



Department of

# HISTORY

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

## Newsletter 2016—2017

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### TWO-YEAR ISSUE

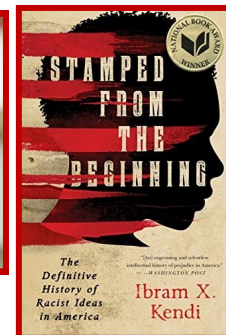
#### Highlights

- Pamela Nadell elected President of the Association of Jewish Studies
- Lichtman Explores Presidential Impeachment
- New History Chair—Eric Lohr
- Alums Lonnie Bunch II, Johanna Neuman & Robert Williams
- Winter book recommendations

### The Department Welcomes Four New Faculty Members

#### Professor Ibram X. Kendi and the new AU Antiracist Research & Policy Center

This August, best-selling author and award-winning historian, Ibram X. Kendi, joined American University as a professor of history and international relations in both CAS and SIS. He will serve as founding director of the new Antiracist Research and Policy Center at the University. Professor Kendi comes to AU from the University of Florida.



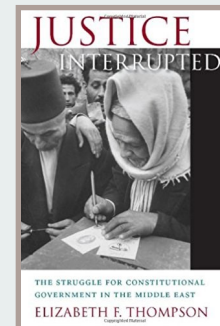
In 2016, Kendi published *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*, winner of the 2016 National Book Award for Non-fiction. *Stamped* narrates the entire history of racist ideas and how they were created and popularized in an effort to defend deeply entrenched discriminatory policies and rationalize racial inequities. This October, Ibram X. Kendi presented his vision for the much anticipated, first-of-its-kind Antiracist Research and Policy Center at AU. “Tonight, I want to plant the seed I plan to grow – with your help – into a critical force for change.” Kendi said. (cont. p.2)

#### Professor Elizabeth Thompson to Join History Department Ranks



Elizabeth F. Thompson, Professor and Mohamed Said Farsi Chair in Islamic Peace, joined the SIS faculty in the fall of 2016. Thompson will also join the History department in January 2018. Thompson’s expertise is in Syria and the Middle East. “There’s something in the public conversation that we’re missing, without a historical perspective,” she says, “Some people look at the Middle East and just think ‘violence,’ but there is much more to the story.”

Thompson is a historian of political movements, citizenship, constitutions, gender, and foreign intervention in the Middle East. She is author of two books: *Justice Interrupted: The Struggle for Constitutional Government in the Middle East* (Harvard, 2013) and *Colonial Citizens: Republican Rights, Paternal Privilege, & Gender in French Syria and Lebanon* (Columbia, 2000). Prof. Thompson is now writing a third book on the establishment of a democratic Arab government at Damascus in 1920, and the consequences of its destruction. She is also co-producing a documentary on World War I in the Middle East.



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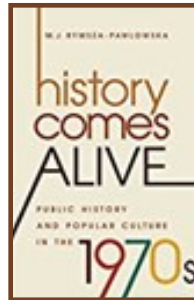
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## Two New Faculty Members Joined the History Department in 2016



In August 2016, the History department was pleased to welcome Malgorzata J. Rymza-Pawlowska and Andrew Demshuk to its ranks. **M.J. Rymza-Pawlowska**, a cultural historian of nineteenth and twentieth century United States, is the author of the 2017 book, *History Comes Alive: Public History*

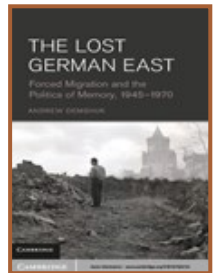
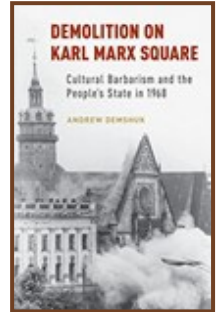
*and Popular Culture in the 1970s* (UNC Press). Her book foregrounds the affective qualities of historical knowledge-production: the impulse to understand the past on emotional rather than informational terms. She joins the department after three years at Eastern Illinois University. Malgorzata initially served as Associate Director and this year as Director of AU's public history graduate program. Rymza-Pawlowska is also interested in the intersections between art and history, the history of display and representation, and consumer culture. At AU, she teaches courses on nineteenth and twentieth century U.S. history, public history, digital history and historiography.



**Andrew Demshuk**, a specialist in central European history, is the author of *The Lost German East: Forced Migration and the Politics of Memory: 1945-1970* (Cambridge, 2012). Demshuk's latest book, *Demolition on Karl Marx Square: Cultural Barbarism and the People's State in 1968* (Oxford, 2017), looks at

how the demolition of Leipzig's medieval University Church brought about an essential turning point in relations between Communist authorities and the "people" they claimed to serve. Demshuk joins us after teaching for five years at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

At AU, Demshuk teaches courses relating to 20th century Central and Eastern Europe, with close attention to nationalism, genocide and ethnic cleansing, urban planning and memory. He hopes to build upon the legacy of longtime professor Richard Breitman, who retired in 2015 after four decades at AU.



### New Faculty Member, Ibram X. Kendi (cont)



The center will serve as a central hub to identify inequalities, determine the discriminatory policies behind these inequalities, and ultimately change these policies in the United States and the world. "When we come to grips with the fact that the Earth is round, the climate is changing, and the racial groups are equal – are equivalent in all their imperfect humanity, in all their apparent bodily and cultural differences, in all their genetic sameness, I think we'll be a lot better off," Kendi said. "We must come to grips with the reality of racial equality – with the reality that policy change is the driving force of racial change."

"The world's racial problems are quite big. Discrimination is rather bold," he says. "We need big ideas, and we need bold centers. We need serious research, practical policies, and innovative ways of bringing about change, and we can't wait. We can no longer sit on the sidelines of history as inequality passes on to another generation. This center will not sit on the sidelines. We will be a force of change."

(Adapted from AU's Kaitie Catania & Rebecca Basu)

### Pamela Nadell elected President of the Association for Jewish Studies

Pamela S. Nadell, was elected to serve as President of the Association for Jewish Studies which is a society and professional organization that seeks to promote, maintain, and improve teaching, and research in Jewish Studies at colleges, universities, and other institutions. With nearly 2,000 members on six continents, it is the largest learned society in this field.

Nadell's next book, *A History of Jewish Women in*

*America*, will be published by WW Norton in March 2019 to coincide with Women's History Month.



### History Department Faculty & Staff

Front Row: Elke Stockreiter, Andrew Demshuk, Pamela Nadell, Gautham Rao, Anton Fedyashin, Eric Lohr, Alan Kraut, Malgorzata Rymysza-Pawlowska, Katharina Vester,  
Back Row: Sara Gerard, Max Paul Friedman, Pedram Partovi; Eileen Findlay, Mary Frances Giandrea, Allan Lichtman, April Shelford, Kate Haulman, Michael Brenner, Ibram X. Kendi.



### Lichtman's New Book Explores Presidential Impeachment



Distinguished History Professor Allan Lichtman, who countered the conventional wisdom to predict that Donald Trump would win the 2016 presidential election, has a new forecast about the American presidency.

In *The Case for Impeachment* (Dey Street Books), his fifth solo-authored book, Lichtman analyzes President Trump's past business dealings and public statements, alongside the history of politics and impeachment in the U.S., to explain how Trump's presidency could end prematurely. Lichtman also uses constitutional analysis to show how Trump is uniquely vulnerable to impeachment in eight key categories, including conflicts of interest, dealings with Russia, and Trump's views on climate change. In a unique twist on impeachment law outlined in the book, Lichtman outlines how Trump could be impeached under a "crimes against humanity" scenario if he deliberately fails to protect humanity from the dangerous effects of climate change.

Lichtman has correctly predicted every presidential election since 1984. His formula, based on the idea that presidential elections are a referendum on the party that holds the White House, is explained in his book, *Predicting the Next President: The Keys to the White House*.

The formula consists of 13 true/false statements, or keys, that can be turned for either the party in power or the challenger. If eight or more keys are true for the incumbent party, its candidate will win the election, but if fewer than eight are true, the challenger will win. Using this formula, which does not involve polling data, Lichtman correctly predicted that Trump would beat Hillary Clinton last year.

### From the Chair—Eric Lohr

Lots of exciting things are under way in the History Department. New additions to the faculty include Ibram Kendi, the youngest National Book award winner for non-fiction, Andrew Demshuk, a prolific scholar of Germany and East Europe already completing his third book, and Malgorzata Rymysza-Pawlowska, who has jumped into a leadership role in our thriving Public History program. Our undergraduates and graduates have been going on to impressive careers and achievements. Next time, we plan to highlight career achievements of our undergraduate and graduate alumni. Please send us a note with your news ([history@american.edu](mailto:history@american.edu)).



Our faculty continue to produce influential books and articles (see the remarkable list at the end of the newsletter) while remaining committed to the classroom. Eileen Findlay won the top teaching award for the entire university in 2016 and Lisa Leff won the university's highest award, the "Scholar-Teacher of the Year" designation in 2017. Remarkably, the department now has five winners of this award: Max Friedman, Pam Nadell, Alan Kraut, and Allan Lichtman. Many of our faculty and students have been actively contributing to informed public debate—something sorely needed in our times. Allan Lichtman ignored polls and stuck to what his research and models told him. For better or for worse, he was one of the only scholars to correctly predict Donald Trump's victory. Max Friedman has consulted extensively at the State Department, Alan Kraut has provided historical perspective on contemporary immigration policy debates, and Peter Kuznick and Anton Fedyashin have been leading students on study-tours to Japan and Russia.

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<https://www.facebook.com/American-University-Department-of-History-157994524292983/>

## Eileen Findlay Honored with Outstanding Teaching Award

Professor of Latin American history Eileen Findlay was presented with the “Outstanding Teaching in a Full-Time Appointment” award at the 2016 University Faculty Awards ceremony. This prestigious award is designed to reflect “sustained contributions to the university over many years” and requires excellence in teaching as documented by student evaluations, comments, and feedback; success of former students; and a wide range of advising and mentoring activities with AU students.



Across the years, students have praised Prof. Findlay’s “energy, passion, and enthusiasm” in the classroom, her intellectual rigor, and her extraordinary capacity to motivate them. According to former Department Chair Pam Nadell, who presented the award to Findlay, “time and again students say that she is ‘one of the best, if not the very best, teachers, that they have ever encountered.’” Perhaps the most telling testimony of all, Nadell says, comes from the excited student who claimed: “I have never come across a professor who could make the process of writing a 60-page paper fun” until meeting Prof. Findlay. Nadell went on to note that Findlay has mentored more than a dozen students to Fulbright awards and other prestigious scholarships.

## Lisa Leff wins Book and Scholar of the Year Awards

Professor Lisa Leff won the Sami Rohr prize for the best book on a Jewish topic in any field for her second book: *The Archive Thief: The Man Who Salvaged French Jewish History in the Wake of the Holocaust*. She also was named the 2017 Scholar-Teacher of the Year—AU’s highest honor for a professor. After returning from a prestigious fellowship at Oxford to work on her next book, she began work as Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and then in short order was named Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for the first half of 2018. Quite a series of well-earned recognitions for Lisa!



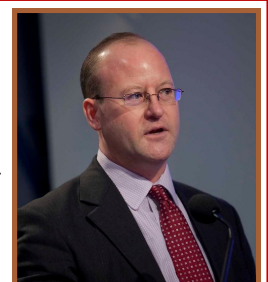
## Laura Beers’ New Book wins Major Award

Professor Beers’ third book, *Red Ellen: The Life of Ellen Wilkinson, Socialist, Feminist, Internationalist*, was published by Harvard University Press in 2016. *Red Ellen* situates Wilkinson, one of the leading figures in the interwar British Labour party, within the context of international socialist, feminist, anti-colonial and anti-fascist politics. The book has been critically acclaimed by publications including the *London Review of Books* and the *Wall Street Journal*, and won the Stansky Prize for the best book on British history awarded by the North American Conference on British Studies.



## Eric Lohr Begins Tenure as Chair of the History Department

In Summer 2016, Professor of Russian History Eric Lohr took over the reins as Chair of the Department of History. He follows in the footsteps of Professor Pam Nadell, who ably shouldered leadership of the department for five years. “I inherit a department that is in great shape as a result of Pam’s lengthy tenure,” Lohr said. He also reflected on his various priorities over the next three years as chair. “I want to provide robust support for faculty research and try to facilitate our amazing ongoing record of faculty publications,” Lohr said, noting the strong balance of scholarly productivity and teaching performance exhibited across the ranks of departmental faculty. Lohr also looks forward to meeting the challenge of managing the transition to a new university-wide Core Curriculum, which will replace the longstanding General Education requirements and require the department to tailor its teaching strengths to a revised set of learning objectives and pedagogical goals. Among the challenges Lohr aims to address is a nationwide decline in the number of history majors. “We need to think more about the ways we attract students to history and how we convince undergrads that thinking about history is a good use of their time.” Though Lohr realizes that it will “take more effort than it did in the past to keep students coming to our classes,” he is optimistic that such a challenge can be met through innovative approaches. Lohr hopes his tenure as department chair will also afford him time to continue his own research projects: he is currently writing two books: *Russia 1914-1918: From Total Mobilization to Total Demobilization* and *The Brothers Trubetskoi: Liberals between Tsar and Revolution*.



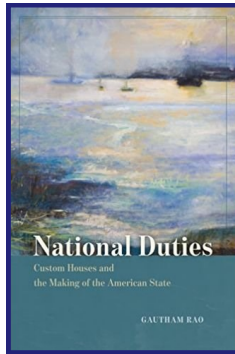
## Gautham Rao Appointed Editor of Law and History Review



Associate Professor Gautham Rao began working as Editor-in-Chief of the world's leading journal in the field of legal history in Fall 2017. Rao was chosen as one of the youngest editors in the history of the journal, showing the respect he has quickly gained among his peers, not least due to the wide

acclaim for his book, *National Duties: Custom Houses and the Making of the American State*.

