Montesquieu's Moderation:
Commercial Innovation and Public Responsibility in Eighteenth-Century France
Spring 2020 Manuscript Workshop with Kinder Institute Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Constantine Vassiliou

April 24, 2020 | 10:00am – 3:15pm
Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, Jesse Hall 410

Montesquieu is well-known as a paragon of the "Moderate Enlightenment"—a booster of commerce and theorist of constitutional balance that loomed large in America's Founding. However, under-explored affinities between Montesquieu and key figures in the Scottish Enlightenment can enlarge our understanding of his moderation. They highlight that it is not merely a legalistic notion, but a deeper, cross-Channel vision of how commercial ends and public spiritedness may be harmonized. In examining the precise dynamics of such a reconciliation, *Montesquieu's Moderation* emphasizes the critical importance of Montesquieu's notion of honour, which explains how a feudal propensity for social distinctions can preserve civic virtue within an emerging inward-looking liberal order.

10:00-11:30am: Session I, *Discussion Leader: Dr. Aurelian Craiutu (Indiana University)*

- Introductory Remarks (15 mins), Drs. Justin Dyer & Constantine Vassiliou (Kinder Institute)
- Discussion of Manuscript Introduction (30 mins), Discussants: Dr. Joshua Bandoch (Ph.D., Notre Dame), Dr. Paul Carrese (Arizona State University), Dr. Craiutu
- Discussion of Chapter One (45 mins), Discussants: Dr. Jay Sexton (Kinder Institute), Dr. Craiutu

11:45am-1:15pm: Session II, *Discussion Leader: Dr. Bandoch*

- Discussion of Chapter Two (45 mins), Discussants: Drs. Craiutu & Bandoch
- Discussion of Chapter Three (45 mins), Discussants: Dr. Craiutu, Dr. Carrese, Dr. Erin Marie Holmes (Kinder Institute)

1:45-3:15pm: Session III, *Discussion Leader: Dr. Carrese*

- Discussion of Chapter 4 (30 mins), Discussants: Drs. Carrese, Bandoch, & Dyer
- Discussion of Chapter 5 (45 mins), Discussants: Dr. Carrese, Dr. Bandoch, Dr. Sarah Beth V. Kitch (Kinder Institute)
- Conclusion (15 mins)