



FALL 2024 EVENTS

All events are open to the public, located in Jesse Hall 410, and at 3:30pm, unless otherwise noted.



August 30

DEMOCRACY IN DARKNESS: THE POLITICS OF SECRECY IN THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS

Drawing on research from her 2023 Yale University Press monograph, Notre Dame Assistant Professor of History **Katlyn Carter** will open this semester's Friday Colloquium Series by tracing the line between eradicating state secrecy and limiting government transparency that was toed as the world's first representative democracies took shape in the wake of the American and French Revolutions.



September 13

PROGRESS FOR WHOM? STATE BUILDING AND PROGRESSIVE ERA REFORM: EVIDENCE FROM AUSTIN'S LOCAL AGENDA

Using city council meeting minutes from 1900-1940, **Brooke N. Shannon**, University of Memphis Assistant Professor of Political Science, Urban Affairs, and Public Policy, will track how the national ambitions of the Progressive Era were made visible at the local level in Austin, TX, where the city's burgeoning bureaucracy and land use policy agenda simultaneously promoted governmental efficiency while striving to maintain white supremacist order.



October 4

THE CONSTITUTION AND AMERICA'S NEW RACIAL BATTLE LINES*

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



October 18

THE RIDE OF THE IMMORTAL TEN:
A TRANSATLANTIC QUEST FOR
JUSTICE, FREEDOM, AND SURVIVAL
IN THE BORDER WEST

For our annual homecoming colloquium, Kinder Institute Chair in Early American History **Jeff Pasley** will preview his new book project, an epic nonfiction western that tells the saga of Kansas abolitionist Dr. John Doy and the motley team that rescued him from Missouri captivity in 1859. A failed businessman and self-taught homeopathic physician from Hull, England, Doy brought his family to Kansas with the New England Emigrant Aid Co. and embroiled them in misadventures that included slave escapes, shootings, lynchings, assassinations, book tours, and suicide, all in the name of abolition rights, scientific farming, spiritualism, and racial justice.

Stotler Lounge, Memorial Union at 3:30pm



Watch live
or later on
YouTube



October 25

A PROTEST, A PUNISHMENT, AND A POP SONG: HEARING THE SOUNDTRACKS OF POLARIZATION IN 2020

Using the dual lenses of political communication and digital studies to unpack a widely viewed and modified video from a summer 2020 protest in Portland, Georgia College & State University Associate Professor of Music **Dana Gorzelany-Mostak** will zoom in on the role that sound plays in driving political polarization on online platforms.



October 29

ASCENT TO POWER: HOW TRUMAN EMERGED FROM ROOSEVELT'S SHADOW AND REMADE THE WORLD

Hosted with the Harry S. Truman Library Institute

Spanning the years of transition, 1944 to 1948, *Ascent to Power* illuminates Truman's struggles to emerge as president in his own right. Yet, from a relatively unknown Missouri senator to the most powerful man on Earth, Truman's legacy transcends. With his come-from-behind campaign in the fall of 1948, his courageous civil rights advocacy, and his role in liberating millions from militarist governments and brutal occupations, Truman's decisions during these pivotal years changed the course of the world in ways so significant we live with them today.

David L. Roll is the author of *George Marshall* and *The Hopkins Touch*, and the coauthor of *Louis Johnson and the Arming of America* (with Keith McFarland), a biography of Harry Truman's defense secretary.

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November 8

"THE CULTURE OF THE ARMY WASN'T READY": MENTAL HEALTH AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE DURING THE IRAQ WAR

Co-Sponsored Lecture

In a lecture co-sponsored with MU's Center for the Humanities, Columbus State University Colonel Richard R. Hallock Distinguished University Chair in Military History **David Kieran** will shed light on the mental health crisis the United States Army confronted during the Iraq War, with particular emphasis on the challenges the Army faced, and the successes it had, as it wrestled with the complexities of implementing widespread change to entrenched organizational culture.

November 22

CRADLE OF HOPE: HOW HAITIAN INDEPENDENCE INSPIRED THE BIRTH OF BLACK INTERNATIONALISM IN THE UNITED STATES

In exploring the many ways in which Haiti's emergence as a free nation shaped Black political thought in the 19th-century U.S., Rutgers University Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of History **Leslie Alexander** will focus specifically on how free and enslaved Black people's unyielding defense of Haitian sovereignty represented the birth of a new internationalist consciousness that demanded not only an end to slavery but full freedom and equality throughout the African diaspora.