ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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George Andreopoulos  
Professor, Political Science and Criminal Justice  
CUNY Graduate School and University Center

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Professor of Music, Columbia University

Kenneth T. Jackson  
Jacques Barzun Professor of History and the Social Sciences  
Columbia University

David Johnston  
Professor of Political Philosophy, Columbia University

James D. Jordan  
President and Director Emeritus, Columbia University Press,  
Columbia University

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Adjunct Research Scholar of History, Columbia University

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THE UNIVERSITY SEMINARS  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Faculty House  
64 Morningside Drive, 2nd Floor  
MC 2302  
New York, NY 10027  
(212) 854-2389  
universityseminars.columbia.edu  
univ.seminars@columbia.edu
INTRODUCTION

The University Seminars are groups of professors and other experts, from Columbia and elsewhere, who gather once a month to work together on problems that cross the boundaries between university departments.

Each seminar elects its own officers, plans its own program and selects its own members from Columbia, associate members from elsewhere, and any speakers or other guests it invites to its sessions. About half the seminars admit selected graduate students as guests. Seminar participants and speakers attend by invitation and neither pay nor are paid, although a central office supports travel and hotel expenses for speakers when its endowment income permits.

Some seminars are tight, restricted discussion groups that study unfashionable problems; others are broad-based lecture series where eminent visitors disseminate the latest knowledge. Frank Tannenbaum, the founder of the University Seminars, believed that uniformity imposed from above would destroy them.

As independent entities, the Seminars can take intellectual risks the University might not otherwise assume. They provide something every great institution needs: a small area where intellectual activity is fast, cheap, and out of control. Columbia is one of the few universities, or businesses, with the courage to institutionalize such independence.

The Seminars link Columbia with the intellectual resources of the surrounding communities. This outreach also offers to both worlds the fruits of interaction and mutual criticism, as well as the advantages of close contacts: a place to network, establish ties, exchange scholarly or professional news, or explore either side of the job market.

Seminars are closed to the general public, and in particular to the press and other media. For the benefit of a broader audience, the Seminars make the minutes of most past meetings available to users of the Columbia Library after five years. To encourage candor in discussion of controversial issues, seminars may exercise discretion over the contents and distribution of their minutes.

The Seminars subsidize the publication of certain books written under its auspices, and sponsor conferences to make public new discoveries or to work with scholars too distant to be regular participants.

Scholars and others interested in attending a seminar should email their credentials to the appropriate chair. Seminars active in the 2014–2015 academic year are listed in the index.

For a complete list of current seminars and chairs, please visit our website: universityseminars.columbia.edu.
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HISTORY OF THE SEMINARS

In the nineteen thirties, Professor Frank Tannenbaum discussed with then Columbia University President, Nicholas Murray Butler the idea of creating ongoing groups of Columbia professors and experts from the region to explore matters no single department had the breadth or the agility to study. Butler liked the idea as a quick way to mobilize the intellectual resources of the University about suddenly emerging problems, but World War II supervened. It was 1944 before his successor, Frank Fackenthal, approved the first five University Seminars. Three of these seminars still meet: Peace, Studies in Religion, and The Renaissance.

The Seminars continue to serve Tannenbaum’s and Butler’s purposes, but they have also become an intrinsic part of the enterprise that Columbia does better than any great university in the world—the ongoing education of its own faculty. Most of this education takes place within the academic departments, but Tannenbaum was continuing a tradition of General Education in a Core Curriculum that Columbia had been developing for thirty years. The Contemporary Civilization and the Humanities courses are famous for the breadth they give Columbia undergraduates, but are astonishingly unrecognized as a boot camp where econometricians acquire sophistication by conducting rough and tumble discussions of Plato.

This tradition positioned Columbia professors to invent the interdisciplinary regional institutes that trained graduate students to handle post-war complexities beyond their departments, but also forced political scientists, economists, and literary scholars to learn from each other. Over the past two thirds of a century, the Seminars have offered specialists from Columbia and elsewhere the chance to learn and discover things together.

When Tannenbaum died in 1969, there were fifty seminars. He and his wife, Jane Belo, left the Seminars approximately $1.7 million in their wills (1969 and 1972), to be invested and reinvested as a dedicated part of Columbia’s endowment. Tannenbaum wrote a charter to “protect the spontaneity of the Seminars from an unstructured
situation [in which] interference is inevitable, because the desire for general rules and uniformity is irresistible.” The Director of the Seminars was to be appointed by the President of the University but selected and guided by a smaller Advisory Board chosen by the General Committee, consisting of Columbia’s president, provost, and the chairs of all the seminars.

