Jared Ross Hardesty takes us inside the lives and worlds of enslaved Bostonians in the 18th century, reconstructing a world of “unfreedom” that stretched from Europe to Africa to America. Boston’s slaves lived in this place that was characterized by many different forms of dependence and oppression, including Indian slavery, indentured servitude, and apprenticeship. By reassessing the lives of Boston’s slave population as part of a social order structured by ties of dependence, Hardesty not only demonstrates how African slaves were able to decode their new homeland and shape the terms of their enslavement, but also tells the story of how marginalized peoples ingrained themselves in the very fabric of colonial American society.

Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Western Libraries Reading Room
(4th floor central)