A popular teacher, Rao's experimental new course: "The West Wing as History," has generated excitement among students eager to learn with him in the classroom and in the city.



## History Faculty Tapped for Leadership Positions

**Michael Brenner:** President of the Leo Baeck Institute

**Anton Fedyashin:** Director of the Carmel Institute at AU

**Ibram X. Kendi:** Founding Director of the AU Antiracist Research & Policy Center

**Alan Kraut:** Past President, Organization of American Historians; President of the History Coalition; and Chair of the Statue of Liberty—Ellis Island Foundation's History Advisory Committee

**Peter Kuznick:** Director of the Nuclear Studies Institute at American University

**Lisa Leff:** Co-President of the French Historical Society and Acting Dean of CAS

**Pamela Nadell:** President of the Association for Jewish Studies

**Gautham Rao:** Editor of the Law and History Review Studies

**Theresa Runstedtler:** Chair of AU Critical Race, Gender and Cultural Studies Collaborative

## History in the New Core

History faculty have played a key role in the transition to a new "core" of courses for all AU undergraduates.

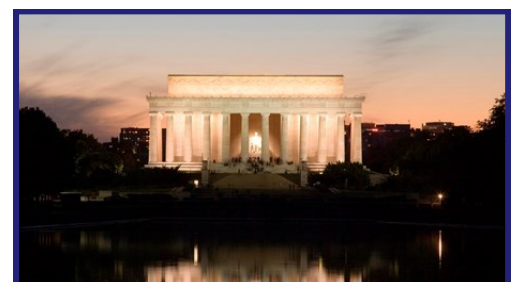
Faculty member Mary Frances Giandrea worked many hours to help design an innovative new approach that aims to give students tools to attack problems and learn how to learn rather than focusing on the acquisition of a specific body of knowledge. One feature of this program is a new freshman seminar focused on tackling an important "complex problem" from multiple perspectives. Our faculty offered several successful pilot courses in the program.

Gautham Rao's seminar "Why Big Government?" explores Americans' ambivalent relationship with the state from Alexander Hamilton to the present. Rao combines discussion of classic texts by James Madison, John Dewey, John Maynard Keynes with viewings of *The Wire* and *Birth of a Nation* and research projects on Twitter to present an innovative new type of course. Michael Brenner's seminar "Jerusalem: Myth, History, and Modernity" builds on his recent book on the topic to explore 2000 years of a city at the center of three of the world's great religions, incorporating guest speakers and visits to places of worship in DC from each of these traditions.



In his seminar, Andrew Demshuk tackles the question of how memory is created and destroyed through the built environment, taking students into the city to historical sites, on a walking tour with the DC Preservation League in gentrifying neighborhoods, and to other sites. For one assignment, students go to the National Mall to interview domestic and foreign visitors at the monuments.

The department plans to offer approximately eight different "complex problem" seminars per year once the new core is fully in place.



## Alum Lonnie Bunch II and the Museum of African American History and Culture

Founding Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, Lonnie Bunch (BA History '74 and MA History '76) was appointed founding director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) after serving as president of the Chicago Historical Society. He is also an educator, curator, and esteemed author who has written extensively about the African American experience in America.

Bunch received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in History at American University. Bunch credits his professors for creating a close-knit community and for challenging him to be the best historian he could be. He said he found a second home at AU, one that provided the kind of intellectual rigor and academic curiosity that stayed with him his entire life.

"I would not be in this position if it wasn't for AU," he said. "I was very fortunate to work with people like Alan Kraut, people who both challenged and nurtured me. And what AU did for me was help bring a sense of order and structure to somebody who just loved history and didn't really know what you could do with it and how to use it." (Patty Housman- AU news).

Of the founding of the museum, the September 2016 Smithsonian Magazine, quotes Lonnie Bunch's words from the dedication ceremony where he explained that the museum

"embraces not only African-American history and culture, but [tells] how that history has shaped America's identity. My goal for the last 11 years has been to create a museum that modeled the nation I was taught to expect: a nation that was diverse; that was fair; that was always struggling to make itself better – to perfect itself by living up to the ideals in our founding documents."

"I think the museum needs to be a place that finds the right tension between moments of pain and stories of resiliency and uplift. There will be moments where visitors could cry as they ponder the pains of the past, but they will also find much of the joy and hope that have been a cornerstone of the African-American experience."

Bunch received the Visionary Historian Award from the Historical Society of Washington in 2016. As Bunch stated in a recent Vanity Fair interview, "African-American history is not only American history but also 'the coolest thing in the world. There's humor, tragedy, love, sex – and rock 'n' roll'."



## Two New Books Celebrated at Politics and Prose

Featured Authors: Alum Johanna Neuman and Professor Ibram X. Kendi



This November, at Politics and Prose, one of the country's last great independent bookstores, Johanna Neuman, an alumna of AU History's graduate program, discussed her new book, *Gilded Suffragists: The New York Socialites Who Fought for Women's Right to Vote* in conversation with PBS Judy Woodruff. This discussion traced the history of the movement and offered some theories about why it took women 72 years to win the vote. The conversation was also broadcast on C-SPAN 2, Book TV. This book tells the story of New York's most glamorous women who had become the media celebrities of their day. She argues that when they leveraged their social fame for political power, they awakened public interest and energized the Votes for Women campaign.

In September 2017,

Ibram X. Kendi was also featured at Politics and Prose when he spoke with Washington Post reporter, Wesley Lowery about *Stamped*. American University faculty and students were well represented at both events.



Kendi Politics and Prose event. AU students: First row (from left to right): Ama Ansah, Rebecca Brenner, Ashlee Anderson. Second row: Jonah Estess, Joan Cummins, Nathan Moore.



## Words to Live By—Professor Lisa Leff and Alum Allen Pietrobon

How can the study of history sustain us in these troubled times? Professor Lisa Leff, and recent doctoral student, Allen Pietrobon, both address this question in their AU keynote speeches. Professor Leff urged new, incoming, freshmen not to let "the breakdown of our civil discourse" prevent them from "slow[ing] down and open[ing] up their schedule for unexpected encounters." Students will make the most of their time by "paying attention" and "work[ing] to see things from other's point of view," cultivat[ing] empathy and gaining experience in cooperation, compromise, and compassion." She urges us all to Speak up, and also, listen."



At the end of their studies, Allen Pietrobon asks graduating seniors to look back and ask, what have we learned? Pietrobon believes that AU students learn by "pushing the boundaries of thought, expanding our intellects, [to] challenge notions, disagree with each other, while also seeking common ground and to do all that with civility. "Pietrobon believes that history provides us with stories "about where we as a society came from and how we ended up where we are today. [...] it's up to us to model and foster that civil discourse. It is up to us now to push away cynicism and to build our ideal world, because a better civilization begins with one person's inspired imagination. It begins with one person's inspired example. It begins when one person makes their life their argument." Just as Professor Leff spoke of discovering, as a young student, the important lessons that can be learnt from individual lives, Pietrobon urges us to "consider what kind of narrative we are creating as we live our lives?" He concludes "a better nation begins when one person makes their life their argument" Let us make our life our argument!

## Alumnus Robert Williams' International Work for the US Holocaust Memorial Museum



Robert Williams graduated from American University with a PhD in European History in 2013. While at AU, his primary specialty was in German history with secondary interests in US and Soviet foreign relations, Holocaust studies, and political philosophy.

Robert has been working at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum since 2010, first in the museum's academic wing and now as deputy office head of international affairs. Since 2011, he has repre-

sented the United States of America as a delegate to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

Much of his work focuses on policies in Europe related to the Holocaust. Over the past couple of years, his work led to a revision of the EU's General Data Protection Regulation, which will ensure that EU laws provide researchers access to archival records pertaining to the Holocaust, other genocides, and to former totalitarian state regimes. He also worked with a multinational group to pass a working definition of anti-semitism that has been endorsed by the European Parliament.

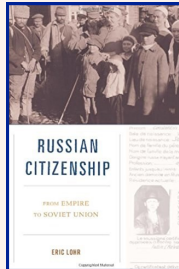
Robert's research interests focus on European political culture and discrimination. He is working on books on the postwar German press, an article on antisemitism, and on contemporary refugee policies in Europe.



## Around the World in Eight Books

### ***Russian Citizenship: From Empire to Soviet Union***, Eric Lohr, Harvard University Press, 2012.

*Russian Citizenship* is the first book to trace the Russian state's citizenship policy throughout its history. Focusing on the period from the mid-nineteenth century to the consolidation of Stalin's power in the 1930s, **Eric Lohr** considers whom the state counted among its citizens and whom it took pains to exclude. His research reveals that the Russian attitude toward citizenship was less xenophobic and isolationist and more similar to European attitudes than has been previously thought—until the drive toward autarky after 1914 eventually sealed the state off and set it apart.



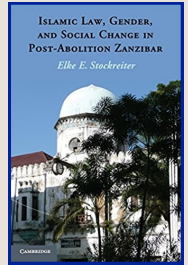
Drawing on untapped sources in the Russian police and foreign affairs archives, Lohr's research is grounded in case studies of immigration, emigration, naturalization, and loss of citizenship among individuals and groups, including Jews, Muslims, Germans, and other minority populations. Lohr argues that to understand the citizenship dilemmas Russia faces today we must return to pre-Stalin history.



From Harvard University Press.

### ***Islamic Law, Gender, and Social Change in Post-Abolition Zanzibar***, Elke Stockreiter Cambridge University Press, 2015.

After the abolition of slavery in 1897, Islamic courts in Zanzibar (East Africa) became central institutions where former slaves negotiated socioeconomic participation. By using difficult-to-read Islamic court records in Arabic, Elke Stockreiter reassesses the workings of these courts as well as gender and social relations in Zanzibar Town during British colonial rule (1890–1963).



Stockreiter shows how Muslim judges maintained their autonomy within the sphere of family law and describes how they helped advance the rights of women, ex-slaves, and other marginalized groups. As was common in other parts of the Muslim world, women usually had to buy their divorce. Thus, Muslim judges played important roles as litigants negotiated moving up the social hierarchy, with ethnicisation increasingly influencing all actors. Drawing on these previously unexplored sources, this study investigates how Muslim judges both mediated and generated discourses of inclusion and exclusion based on social status rather than gender."



From Cambridge University website.

### ***In Search of Israel: The History of an Idea.***

Michael Brenner  
Princeton University Press (2018)

Many Zionists who advocated for the creation of a Jewish state envisioned a nation like any other. Yet for Israel's founders, the state that emerged against all odds in 1948 was anything but ordinary. Born from the ashes of genocide and a long history of suffering, Israel was conceived to be unique, a model society and the heart of a prosperous new Middle East. It is this paradox—the Jewish people's wish for a homeland both normal and exceptional—that shapes Israel's ongoing struggle to define itself and secure a place among nations



When Theodor Herzl convened the First Zionist Congress in 1897, no single solution to the problem of "normalizing" the Jewish people emerged. Herzl proposed a secular-liberal "New Society" that would be home to Jews and non-Jews alike. East European Zionists advocated the renewal of the Hebrew language and the creation of a distinct Jewish culture. Socialists imagined a society of workers' collectives and farm settlements. The Orthodox dreamt of a society based on the laws of Jewish scripture. The stage was set for a clash of Zionist dreams and Israeli realities that continues today.

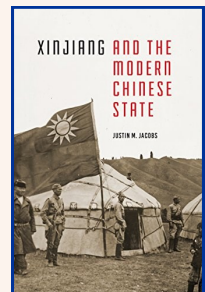


From Princeton University Press.

### ***Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State.***

Justin M. Jacobs.  
University of Washington Press (2016)

*Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State* views modern Chinese political history from the perspective of Han officials who were tasked with governing Xinjiang. This region, inhabited by Uighurs, Kazaks, Hui, Mongols, Kirgiz, and Tajiks, is also the last significant "colony" of the former Qing empire to remain under continuous Chinese rule throughout the twentieth century. By foregrounding the responses of Chinese and other imperial elites to the growing threat of national determination across Eurasia, Justin Jacobs argues for a reconceptualization of the modern Chinese state as a "national empire." He shows how strategies for administering this region in the late Qing, Republican, and Communist eras were molded by, and shaped in response to, the rival platforms of ethnic difference characterized by Soviet and other geopolitical competitors across Inner and East Asia.



This riveting narrative tracks Xinjiang political history through the Bolshevik revolution, the warlord years, Chinese civil war, and the large-scale Han immigration in the People's Republic of China, as well as the efforts of the exiled Xinjiang government in Taiwan after 1949 to claim the loyalty of Xinjiang refugees.

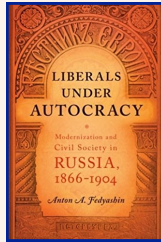


From University of Washington Press.

## Around the World in Eight Books

### **Liberals under Autocracy: Modernization and Civil Society in Russia, 1866-1904**, Anton A. Fedyashin University of Wisconsin Press, 2012.

With its rocky transition to democracy, post-Soviet Russia has made observers wonder whether a moderating liberalism could ever succeed in such a land of extremes. But in *Liberals under Autocracy*, Anton Fedyashin looks back at the vibrant Russian liberalism that flourished in the country's late imperial era, chronicling its contributions to the evolution of Russia's rich literary culture, socioeconomic thinking, and civil society.



Challenging deep-seated assumptions about Russia's intellectual history, Fedyashin's work casts the country's nascent liberalism as a distinctly Russian blend of self-governance, populism, and other national, cultural traditions.

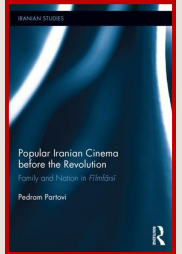


"An original and valuable contribution to illuminating another of those groups in imperial Russia who lost out in the game of history, but whose legacy is strikingly apropos at present in Russia's shaky democracy. A major contribution." — Richard Stites, Georgetown University.

