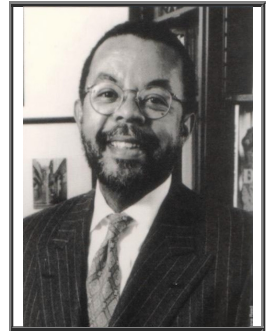
Dr. Gates will discuss "W.E.B. Du Bois and the Encyclopedia Africana."

Dr. Gates is the author of several works of literary criticism, including *Figures in Black: Words, Signs and the "Racial" Self*, *The Signifying Monkey: A Theory of Afro-American Literary Criticism*, which won the 1989 American Book Award, and *Loose Canons: Notes on the Culture Wars*. He also authored *Colored People: A Memoir*, which traces his childhood experiences in a small West Virginia town, as well as two other books. He has also edited several anthologies, including *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*. Dr. Gates is co-editor of *Transition* magazine. His publications also include a 1994 cover story for *Time* magazine, as well as numerous articles for *The New Yorker*.

Among his many honors are a MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" in 1981, the George Polk Award for Social Commentary (1993), *Chicago Tribune* Heartland Award (1994), *Time* magazine's "25 Most Influential Americans" list in 1997, a National Humanities Medal in 1998, and election to the American Academy of Arts and Letters (1999).

Dr. Gates earned his bachelor's degree in English language and literature summa cum laude from Yale University. He earned a master of arts and Ph.D. in English literature from Clare College at the University of Cambridge. Before joining the faculty of Harvard in 1991, he taught at Yale, Cornell and Duke universities.

The Center for Ethics Studies is directed by Charles Pinches, Ph.D., professor of theology/religious studies at The University of Scranton, and William Rowe, Ph.D., professor of philosophy at The University of Scranton. For further information, call Dr. Pinches at (570) 941-4302.



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