



History Newsletter

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Congratulations to Prize Winners

Freling H. Smith Prize: To the senior in the Department of History judged to have written the best senior thesis.
Sarah Tardiff

Hans Haineback Memorial Prize in Judaica: To a student who has offered the best performance in the field of Judaica.
Emily Feldman

Hans Pasch Memorial Prize: Awarded for the best essay written about the Holocaust.
Joshua Wiess

Joseph D. Doty Prize: To the junior or senior who, in the judgment of the Department of History, has done work of outstanding merit.
Reuben Oswald

Chair's Corner

walkerm@union.edu

Congratulations to Jennifer Winkelried, the second recipient of a grant from the David Potts Fund for Student Research. You can view the fruits of Jennifer's labors in the Faculty Lounge of the Social Sciences



Building, where her exhibit for the Steinmetz Symposium, "A Glimpse of Jewish Newark: The Immigrant Experience through Photography," is displayed. We look forward in the future to awarding more Potts grant money to history majors for research projects.

New Public History Program

It's been an exciting first year for the History Department's new Public History program! We debuted the Civil Rights Public History mini-term over fall break and the "Introduction to Public History" course in the winter. Students from both classes attended the tenth annual Underground Railroad History Project Conference in Troy. This term, in Prof. Foroughi's class "The Museum in Theory and Practice," students are busy learning about public history debates, interning at the Schenectady Museum, and exploring area public history sites. In Prof. Lawson's class "Race in American Memory," students are examining the struggle over commemoration and memory as it has taken place in the United States around the issue of race. And Prof. Denis Brennan is getting ready to lead another group of students on the South Africa Public History mini-term over the winter 2010-11 break.

We also have our first Public History senior project: sponsored by Prof. Meade and with the



assistance of Mandeville Gallery Director and Curator Rachel Seligman, Jen Winkelried is currently exhibiting her senior project, "A Glimpse of Jewish Newark: The Immigrant Experience 1844-1953." The exhibit, which includes photos collected from the Jewish Historical Society of Metro West in Whippany, N.J, a stained glass synagogue window, and a historic nurse's graduation cape from Beth Israel Hospital, will be up in the Social Science Lounge from April 30 to May 13. History students should try to stop by to visit what we hope will be the first of many Public History senior thesis projects!

We have three history majors participating in the new Public History internship program. Over the summer, Dan Miller (2011) will be interning at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake, and Laura Lieberman (2012) will be working at the New York State Museum in Albany. Lieberman will be working with the curators to catalog and label 3-dimensional artifacts from the Museum's 9-11 collection and research images for the 9-11 exhibit's "Response" case. Riva Packard (2010) has lined up an internship with the New York State Museum to begin in September.

In the fall we will again be offering HST 224, "Introduction to Public History" (which is a pre-requisite for the Public History internship.) In this class, students will learn the theory, methods, and practice of public history in its various dimensions, including museums, monuments, historic sites, films, digital history and historic fiction. Future courses in Public History will include Oral History (history as learned and recorded through dialogues with participants) and Digital History (we will create a history website!)

Finally, we received a wonderful piece of news: Dr. Estelle Cooke Sampson (Union 1974) who funded a number of scholarships for the 2009 Civil Rights Public History miniterm, has agreed to fund scholarships for four more trips! We are extremely grateful for her enormous generosity. The trip will run again over the winter break 2011-12.

If you are interested in a minor or a concentration in Public History, a Public History internship, or if you just want to know more about any aspect of the

program, contact Melinda Lawson X8041 or lawsonm@union.edu.

Requirements for the Major:

Twelve courses including a five-course core; at least one course on the period before 1700; at least one course each in US and European history; at least one course from the following areas: Africa/Middle East, Asia, Latin America; two-300 level courses, a seminar, and a two-term senior project.

Students will choose a five-course core in Africa/Middle East, Asia, Europe, Latin America, or US, or in a thematic concentration. Examples of thematic concentrations include "Africana," "Women and Gender," "Revolution," "Empires," etc. **In close cooperation with their advisors, history majors will select the courses for a thematic concentration and submit their proposal to the Department Chair for written approval no later than the start of Winter Term of the Junior year.**

Seminars are normally limited to 15 students and are designed to teach research skills. The 300-level courses are specifically designed for history majors and include bibliographical and historiographical components. **Seminars and 300-level courses may be used to meet the core requirements.**

Senior projects normally must pertain to a topic in the core, but cannot count toward courses in the core. **Students must complete a seminar before beginning the thesis.** Classics 121 and 125 may be counted toward the history major, but not toward a core.

Requirements for the Interdepartmental Major: Eight courses, including the core requirement or thematic concentration for majors, the seminar, one 300-level course, and the senior thesis. Students must complete a seminar before beginning the thesis. Interdepartmental majors may count one term of the senior thesis toward the field requirements.

