

WPCC offers historical perspective on Broughton Hospital

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MORGANTON — Western Piedmont Community College offers “Culture and Insanity: Perspectives from the History of Broughton Hospital” on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Leviton Auditorium on the college campus.

The presentation, offered by Western Piedmont instructor Carrie Streeter, is made available to the public as a part of the college’s Multi-cultural March activities and is sponsored by the Global Education Committee. A reception will follow the presentation.

When the Western North Carolina Insane Asylum opened its doors in 1883, it

admitted patients for causes of insanity that may seem surprising to modern eyes. These reasons included hard study, disappointment in love, menopause, financial worry, domestic trouble and ill health. This presentation will explore cultural beliefs through the perspective of Broughton Hospital’s history.

Streeter, who is finishing her Master of Arts degree in public history at Appalachian State University, will continue her studies in a doctorate in history program at University of California at San Diego. She currently teaches a course at the college on the history of Broughton Hospital and mental health care.



Broughton Hospital patients once worked fields on the hospital campus.

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