From University of Wisconsin Press.

### **Popular Iranian Cinema before the Revolution Family and Nation in Filmfarsi**, Pedram Partovi Routledge Press, 2017.

Critics and academics have generally dismissed the commercial productions of the late Pahlavi era, best known for their songs and melodramatic plots, as shallow, derivative 'entertainment'. Film discourse, and even fan talk, have long attempted to marginalize the mainstream releases of the 1960s and 1970s with the moniker *filmfarsi*, ironically asserting that such popular favorites were culturally inauthentic.



This book challenges the idea that *filmfarsi* is detached from the past and present of Iranians. Far from being escapist Hollywood fare merely translated into Persian, it claims that the better films of this supposed genre must be taken as both a subject of, and source for, modern Iranian history. It argues that they have an appeal that relies on their ability to rearticulate traditional courtly and religious ideas and forms to problematize in unexpectedly complex and sophisticated ways the modernist agenda that secular nationalist elites wished to impose on their viewers. Taken seriously, these films raise questions about standard treatments of Iran's modern history.



From Routledge Press.

### **Justice Interrupted: The Struggle for Constitutional Government in the Middle East**

Elizabeth F. Thompson. Harvard University Press (2013)

The Arab Spring uprisings of 2011 were often portrayed in the media as a dawn of democracy in the region. But the revolutionaries were—and saw themselves as—heirs to a centuries-long struggle for just government and the rule of law, a struggle obstructed by local elites as well as the interventions of foreign powers. **Elizabeth F. Thompson** uncovers the deep roots of liberal constitutionalism in the Middle East through the remarkable stories of those who fought against poverty, tyranny, and foreign rule.



Fascinating, sometimes quixotic personalities come to light: Tanyus Shahin, the Lebanese blacksmith who founded a peasant republic in 1858; Halide Edib, the feminist novelist who played a prominent role in the 1908 Ottoman constitutional revolution; Wael Ghonim, the Google executive who rallied Egyptians to Tahrir Square in 2011, and many more.

Often depicted as inherently anti-democratic, Islam was integral to egalitarian movements that sought to correct imbalances of power and wealth wrought by the modern global economy—and by global war. Motivated by a memory of betrayal at the hands of the Great Powers after World War I and in the Cold War, today's progressives assert a local tradition of liberal constitutionalism that has often been stifled but never extinguished.

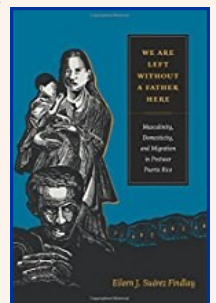


From Harvard University Press.

### **We Are Left without a Father Here: Masculinity, Domesticity, and Migration in Postwar Puerto Rico**

Eileen J. Suarez Findlay. Duke University Press (2014)

*We Are Left without a Father Here* is a transnational history of working people's struggles and a gendered analysis of populism and colonialism in mid-twentieth-century Puerto Rico. At its core are the thousands of agricultural workers who, at the behest of the Puerto Rican government, migrated to Michigan in 1950 to work in the state's sugar beet fields. The men expected to earn enough income to finally become successful breadwinners and fathers. To their dismay, the men encountered abysmal working conditions and pay. The migrant workers in Michigan and their wives in Puerto Rico soon exploded in protest.



Chronicling the protests, the surprising alliances that they created, and the Puerto Rican government's response, Eileen J. Suárez Findlay explains that notions of fatherhood and domesticity were central to Puerto Rican populist politics. Patriarchal ideals shaped citizens' understandings of themselves, their relationship to Puerto Rican leaders and the state, as well as the meanings they ascribed to U.S. colonialism. Findlay argues that the motivations and strategies for transnational labor migrations, colonial policies, and worker solidarities are all deeply gendered.



From Duke University Press.



## GRADUATE AWARDS

### Richard and Carol Breitman Endowed Scholarship

*This prize was made possible through the generosity of Margaret Anthon.*

Jordan Grant (2015)  
Amy Langford (2016)

### Roger Brown Dissertation Scholarship

*This prize is made possible through the continuing generosity of AU History Professor Emeritus Roger Brown.*

Nguyet Nguyen (2015)  
Lindsay MacNeill (2016)

### Dorothy and Victor Gondos, Jr. Graduate Research Scholarship

*This prize was made possible through the generosity of AU History Professors Dorothy and Victor Gondos, Jr.*

Amy Langford (2015)  
Lauren Duval (2015)  
Katherine Kitterman (2015)  
Anna Kaplan (2016)  
Katherine Kitterman (2016)  
Nguyet Nguyen (2016)

### Robert Griffith Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

*The award is named in memory of AU History Professor Robert Griffith.*

Amy Langford (2015)  
Donelle Boose (2015)

### Best Graduate Student Research Paper

Lauren Duval (2015)

### Robert Griffith Public History Award

The award supports student travel to the National Council on Public History's annual conference.

*This award was established in memory of AU History Professor Robert Griffith by Barbara Griffith and family.*

Lauren Duval (2015)  
Chelsea Hansen (2016)  
Sydney Johnson (2016)

### Patrick Clendenen Dissertation Scholarship

*This award was established by Mary Graydon in memory of Patrick Clendenen*

Johanna Neuman (2015)  
Nguyet Nguyen (2016)

### College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Scholarship

Jordan Grant (2015)  
Michael Youngborg (2016)  
John Little (2016)

## GIVING

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## UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

### Janet Oppenheim Prize

Awarded for the best major seminar senior thesis  
*This prize was established in memory of AU History Professor Janet Oppenheim.*

Ariel Mond (2015)  
William Oldham (2015)  
India Pasiuk (2016)

### Valerie French Undergraduate Seminar Prize

*This prize was established in memory of AU History Professor Valerie French.*

Julie Morrocco (2015)  
Aaron Besser (2016)

### Janet Oppenheim Research Awards

*This award was established in memory of AU History Professor Janet Oppenheim.*

India Pasiuk (2015 & 2016)

### Dorothy Gondos Beers Scholarship

*This prize was made possible through the generosity of AU History Professors Dorothy and Victor Gondos Jr.*

Toby McCarroll (2015)  
Emily Peikin (2016)  
Kaitlyn Ross (2016)

### James W. Mooney Scholarship

*This award was established in memory of AU History Professor James W. Mooney*

Laith Shakir (2016)

### Anna Kasten Nelson Awards for Excellence in History

*The award was named in memory of Distinguished-Historian-in-Residence Anna Kasten Nelson.*

#### 2015 recipients

Mattia Avery	Toby McCarroll
Aaron Besser	India Pasiuk
Julien Blaney	Emily Peikin
Lucas Chapman	Alison Piggott
Victoria Dalcourt	Elizabeth Preuss
Katherine Fiske	Amanda Ray
Alexander Friedman	Kaitlyn Ross
Michael Gifford	Jack Stein
Katelynn Hatton	Anne Thomas

#### 2016 recipients

Julia Armstrong	Michael Murphy
Kelli Bicknell	Sean O'Malley
Emily Blaydes	Stephanie Osber
Gabriel Baznik	Angela Phillips
Jacob Blumenstock	Alison Piggott
Nathaniel Edenfield	Julie Scott
Mackenzie Freudenrich	Laith Shakir
Marissa Gallant	Lea Silverstein
Annabelle Grant	Robert Stewart
Christopher Hacnik	Christina Tejada
David Killbridge	Emma Watry
William Leonard	

## Faculty Updates

### LAURA BEERS

Professor Beers's third book, *Red Ellen: The Life of Ellen Wilkinson, Socialist, Feminist, Internationalist*, was published by Harvard University Press in 2016. *Red Ellen* situates Wilkinson, one of the leading figures in the interwar British Labour party and the second woman to serve as a cabinet minister, within the context of international socialist, feminist, anti-colonial and anti-fascist politics. The book has been critically acclaimed by publications including the *London Review of Books* and the *Wall Street Journal*, and won the Stansky Prize for the best book on British history after 1800 awarded by the North American Conference on British Studies.

### RICHARD BREITMAN (Distinguished Professor Emeritus)

Richard Breitman is co-editor of *Envoy to the Promised Land: The Diaries and Papers of James G. McDonald, 1948-1951*, with Norman J.W. Goda, Barbara McDonald Stewart, and Severin Hochberg (Bloomington: Indiana University Press in Association with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2017). His next book, *The Man Who Knew Enough: Raymond Geist and Nazi Germany*, is projected to come out in 2019 with Public Affairs, New York.

### MICHAEL BRENNER

Michael Brenner was invited as a keynote speaker to conferences in Warsaw, Vienna, Berlin, and other places and continues to serve as academic board chair of the Franz Rosenzweig Center at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He contributed the introductory article to *Essential Israel: Essays for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* and edited a special edition of the journal *Naharayim* focusing on German-Israeli Relations in Culture and the Humanities. His new book *In Search of Israel: Ideas of a Jewish State* (Princeton University Press) as well as his edited volume *A History of Jews in Germany since 1945: Politics, Culture, and Society* (Indiana University Press) will be published in February 2018.

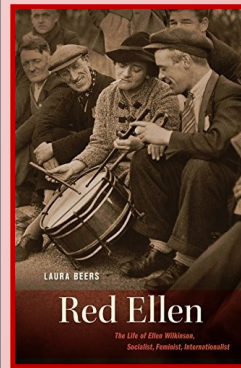
### MARY ELLEN CURTIN

In August 2017, Mary Ellen Curtin gave a presentation to the US Commission on Civil Rights on the history of the language provision in the 1975 Voting Rights Act, and the role of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan in pushing the provision through. Curtin was one of two scholars to appear and the session was streamed live on CSPAN. Curtin is the author of "Barbara Jordan and the Paradox of Black Female Ambition," in *Texas Women: Their Histories, Their Lives* (University of Georgia Press, 2015). She teaches courses on Race and Politics, Slavery, and American women's history. Her book on the life and times of Congresswoman Jordan will be published with the University of Pennsylvania Press.

### ANDREW DEMSHUK

Andrew Demshuk joined the AU history department in Fall 2016 and has since taught courses on Modern European History, Modern German History, Theories of Nationalism, and Cities: Destroyed and Reinvented. After completing an Alexander von Humboldt fellowship at the end of 2015, he has been working on numerous article and book projects. His second monograph, *Demolition on Karl Marx Square: Cultural Barbarism in the People's State in 1968*, appeared with Oxford University Press in September 2017, and two new articles have appeared in peer-reviewed publications, with others forthcoming or in-process. In addition to regular service as a book reviewer and conference presenter, he has delivered his research in DC and at AU, notably the 2017 department Brandenburg Lecture.

## Faculty Bookshelf

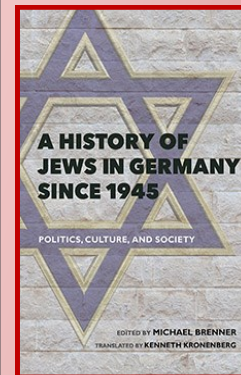


Laura Beers, *Red Ellen: The Life of Ellen Wilkinson, Socialist, Feminist, Internationalist*, Harvard 2016

Michael Brenner, *In Search of Israel: The History of an Idea*. Princeton 2018



Michael Brenner, *A History of Jews in Germany since 1945*. Indiana 2018.

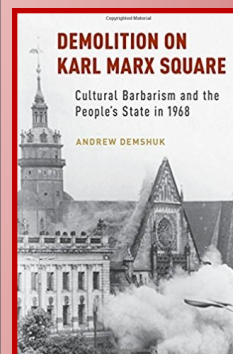
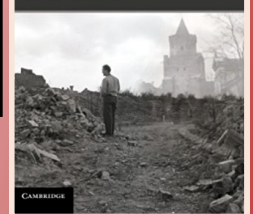


Andrew Demshuk, *The Lost German East: Forced Migration and the Politics of Memory, 1945-1970*. Cambridge 2014.

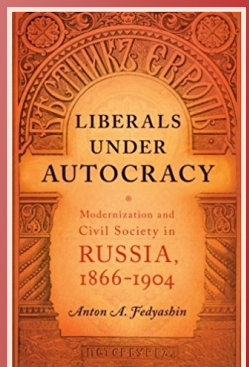
THE LOST GERMAN EAST

Forced Migration and the Politics of Memory, 1945-1970

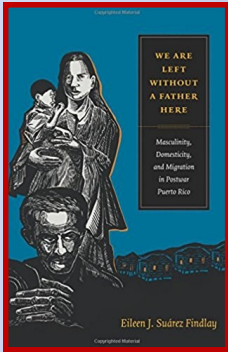
ANDREW DEMSHUK



Anton Fedyashin, *Liberals Under Autocracy: Modernization and Civil Society in Russia, 1866-1904*. Duke 2014

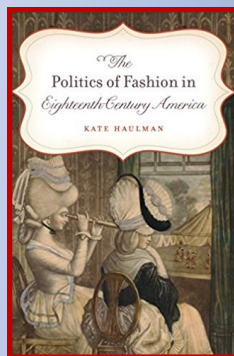
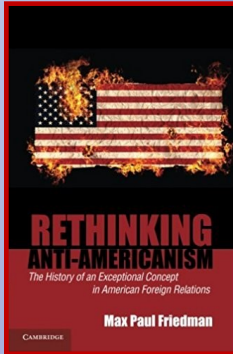


## Faculty Bookshelf



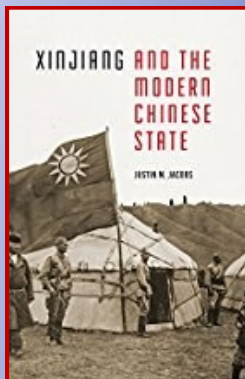
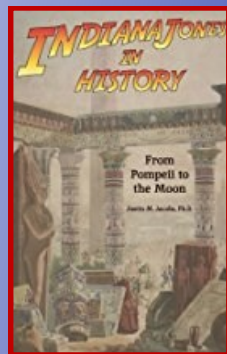
Eileen Findlay, *We are Left without a Father Here: Masculinity, Domesticity, and Migration in Postwar Puerto Rico*. Duke 2014

Max Paul Friedman, *Rethinking Anti-Americanism: The History of an Exceptional Concept in American Foreign Relations*. Cambridge 2013



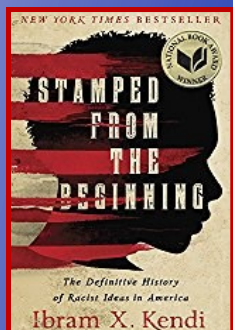
Kate Haulman, *The Politics of Fashion in Eighteenth-Century America*. UNC 2011.