In 2003, Robert Belknap conceived and, over several years implemented, the project of scanning 50 years of the pre-digital minutes of the seminars. Under his supervision, over a half million pages were scanned and preserved. In 2011, Summer Hart was hired to work with Bob Belknap and Bob Pollack to unify the various components of the archive. Beginning fall 2015, this treasure trove of intellectual history will be available for scholarly research in the Rare Books and Manuscript Library Reading Room.

In the four decades since Tannenbaum’s death, the number of Seminars has grown to the 91 listed in this Directory. About half the seminars that were founded in past years are still meeting, while half have merged, split, or dissolved. James Gutmann followed Tannenbaum as Director from 1969 to 1975, followed by Aaron Warner, from 1976 to 2000, and Robert Belknap from 2001 to 2011, when his student Robert Pollack succeeded him.
Beginning with AY 2011–2012, the University Seminars had been through a period of financial stringency, intellectual novelty and administrative change; this past academic year has been one of consolidation, review and culmination. We will institutionalize the memory of Professor Belknap in the Fall of 2015 with the emergence of our digital, searchable archive of minutes accumulated by our Seminars over seventy years. We have clarified and remedied the roles of our office colleagues. Alice Newton was promoted to Deputy Director last winter. Gessy Alvarez and Summer Hart have been recently promoted and are now Associate Director, Budget & Operations and Associate Director for Archives, Web Management & Design, respectively.

We have recovered entirely from the fiscal stress put on our endowment by the financial dip of 2008–2009; and by our capital expenditures in 2013, and we have put in place small but important changes in policy that stabilize our fiscal future without hindering our ability to support the core functions of the seminars.

Even as the office works to maintain a high level of transparency and continuity, the seminars themselves provide a constant novelty. In 2014–2015, 91 seminars were active including three of the first five, which began meeting in 1945. Two new seminars held meetings: The Future of Aging Research and Affect Studies. Disability, Culture, and Society is scheduled to begin meeting this fall.

All active seminars continue to meet and discuss issues important to their members. These varied topics are not properly studied in any one academic department or school. Scholars from Columbia and neighboring universities and colleges meet on an equal plane to work with their peers on mutually agreed subjects.

As Director, Bob Pollack comes into contact with chairs, rapporteurs and seminar members, all of whom occasionally require answers to small or large questions. These answers allow the Seminars office to participate in Tannenbaum’s vision: answers to questions
from chairs may come not from the office, but they will always have been discussed with our Advisory Board, listed in this directory, and often with members of the seminars themselves.

Our central office and the quality of the seminars have again benefitted from the attention, kindness, and creative competence of our colleagues in Faculty House and University Events Management. We are particularly grateful to David Martin, Leslie Robinson, Emerald Currie, Leonard Zinnanti and, of course, Scott Wright and Joe Ricciutti.

In addition to the seminars, our office is responsible for the Leonard Hastings Schoff Memorial Lectures, the Annual Dinner and Tannenbaum Lecture, and the subvention of scholarly books and articles emerging from seminars. In all these matters we are assisted by our Advisory Board, chaired by Robert E. Remez, and made up of academicians who are knowledgeable about the University Seminars. In 2015–2016, we are pleased to welcome the President and Director of Columbia University Press, Jennifer Crewe, to our Board.

We are very proud to present here the illustrious roster of our upcoming Schoff Lecturers:

Fall 2015  Professor Robert E. Remez, Columbia University
Fall 2016  Professor Robert O’Meally, Columbia University
THE SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL
DINNER MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015

Presentation of the
TANNENBAUM-WARNER AWARD
for Extraordinary Service to the University Seminars
to
CHAUNCEY G. OLINGER, JR.

followed by
THE TANNENBAUM LECTURE
The Global HIV Epidemic:
Lessons Learned, Implications for Global Health
by
WAFAA EL-SADR

Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr., commenting in the Graduate Faculties Alumni News Report, in 1977, as he became president of Columbia’s Graduate Faculties Alumni, said, “I hadn’t come to Columbia [in 1958] to make myself an academic, but only, in some romantic way, to drink deeply of philosophy and learning—and the loose, open texture of the Columbia philosophy department was ideal. . . . When I arrived at Columbia my basic interest was in metaphysics, but within two years the social, economic, and political agonies of New York City had persuaded me to put aside the unresolved (and perhaps unresolvable) disputes of metaphysics for the possibly ameliorable problems of humanity.”

