



History Newsletter

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Chair's Corner

— Mark Walker
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The History Department has moved from the Social Sciences building to the first floor of Lamont House. Many, but not all department members have also moved to Lamont. After the fall term everyone remaining in Social Sciences will also relocate while this building is renovated. We are very pleased to welcome two new visiting members of the History Department. Angela Ellis teaches Early Modern History, including in particular English and Welsh history, as well as the gender history. Jesse Richmond is a historian of science, with particular interests in the history of human evolution.

New Public History Program

This fall Prof. Lawson's "Introduction to Public History" class has been busy learning the principles of Public History and visiting several of the area's important sites. We have been to the New York State Museum's Rotterdam Warehouse, where we examined, among many other things, the newly arrived collection of artifacts from the 1971 Attica Prison Riot and the voluminous 9-11 collection. One of the most remarkable- and sobering- artifacts the Warehouse holds is a part of the landing gear from one of the planes that flew into the World Trade Center.

Our most recent field trip was to the Mabee Farm Slave Cabin, where we met with the Site Manager and discussed the challenges of interpreting Northern slavery. Our next trip is to Cooperstown, where we will explore the Baseball Hall of Fame Museum and meet with a member of the curatorial staff.



Mabee Farm Slavery Cabin

Three of our four Public History student interns have completed their on-site work and are currently writing papers. Over the summer, Laura Lieberman (2012) worked with the 9-11 collection at the New York State Museum and is now writing her paper on museums and memorials as healing spaces. Dan Miller (2011) worked at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake and is arguing the importance of personalizing Public History presentations; Maggie Wilson (2010) interned at the Hancock Shaker Village Museum and will be writing about the impact of state regulations on museums; and Riva Packard (2010) is just beginning her internship at the NYSM, where she be working on the upcoming 150th anniversary Civil War exhibition. Public History internships, which will count as a history course, are available to any History major or minor who has completed HST 224.

Over Winter Break, Prof. Brennan will be taking students on a Public History miniterm to Cape Town, South Africa. There, students will learn the history of South Africa as understood at museums, monuments, and national historic sites.

Upcoming courses that count for Public History credit include HST 331, Representing America:

United States History in Film (Winter, Feffer); HST 226, A Novel View of U.S. History (Spring, Brennan); and HST 265: The Museum: Theory and Practice (same as ANT-265, Spring, Witsoe.) Over the next couple of years, we will introduce new courses that will count for Public History credit, including Oral History, Digital History, and the History of American Popular Culture in the United States.

Finally, we are excited to be bringing a Public History speaker to campus: on **November 3rd**, **Professor Robyn Autry**, a sociologist at Wesleyan University, will be speaking on race, memory, and museums. Look for more details as the date approaches.

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.

Students may also choose a five course Public History core, consisting of HST 224; a department-approved Public History internship; HST 265, HST 331, or an approved Public History miniterm; and two other relevant history courses chosen in cooperation with Professor Lawson.

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.

Requirements for the Public History Minor: Seven courses, including at least one 300-level course; HST 224; a department-approved Public History internship; HST 265, HST 331, or an approved Public History miniterm; and either an additional course drawn from the previous list or one course drawn from the following: Art History 101,102 or 103, 250T, 260, 263,294,390; Anthropology 111, 115, 188; Studio Fine Arts 262, Computer Science 055; Modern Language in Translation 263, Political Science 247, 260. For information about approved public history internships, contact Professor Lawson at X8041 or lawsonm@union.edu.

News from an Alumni:

Stacy Paull, '09, writes from the first leg of her "Around the World Solo" trip.

I am currently in Ireland and traveling to Portugal and Spain soon. I have had an interesting introduction to travelling alone over the past few weeks that I have detailed in the blog that I am keeping:

<http://aroundworldsolo.blogspot.com/>. Sign on at

the blog, or contact me at my new email: slynnell@gmail.com.

Faculty News

Andrea Foroughi: Over the summer, I worked with Joe Privitera, a junior history major, and Rachel Seligman, director of the Mandeville Gallery in the Nott Memorial, on an exhibit scheduled for Fall 2011 that will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the United States Civil War. We will be continuing research on this exhibit, which will highlight contributions made by men who were affiliated with it or graduates of Union College towards the war effort in the Union and the Confederacy. Look for more information about the exhibit in future newsletters!