Justin M. Jacobs, *Indiana Jones in History: From Pompeii to the Moon*. Pulp Hero 2018.



Justin M. Jacobs, *Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State*. Washington 2016.

Ibram X. Kendi, *Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*. Nation 2016.



## Faculty Updates

### ANTON FEDYASHIN

Anton Fedyashin received tenure and continues to head the Carmel Institute of Russian Culture and History. He is working on his current book project *The Cold War and the Spy Novel* and has published articles on related topics in *Recherches internationales* and *The Journal of Cold War History*. He has continued to offer his annual summer course-trips to Russia--"Revolutionary Russia" (2017), "Musical Russia" (2016), "Literary Russia" (2015)--during which his students spend long days at museums, galleries, and concert halls in Moscow, St. Petersburg and beyond, learning about Russia and its impact on global culture and history. He has also appeared numerous times as an analyst of contemporary Russian and East European affairs on CNN, CGTN, public radio, and in the press.

### EILEEN FINDLAY

Eileen Findlay's most recent book, *We are Left without a Father Here: Masculinity, Domesticity, and Migration in Postwar Puerto Rico* was published by Duke University Press in 2014. Findlay won the award for University-Wide Best Teacher in a Full-Time Position in the spring of 2016. Her article "Dangerous Dependence or Productive Masculinity? Gendered Representations of Puerto Ricans in the U.S. Press, 1940-1950" was published in the *Radical History Review* in the summer of 2017. Findlay's article "That's Why I Married a Cuban: Puerto Rican Women's Narratives of Border-Crossing Marriages" was solicited for an international forum on History and Domesticity being considered for publication in the *American Historical Review*. She delivered papers at the 2017 American Historical Association and the Berkshire International Conference on Women's History. Findlay continues to serve as the History Department's director of Undergraduate Studies and now holds a joint appointment with the Critical Race, Gender, and Cultural Studies Collaborative, housed in CAS.

### MAX PAUL FRIEDMAN

Max Paul Friedman spent a semester at the U.S. Studies Centre in Australia, served on a State Department Selection Board, and gave papers in Havana, Sydney, Melbourne, Berlin, and Denver. He published "Amérique Latine: La Doctrine Monroe est morte, vive la Doctrine Monroe" in *Recherches Internationales*; "Trump and Latin America: Asymmetry and the Problem of Influence" in *International Security Studies Forum* (with Tom Long); as well as shorter pieces in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*, *Islamic Monthly*, *Foreign Policy in Focus*, *Religion and Ethics*, and *New York Daily News*, and commentaries on German national public radio.

### MARY FRANCES GIANDREA

Mary Frances Giandrea has been busy on several committees as American University seeks to reconfigure its core curriculum. A key feature of the new vision is to develop student's intellectual capabilities, while expanding their perspective and their ways of knowing a complex world. This semester, Giandrea has been teaching courses in British history, Ancient Greece, and Renaissance and Revolution.

### KATE HAULMAN

Kate Haulman has been serving as the department's Director of Graduate Studies, was Vice Chair of the Dean's Advisory Committee, and is Co-Chair of the program committee for the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians. Her essay "Women, War and Revolution" is forthcoming in the *Oxford Handbook of American Women's History* in 2018. She has proposed, with AU's former Director of Public History Kathleen Franz, the exhibition "Home Work: A History of Women's Invisible Labor," for the National Museum of American History, is consulting on the museum's 2020 women's history exhibition, and continues work on her book *The Long Life of Mary Washington*.

## Faculty Updates

### JUSTIN JACOBS

Justin Jacobs published two books, *Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State* (2016) and *Indiana Jones in History: From Pompeii to the Moon* (2017). He also completed a twenty-one episode online documentary series to accompany the latter. He is currently writing a draft of his third book, "The Compensations of Plunder: How China Lost Its Treasures."

### IBRAM X. KENDI

Ibram X. Kendi had major features about him and his Antiracism Center appear in *Crisis Magazine*; *Tampa Bay Times* & their Festival of Reading; *Washington City Paper* People Issue 2017. He was interviewed by Dr. Christina Greer for the Bill Moyers Show. He gave keynote lectures at the National Press book club Author's Night; Harrisburg Book festival; the Hurston Wright Legacy Awards; Cora Norman Lecture with Mississippi Humanities Council; Temple University; Bates College; Utah State University; University of Notre Dame's Department of Africana Studies. Finally, he was awarded American Historical Association's Prize for Innovation in Digital History.

### DANIEL KERR

The Henry Luce Foundation approved a three-year grant of \$225,000 to American University for the DC Humanities Truck Project – a project spearheaded by Daniel Kerr. Dean Peter Starr has pledged an additional \$50,000 along with other in-kind resources to support the truck project over a five-year period. The Humanities Truck will function as a mobile workshop, recording studio, and exhibit space that will circulate throughout the metropolitan region to work with specific communities in the places they frequent. It will disseminate stories, histories, and creative productions generated through these community collaborations. The digital collections gathered from these projects will give rise to a dynamic and participatory community archive that lives online.

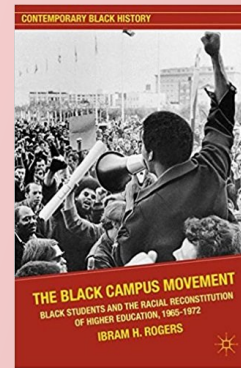
### ALAN KRAUT

Alan M. Kraut received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Immigration and Ethnic History Society in April, 1917. He delivered the keynote address, "America Beckons, But Americans Repel: East European Migration and American Nativism, 1880-1930" at a conference on American Ethnicity and East European Migration in Krakow, Poland, 2016, which was published in Malek and Praszalowicz, eds. *United States Immigration Policy and Immigrants' Responses, Past and Present*. He consulted on the current Smithsonian Museum of American History exhibit, "Many Voices, One Nation" and contributed an accompanying article, "Lady in the Harbor: The Statue of Liberty as American Icon," to the Smithsonian Press in 2017. He was a keynote speaker at a conference on Immigrant Entrepreneurship at the German Historical Institute in D.C. in 2016. His article, "Eastern European Immigration to the United States and the Role of the Immigration and Refugee Service and Immigrants' Protective League in the Twentieth Century" was published in 2017 on line in Great Britain by Adam Matthew to introduce their new documents collection, "Migration to New Worlds." Most recently, he has been quoted on immigration and refugee issues by the Associated Press, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *Atlantic Magazine*, among others. In summer, 2017 he was featured on the History Channel's two-part immigration documentary, *Journey of the Brave*.

### PETER KUZNICK

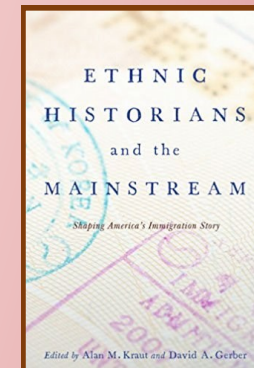
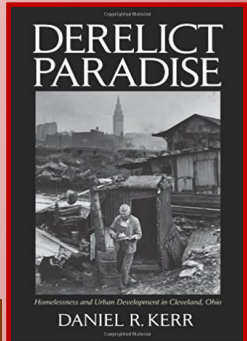
Peter Kuznick has been busy as a public intellectual, writing, commenting, and speaking about a broad range of issues including U.S.-Russian relations, the North Korean nuclear standoff, the Obama legacy, the Trump presidency, the Iranian nuclear deal, and the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Since the last newsletter, he has done a couple hundred interviews with international media and spoken in Russia on a half dozen occasions. Japanese public television brought him to Japan to do commentary on President Obama's historic visit to Hiroshima. He continues his study-abroad class every summer in Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki. And he and Oliver Stone are completing an updated version of *The Untold History of the United States* book that will cover Obama's last term in office and the first year of the Trump presidency. The 12-part Showtime documentary series is currently available on Netflix and continues to air throughout the world.

## Faculty Bookshelf



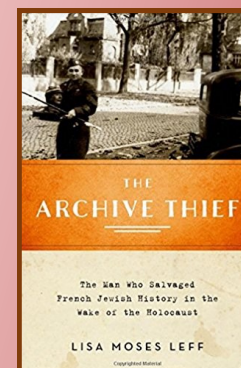
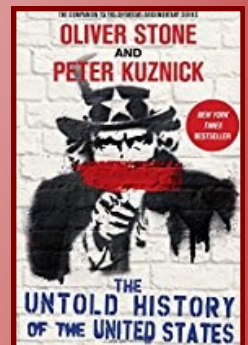
Ibram X. Kendi, *The Black Campus Movement: Black Students and the Racial Reconstruction of Higher Education, 1965-1972*. Palgrave 2012.

Daniel R. Kerr, *Derelict Paradise: Homelessness and Urban Development in Cleveland, Ohio*. UMass 2011.



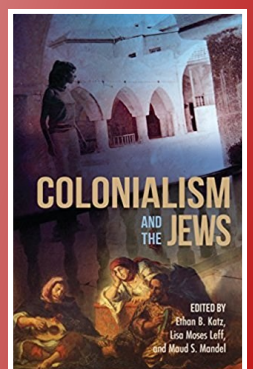
Alan M. Kraut (with David A. Gerber), *Ethnic Historians and the Mainstream: Shaping America's Immigration Story*. Rutgers, 2013.

Peter Kuznick (with Oliver Stone) *The Untold History of the United States*. Gallery 2013.

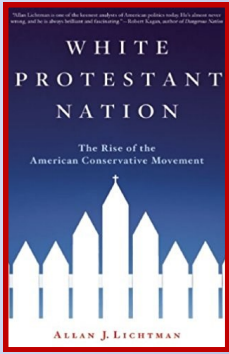


Lisa Leff, *The Archive Thief: The Man Who Salvaged French Jewish History in the Wake of the Holocaust*. Oxford 2015

Lisa Moses Leff (with Ethan Katz), *Colonialism and the Jews*. Indiana University 2017.

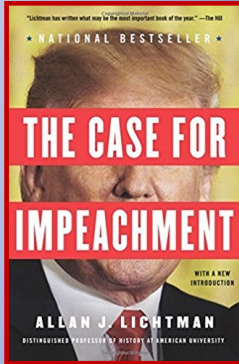


## Faculty Bookshelf

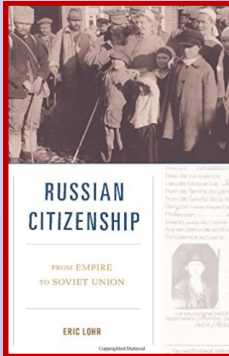


Allan Lichtman, *White Protestant Nation: The Rise of the American Conservative Movement*. Grove 2009.

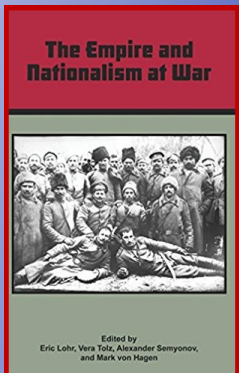
Allan J. Lichtman, *The Case for Impeachment*. Dey Street, 2017



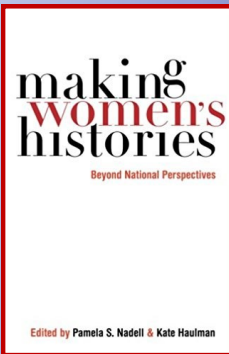
Eric Lohr, *Russian Citizenship: From Empire to Soviet Union, in the 1970s*. Harvard 2012.



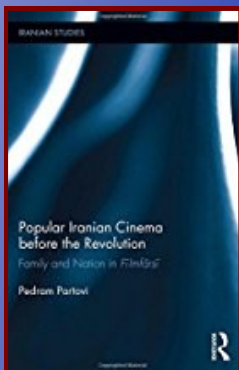
Eric Lohr (editor). *The Empire and Nationalism at War*. Slavic Pub 2014.



Pamela Nadell & Kate Haulman, *Making Women's Histories: Beyond National Perspectives*. New York University 2013.



Pedram Partovi, *Popular Iranian Cinema before the Revolution: Family and Nation in Filmtarsi*. Routledge 2017.



## Faculty Updates

### LISA LEFF

Lisa Leff is currently serving as CAS Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies. In 2017 she was named as American University's 2017 Scholar-Teacher of the Year. Her recent book, *The Archive Thief* (Oxford University Press, 2015), was awarded the 2016 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish literature. Lisa Leff's latest book, *Colonialism and the Jews* (Co-edited with Ethan Katz and Maud Mandel), was published by Indiana University Press in February 2017. In 2016-17, Leff was at Oxford University, as a Visiting Fellow at Brasenose College and a Polonsky Fellow at the Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. There, she began research for a new book on the Panama Scandal, an anti-Semitic affair in late nineteenth-century France. She spent the month of May 2017 as a Visiting Professor at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris, France, before returning to the United States and American University.

