Friday Colloquium Series

11/20 Anglican Evangelism and the Maintenance of Slavery in the 18th-Century Atlantic World

Introducing research he plans to pursue in conjunction with the Kinder Institute’s summer program in Oxford, Prof. Daive Dunkley of MU’s Black Studies Department will address how Church of England evangelists’ eighteenth-century efforts to indoctrinate enslaved people in the British colonies of the Americas were not oriented toward the expansion of the Christian kingdom, as is commonly argued, but were instead devoted to the suppression of resistance to slavery.

12/4 Talking Back to Thomas Jefferson: African American Nationalism in the New Republic

University of Pennsylvania Roy F. and Jeanette P. Nichols Professor of American History Mia Bay will round out the Kinder Institute’s Fall 2020 Colloquium Series by presenting the first chapter in her new book project, which traces Black discussions of Thomas Jefferson from the Revolution to the Civil War, exploring connections between early struggles for freedom and civil rights and African American claims on American nationalism and citizenship.

James E. Fleming & Linda C. McClain Constitution Day Lecture

9/17 One Woman, One Vote: The Long Road to Ratification of the 19th Amendment

In honor of the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, University of South Carolina Distinguished Professor Emerita Marjorie J. Spruill will deliver (via Zoom) the Kinder Institute’s annual Constitution Day Lecture, presenting on her book One Woman, One Vote: Redrawing the Woman Suffrage Movement, which tracks how a suffrage movement begun in one section of the nation by a small group of women considered to be radicals managed to gain the strong, widespread support necessary to overcome the obstacles deliberately placed in its path.

A socially-distanced, joint viewing of the lecture will take place at 7pm in Cook Hall at the State Historical Society of Missouri. Space is limited, and RSVPs are accepted. Interested parties who are not able to secure a seat will still be able to watch the lecture on Zoom.

Co-sponsored by the MU Department of History and the League of Women Voters of Columbia-Richmond.

Co-Sponsored Events

9/22 Democracy and the Informed Citizen

Missouri Humanities, in partnership with the UM System, will bring columns of Michael Gerson and Tony Messenger (St. Louis Post-Dispatch) together with MU Journalism Professor Ruby Bailey for an online panel discussion exploring the critical role the humanities and journalism play in shaping the judgments and opinions of citizens in a democratic society. Free and open to the public, interested parties can register for the virtual event at democracy.missouri.edu.

7:00pm

KICD Postdoctoral Fellow Book Workshop

9/15 Montesquieu’s Moderation

Profs. Henry C. Clark (Dartmouth) and Aurelian Craiutu (Indiana University-Bloomington) will serve as lead discussants for a daylong workshop of Kinder Institute Postdoctoral Fellow Constantine Vasilious’s book manuscript, Montesquieu’s Moderation: Commercial Innovation and Public Responsibility in Eighteenth-Century Britain and France, which explores the themes of commerce, virtue, and political moderation in the works of David Hume, Adam Smith, and Adam Ferguson, in addition to Montesquieu.

Allison Smythe, SmytheA@missouri.edu, will begin accepting RSVPs for individual panels only on a first come, first served basis, beginning October 1, at which point a full schedule for the workshop will be posted at democracy.missouri.edu.

Missouri Regional Seminar on Early American History

Re-located to Zoom, Fall 2020 meetings of the MREAH will kick off on September 25 with a discussion of Saint Louis University Associate Professor of History and African American Studies Dr. Katrina Thompson Mosure’s article manuscript, "The Wench. White Male Caricaturization of Black Women in the Jacksonian Age.” The second meeting, scheduled for November 6, will discuss part of American University Associate Professor Miriam Schlam’s new work, "Slavery National: The Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 and the Remaking of the American State,” which touches on the early history of policing. Contact Thomas Kane, KaneT@missouri.edu, for information on attending one or both MREAH meetings.

