The Unexpected Contributions of John Dickinson: Human Rights at the American Founding

Move over Hamilton, meet John Dickinson. To bookend Constitution Week programming, University of Kentucky historian Jane Calvert will examine the various and conflicting notions of human rights at the time of the nation’s birth, focusing on the thought and actions of the now lesser-known founder, Dickinson, “The Farmer in Pennsylvania” who promoted radical, forward-looking ideas about rights for subordinated peoples. Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

Public Lecture Series

10/25 Conversation: The Promise and Perils of Populism

In partnership with the American Enterprise Institute, the Kinder Institute will bring Ethics and Public Policy Center analyst Andrew Colloquium Series

8/24 Antimonopoly as Countersubversion: Andrew Jackson’s Bank Veto in Transatlantic Perspective

To lack off the Fall 2018 Colloquium Series, Columbia University Professor of History and Communications Richard J. John will use a recently transcribed first draft of Jackson’s bank veto address to explore how the veto was originally intended not only as an unalloyed big business but also as a political critique of overseas interference in U.S. elections. Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

Missouri Regional Seminar on Early American History

A twice-per-semester meeting of scholars of American political history, the MBSEAH will convene in Columbia on September 28 to discuss Princeton University Assistant Professor of History Michael Blackman’s “The Marketplace of American Federalism” and then in St. Louis on November 2 to consider a chapter from new Kinder Institute faculty member Ben Park’s book, A Nation Forged by Crisis: A New American History, which takes a structural, non-partisan look at how America has been shaped by shifts in the international system.

11/8 Book Launch: A Nation Forged by Crisis

Kinder Institute Chair in Constitutional Democracy Jay Sexton will travel back to his long-ago internship site, giving a public talk at the Truman Library on his most recent book, A Nation Forged by Crisis: A New American History, which takes a structural, non-partisan look at how America has been shaped by shifts in the international system.

Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

Out of Town Events

10/19 History Homecoming Double-Header: The Mormons and Rhode Island

Two successful young alumni return to share their latest work in a special twin-bill. Prof. Ben Park of Sam Houston State University, the Kinder Institute’s first postdoctoral fellow in history, will tell the riveting story of Nauvoo in “The Mormons vs. Democracy on the Banks of the Mississippi.” Then, Prof. Steven Carl Smith of Providence College, a 2013 Nauvoo Ph.D., will apply his expert knowledge of early American print culture to elections in “To Preserve the Interest of Those Who Bled in Freedom’s Cause: The Materiality of Politics in Early Republic Rhode Island.” Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

11/10 Enlightened Absolutism and the Origins of the American Revolution

MU History Department Postdoctoral Fellow and recent Notre Dame Ph.D. Rachel Banke will discuss how, under George III, the British administration’s enlightened policies came to be seen by American colonists as absolutist impositions, a disconnect that would soon lead to Revolutionary conflict. Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

12/7 The Persistent Radicalism of 1776

Challenging revolutionary histories that place undue focus on elite political thought and class-based analysis, University of Illinois-Springfield historian Jay Sexton will discuss how, under George III, the British administration’s enlightened policies came to be seen by American colonists as absolutist impositions, a disconnect that would soon lead to Revolutionary conflict. Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

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Harry S. Truman Presidential Library Auditorium, Independence, MO, 6pm

10/26 Squatters, Statesmen, and the Rupture of American Democracy, 1830-1860

Providing the Kinder Institute community with a first glimpse into his research, 2018-20 Postdoctoral Fellow in Political History John Suval will examine how white squatters on western lands came to occupy a central and destabilizing position in U.S. political culture in the decades leading up to the Civil War. Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

11/30 Enlightened Absolutism and the Origins of the American Revolution

MU History Department Postdoctoral Fellow and recent Notre Dame Ph.D. Rachel Banke will discuss how, under George III, the British administration’s enlightened policies came to be seen by American colonists as absolutist impositions, a disconnect that would soon lead to Revolutionary conflict. Jesse Hall 410, 3:30pm

Colloquium Series

8/17 Constitutional Principles and America’s Original Sin

While the U.S. is often seen as a nation constituted by its constitutional principles, the importance of these principles to Supreme Court jurisprudence has been vastly overstated. For the inaugural James E. Fleming & Linda C. McClain Constitution Day Lecture, University of Texas Professor of Government Gary B. Jacobsohn will explore this tension, tracing the Court’s equivocal reliance on constitutional principles back to the compromised circumstances of the American founding with respect to the nation’s original sin of slavery. Jesse Hall 410, 5:30pm

5/17 Constitution Week

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