### ALLAN LICHTMAN

Professor Allan Lichtman's book, *White Protestant Nation: The Rise of the American Conservative Movement* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in non-fiction. He has been interviewed extensively about his prediction system, the Keys to the White House, which has correctly predicted the outcomes of all US presidential elections since 1984. An updated paperback version of Dr. Lichtman's book *The Case For Impeachment* will be published by Dey Street books on January 18, 2018. His book on *The Embattled Vote in America* is scheduled for publication by Harvard University Press in 2018. He has appeared this year on scores of television and radio broadcasts on public affairs and political history.

### ERIC LOHR

Eric Lohr began service as chair of the History Department in June 2016. In 2017 he gave 15 talks in Russia and the United States on aspects of the 1917 Russian revolutions for centenary conferences and events. He published: "Russia, 1917: Revolution as Demobilization and State Collapse," with co-author Joshua Sanborn. *Slavic Review* and completed edits on the Russian translation of his book *Russian Citizenship*, published by the New Literary Observer in December 2017. He also began work on his next book: *The Brothers Trubetskoi: Liberals between Tsar and Revolution*.

### PAMELA NADELL

Pamela Nadell published "Signposts: Writing Women into American Jewish History" (*American Jewish History*) and completed the chapter "Becoming an 'All-of-a-Kind' Jewish Historian" and the essay "Feminism, American Style: Jewish Women and the Making of a Revolution," which will be published in Hebrew and English. She co-directed the University of Haifa's Ruderman Program in American Jewish Studies U.S. summer study tour. Its 25 Masters' candidates and Israeli faculty visited historic sites and met with scholars, cultural figures, and leaders of American Jewry. Nadell is completing a book, tentatively titled *A History of Jewish Women in America*, to be published by W.W. Norton in 2019.

### PEDRAM PARTOVI

Pedram Partovi published his first monograph, *Popular Iranian Cinema before the Revolution* (Routledge), in June 2017. He has also started work on a second book project on the role of non-state actors in the formation and collapse of the modern state in the Middle East and South Asia. He conducted preliminary research for this project during a summer fellowship at the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin, Germany in Summer 2016. He presented early findings in August 2016 at the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Iranian Studies Conference in Vienna, Austria. He has also recently completed two journal articles on Iranian media and society.

### GAUTHAM RAO

Gautham Rao published *National Duties: Custom Houses and the Making of the American State* in 2016. In 2017, he became Editor-in-Chief of *Law and History Review*, the leading journal of legal history. He also co-organized a conference on the American state that was held at Yale University in April 2016. He has co-authored several legal briefs in the 'emoluments' cases against President Donald J. Trump.

## Faculty Updates

### Theresa Runstedtler

Theresa Runstedtler is in her third year as the inaugural Chair of the Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies Collaborative, which runs the interdisciplinary programs in African American and African Diaspora Studies, American Studies, Arab World Studies, Asian Studies, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She is working on two book projects: one that explores questions of race, masculinity, and labor in professional sports through the lens of the NBA's so-called "Dark Days" of the 1970s, and another that examines University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias's cocaine-related death in 1986 as a racialized flashpoint in both the War on Drugs and NCAA sports reform. She has presented portions of both projects at national conferences and recently published a piece from the latter manuscript in *American Studies* (Volume 55, Issue 3, 2016).

### M.J. Rymsza-Pawlowska

After coming to American University in Fall of 2016, M. J. Rymsza-Pawlowska has enjoyed a productive and rewarding three semesters. Foremost, she has seen the publication of her first monograph, *History Comes Alive: Public History and Popular Culture in the 1970s* from the esteemed University of North Carolina Press. This year, she has taken on two new projects, one: a history of commercial preservation in conjunction with the Cleveland Park Historical Society, as well as an article on the 1970s conceptual art collective Ant Farm, supported by a research travel grant from American University.

### April Shelford

April G. Shelford continues work on a book manuscript, "A Caribbean Enlightenment." She has presented papers to the Western Society for French History, the American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies, French Historical Studies, History of Science Society, and the Society for the Study of French History. She published "Buttons and Blood: How to Write an Anti-Slavery Treatise in 1770s Paris" in *History of European Ideas*; "The Quest for Certainty in Fact and Faith: Pierre-Daniel Huet and Josephus' *Testimonium Flavianum*" in *Essays in Renaissance Thought and Letters*; and "Of Mudfish, Harpsichords, and Books: Libraries and Community in Eighteenth-Century Jamaica" in *Before the Public Library: Reading, Community, and Identity in the Atlantic World, 1650-1850*.

### Elke Stockreiter

Elke Stockreiter received a Mellon Faculty Development Award to conduct archival research in Mali, West Africa, for her book project on religious practices and gender identities in Djenné during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In spring 2017, she presented aspects of this research at venues in Paris and Howard University, Washington, DC. In 2016, two article-length pieces from her Islamic court-record based research on colonial Zanzibar were published. Her article "The Ignorant Do Not Belong to Any Particular Sect": Legal Practice and Social Identities in Colonial Zanzibar" was published in *Islamic Law and Society*; her chapter "Materialism, Contention, and Rebellion: The Changing Demands on Marriage in Colonial Zanzibar" was published by Oxford University Press in *Domestic Tensions, National Anxieties: Global Perspectives on Marriage, Crisis, and Nation* (ed. Kristin Celello and Hanan Kholoussy).

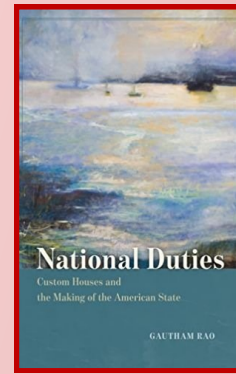
### Elizabeth Thompson

Elizabeth Thompson will join the department in January 2018. She is presently a professor in SIS and the Mohamed Said Farsi Chair of Islamic Peace. Prof. Thompson is now writing a third book on the establishment of a democratic Arab government at Damascus in 1920, and the consequences of its destruction, authorized by the League of Nations. She is also co-producing a documentary on World War I in the Middle East.

### Katharina Vester

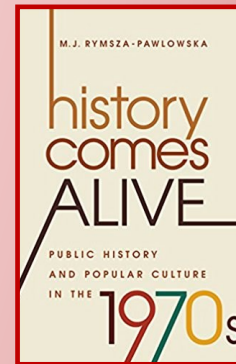
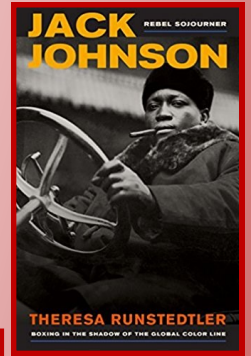
Katharina Vester published "Food and Gender" in *Gender: Nature* with Macmillan Press, and "'Love Your Amazing Body': Empowerment and Discipline in Celebrity Advice" in *Food, Fatness, and Fitness*, on <http://foodfatnessfitness.com>, an academic Body Studies blog. In spring 2017, she was invited to present at the University of Sydney to speak about the historical intersection of food and sexuality in the United States, and was interviewed by the BBC World Service about her 2015 book *A Taste of Power: Food and American Identities*.

## Faculty Bookshelf



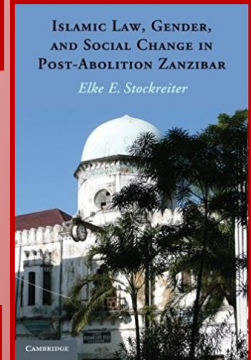
Gautham Rao, *National Duties: Custom Houses and the Making of the American State*. UChicago 2016.

Theresa Runstedtler, *Jack Johnson, Rebel Sojourner: Boxing in the Shadow of the Global Color Line*. UCal 2013.



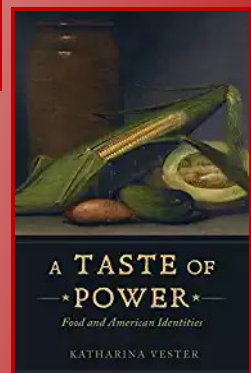
M.J. Rymsza-Pawlowska, *History Comes Alive: Public History and Popular Culture in the 1970s*. UNC 2017.

Elke Stockreiter, *Islamic Law, Gender and Social Change in Post-Abolition Zanzibar*. Cambridge 2015.



Elizabeth Thompson, *Justice Interrupted: The Struggle for Constitutional Government in the Middle East*. Harvard 2013.

Katharina Vester, *A Taste of Power: Food and American Identities*. UCal 2015.



## An Inside Take on the MA and PhD in Public History

We asked three students in the Public History field who had used Oral History as a key research tool what they had discovered or found interesting on their way.

### Donell Boose (PhD Student)

In my doctoral journey, I have had the opportunity to conduct oral histories with some amazing people. I am quite fortunate. In my first year, I created an oral history project on the recent social history and memories of Black Washington from the 1970s through the 1990s. To do this project, I interviewed native Washingtonian Hip Hop artists. These deeply talented narrators offered sketches of a less well-known but important local history of D.C. They spoke of American dreams and struggle, of labor and sacrifices, and of fear and hope. These, my first of oral histories, were remarkable. Through their stories, songs, and even proverbs, these interviewees made clear so much remains to be told and understood about this city and its people.

This first project led me to my dissertation research. I am now engaged in a process of researching and examining the Black Power social and political movements in D.C. I am conducting oral history interviews with black women activists and organizers in the city. Oral history work is giving me the opportunity to meet people that I would not otherwise meet, to learn things that I would not otherwise know, and to understand more deeply every day the complexity of human beings in the world.



### Anna Kaplan (PhD Student)

Oral history is a rapidly growing methodology and theoretical field within the history/public history discipline. My dissertation explores the memory of the Civil Rights Movement by using the University of Mississippi's (UM) desegregation and integration struggles as my case study. The materials available in archives give insight on political actors involved at various levels; and the students, faculty, staff, and local residents who were most vocal and visible about these issues. What I am most interested in, however, are the local community members' narratives pertaining to this conflict. In other words, I want to know how the everyday person—especially African Americans—in Oxford, Mississippi, grapples with and participates in the collective remembering of racial strife at UM. Oral history is the tool with which I can access those perspectives and contribute to the collection of sources about this history for other scholars to use.

The benefit of pursuing this research at AU is not only the History Department's and Public History Program's support of oral history, but also access to people from across the country who live in DC. Oral history can be an invaluable tool for historical research and historical dialogue. The recordings can also help present history in an engaging way to the public. Using oral history requires the same creativity and critical analysis as finding and using materials or paper documents already deposited in archives, but it can help broaden and complicate interpretations of the past.

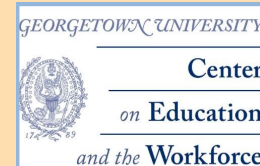
### Jenna Hill (MA Student)

As part of my graduate work in AU's Public History program, I took the oral history course my first year. Prior to the course, I had never used oral history in any of my research, it was an invaluable hands-on experience. For the course project, a classmate and I decided to focus on portrayals of veterans in museums. We asked for their opinions on exhibits or museums and what would they change if they could. However, in developing the project and drafting the questions we really had to think about who we wanted to interview. We ended up interviewing seven veterans who actually work in museum institutions. We interviewed two employees at the National Museum of the U.S. Navy, four docents at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, and one volunteer at the National Air and Space Museum. Each had his own unique story to tell about his service, how he got involved with his respective museum, and his opinion about military representation.

Without oral history we never would have been able to capture their stories and opinions. And this is true for any undocumented part of history. Oral history allows stories to emerge that have never been heard before.

### History Majors Top Wages Among Humanities

A recent study by Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce found that "among humanities and liberal arts majors, history majors have the highest annual wage." Approximately one in five humanities and liberal arts majors choose to study history surpassed only by English.



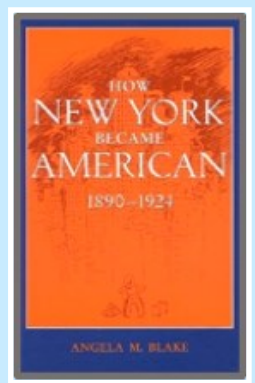
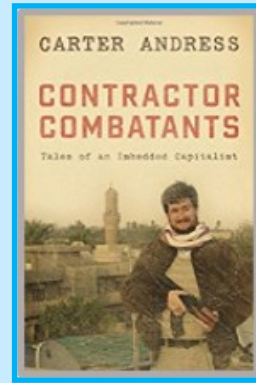
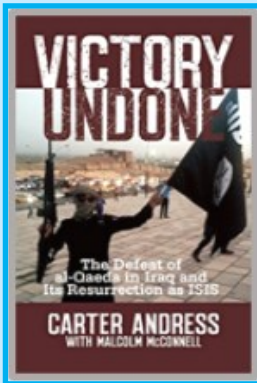
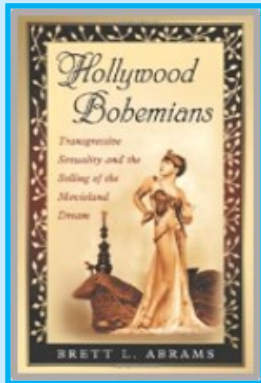
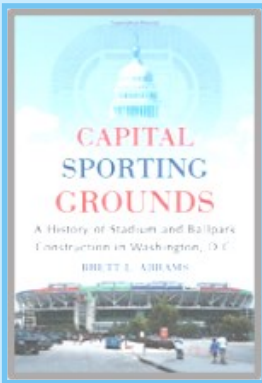
# Graduate Welcome Reception

