

KINDER INSTITUTE EVENTS FALL 2021

Friday Colloquium Series

Unless otherwise noted, all Colloquium Series events will begin at 3:30pm in Jesse Hall 410. Check Facebook (@constitutionaldemocracy) and Twitter (@MUDemocracy) for any pandemic-related location changes and/or remote attendance options. We plan to follow all university guidance related to COVID-19 protocols, which means that masks are required until further notice.

9/3 The Party of No: When Democrats Were Conservatives

To kick off our Fall 2021 Colloquium Series, Eastern Connecticut State University historian and James Buchanan biographer **Thomas Balcerski** will introduce us to the themes of his new book project on the long history of the Democratic Party. His focus will be surprising for some: the conservative values that the party embraced for generations, from its inception as an opposition group in the 1790s through its evolution into the party of liberalism in the 1930s.

RJI 200, 3:30pm

9/10 Coercion and Contract Labor in the Early Modern English Atlantic World

Our outgoing Junior Research Fellow in Atlantic History, **Sonia Tycko**, will conclude her tenure at the Kinder Institute by presenting her research on forced labor in early modern English society, where the concepts of freedom of choice and the sanctity of an individual's consent played a significant role in the exploitation of workers of many kinds: colonial indentured servants, in particular, but also apprenticed pauper children, conscripted soldiers, and prisoners of war on both sides of the Atlantic.

State Historical Society of Missouri, 3:30pm

9/24 The Political Inclusion of Americans Abroad

Prof. **Tara Ginnane**, one of our incoming Postdoctoral Fellows in Political Thought & Constitutionalism, will introduce the Kinder Institute community to her scholarship with a talk on the legislative history and broader implications of a political phenomenon that usually gets little attention: how voting rights are exercised by Americans living or working abroad.

10/1 Jefferson's Ocean: Political Thought and the Terraqueous Globe

Taking our "Jefferson in Context" series out to sea, Hobart and William Smith Colleges historian **Matthew Crow** will unpack Thomas Jefferson's ambivalent relationship with "the watery parts of the world," using it as a lens through which to re-consider fundamental questions about democracy, belonging, culture, and more that the globe's oceans pose to politics.

10/8 The Architecture of Segregation in St. Louis

After giving one of the first ever Kinder Institute lectures in October 2014, University of Iowa urban historian **Colin Gordon** will return to Columbia this fall to share the latest phase of his influential research on the geography and history of racial segregation in the St. Louis region. His new work uses race-restrictive deed covenants in Greater St. Louis to shed light on how residential segregation was accomplished and sustained in the first half of the 20th century.

10/15 The First Reconstruction

Franklin & Marshall College historian **Van E. Gosse** will provide an overview of his blockbuster 2020 book from UNC Press, *The First Reconstruction: Black Politics in America, from the Revolution to the Civil War*, which explores the largely untold and unknown story of free Black men's deep and significant engagement with electoral politics during the formative era of American democracy, from the ratification of the U.S. Constitution through the election of Abraham Lincoln.

10/22 Copyright before Copyright

Nora Slonimsky, Gardiner Assistant Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies at Iona College, will present her award-winning research on intellectual property in the early American republic, zeroing in during her talk on how a small group of post-revolutionary authors wielded copyright as a tool to establish authorial authority while also drawing on existing power structures, both formal and informal, to advance a particular understanding of civic belonging.

10/29 Mapping the French Atlantic

On the heels of his October 28 public lecture, UVA's **Laurent Dubois**, one of the most influential Atlantic and American historians of his generation, will stop by the Kinder Institute's Colloquium Series to discuss his new book project, which examines the history and configuration of the French Atlantic, with particular attention to the connections and exchanges that linked together Europe, North America, the Caribbean, and Africa, in ways that co-transformed them over several centuries.

11/12 Reconsidering the Founders in the Post-Hamilton Age

Since 1999, University of South Carolina historian **Woody Holton** has been steadily producing respected scholarly works that offer alternative Revolutionary protagonists to the traditional "Founding Fathers": women, enslaved Black workers, Indigenous peoples, and poor white farmers and laborers. Yet over the same period, big names like Washington and Hamilton and Madison have loomed larger than ever. Why can't America seem to quit its Founding heroes? Should it try? Holton will join Kinder Institute faculty for a free-ranging panel discussion of how historical discourse on "Founders" has changed over the course of his career and where it should go from here.