Looking back now he says that Columbia has been even more of the world of which he had dreamed. He took classes from John Herman Randall, Jr., Paul Oskar Kristeller, Ernest Nagle, Albert Hofstadter, and Frank Tannenbaum, and audited courses by Eli Ginzberg, Margaret Mead, and Mark Van Doren. As President of the Columbia University Student Council he led the successful campaign to replace the subway “kiosk” (entrance) in the middle of Broadway (the location of which had led to many injuries and deaths), with sidewalk entrances, and lobbied to permit students to entertain.
their girlfriends in their dorm rooms. He became the rapporteur of a University Seminar, chaired by Margaret Mead, which included W. H. Auden, Theodosius Dobzhansky, Lawrence S. Kubie, Adolph Lowe, Hans J. Morgenthau, Roger L. Shinn, and George Wald.

He did oral histories of I. I. Rabi, Grayson Kirk, Courtney Brown, and Frank Tannenbaum. In 1990, he initiated the campaign to create the I. I. Rabi Memorial Room in Pupin Hall. Given this familiarity with recent Columbia history, he proposed the creation of a University Seminar on the History of Columbia University in 1994; he continues today as its chairman.

Wafaa El-Sadr is Director of ICAP at Columbia University, University Professor, and Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health and College of Physicians and Surgeons. She also leads the Global Health Initiative at the Mailman School of Public Health.

Dr. El-Sadr’s interests include: HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis maternal/child health, capacity building and health systems strengthening. Her work bridges interest and commitment to local and global public health challenges and an appreciation of the breadth of issues needed to transform the health of populations. She has extensive research experience and leads the NIH-funded HIV Prevention Trials Network.
Through ICAP, the center she established more than a decade ago at Columbia University, she has led the efforts that enabled the establishment of large-scale programs in 20 countries in Africa and Asia that link research, education, training and practice with a focus on HIV, other public health threats, and health system strengthening. Through ICAP’s work more than two million people have received access to HIV programs around the world. ICAP works hand-in-hand with ministries of health, academic institutions, non-governmental and community-based organizations to strengthen health systems and enable the response to most critical health threats. ICAP supports more than 4,000 health facilities and has training 60,000 health care workers to deliver high quality services. ICAP has championed integration of research into programs and investment in health system strengthening and quality improvement.

She received her medical degree from Cairo University in Egypt, a masters in public health from Columbia School of Public Health and a masters degree in public administration from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government. Her scholarly work has appeared in leading scientific journals. She was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2008 and is a member of the Institute of Medicine.

Attendees with Tannenbaum-Warner Award recipient Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr.
The Tannenbaum Lectures honor the memory of Professor Frank Tannenbaum, founder of The University Seminars in 1945 and director until his death in 1969. He and his wife, Jane Belo, established a trust to be invested, reinvested, and included in Columbia’s permanent endowment. Logistical support from Columbia and donations from individuals and institutional contributors supplement this endowment.

TANNENBAUM-WARNER AWARD RECIPIENTS

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>William S. Vickrey</td>
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<td>Paul Oscar Kristeller</td>
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<td>Wm. Theodore De Bary</td>
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<td>J. C. Hurewitz</td>
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<td>Joseph B. Maier</td>
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<td>Oscar Schachter</td>
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<td>George Halasi-Kun</td>
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<td>Harry R. Kissileff</td>
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<td>Peter H. Juvelier</td>
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<td>Peter V. Norden</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Roxie R. Smith</td>
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TANNENBAUM LECTURERS

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<tr>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>Theodosius Dobzhansky</td>
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<td>Daniel Yankelovich</td>
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<td>Harrison E. Salisbury</td>
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<td>Barbara W. Tuchman</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Charles Gati, John N. Hazard,</td>
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<td>R. Randle Edwards, Seweryn Bialer</td>
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<td>Richard N. Gardner</td>
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<td>M. Elaine Combs-Schilling</td>
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<td>Eli Ginzberg</td>
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<td>[50th Anniversary Celebration]</td>
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<td>Eric Foner</td>
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<td>Wallace S. Broecker</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Joseph E. Stiglitz</td>
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The twenty-second series of the Leonard Hastings Schoff Memorial Lectures

given by

Annette Insdorf

Director of Undergraduate Film Studies
Professor in the Graduate Film Program of the School of the Arts,
Columbia University

Coherence and Resonance:
How to Read Film Openings

I.
Opening-as-Prelogue
8 pm, Monday, November 10, 2014

II.
Opening-as-Misdirection
8 pm, Monday, November 17, 2014

III.
Opening-as-Action
8 pm, Monday, November 24, 2014

Annette Insdorf’s criteria of value—for the past few decades of
teaching cinema at Yale and Columbia—have been internal co-
herence of the cinematic text, and the film’s resonance (whether cul-
tural, political or aesthetic) beyond the frame. Her point of departure
is close analysis of the opening sequences of motion pictures. Using
clips from such masterpieces as Apocalypse Now, Cabaret, Hiroshima,
mon amour, Sunset Boulevard, and Touch of Evil, she explores how the
introduction is the anchor of a rich audio-visual experience.