September 2017

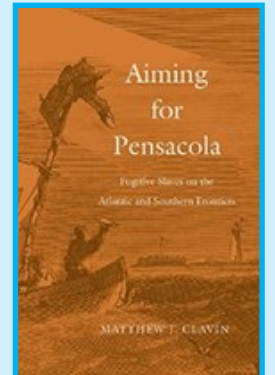
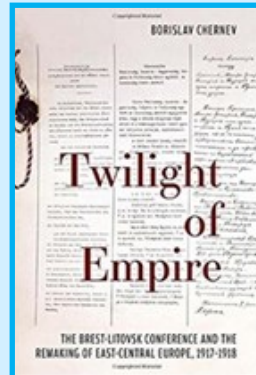
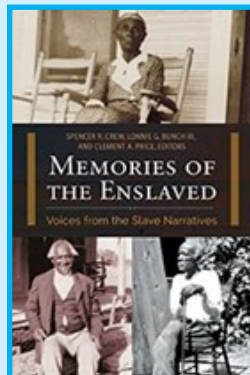
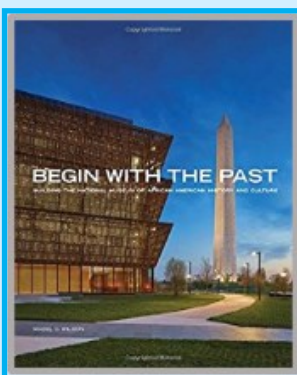


# Alumni Bookshelf

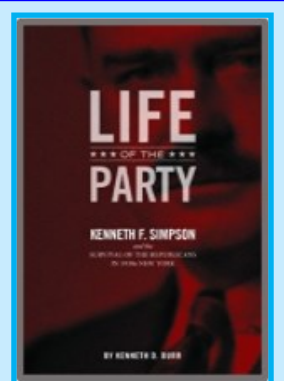
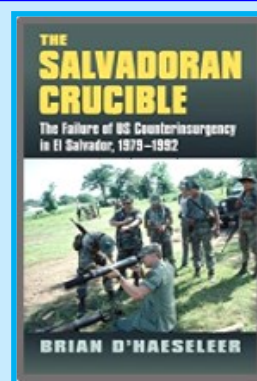
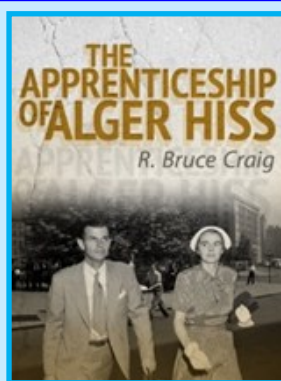
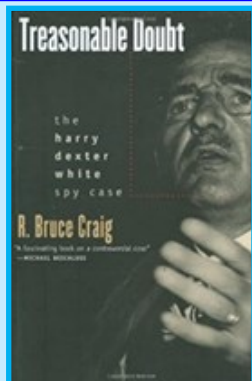
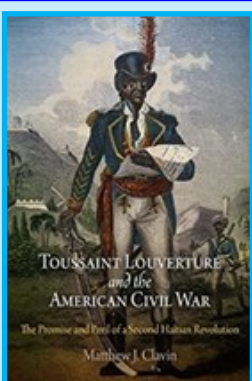
## Recent publications from our alumni (A—D)



- Brett L. Abrams**, *Capital Sporting Grounds: A History of Stadium and Ballpark Construction in Washington, D.C.* (2009)
- Brett L. Abram**, *Hollywood Bohemians: Transgressive Sexuality and the Selling of the Movieland Dream.* (2008)
- Carter Address**, *Contractor Combatants: Tales of an Imbedded Capitalist.* (2007)
- Carter Address**, *Victory Undone: the Defeat of al-Qaeda in Iraq and Its Resurrection as ISIS.* (2014)
- Angela M. Blake**, *How New York Became American, 1890-1924.* (2009)



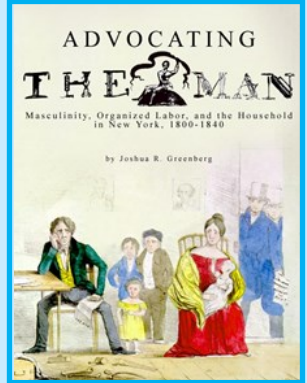
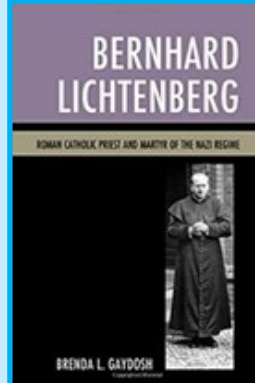
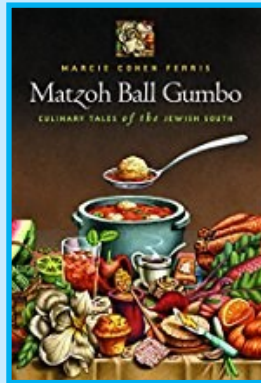
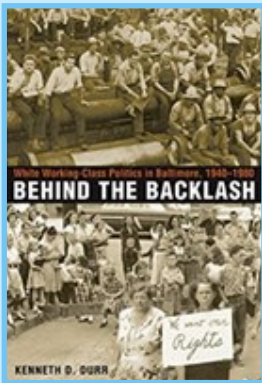
- Lonnie G. Bunch III**, *Begin With the Past: Building the National Museum of African American History and Culture* (2016)
- Lonnie G. Bunch III**, *Call the Lost Dream Back: Essays on History, Race & Museums* (2011)
- Lonnie G. Bunch III** (with Spencer R. Crew & Clement A. Price), *Memories of the Enslaved: Voices from the Slave Narratives* (2015)
- Borislav Chernev**, *Twilight of Empire: The Brest-Litovsk Conference and the Remaking of East Central Europe, 1917-1918* (2017)
- Matthew J. Clavin**, *Aiming for Pensacola: Fugitive Slaves on the Atlantic and Southern Frontiers* (2015)



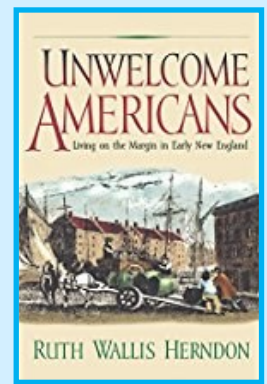
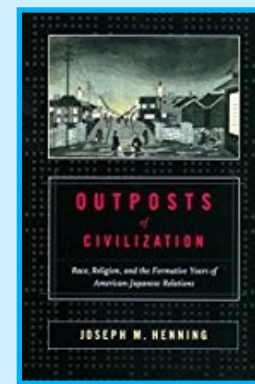
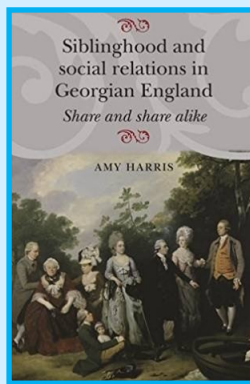
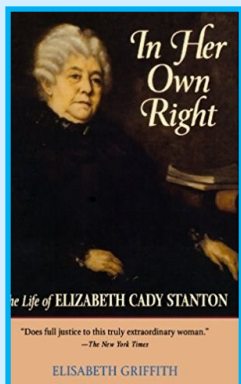
- Matthew J. Clavin**, *Toussaint Louverture and the American Civil War: The Promise and Peril of a Second Haitian Revolution.* (2011)
- Bruce R. Craig**, *Treasonable Doubt: The Harry Dexter White Spy Case.* (2004)
- Bruce R. Craig**, *The Apprenticeship of Alger Hiss.* (2013)
- Brian D'Haeseleer**, *The Salvadoran Crucible: The failure of US Counterinsurgency in El Salvador, 1979-1992.* (2017)
- Kenneth D. Durr**, *Life of the Party: Kenneth F. Simpson and the Survival of the Republicans in 1930s New York.* (2009)

# Alumni Bookshelf

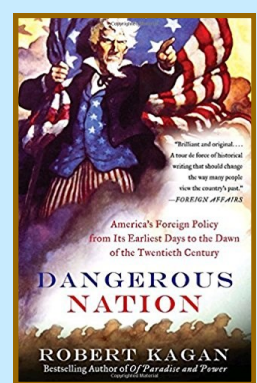
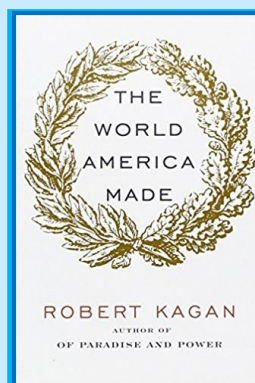
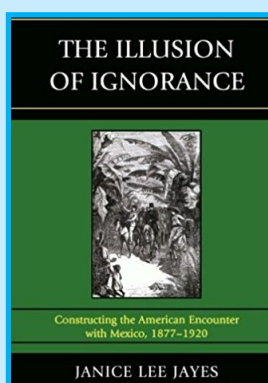
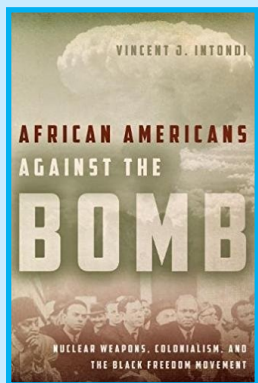
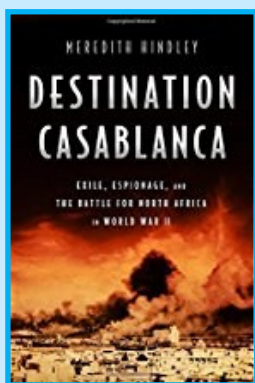
Recent publications from our alumni (D—K)



- Kenneth D. Durr**, *Behind the Backlash: White Working-Class Politics in Baltimore, 1940-1980*. (2003)  
**Marcie Cohen Ferris**, *The Edible South: The Power of Food and the Making of an American Region*. (2016)  
**Marcie Cohen Ferris**, *Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South*. (2005)  
**Brenda L. Gaydosh**, *Bernhard Lichtenberg: Roman Catholic Priest and Martyr of the Nazi Regime*. (2017)  
**Joshua R. Greenberg**, *Advocating the Man: Masculinity, Organized Labor, and the Household in New York, 1800-1840*. (2009)



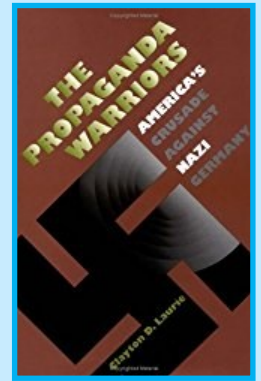
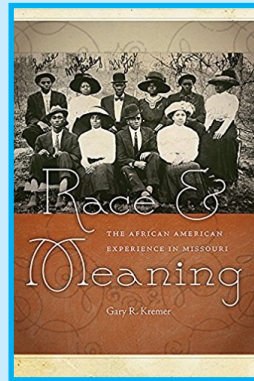
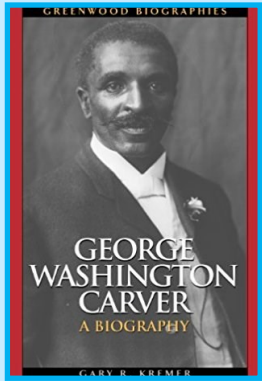
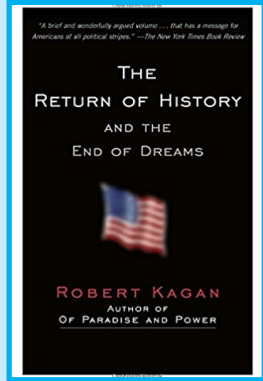
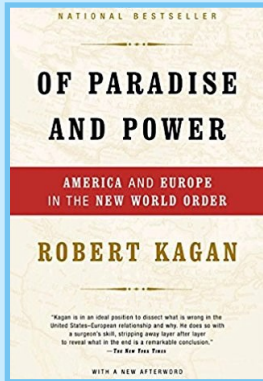
- Elisabeth Griffith**, *In Her Own Right: The Life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton*. (1985)  
**Cynthia Gueli**, *Lipstick Brigade: the Untold True Story of Washington's World War II Government Girls*. (2015)  
**Amy Harris**, *Siblings and Social Relations in Georgian England*. (2016)  
**Joseph M. Henning**, *Outposts of Civilization: Race, Religion, and the Formative Years of American-Japanese Relations*. (2000)  
**Ruth Wallis Herndon**, *Unwelcome Americans Living on the Margin in Early New England*. (2001)



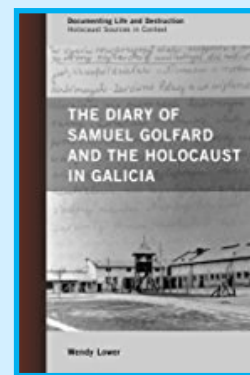
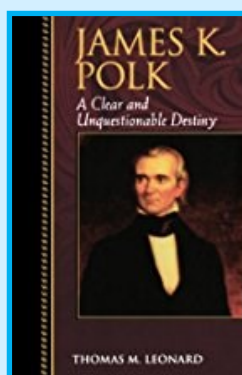
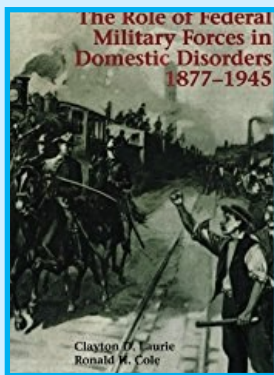
- Meredith Hindley**, *Destination Casablanca: Exile, Espionage, and the Battle for North Africa in World War II*. (2016)  
**Vincent J. Intondi**, *African Americans Against the Bomb: Nuclear Weapons, Colonialism, and the Black Freedom Movement*. (2015)  
**Janice Lee Jayes**, *The Illusions of Ignorance: Constructing the American Encounter with Mexico, 1877-1920*. (2011)  
**Robert Kagan**, *The World America Made*. (2012)  
**Robert Kagan**, *Dangerous Nation: America's Foreign Policy from Its Earliest Days to the Dawn of the Twentieth Century*. (2007)

