

# KINDER INSTITUTE EVENTS FALL 2023

All Colloquium Series events will be held at 3:30pm in Jesse Hall 410 unless otherwise noted

## Friday Colloquium Series

### SEPT. 1 **State of Silence: The Espionage Act and the Rise of America's Secrecy Regime**

Taking its title from his soon-to-be published monograph with Basic Books, due out in November, George Mason University Professor of History **Sam Lebovic's** talk will trace how the state has variously and controversially deployed the Espionage Act over time, focusing specifically on how it has evolved into a tool of the nation's secrecy regime and the threat this shift poses to American democracy.

### SEPT. 22 **The Rise and Fall of the Judeo-Christian Consensus in American Politics**

**James M. Patterson**, Associate Professor of Politics at Ave Maria University, will unpack the history of the Judeo-Christian consensus in American politics from its 20th-century origins through its collapse at the end of the 2000s, zeroing in on how three very different members of the clergy—Fulton J. Sheen, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Jerry Falwell Sr.—found in the consensus a common ground for advancing their respective policy positions.

### OCT. 6 **Naval Exploration and U.S. National Maturity, 1776-1860**

After making the drive up from Drury University in Springfield, Prof. **Michael Verney** will proceed to traverse the globe in his October 6 colloquium presentation, examining how U.S. Naval exploring expeditions were dispatched throughout the first half of the 19th century in the name of establishing the nation as a cultural equal and imperial rival to the great powers of Europe.

### OCT. 20 **John Locke in America: Past to Present**

University of Montana Associate Professor of History **Claire Rydell Arcenas** will give, somewhat surprisingly, the Colloquium Series' first presentation on John Locke, drawing on research from her 2022 monograph, *America's Philosopher*, to explore Locke's unparalleled influence on 18th- and 19th-century intellectual life in the U.S. as well as the difficulties that 21st-century Americans face in understanding his national legacy.

### NOV. 3 **Underground Railroads to Mexico: Undertold Stories of Freedom & Abolition**

Geographically re-orienting familiar 19th-century narratives of Black liberation in North America, Ohio State University Assistant Professor of History **María Esther Hammack's** talk will center on the little-known histories of Black women who challenged U.S. slavery and pursued freedom via the underground railroads that ran South to Mexico.

### NOV. 17 **Imagining Freedom: Toni Morrison and the Work of Words**

In Columbia to lead a workshop of Kinder Institute Postdoc **Ferris Lupino's** book manuscript-in-progress, University of Virginia James Hart Professor of Politics **Lawrie Balfour** will close the day with a talk on Toni Morrison's contributions to democratic inquiry, looking especially at how, by reimagining moments that have been left out of official histories, Morrison challenges readers to conceive of forms of freedom not predicated on the enslavement of others.

### DEC. 1 **Beyond Jefferson: The Hemingses and Randolphs and the Making of Nineteenth-Century America**

To round out fall Colloquium Series programming, Kinder Institute Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow **Christa Dierksheide**, on leave for the year from University of Virginia, will highlight how two Founding Era principles central to Jefferson's understanding of the nation's republican project, equality and independence, were redefined by his descendants, in widely varying terms, to fit a historical context half a century removed from the Declaration of Independence.

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

### SEPT. 12 **The Decline of the Warren Court and the Rise of the Neoliberal Order**

The neoliberal political order that took hold of America in the 1980s and 1990s called for releasing market forces from government regulation. The success of this order required an assault on the jurisprudence of the Warren Court, which had found in the Constitution sanction for the federal government assuming broad regulatory powers. In his lecture, **Gary Gerstle** will examine how the assault on the Warren Court took shape, the role it played in the neoliberal order's triumph, and the enduring nature of its influence.



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