Melinda Lawson: I had a busy but enjoyable summer. I attended the second annual Society of Civil War Historians Conference in Richmond, Virginia. Richmond is, of course, a town filled with history, and while there I toured the sites, among them a new museum, the American Civil War Center at Tredegar Falls. Back in Albany, I met with curators at the New York State Museum to discuss an upcoming sesquicentennial exhibition, "New York in the Civil War." I have agreed to be a consultant for that exhibit and am very much looking forward to what I think will be an exciting process. My article, "Imagining Slavery: Representations of the Peculiar Institution on the Northern Stage, 1776- 1860," was accepted for publication in the *Journal of the Civil War Era*, and a chapter of my book, *Patriot Fires*, has been included in the newest edition of *Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction*. As I head into the fall, I am continuing my research on popular perceptions of slavery in the North before the war, turning now to representations of slavery in travel literature.

I am enjoying teaching "Introduction to Public History" and am looking forward to my SRS and the "Civil Rights Movement" class in the winter. I am also planning a few new courses for the Public History program, including Digital History

and a History of American Popular Culture, the latter of which I hope to offer next year.

Joyce Madancy: As my colleagues settle in to their new, temporary homes in Lamont House, I am one of the holdouts still in Social Sciences until the end of the term. This is because I am on sabbatical leave for the winter and spring terms. I will be coming to campus one day a week to meet with thesis students, but most of the time, I will be ensconced in my home office. In that office, I will be working on two conference papers (to be presented in Burlington, VT and Buffalo, NY), several articles that I've been working on for far too long, and the proposal for a book-length project that is a compilation of documents about World War II in Asia. I will have plenty to keep me productive and happy. Until then, come visit me in Social Sciences!

Teresa Meade: After a busy summer working on a webpage for my book, *A History of Modern Latin America*, with the able assistance of two computer science majors, McLoud Sims, '10 and Omar Hassib, '10, I am looking forward to launching the site on the internet. This fall I've been giving talks, one for Union alums on Homecoming Weekend and one at Harvard University on "Brazil in the 21st Century". I am assisted in this by Eric Langner, '11, who has worked with me on a project on the impact of the World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games in 2016 on the Brazilian economy. Finally, I will be completing my term as President of the New England Council of Latin American Studies (NECLAS) in early November. I will preside at the NECLAS annual meeting at U-Conn, Storrs, before stepping down. I will also be presenting a paper at NECLAS on a panel entitled "Conflicting Conceptions of Race in Brazil and the US" with my colleague, Professor Aslakson.

Andrew Morris: Over winter break I will have conducted a research trip to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, to work on archival sources relating to Hurricane Camille, which struck the Gulf Coast in 1969. This trip, supported by the College's Humanities Development Fund, is part of my larger project studying the expansion of disaster relief in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Problems with the distribution of relief in the aftermath of Camille

prompted Congressional investigation and ultimately an expansion of federal disaster relief programs, a case which I have explored initially in a conference paper given in the spring of 2010 but intend to flesh out with this research trip.

Brian Peterson: I had a productive sabbatical this past year. Primarily, I finished all the revisions on my book, and submitted the final manuscript. The title is: *Islamization from Below: The Making of Muslim Communities in Rural French Sudan, 1880-1960*. This past week, I just received the page proofs, so only the index remains to do. If I survive that, it's slated to come out in March 2011 (with Yale U. Press). Other than that, after the revisions were completed last February, I spent April-May in southern Morocco, mainly in the High Atlas Mountains scouting out possible research areas for a comparative empire project I've been dreaming about, comparing colonial histories in Mali (French Sudan), Morocco (French North Africa), and possibly one other case study (maybe somewhere in French Equatorial Africa). This fall, I'm excited to be back at Union and teaching again. Over the winter break, I'll be giving a paper at a conference in Rabat, Morocco, and then spend a couple weeks on new research.

Mark Walker: A book in German on the history of the German Physical Society during the Third Reich that I edited with a German colleague, Dieter Hoffmann, will be translated and published in English. Another book I have edited with Dieter on "foreign scientists" under Hitler--foreign nationals, Jewish or part-Jewish scientists who did not leave Germany, and native scientists working in their own countries under German occupation--will appear this spring in German.