Requirements for the Minor: Six history courses, including at least one 300-level course; at least three of the six must belong to one of the following core areas: Africa/Middle East, Asia, Europe, Latin America, or US.



Faculty News

The Union chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honor society, will induct **twenty new members on May 27, 2010**. History majors and minors who become members of Phi Alpha Theta have completed at least six courses in history with a grade point average of 3.3 or higher (which also applies to the overall GPA). The induction ceremony will be attended by current and new members as well as by History Department faculty.

If you attend commencement, you might wonder why some history majors and minors wear blue and red cords over their black robes. These are honor cords denoting membership in Phi Alpha Theta. Senior members of Phi Alpha Theta may pick up their honor cords after May 30th in the History Department.

Oh! The places we will go *News from 2010 Grads*

James Morton: I have received the Watson Fellowship and will be traveling around the world for 12 months photographing the merchant shipping industry.

Riva Packard: I will be traveling around Europe and also interning at a state or federally funded museum.

Anthony Savaglio: Post-graduation I will be receiving a commission into the US Navy and attending Flight School at Naval Air Station Pensacola as a Naval Flight Officer.

Denis Brennan: Aside from turning a young man's attention (to baseball, of course), Spring signals the successful end of another academic year and an opportunity to rest and rejuvenate. Nevertheless, my attention also turns to preparation for next year. My summer reading list is growing, especially with period historical novels that I will be considering for a new course I am planning titled **"A Novel View of the American Experience."** The course will examine the broad scope of American history from colonial times to the present as it has been revealed in primary source American literature and novels, which will hopefully introduce or re-introduce personalities and complexity to a historical context we believe we already know so well.

In addition, I will be re-introducing the "Age of Jackson" next year. Deservedly or not, Andrew Jackson is the image and spirit of an era called the "age of the common man." During this period, democracy expanded, a two-party system emerged, and a burst of energy stimulated social, economic, industrial, and territorial expansion which also laid the groundwork for sectional division.

But more than anything else, however, I am looking forward to leading a group of students for three weeks in November and December 2010 on the **South Africa Public History Mini-term**. The trip will focus on the "public history" of South Africa (i.e., museums, monuments, archives, tours, parks, etc.). We will be hosted by the University of Cape Town for classroom instruction. UTC is perched on the side of Devil's Peak with a commanding view of the Cape Flats and one of the most spectacularly beautiful campuses in the world. All of the details of the trip are not finalized, but we hope, among other places, to tour the Soweto Township, visit the Apartheid Museum, experience Robben Island (the site of Nelson Mandela's imprisonment), explore Kruger National Park, and climb Table Mountain. The trip will offer students (and me) the chance to

explore the variety of interpretations of South African history on display for the public and which has undergone radical change since the end of apartheid in 1994.

All ends are also new beginnings. So while I welcome the summer break, it bodes a promising future.

Joyce Madancy: Even though it is only early May, it feels like a hot summer is on the way. I am looking forward to using that summer to finish up a few articles that have been lingering on my desk for far too many years. After that, I will be working on a conference paper that will hopefully be presented at the New England Association for Asian Studies meeting this fall. I also hope to begin work on a collection of primary source documents about World War II in Asia. Having taught a class by that name for several years now, I decided that rather than continue to complain about the lack of such a source, I would try to compile it myself. This should take me into a lot of really interesting books and archives, so I am quite excited to get started. In the fall, I will be teaching three courses, Modern East Asia and Women in China and Japan, in addition to my SRS on Drugs and Cultures. I hope to see many of you there!

Teresa Meade: I've been very pleased with the senior theses I directed this last year. Kelly Lopez presented her work on transnational Dominican women at NCUR in April. **Special congratulations to Kelly for winning the President's Commission on the Status of Women Senior Thesis Prize, which goes to a senior whose thesis makes the greatest contribution to scholarship on women.** Kelly, along with Deanna Cox (thesis on racial discrimination against Brazilian women) and Jennifer Winkelried have all presented their research at Steinmetz. Jen's exhibit on the history of the Jewish community in Newark, NJ was done as a museum project and is open for observation daily in the Social Sciences lounge. This museum project is another small piece in our continuing focus on public history projects in the department. I am extremely proud of a former student, Jazmin Puicon '08, who has been accepted with full funding from a Mellon Research Fellowship to pursue her Ph.D. in history at Rutgers

University. Jazmin will be continuing with a topic she began with her senior thesis here at Union on the history of laboring women in Colombia.

