



Friday Colloquium Series

Unless otherwise noted, all colloquia will be held on Fridays at 3:30pm in Jesse Hall 410. Links to attend the events online (when applicable) will be posted on the Kinder Institute Twitter account, @MUDemocracy, on the morning of the day they are scheduled. Talks scheduled to be held in-person may be shifted to online presentation if conditions warrant. Check Twitter for announcements regarding any venue changes.

1/28 The Martyr and the Trickster: Ralph Ellison's Repertoire of Agency (ONLINE)

Political theorists' traditional readings of Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man* often glean from the novel a martyr strategy for racial equality. Kinder Institute Postdoctoral Fellow **Ferris Lupino** will travel back to the world of *The Odyssey* to offer an alternative, showing how, by attending to Ellison's allusions to Homer, we can find a more productive model for political action, the trickster, which offers a figure of protest that does not rely on suffering loss.

2/4 Baseball, Law, and Society Lock-In (ONLINE)

What lockout? Just days before pitchers and catchers would normally report to Spring Training, History Ph.D. Candidate **Japheth Knopp**, Kinder Institute Professor and MU Law Wall Family Fellow **Tommy Bennett**, and MU Law student and former Blue Jays beat writer **Alexis Brudnicki** will Tinker-to-Evers-to-Chance a presentation on the nation's pastime, exploring baseball's relationship with the Black community in Kansas City, the origin and persistence of MLB's anachronistic anti-trust exemption, and the struggle for better procedures governing claims of sexual violence and harassment in baseball.

2/18 African American Political Thought: A Collected History (ONLINE, 3pm Start Time)

Editors **Melvin L. Rogers** (Brown University) and **Jack Turner** (University of Washington) and other contributors will join Kinder Institute political theorist **Jennie Ikuta** for a roundtable discussion of their landmark 2021 volume published by University of Chicago Press. An unprecedented philosophical history of thinkers from the African American community and African diaspora, the book has been hailed as "an instant classic" that "will guide the field...for generations."

2/25 The Rise and Fall and Rise of Ratification

When, exactly, did ratification come to be seen as central to the legitimacy of American constitutions? We may think we know the answer, but as Kinder Institute Distinguished Visiting Professor of Legal History **Anne Twitty** will show, the career of the practice across the revolutionary, early national, and antebellum eras is much stranger—and far more interesting—than conventional wisdom suggests.

3/11 Teacher, Preacher, Soldier, Spy: The Civil Wars of John R. Kelso

Former *William & Mary Quarterly* editor **Christopher Grasso**, now of Brown University, brings his scholarship forward, chronologically, and westward, geographically, to Civil War Missouri. Grasso will tell the extraordinary story—and discuss the historiographical challenges of telling the story—of John R. Kelso, a schoolteacher and preacher in 19th-century Missouri who rose to fame battling rebel guerrillas, rode that notoriety to a seat in the Reconstruction-era Congress, and, after suffering personal tragedy, lit out for the far west, where he became a free-thinking lecturer and author, a Spiritualist, and an anarchist.

3/18 Thoughts on the World, the Political, and the Black

Political theorist **Ainsley LeSure**, Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at Brown University, will underscore the necessity of equality and democracy for the flourishing of Black life by critically engaging with an increasingly influential consensus in the field of Black Studies that politics—including its categories (citizen, state, civil society) and principles (equality, humanism)—is anti-Black and inimical to Black life.

3/21 (MONDAY) The Crown and the English Constitution

As our Global History students' final piece of preparation before they venture to Oxford for Spring Break, Professor of Later Medieval History **John Watts** (Oxford, Corpus Christi College) will deliver a public lecture exploring how all the constitutional goods we associate with England—the mother of parliaments, the country of the Magna Carta, the first home of common law—derive from a more fundamental feature of its body politic: the overwhelming rule of a conquest monarchy.

Cook Hall (State Historical Society of Missouri), 5:00pm

5/6 Victorians and Numbers

Kinder Institute Faculty Fellow and St. Peter's College (Oxford) Senior Research Fellow **Lawrence Goldman** will cross the Atlantic physically and intellectually to launch his long-awaited magnum opus, to be published by Oxford University Press in April 2022, *Victorians and Numbers: Statistics and Society in Nineteenth Century Britain*. The book details both how all facets of British life—from government, to social policy, to science and medicine—were influenced by the statistical movement of the 1830s and how this movement likewise came to influence Civil War-era America.

Co-Sponsored Events

2/11 The Third Branch

Mizzou alumnus **Taylor Meehan**, currently a partner at Consovoy McCarthy PLLC in Chicago, will make a triumphant return to her undergrad stomping grounds for a talk, co-sponsored with the MU Law School, reflecting on her time as a clerk for Justices Scalia and Thomas; her Supreme Court debut arguing *Patel v. Garland* this term; and the Court's place as one of the nation's enduring institutions.

Hulston Hall Courtroom (Room 111), 1pm

2/17 Election Security Panel

In an event organized by the Show-Me Institute, election officials from across Missouri, including Boone County Clerk **Brianna Lennon**, will pull back the curtain of the voting booth to explain how they keep the state's elections safe and to offer suggestions for enhancing election security.

