

## John T. Rasel, Assistant Professor/Librarian

John T. Rasel serves as an Assistant Professor/Librarian and has been with Cuyahoga Community College since 2013. Prior to joining Cuyahoga Community College, Rasel served as an adjunct history instructor and librarian at Strayer University for approximately five years.

Professor Rasel holds an M.L.I.S from Kent State University, an M.A. in History from Eastern Illinois University, and a B.A. in History from West Virginia Wesleyan College.

### Speech Topics

- **Challenged, Banned, or Burned: Reactions to Controversial Books, Then & Now:** Negative public reaction to controversial texts goes back centuries, even pre-dating the European printing press. This 45-minute lecture presents an overview of censorship from antiquity to the present day. It specifically explores why materials were censored, how objectionable texts and authors were dealt with throughout history, and how our reaction to controversial material has evolved over time.
- **Stories of Shame: A Historical Survey** - Societies around the world have harnessed the power of shame for hundreds of years. This lecture presents examples of this phenomenon in action throughout world history, and discusses how shame was, and is, used at all levels of society.
- **A Career as an Academic Librarian** - This presentation is intended for groups at or above the high school, and presents an introduction to many of the common roles of an academic librarian, including reference, instruction, collection development, and programming. It will also identify possible variations between working as a librarian at a for-profit, community college, or 4-year institution.
- **Remembering the Japanese American Internment:** On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which paved the way for the forcible removal of over 100,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. Although EO 9066 was justified as a being necessary for national security, it was primarily motivated by a combination of wartime hysteria and racism. This talk presents an overview of the Internment that also explores the causes and consequences of this shameful event.