

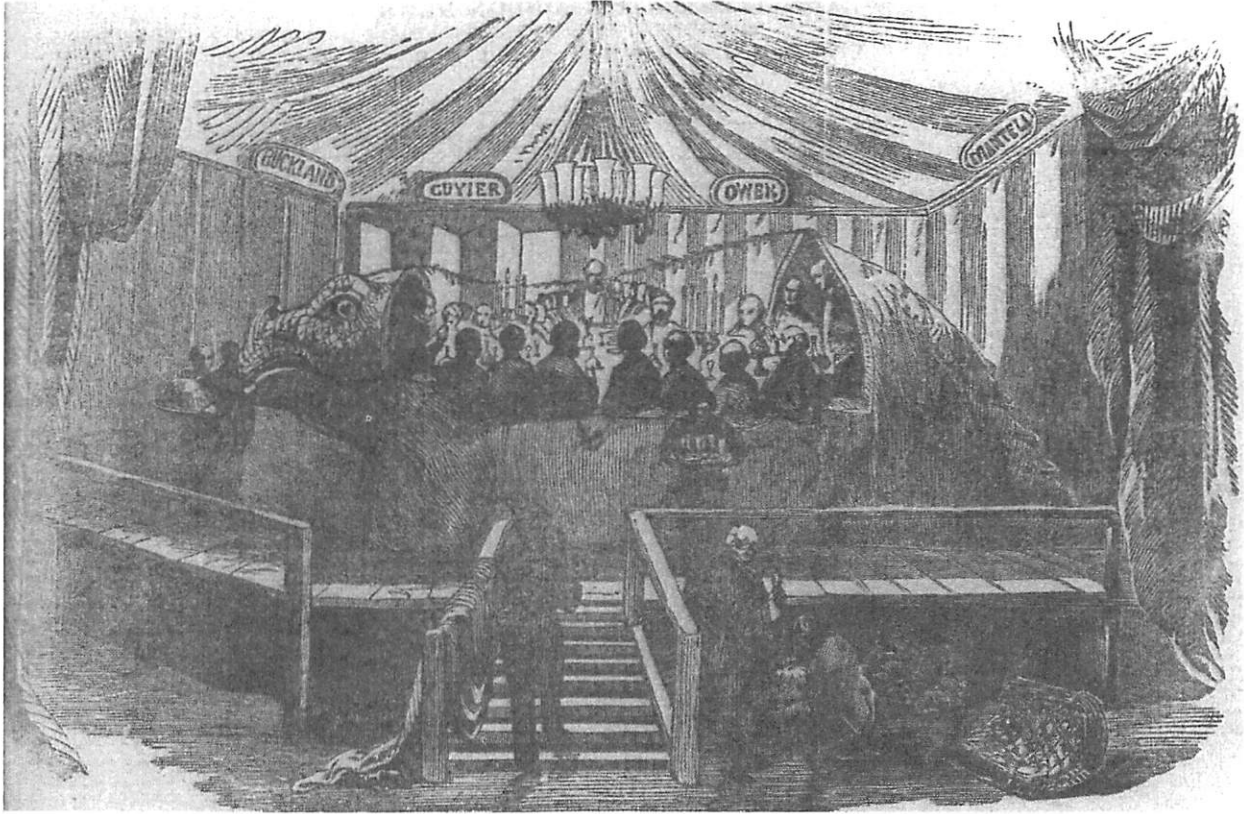
Announcing a new course for spring, 2016:

# HI 499: DINOMANIA!

## A CULTURAL & SCIENTIFIC HISTORY OF DINOSAURS

This course meets on M-W, 3:00-4:15pm in Riddick Hall, Room 461

Prerequisite: 3 hours of history. Non-majors are welcome and can expect to do well.



From *Tyrannosaurus rex* to Barney, dinosaurs are both objects of science and pop-culture icons. In fact, one scholar has argued that a scientific understanding of dinosaurs can no longer be distinguished from their cultural counterparts. Victorians, on the other hand, believed that the casual study of dinosaurs improved the mind...and they were right! In this course, you will engage with the cultural and scientific history of dinosaurs in an attempt to disentangle the science object from the popular one. Special attention will be paid to early dinosaur discoveries and interpretations; the competitive exploration for dinosaurs; the origin and spread of *dinomania*; dinosaurs as cultural icons; and, the ways that dinosaurs have been represented in the media and in public museums. This course will include critical discussion of how natural science is done, how ideas about dinosaurs are culturally embedded, and how and why those ideas change over time. It will explore the jumbled intersection of paleontology and popular culture.

### Faculty:

Paul D. Brinkman, Ph.D.

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