Jesse Wrench Auditorium, 5:30pm

2/17-18 The Two Impeachments of Donald J. Trump

For this year's *Missouri Law Review* Symposium, an all-star cast of law professors, journalists, historians, and scholars will convene (virtually) to rekindle the vigorous debates that surrounded the two impeachments of then-President Donald Trump. The symposium will feature four panel discussions as well as a pair of keynotes delivered by Congressman **Jamie Raskin** (D-MD) and Senator **Dick Durbin** (D-IL).

Full Schedule and Link to Register at law.missouri.edu/lawreview/

3/15 A Demon-Haunted Land

For the History Department's annual Atherton Lecture, University of Tennessee Professor of History **Monica Black** will give a talk on her 2020 monograph, *A Demon-Haunted Land: Witches, Wonder Doctors, and the Ghosts of the Past in Post-WW II Germany*, a revelatory counter-history that doesn't view postwar Germany through the lens of its rapid transition from genocidal dictatorship to liberal democracy but rather uncovers the tale of a nation convulsed by supernatural obsession, where faith healers roamed the land, prayer groups performed exorcisms, and neighbors traded in apocalyptic visions.

Mumford Hall 133, 5pm

BRANCH Keynote Lectures

As part of the twice-postponed special gathering of the Association of British American Nineteenth-Century Historians in Columbia, we'll host opening and closing keynote addresses, both of which are open to the public.

4/7 Mother Is a Verb

Blending history and memoir into a lyric genre all her own, Indiana University Sally M. Reahard Professor of History **Sarah Knott** will present "an unconventional history" of mothering in her Thursday night opening keynote, drawing on research that pored over diaries, court records, medical manuals, items of clothing, and more—and that wove in personal experience—in asking whether one can even capture the historical trail of mothers and, if so, how the history of maternity has changed over time and cultures.

Cook Hall (State Historical Society of Missouri), 7pm

4/9 Religious Nationalists in the Age of Lincoln

Scripture was the foundation for competing sectional interpretations of slavery and the nation's unique historical mission in the lead-up to the Civil War, but religious conflict hardly stopped with Ft. Sumter. As Oxford's Rhodes Professor of American History Emeritus and former Corpus Christi College President **Richard Carwardine** will show in his Saturday afternoon closing address, the Union itself became a scene of bitter political strife between contending religious nationalists—from radical egalitarians to Copperhead southern sympathizers—who waged war over the administration's policies to achieve reunification and emancipation and kept it up long after Lincoln's assassination.

Conferences

4/22 Inlands: Imperial Formations, Contested Interiors, and the Connection of the World

Kinder Institute historians **Alec Zuercher Reichardt** and **Robert S.G. Fletcher** bring the work of last summer's *Inland Empires* conference at Oxford back home, focusing this time around on drawing the story of the North American continental interior into a broader scholarly narrative that shows how the contested integration of inland regions into wider networks of exchange was actually a global phenomenon whose legacies continue to shape the world today. The conference kicks off on the 22nd with keynote papers from **Samuel Truett** (University of New Mexico) and **Katherine Morrissey** (University of Arizona), to be presented in our regular Friday Colloquium Series timeslot and venue, 3:30pm in Jesse Hall 410.

4/29 Shawnee Trail Conference on American Politics & Constitutionalism

The annual Shawnee Trail Conference will be back in person this year, with scholars from around the nation gathering in Waco, TX, for a day of roundtable paper presentations and lively conversation on all aspects of American politics and constitutionalism, defined broadly and with interdisciplinarity to encompass political and constitutional development, political thought, and public law.

MRSEAH

Like clockwork, the Missouri Regional Seminar on Early American History will be convened twice during the Spring 2022 semester. On February 11 in St. Louis, we'll host our first ever grad student showcase, with MU Ph.D. candidate **Mackenzie Tor** sharing her work on "Temperance, Abolition, and Antebellum Black Reform Thought, 1820-1860," and CUNY Ph.D. candidate **Evan Turiano** submitting for discussion his dissertation chapter, "'This National Crime': Kidnapping and Interstate Comity in the 1820s." We'll wrap up the school year in Columbia on April 29 with a discussion of former Kinder Institute Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow and longtime Truman State Professor **Daniel Mandell's** chapter-in-progress on "Indian Sovereignty and Rights in the U.S., 1780-1830."

Kinder Institute Distinguished Lecture

5/3 The Last King of America

Best-selling biographer and British public intellectual **Andrew Roberts** will deliver the Kinder Institute's third Distinguished Lecture, drawing on insights from his November 2021 *The Last King of America: The Misunderstood Reign of King George III* to push back against popular characterizations of George III as a complete disaster who frittered away the colonies and instead re-appraise him as a wise, humane, and even enlightened monarch beset by talented enemies, debilitating mental illness, incompetent ministers, and disastrous luck.

Missouri United Methodist Church (204 S. 9th Street), 7pm