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By: Breanna Bell | bbell20@radford.edu

The World War II series started back at Radford University Aug. 26. Hopefully, you have been checking your emails and have already attended the first few events, virtually or in person.

This unique series is here to honor the 75th anniversary of World War II ending. It also pays respect to people who have fought in this war and their lasting effect on the United States. It is a great way to interact with others and share a little knowledge on the topic.

“Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

It is important to keep educating people in all areas of our history, no matter how long ago. We are taught history in school, so no one forgets. As the widely famous saying by [George Santayana](#) goes, “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

The next event in the series takes place Wednesday, Sept. 16. This section focuses on “[J. D. Salinger](#), War Trauma, and Fiction.” Jennifer Hedges, a graduate teaching assistant, and [Dr. Moira Baker](#) will present this section.

Salinger is famously known for his novel “The Catcher in The Rye” and wrote briefly of his experiences in the war in his short story “The Magic Foxhole.” He was drafted to serve and saw action on the battlefield. In this story, we get a small glimpse of what the battlefield was like for the soldiers.

After this week’s presentation, there will be seven more installments in the series you can attend. The speakers cover a wide range of topics from activities that civilians did at home in their past time, to Navajo code and breaking enigma.



Photo Credit: (Museums Victoria) The '77 Squadron in the Air', 1941-1945.

All of these different presentations offer valuable information to the series. It can be beneficial to you and brush up on things you already know or learn something new. Each section has exciting facts from speakers willing to share their knowledge with us.

World War II ended 75 years ago, and it is still vital today. It is essential to remember our past and grow from it to create a better future. Educating the public on topics like this helps ensure growth as a whole.

If you weren't aware of the events taking place, I urge you to look through your email or visit the [history department's section](#) (Department of History resumes commemoration of 75th Anniversary of World War II) on the Radford website.

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Here you can view the full event schedule, register to attend an in-person meeting, or find a zoom link to the events. All events are free and open to the public, and all are encouraged to participate somehow. However, please remember there is limited in-person seating due to social distancing regulations.

The series is an opportunity to learn something new on campus while interacting with your

peers from your dorm's safety. If you are attending in person, please follow the social distancing guidelines and wear your mask. Come out and show your support for the history department and all of the speakers.