# Alumni Bookshelf

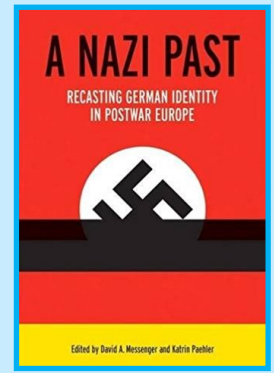
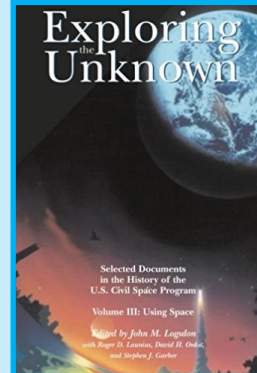
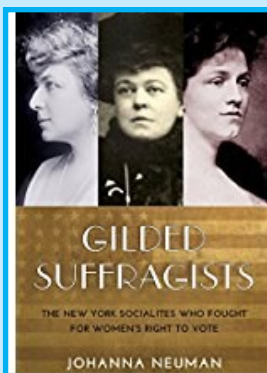
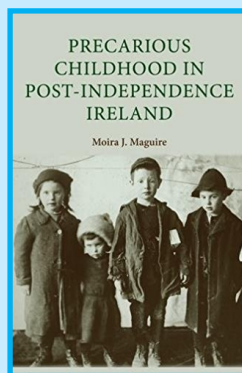
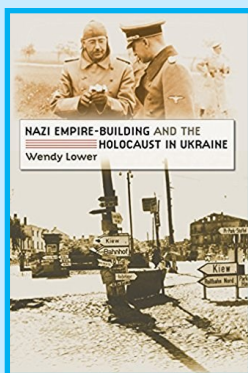
Recent publications from our alumni (K–P)



Robert Kagan, *Of Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order*. (2004)  
 Robert Kagan, *The Return of History and the End of Dreams*. (2009)  
 Gary R. Kremer, *George Washington Carver: A Biography*. (2011)  
 Gary R. Kremer, *Race and Meaning: The African American Experience in Missouri*. (2016)  
 Clayton D. Laurie, *The Propaganda Warriors: America's Crusade Against Nazi Germany*. (1996)



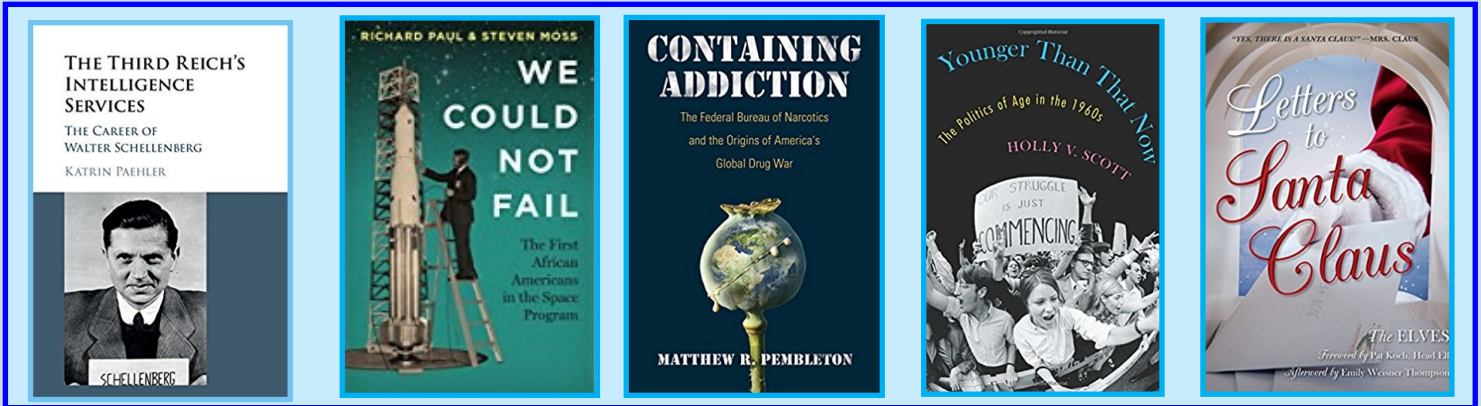
Clayton D. Laurie, (& Ronald M. Cole) *The Role of Federal Military Forces in Domestic Disorders, 1877-1945*. (2015)  
 Thomas M. Leonard, *The United States and the Americas: Central America and the United States The Search for Stability*. (1991)  
 Thomas M. Leonard, *James K. Polk: A Clear and Unquestionable Destiny*. (2000)  
 Wendy Lower, *The Diary of Samuel Golfard and the Holocaust in Galicia*. (2015)  
 Wendy Lower, *Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields*. (2014)



Wendy Lower, *Nazi Empire-Building and the Holocaust in Ukraine*. (2007)  
 Moira J. Maguire, *Precarious Childhood in Post-Independence Ireland*. (2012)  
 Johanna Neuman, *Gilded Suffragists: The New York Women Who Fought for Women's Right to Vote*. (2017)  
 David H. Onkst, (with John Logsdon, ed) *Exploring Unknown: Selected Documents in the History of the U.S. Civil Space Program*. (2014)  
 Katrin Paehler and Maulucci, Thomas. *A Nazi Past: Recasting German Identity in Postwar Europe*. (2017)

# Alumni Bookshelf

## Recent publications from our alumni (P—Z)



- Katrin Paehler**, *The Third Reich's Intelligence Services: The Career of Walter Schellenberg* (2017)  
**Richard Paul** (with Steven Moss) *We Could Not Fail: The First African Americans in the Space Program* (2015)  
**Matthew R. Pembleton**, *Containing Addiction: The Federal Bureau of Narcotics and the Origins of America's Global Drug War.* (2017)  
**Holly V. Scott**, *Younger Than That Now: The Politics of Age in the 1960s.* (2016)  
**Emily Weisner Thompson**, *Letter to Santa Claus: The Elves* (2015)



- Emily Weisner Thompson**, *Santa Claus (Images of America)* (2013)  
**Chris Tudda**, *A Cold War Turning Point: Nixon and China, 1969-1972.* (2012)  
**Chris Tudda**, *Cold War Summits: A History, From Potsdam to Malta.* (2015)  
**Chris Tudda**, *The Truth is Our Weapon: The Rhetorical Diplomacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles.* (2006)  
**Bernard O Unti**, *Protecting All animals: A Fifty-Year History of the Humane Society of the United States* (2004)



- Kimberly Welch**, *Black Litigants in the Antebellum American South.* (2018)  
**Robert J. Wilensky**, *Military Medicine to Win Hearts and Minds: Aid to Civilians in the Vietnam War.* (2004)  
**Ward Wilson**, *Five Myths about Nuclear Weapons.* (2014)  
**David F. Winkler**, *Cold War at Sea: High-Seas Confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union.* (2000)  
**David F. Winkler**, *Incidents at Sea: American Confrontation and Cooperation with Russia and China, 1945-2016.* (2017)

## History and Public History

**Ashlee Anderson** interned at President Lincoln's Cottage.

**Ama Ansah** interned at the National Archives Exhibit Program.

**Laura Autekayeva** presented a paper at a conference in Boston.

**Michael Barry** presented his award winning documentaries "The Universal Soldier: Vietnam," "Sincerity: From X to El-Shabazz," and "Historic Lincolnville Museum Project" at conferences in Chicago, Florida, Georgia, Dallas, Memphis and Minneapolis.

**Megan Biser** presented a panel at the National Council on Public History.

**Paul Behringer** was awarded the Fulbright Award. He also presented three papers at conferences in Virginia, Hawaii & Toronto

**Donelle Boose** presented her work on Testifying Black Women: Radical Roots of Oral History in America at the Oral History Association.

**Rebecca Brenner** presented at the Society for History in the Federal Government Annual Meeting at the US National Archives this past April. She also presented a panel at the National Council on Public History.

**Madison Carper** was awarded a Fellowship from the National Coalition for History.

**Joan Cummings** was awarded the Griffith Award for outstanding work in Public History. She also presented a paper at the NCPH Annual meeting.

**Brian D'Haeseleer** published *The Salvadoran Crucible*, Nov 2017.

**Lauren Duval** was awarded multiple fellowships: the Advisory Council Dissertation Fellowship, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies Andrew W. Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Women's History, the New York Public Library Short-term Fellowship and the David Library of the American Revolution Fellowship. She also presented two papers in Philadelphia, PA.

**Aleisa Fishman**, former PhD student, had her work for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum featured in a Washington Post Article. The project, "History Unfolded" uses crowdsourcing to look for newspapers across the country featuring articles about European Jews that ran between 1933 and 1945.

**Melissa Galvin** interned at the National Museum of American History in their Office of Audience Engagement.

**Elizabeth Gonzales** interned at the National Postal Museum in their Education Department. She was also awarded a Fellowship from the DC Preservation League.

**Jordan Grant** presented a paper at the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

**Katelyn Hatton** interned at CSPAN American History TV.

**Jenna Hill** interned at the National Archives in College Park. She was also awarded a Fellowship from the AU Special Collections.

**Callie Hopkins** received a fellowship from the National Coalition for History.

**Samantha Hunter** received a fellowship from the DC Preservation League.

**Katherine Kitterman** presented a paper in Utah and had an article accepted for publication on "Kasmira C. Wurscher: Strength in War and Peace" in Richard E. Turley and Brittany Chapman Nash, eds., *Women of Faith in the Latter Days*.

**Amy Langford** presented two papers in California.

**Sarah Lepianka** received a fellowship from the AU Special Collections.

**Lindsay MacNeill** presented papers in Copenhagen and at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. MacNeill also was awarded a Fulbright grant to study the organizational culture of the Austrian police from 1918-1955. Her research examines the policing of politics in Austria from 1918 to 1955 under the successive democratic, authoritarian, Nazi, and Allied occupation governments. Lindsay MacNeill is especially interested in how Austrian police forces defined and policed subversion under these different ideological regimes. The policing of politics is often understood as something that uniquely reflects the political ideology of a given regime. MacNeill seeks to challenge this view by examining the ways in which certain continuities in police behaviors, beliefs, and assumptions existed across national borders and continued despite regime change. MacNeill also received a fellowship from the Vienna Wiesenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies (VWI) and also a Diane and Howard Wohl Fellowship from the Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies.

**Madeline Makhoul** interned at the National Air and Space Museum.

**Madeline Mann** received a fellowship from the White House Historical Association.

**Toby McCarroll**, a graduating History senior was awarded the Stafford H. Cassell Student Achievement Award by the American University. This is one of ten Student Achievement Awards given out to seniors annually. This specific award is given to "A senior who best exemplifies the traits of Mr. Cassell—total, selfless dedication to the University, profound energy, and reliability as well as intellectual curiosity, friendliness, and helpfulness."

**Loren Miller** received a Mellon Curatorial Fellowship at the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture. She is now working at the Center for African American Media Arts (CAAMA).

**Alon Milwicki** is teaching at Collin College, Texas.

**Ariel Mond**, an undergraduate alumna, began an MA program in French Studies at NYU.

**Nathan Moore** presented a paper in Colorado.

**Pete Mueller** has won prizes for his photographic journalism in Africa. He won a teaching fellowship at Mount Holyoke College for spring 2017.

**Bethany Nagle** interned at White House Historical Association.

# Student Good News

## History and Public History

**Johanna Neuman** published *Gilded Suffragists* which was named by Publishers' Weekly as a top offering from independent and academic publishing houses this fall.

**Nguyet Nyugen** won the SHAFR Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

**Matthew Pembleton** had an article published in the Washington Post recently. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/made-by-history/wp/2017/08/31/weve-spent-a-century-fighting-the-war-on-drugs-it-helped-create-an-opioid-crisis/?utm\\_term=.c4c81ba7c77d](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/made-by-history/wp/2017/08/31/weve-spent-a-century-fighting-the-war-on-drugs-it-helped-create-an-opioid-crisis/?utm_term=.c4c81ba7c77d). His book, *Containing Addiction: the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and the Origins of America's Global Drug War* was published by UMass this December. (See insert below)

**Kaitlyn Ross** was awarded a Fulbright Alternate status on her application to Oxford, where she has been accepted.

**Alison Russell** interned at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival as an Education Specialist.

**Phoebe Sherman** presented a panel at the National Council on Public History.

**Emily Sullivan** received two year-long fellowships from the History Associates, Inc. She also interned at the National Museum of the US Navy at the Washington Navy Yard.

**Scott Vehstedt** published "Continuity in the Face of Social Change: Demographic Shifts and the United Methodist Church's Institutional Conservatism on Sexuality." in the *Intermountain West Journal of Religious Studies*, 8 no.1 2017.

**Kim Welch**, who received an MA at AU and went on to do her PhD at the University of Maryland, is now Assistant Professor of History and Law at Vanderbilt University, after spending several years at West Virginia University and winning post-doctoral fellowships from the Mellon Fund and the American Bar Association. Her forthcoming book is *Black Litigants in the Antebellum American South* (University of North Carolina Press, 2018).

**Katrina Wioneck** interned at the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington.

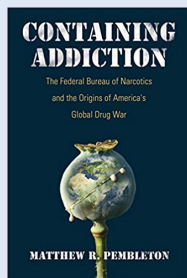
**Zachary Wood** presented a panel at the National Council on Public History.

***Containing Addiction: The Federal Bureau of Narcotics and the Origins of America's Global Drug War.*** Matthew R. Pembleton, UMass Press, 2017.



The story of America's "War on Drugs" usually begins with Richard Nixon or Ronald Reagan. In *Containing Addiction*, Matthew R. Pembleton argues that its origins instead lie in the years

following World War II, when the Federal Bureau of Narcotics—the country's first drug control agency, established in 1930—began to depict drug control as a paramilitary conflict and sent agents abroad to disrupt the flow of drugs to American shores.



