

Restoring Hope **Dr. Cornel West**

**October 4, 2001
5:30 pm at the Chapel**

**Pre-lecture discussion
October 1, 9:00 pm at the
Chapel Tower Foyer**

“A fully functional, multiracial democracy cannot be achieved without a sense of history and open, honest social dialogue.”

Cornel West



Cornel West, a compelling, prominent, and often controversial philosopher of the modern American experience, will give a talk titled *Restoring Hope* on Thursday, October 4th at 5:30 in the College Chapel. West's lecture is sponsored by the Department of Religion and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, and is cosponsored by the Office of the President and the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Henry Louis Gates Jr., chair of Harvard University's Department of Afro-American Studies, has described West as one of America's most important public intellectuals and a formidable scholar by any measure. He is professor of Afro-American studies and philosophy of religion at Harvard, where he was recently promoted to university professor, a title held by only 14 of Harvard's 2,200 faculty members. West is one of the first black scholars to be appointed to the university's highest faculty post.

West has written numerous articles and 15 books, including the *American Evasion of Philosophy*, *Jews and Blacks*, *The Future of the Race* and *Restoring Hope*. His book, *Race Matters*, quickly achieved best-seller status in both editions and gained the attention of *Time* and *Newsweek*, causing both publications to run extensive profile articles on him. *The Cornel West Reader*, his most recent publication, traces the development of West's career as academic, intellectual, and activist.

Copies of a selection from West's book, *Race Matters*, will be available from the Religion Department (Blodgett Hall) and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life (Chapel Tower).