As for my own work, I was pleased to learn that my textbook *A History of Modern Latin America, 1800 to the Present*, is coming out in a Korean translation and is under consideration for translation into Chinese. I am working this summer with Union's computer techs and a remarkable research assistant, Yiran Zhang, on a website for the book. I've suggested Yiran, a native of China, work on the Chinese edition of the webpage. Stay tuned! In addition, I have a revised and updated article, "African Americans in Search of the Brazilian 'Eldorado'", forthcoming in a collection entitled, *Exile and the Politics of Exclusion*, edited by Luis Roniger, James Green, and Pablo Yankelevich. The book focuses on the dynamics of displacement and the relocation of individuals and groups in Latin America who fled from other countries, including African Americans from the US (the topic of my article), European Jews during World War II, Leftists and political activists. This summer I am happy to be working with Leland Garivaltis '11 on a summer research project that dovetails with a new area of my own research. I am beginning a book on the role of people in the US who have been involved over the last 50 years in the Latin American solidarity movement to promote political and human rights in Latin America. Enjoy the summer and congratulations to our graduates!

Mark Walker: An English version of the German-language book I edited with my colleague Dieter Hoffmann on the history of the German Physical Society during the Third Reich has been accepted for publication, and my second editing project with Dieter, a history of "foreign" scientists (Jewish scientists still in Germany, citizens of other countries, scientists in their homelands under German occupation) who worked for the Nazi state, will appear in German.

Petition Courses for Fall 2010

HST 225: American Environmental History
HST 323: Race & Revolution
HST 402: Sem: French Empire

***300 and 400 LEVEL
 COURSES FOR
 2010-2011 YEAR***

Fall 2010

HST 323: Race & Revolution (Fall; Aslakson).
 MW 3:05 – 4:45 pm

HST 402: Sem: French Empire
 (Fall; Peterson).
 MW 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

Winter 2011

HST 311: Frontiers in America (Winter;
 Foroughi).

HST 331: US History of Film (Winter; Feffer).

HST 411: Sem: Constitution (Winter; Wells).

Spring 2011

HST 302: Comparing Muslim Cultures
 (Spring; Peterson).

HST 353: Modern European Ideas (Spring;
 Walker).

HST 362: “Black Britain” (Spring; Cramsie).

HST 412: Sem: Disasters in American History
 (Spring; Morris).

HST 471: Sem: Individual in Latin America
 (Spring; Meade).

***New Courses
 Fall 2010***

HST 138: Big History (Fall; Walker). An exploration of the past from the big bang to the present, dividing the history of the universe, earth, life, and humanity into periods using very large scales of time.

T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

HST 266: Age of Henry VIII (Fall; Cramsie). Remarkable women and men made history in Britain during the Age of Henry VIII: six wives (Catherine, Anne, Jane, Anne, Catherine and Katherine), faithful and far from saintly servants like Cardinal Wolsey, Thomas More, and Thomas Cromwell, and an evangelical boy destined to become Edward VI. This was an age of personal monarchy, patriarchy, and the rule of wealthy elites, but these figures travelled paths and pursued policies that changed the way every person lived. They nurtured and unleashed religious passions that divided generations and whole peoples from one another, and hundreds – eventually thousands – died at the hands of those who believed they had a monopoly on spiritual truth. This course analyzes the imperial ambitions of Henry VIII and Edward VI in Britain and Ireland, the brutal dynastic and religious politics of the period, and the all-out assault on the traditional faith in the Tudor dominions.

MW 3:05 pm – 4:45 pm

***Fall 2010
 Course Offerings***

Africa/Middle East

HST 402: Sem: French Empire (Fall; Peterson).
 T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

ASIA

HST 182: Modern East Asia (Fall; Madancy).
 MWF 11:45 am – 12:50 pm

HST 284: Women in China & Japan (Fall; Madancy).
MWF 9:15 am – 10:20 am

EUROPE

HST 141: Medieval Europe (Fall; Sargent).
MWF 11:45am – 12:50 pm

HST 266: Age of Henry VIII (Fall; Cramsie).
See new course listing for details
MW 3:05 pm – 4:45 pm

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

HST 271: History of Mexico (Fall; Meade)
T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

UNITED STATES

HST 121: The Depression & New Deal (Fall; Morris).
MWF 8:00 am – 9:05 am

HST 129: History of Sports in America (Fall; Brennan).
MWF 8:00 am – 9:05 am

HST 131: African American History I (Fall; Aslakson).
MWF 1:50 pm – 2:55 pm

HST 218: Death in America (Fall; Wells).
MWF 1:50 pm – 2:55 pm

HST 225: American Environmental History
(Fall; Morris).
MW 3:05 pm – 4:45 pm

HST 323: Race & Revolution (Fall; Aslakson).
MW 3:05 pm – 4:45 pm

SPECIAL TOPICS

new

HST 138: Big History (Fall; Walker). See new course listing for details
T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

HST 224: Intro. To Public History (Fall; Lawson)
T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

HST 490-493: Independent Study (Fall, Winter, Spring)

HST 498-499: Senior Project in History (Fall, Winter, Spring).

<p>Mark Walker, Chair walkerm@union.edu History Department, Union College Schenectady, NY 12308 Phone: 518-388-6220 Fax: 518-388-6422 Web: http://www.union.edu/HistoryDept/ Newsletter prepared by Jane Earley earleyj@union.edu</p>