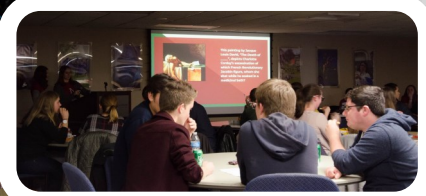
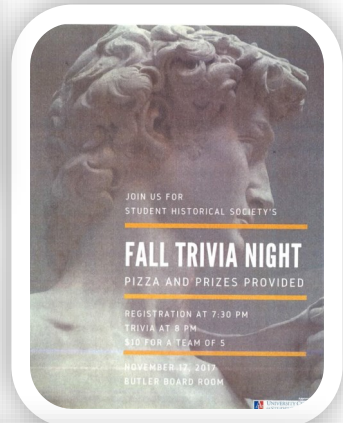
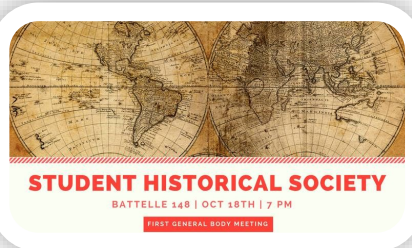
## Student Historical Society

### The Student Historical Society Wins Excellence Award

At the 2016 Student Leadership Awards Ceremony, the Student Historical Society was presented with the award for "Excellence in Programming. Quite an achievement!

Founded in 2011, the Student Historical Society is a recognized student organization on the campus of American University open to all AU students. Our purpose is to promote the study of history, to encourage student involvement in the fields of historic preservation and public history, and to provide a place for historically inclined students to share a common interest. We work to accomplish these goals by volunteering for DC area historic sites and organizations, holding discussion sessions, sponsoring speakers, organizing trips to historic sites, and advocating for historic preservation.

The Student Historical Society is a thriving student group on campus. Highlights of the past year include trips last spring to see Bull Run Battlefield, the movie *Hidden Figures* and Mount Vernon. This fall, the DC Ghost Tour was a very popular event and, as ever, the History Trivia Night was a not-to-be missed event!

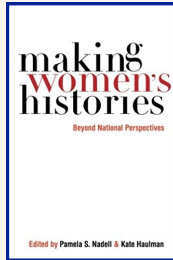


## History in a Different Key

***Making Women's Histories: Beyond National Perspectives***, Pamela S. Nadell (ed) & Kate Haulman (ed), NYU Press, 2013.

The contributors discuss their discovery of women's histories, the multiple turns the field has taken, and how place affected the course of this scholarship. Noted scholars of women's and gender history, they stand atop such historiographically-defined vantage points as Tsarist Russia, the British Empire in Egypt and India, Qing-dynasty China, and the U.S. roiling through the 1960s.

"Making Women's Histories is an innovative collection that brings together state-of-the-art essays on developments in national, continental, transnational, and thematic areas. In its attention to the politics of women's history—personal and structural connections to women's movements, the impact of nationalism and imperialism, the impact of globalization—the volume reminds us how important the history we write and teach is for making the world a better place." Leila J. Rupp, University of California.



From NYU Press.

***A Taste of Power: Food and American Identities***. Katharina Vester. University of California Press, 2015.

Since the founding of the United States, culinary texts and practices have played a crucial role in the making of cultural identities and social hierarchies. *A Taste of Power* examines culinary writing and practices as forces for the production of social order and, at the same time, points of cultural resistance. Culinary writing has helped shape dominant ideas of nationalism, gender, and sexuality, suggesting that eating right is a gateway to becoming an American, a good citizen, an ideal man, or a perfect wife and mother.



Katharina Vester examines how cookbooks became a way for women to participate in nation-building before they had access to the vote or public office, for Americans to distinguish themselves from Europeans, for middle-class authors to assert their class privileges, for men to claim superiority over women in the kitchen, and for lesbian authors to insert themselves into the heteronormative economy of culinary culture

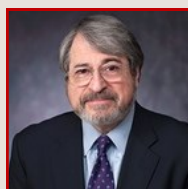
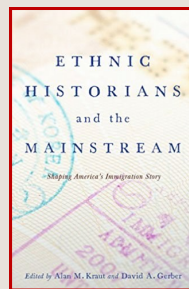


From University of California website.

***Ethnic Historians and the Mainstream: Shaping America's Immigration Story***. Alan M. Kraut (ed) (with David A. Gerber) Rutgers University Press, 2013.

Do historians "write their biographies" with the subjects they choose to address in their research? In this collection, editors Alan M. Kraut and David A. Gerber compiled eleven original essays by historians whose own ethnic backgrounds shaped the choices they have made about their own research and writing as scholars.

These authors, historians of American immigration and ethnicity, revisited family and personal experiences and reflect on how their lives helped shape their later scholarly pursuits, at times inspiring specific questions they asked of the nation's immigrant past. They address issues of diversity, multiculturalism, and assimilation in academia, in the discipline of history, and in society at large. Most have been pioneers not only in their respective fields, but also in representing their ethnic group within American academia. Some of the women in the group were in the vanguard of gender diversity in the discipline of history as well as on the faculties of the institutions where they have taught. The authors in this collection represent a wide array of backgrounds, spanning Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America.



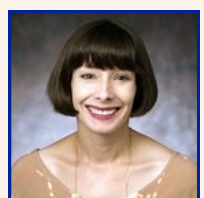
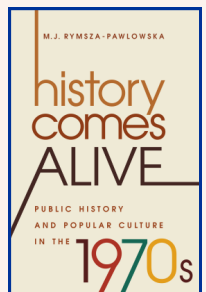
From Rutgers University Press.

***History Comes Alive: Public History and Popular Culture in the 1970s***.

M. J. Rymysz-Pawlowska. UNC Press, 2017

During the 1976 Bicentennial celebration, millions of Americans engaged with the past in brand-new ways. They became absorbed by historical miniseries like *Roots*, visited museums with new exhibits that immersed them in the past, propelled works of historical fiction onto the bestseller list, and participated in living history events across the nation. While many of these activities were sparked by the Bicentennial, M. J. Rymysz-Pawlowska shows that, in fact, they were symptomatic of a fundamental shift in Americans' relationship to history during the 1960s and 1970s.

For the majority of the twentieth century, Americans thought of the past as foundational to, but separate from, the present, and they learned and thought about history in informational terms. But Rymysz-Pawlowska argues that the popular culture of the 1970s reflected an emerging desire to engage and enact the past on a more emotional level: to consider the feelings and motivations of historic individuals and, most importantly, to use this in reevaluating both the past and the present. This thought-provoking book charts the era's shifting feeling for history, and explores how it serves as a foundation for the experience and practice of history making today.

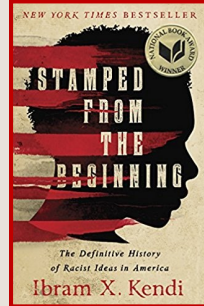


From UNC Press.

## History in a Different Key

***Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America.*** Ibram X. Kendi, Nation Books, 2016.

National Book Award Judges' Citation: "*Stamped from the Beginning* turns our ideas of the term 'racism' upside-down. Using a masterful voyage through the history of U.S. political rhetoric, beginning with Cotton Mather and ending with hip-hop, he argues that even the most fervent anti-racists have been infected with that resilient virus."

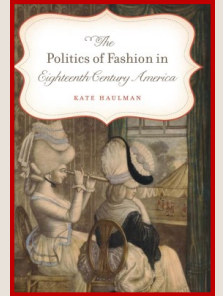


Asked by the National Book Foundation who he wrote this book for, Kendi responded, "For the lives they said don't matter. From Trayvon Martin to Sandra Bland, all those names, all those lost lives were on my mind as I wrote every word. In trying to understand why these lives don't seem to matter, we talk a lot about ignorance and hate. But history tells us something else: that racist ideas were created to defend deeply entrenched and enticing discriminatory policies. And so I wrote *Stamped* for the generations of Americans who have been convinced by racist ideas into believing there is something wrong with Black people—and not with these policies and racial inequities. I wrote *Stamped* to give Americans the understanding of history they need to fight for an equitable America where we hold as an ideal that all racial groups are equal." From the National Book Foundation website.



***The Politics of Fashion in Eighteenth-Century America.*** Kate Haulman, UNC Press, 2011.

In eighteenth-century America, fashion served as a site of contests over various forms of gendered power. Here, Kate Haulman explores how and why fashion—both as a concept and as the changing style of personal adornment—linked gender relations, social order, commerce, and political authority during a time when traditional hierarchies were in flux.



In the see-and-be-seen port cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston, fashion, a form of power and distinction, was conceptually feminized yet pursued by both men and women across class ranks. Haulman shows that elite men and women in these cities relied on fashion to present their status but also attempted to undercut its ability to do so for others. Disdain for others' fashionability was a means of safeguarding social position in cities where the modes of dress were particularly fluid and a way to maintain gender hierarchy in a world in which women's power as consumers was expanding. Concerns over gendered power expressed through fashion in dress, Haulman reveals, shaped the revolutionary-era struggles of the 1760s and 1770s, influenced national political debates, and helped to secure the exclusions of the new political order.



From UNC Press website.

## Who is the Real Indiana Jones?

Justin M. Jacobs' book makes 200-year history of Western archeological finds accessible.

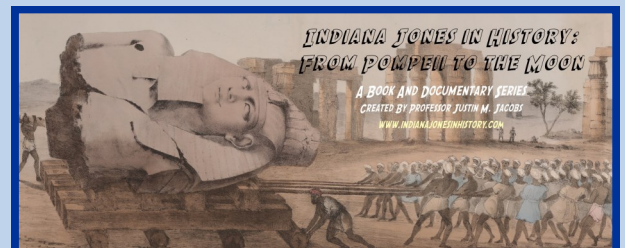


Justin M. Jacobs, is the first to tell the historical story of Indiana Jones. Jacobs' new book, *Indiana Jones in History: From Pompeii to the Moon* (Pulp Hero Press, 2017), synthesizes historical accounts and primary research. "Indiana Jones in History is a history of the scientists, collectors, scholars and explorers who, in the name of empire and civilization, sought wealth and power in the guise of sponsoring cultural progress and serving the public interest," Jacobs said. "It is about the antiquities removed from India, China, the Middle East, Egypt, Greece and Rome that went in new museums in the West that stood for modernity, civility and state power."

The book grapples with the Western discourse of superiority and cultural appropriation, which saw its inhabitants as the modern descendants of ancient civilizations worthy of admiration, and believed only a Western framework could make sense of civilized ancient cultures. They focus on what the famous digs, discoveries, and expeditions of 200 years reveal about explorers and their societies, including the influence of class and economic status.

It's an uncommon way to explore history, Jacobs says, but central to his interest as a historian: making sense of how and why so many antiquities from less developed parts of the world ended up in the museums of the more developed. At this point in history, modern-day descendants didn't yet identify with their ancient pasts (China being the lone exception). If helping a Westerner excavate and remove a ruin brought about jobs, income and infrastructure, that was a win. Antiquities were given away as "gifts," which provided diplomatic capital for a resource-poor country, Jacobs said.

Jacobs analyzes the films against historical realities, using a leaked 1978 transcript on the internet of the filmmakers' original brainstorming sessions. They get a failing grade. They never intended historical accuracy, Jacobs says, but the films do reflect the same stereotypes, biases and sinister colonial ideas about non-Western peoples explorers held. Today's audiences demand inclusion, authenticity and no harmful stereotypes. Adapted from Rebecca Basu



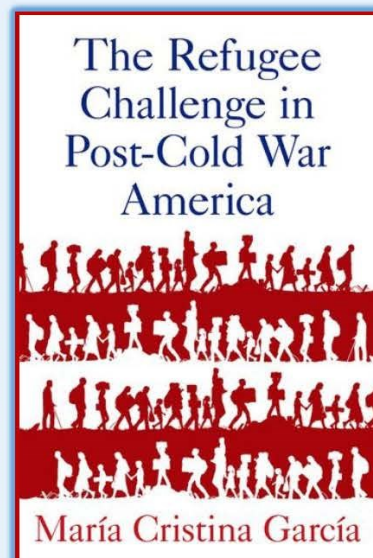
American University's Department of History Presents:  
**The Gary Braithwaite Memorial Lecture**

Featuring

**Maria Cristina Garcia**

Howard A. Newman Professor of American Studies  
Department of History, Cornell University

**"U.S. Refugee Policy and  
Our Humanitarian Tradition in the Age of Trump"**



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 5:30– 7:00pm**

Reception starts at 5:30pm

Followed by the Lecture at 6:00pm

**American University Constitution Hall**

4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20016

For over five decades, the United States was one of the top refugee resettlement nations in the world but the Trump administration is reassessing this humanitarian tradition.

This evening's talk offers a brief history of Americans responses to refugees and asylum seekers, from the Cold War to the Trump years.

Who have we prioritized for admission? How are refugees and asylum seekers different from other immigrants? Is a reassessment of U.S. humanitarian policies necessary?

Questions? Email: [history@american.edu](mailto:history@american.edu)



American University's Department of History  
is proud to present the  
**Gary Braithwaite Memorial Lecture**

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**Gary L. Braithwaite**

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**Gary L. Braithwaite** was born in Enid, Oklahoma and grew up in Teaneck, New Jersey. Braithwaite began his undergraduate education at American University in 1971 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1975, double majoring in history and American studies. He earned a Master's in history in 1977. During this time, he worked part-time at the National Archives, taught undergraduate courses as an adjunct lecturer, and worked as a counselor in the AU Financial Aid Office.

Braithwaite's enthusiasm for history was unyielding, and he continued his studies in the AU Ph.D. program. In graduate colloquia and seminars, he was a history scholar and a storyteller. Braithwaite could relay a compelling story about the tobacco industry, and its importance to the modern industrial enterprise.

In 1984, Braithwaite left graduate school and took a position at Advanced Technology in Reston, Virginia, where he became part of the team developing and maintaining the computer systems associated with the federal Pell Grant program. While working at Advanced Technology, Braithwaite never lost sight of his purpose of making higher education accessible.

Braithwaite's commitment to family, friends and community was extensive. His wit, analytical mind, and generous heart left a lasting legacy.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

NEWSLETTER 2016-2017

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