Petition Courses for Winter 2011

HST 311: Frontiers in the Americas
HST 331: US History in Film
HST 340: Gender in Early Modern Europe
HST 412: Sem: Constitution

300 and 400 LEVEL COURSES FOR SPRING 2011

HST 302: Comparing Muslim Cultures
HST 353: Modern European Ideas
HST 362: Black Britain
HST 431: Sem.: Disasters in American History
HST 471: Sem: Individual in Latin America

New Courses Winter 2011

HST 163: Hanes Cymru: Wales & the Welsh (Winter; Cramsie). A mythic past of Trojans and giants? A people fierce in defense of liberty? A wild, romantic, undiscovered country? A conquered people without a nation or name of its own? Gwyn Williams neatly summed up these issues with his 1991 book, *When Was Wales?* This course explores Wales and its people with a strong focus on such questions of national identity. Our foundation is John Davies' classic *History of Wales*, an English translation of his history first written in Welsh for a Welsh-speaking readership. In the long sweep of that history we will pause now and then to study moments and markers crucial for how the Welsh understand themselves and their nation: the great medieval legends of the *Mabinogion*, the famous revolt of Owain Glyn Dwr and Wales' subsequent incorporation within the English state, the romanticization of Wales and its past in the eighteenth century, the Welsh Diaspora, the iconic Welsh identity associated with the coal pits and Labour, Wales in film, and the challenges of modernity seen through the lives of Welsh women and ethnic communities in Wales.

HST 245: Occult Sciences & Societies (Winter; Sargent). This course surveys the rise of occult sciences, such as ritual magic, astrology, and alchemy, and the influence of real and imagined secret societies dedicated to the preservation and transmission of such esoteric knowledge. It examines the legends associated with the suppression of the Templars in fourteenth-century

France, and the revival of Platonism, Jewish Kabbalah, and pseudo-Egyptian Hermeticism in Renaissance Italy.

It considers the dissemination of such ideas throughout early-modern Europe, the alchemical theories of Paracelsus and Isaac Newton, and the imagined societies of esoteric utopias. Concludes with the rise of Rosicrucianism, Freemasonry, and the Bavarian Illuminati and their possible influence on the French Revolution.

HST 267: The Tudor and Stuart Queens (Winter; Cramsie). The radical Protestant John Knox published a tract in 1558 denouncing what he called the ‘monstrous regiment of women’. He had in mind three women who dominated the political scene: Queen Mary I of England (Henry VIII’s Catholic daughter) Marie of Guise (widow and queen regent of the deceased James V of Scotland); and young Mary Queen of Scots, betrothed to the future king of Catholic France. Knox had the spectacularly bad luck to publish his attack on queenship at the moment when Mary I died and her Protestant sister Elizabeth ascended the throne, a queen mighty in defense of her authority and with a temper to match her illustrious father Henry VIII. These women defined British History after 1550. Looking back on these years, Francis Bacon wrote of the ‘strange perturbations’ of England, having been ruled by a boy king (Edward VI) and two women before finally again seeing on the throne a proper adult male, James VI of Scotland – with nice irony, Mary Queen of Scots’ son. This course explores the lives of these Tudor and Stewart queens and analyzes the intersections of gender, authority, and religious zeal that defined their age.

Winter 2011 Course Offerings

AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN

HST 108: Africa since 1800 (Winter; Peterson).
T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

HST 201: Contemporary Africa (Winter; Peterson).
T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

EUROPE

HST 143: Entrepreneurship in Medieval & Renaissance Europe (Winter; Sargent).
T,Th 9:00 am – 10:45 am

new

HST163: Hanes Cymru: Wales & the Welsh (Winter; Cramsie). See new course listing for details.

T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

new

HST 245: Occult Sciences & Societies (Winter; Sargent).

T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

new

HST 267: The Tutor and Stuart Queens (Winter; Cramsie).

MW 3:05 pm – 4:45 pm

HST 340: Gender in Early Modern Europe (Winter; Ellis).

T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN HISTORY

HST 272: History of Brazil (Winter; Meade). A general survey course covering the history of Brazil from the period of the Portuguese conquest, approximately 1500 to the present. The course covers Portuguese settlement, the rise of slavery in the Northeast sugar regions and in coffee cultivation in the South, as well as other regions of the country. The course places a particular emphasis on modern race and gender relations. A particular

emphasis of the course is on the emergence of Brazil in the late 20th century as a world economic power and as a beacon of new trends in popular culture. GenEd: LCC, WAC

T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

UNITED STATES

HST 116: Age of Jackson (Winter; Brennan)

MWF 8:00 am – 9:05 am

HST 231: Civil Rights Movement (Winter; Lawson).

T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

HST 311: Frontiers in the Americas (Winter; Foroughi).

T,Th 10:55 am – 12:40 pm

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

T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

HST 412: Sem: Constitution (Winter; Wells)

T,Th 1:55 pm – 3:40 pm

SPECIAL TOPICS

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

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

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