

# Let's Talk About the Humanities

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**Michael Ralph** teaches in the School of Medicine at New York University. His research combines medical anthropology, politics, and finance to explore the monetary value of a human life through a sustained focus on incarceration, forensics, actuarial science, debt, slavery, insurance, and algorithms. He is the author of *FORENSICS OF CAPITAL*, as well as the forthcoming graphic books, *BEFORE 13th*, *FISHING*, and *BASKETBALL IQ*.

## The Value of Life

November 10, 2021 at 1 PM ET

*with Michael Ralph,  
New York University*

This webinar will present research concerned with historic techniques for inscribing and regimenting the monetary value of human life, in part based on shifting notions of gender, ability, race, and expertise. New York University professor and medical anthropologist, Michael Ralph, will examine the United States insurance industry, how it affixes monetary value to human life, and how life insurance is derived from the legal rationale and commercial logic of marine insurance and, later, slave insurance.

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