11/19

The Secession of Western Australia and the State of the British Empire, c. 1930-35

Kinder Professor of British History **Rob Fletcher** and his trans-oceanic colleague **Benjamin Mountford**, of Australian Catholic University and also "Gold Rush Trio" fame, will examine Australia's Western Secession movement from a new imperial perspective, focusing both on the place of imperial rhetoric in the secession campaign and the implications of the movement for interwar imperial politics.

12/3

Launching Cambridge History of America & the World, Vol. 2: 1812-1900

To celebrate the publication of the second, 19th-century volume of the ambitious *Cambridge History of America & the World* series, co-edited by Kinder Chair in Constitutional Democracy **Jay Sexton**, key contributors to the work will gather on December 3 to share research that shaped the collection. The celebration will also mark the volume's triumphant return to Columbia, as it originated in a 2018 workshop that was one of the first major events held in the Kinder Institute Seminar Room.

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

9/17

Part 1, Spreading the Word: Written Constitutions and the Printing Press

For the top half of our festive Constitution Day double-header, Princeton University's **Linda Colley**, one of the greatest living Atlantic historians, will examine the intersection between constitutionalism and print media. Prof. Colley will first look to the past to explore the complex role that print varieties played in the process of constitutional generation and dissemination, and then to the future, to touch on the challenges posed to written constitutions around the globe by the coming of the digital age.

Lecture to Be Delivered Via Zoom, 1pm

9/17

Part 2, The (Un)written Constitution

Providing a natural follow-up to Linda Colley's 1pm talk on written constitutions, Claremont McKenna political scientist **George Thomas** will deliver the second half of our Constitution Day lecture program, drawing on research from his forthcoming Oxford University Press book to argue, provocatively, that it is not so much the text itself, but rather the *unwritten* ideas relating to it, that animate our deepest debates about the nation's charter.

RJI 200, 3:30pm

Distinguished Lectures in Political History

10/28 Minette's Worlds: Theatre and Revolution in Saint-Domingue

Delivering a lecture originally scheduled as the keynote address for the March 2019 Haiti in the Atlantic World Symposium, **Laurent Dubois**, John L. Nau III Bicentennial Professor of the History & Principles of Democracy and Co-Director for Academic Affairs of the Democracy Initiative at the University of Virginia, will explore the intertwined histories of theatre and revolution in Saint-Domingue, where themes surrounding sexuality, race, and empire took on particular meanings and where actors of African descent, including one named Minette, transformed the stage.

This event is co-sponsored by Missouri Humanities, MU's School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, the MU Afro-Romance Institute, and the Kinder Institute
Swallow Hall 101, 7pm

11/11

The Hidden History of the American Revolution

University of South Carolina McCausland Professor of History **Woody Holton**, author of the Bancroft Award-winning *Abigail Adams* and one of the globe's leading scholars of early American political history, will give a talk on his newest book project, *Liberty Is Sweet: The Hidden History of the American Revolution* (Simon & Schuster, forthcoming October 2021), which reassesses the United States' war for independence by considering the profound, overlooked influence of women, Native Americans, African Americans, and religious dissenters on the founding generation.

State Historical Society of Missouri, 7pm

Missouri Regional Seminar on Early American History

The October 1, Columbia leg of our Fall 2021 MRSEAH programming will feature discussion of Hobart and William Smith Colleges Associate Professor of History **Matthew Crow**'s book chapter-in-progress, "The Constitutions of Herman Melville: Law, *Leviathan*, and the Making of Oceanic History." Then, on November 5, seminar attendees will make the trek to St. Louis for a session on University of Virginia Jefferson Scholars Foundation Postdoctoral Research Associate **Alyssa Penick**'s paper, "Church, State, and Property Confiscation: Exploring the Material Dimensions of Religious Freedom in Virginia." Seminars are limited to 20 attendees. Check the Kinder Institute website, democracy.missouri.edu, for information on participating.



democracy.missouri.edu

Catch any talks you missed at <http://bit.ly/Kindertalks>