Friday Colloquium Series

Unless otherwise noted, all Friday talks will be held via Zoom at 3:30pm. Contact Allison Smythe, SmytheA@missouri.edu, the week of the talk for Zoom registration information.

9/4 The Other Fire Bell: African Americans and the Long Shadow of the Missouri Compromise

To kick off the Fall 2020 Colloquium Series, Rochester Institute of Technology Professor of History Richard Newman will preview his essay for the Kinder Institute’s Missouri Crisis bicentennial book by examining the profound impact of the Missouri Compromise on African Americans, with particular focus on the legal, political, and literary activism galvanized by lingering outrage over the moral failure of the 1820-21 legislation.

9/11 “Why not a woman?”: The Improvable Life of Eliza Lucas Pinckney

In what this semester will be a rarity, Saint Louis University historian Lorri Glover will tell us in-person about her newly-published book on Eliza Lucas Pinckney, one of South Carolina’s wealthiest planters, an influential agriculturalist, and mother of two presidential candidates. Unknown to readers until now, Pinckney was a major figure in early America whose life, work, and writings shed new light on the place and power of women in the slaveholding Atlantic world.

Contact Allison Smythe, SmytheA@missouri.edu, for information about reserving a seat at the talk (space is limited).

3:30pm, Cook Hall (State Historical Society of Missouri)

10/2 Policing and Criminal Justice Reform in Crisis Times: A Conversation

In a panel moderated by Prof. Jen Selin of the Kinder Institute, MU Department of Political Science, and Truman School of Public Affairs, Manhattan Institute Deputy Director of Legal Policy Rafael Manguel and MU’s Ruth L. Hulston Professor of Law S. David Mitchell will discuss the history, basis, and potential ramifications of contemporary calls for policing and criminal justice reform.

10/9 A Union, Not a Nation-State: The Constitution as a Federal Treaty

Live from London via Zoom, King’s College London Reader in Early American History Max Edling, the world’s leading authority on the history of the American state, will explain the thinking behind his forthcoming Oxford University Press book, Prefecting the Union: National and State Authority in the U.S. Constitution, in which he argues that the Constitution was created primarily to face the world: to defend U.S. national interests and territorial integrity at its western borders and on the sea. In contrast to what many scholars claim, Edling will show federal government was never meant to eclipse the state governments.

1pm Start Time

10/16 Moderation in America

A preeminent political theorist of moderation and wide-ranging historian of ideas, Professor Aurelian Craiutu of Indiana University will draw on past philosophers and exemplars of political moderation in his talk to offer vital insight into a critical contemporary problem: encountering the many forms of extremism in American political life.

10/23 Unsettling Genealogies of Haitian Revolutionary History

In a lecture originally intended for the MU Afro-Romance Institute’s March 2020 symposium on “Haiti in the Atlantic World,” canceled by the COVID-19 lockdown the day before it was to be held, University of Virginia Professor of History and African Diaspora Studies Marlene L. Daut will weave the genealogies of Michel-Rolph Tirroulou’s history of the Haitian Revolution into an even more expansive lineup of Haitian thought in order to unsettle colonial hierarchies of knowledge and create a decolonial intellectual history of Haiti.

10/30 Republicans of the New World: Political Life in the 19th-Century Americas

Historian Hilda Sabato, lead researcher at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) in Argentina, will discuss her recent Princeton University Press book, Republics of the New World, which challenges the conventional view of Latin American republics as cases of failed modernization, arguing instead that the rise of independent Latin American states was driven by the radical notion of popular sovereignty. Through a tumultuous history, spanning distinct geographies and cultures, she shows how the republican order in Spanish America managed to endure, as new institutions and practices emerged that shaped a vigorous and inclusive political life.

11/13 Who’s Responsible for Constitutional Rights?

Drawing on cases from U.S. and South African courts, University of Notre Dame Assistant Professor of Political Science Christina Bambrick will focus in her talk on the tradesoffs and politics that are involved when we apply constitutional rights horizontally, to create obligations of private actors.