Annette Insdorf is Director of Undergraduate Film Studies at Co-
lumbia University, and a Professor in the Graduate Film Program of the School of the Arts (for which she was Chair from 1990–95). She is the recipient of the 2008 Award for Excellence in Teaching from Columbia University’s School of General Studies. She taught film history and criticism at Yale University from 1975 until 1988.

Professor Insdorf is the author of Double Lives, Second Chances: The Cinema of Krzysztof Kieslowski; Francois Truffaut, a study of the French director’s work; and the landmark study, Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust. Her most recent book is Philip Kaufman, which Leonard Maltin called “a thoughtful, scholarly study of one of America’s most underrated filmmakers.”

Her commentaries can be heard on many DVDs, and she has interviewed over 100 film celebrities in her popular Reel Pieces series at Manhattan’s 92nd Street Y. She has been a juror at the film festivals of Berlin, Galway (Ireland), Locarno, and Jerusalem.

Born in Paris, she later moved to New York where she received her BA from Queens College and her PhD from Yale University as a Danforth Fellow. In 1986, she was named Chevalier dans l’ordre des arts et des lettres by the French Ministry of Culture. A second honor followed in 1993, when she was “knighted” for her educational efforts, and a third in 1999 when she was promoted to “Officer” in the arts.

On television, Professor Insdorf co-hosted (with Roger Ebert) Cannes Film Festival coverage for Bravo/IFC; served as host for TeleFrance Cine-Club (a national cable-TV program) and Years of Darkness (an 8-week film series about World War II shown by WNET/PBS); and she has appeared on 20/20, Charlie Rose, The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, Good Morning, America, The Sundance Channel, MSNBC, and CNN.
PREVIOUS LEONARD HASTINGS SCHOFF MEMORIAL LECTURES

1993: DAVID N. CANNADINE
Moore Collegiate Professor of History
The Rise and Fall of Class in Britain, 1700–2000

1994: CHARLES E. LARMORE
Professor of Philosophy
The Romantic Legacy

1995: SASKIA SASSEN
Professor of Urban Planning
Governing the Global Economy

1996: KENNETH T. JACKSON
Jacques Barzun Professor of History
and the Social Sciences
Gentleman’s Agreement: Political Balkanization and Social Inequality in America

1997: IRA KATZNELSON
Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History
Desolation and Enlightenment:
Political Knowledge After the Holocaust, Totalitarianism, and Total War

1998: CAROL GLUCK
George Sansom Professor of History
Past Obsessions: War and Memory in the Twentieth Century

1999: ROBERT POLLACK
Professor of Biological Sciences
The Faith of Biology and the Biology of Faith

2000: LISA ANDERSON
Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs
Professor of Political Science
The Scholar and the Practitioner: Perspectives on Social Science and Public Policy

2001: PARTHA CHATTERJEE
Professor of Anthropology
The Politics of the Governed

2002: DAVID ROSAND
Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History
The Invention of Painting in America

2003: GEORGE RUPP
President, International Rescue Committee
Globilization Challenged:
Conviction, Conflict, Community

2004: LESLEY A. SHARP
Associate Professor of Anthropology and Sociomedical Sciences
Bodies, Commodities, Biotechnologies

2005: ROBERT W. HANNING
Professor of English and Comparative Literature
Serious Play: Crises of Desire and Authority in the Poetry of Ovid, Chaucer, and Ariosto

2006: BORIS GASPAROV
Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature
The Early Romantic Roots of Theoretical Linguistics:
Friedrich Schlegel, Novalis, and Ferdinand De Saussure on Sign and Meaning

2007: DOUGLAS CHALMERS
Professor Emeritus of Political Science
Representative Government Without Representatives:
Seven Reasons to Think Beyond Electing Executives and Lawmakers

2009: PHILIP KITCHER
John Dewey Professor of Philosophy
Deaths in Venice: The Case(s) of Gustav (von) Aschenbach

2010: JEAN HOWARD
George Delacorte Professor in Humanities
Staging History; Imagining the Nation

2010: ALAN BRINKLEY
Allan Nevins Professor of History
Provost Emeritus, Columbia University
Seeing the Great Depression

2011: ROBERT L. BELKNAP
Professor Emeritus of Russian
Columbia University
Plot

2012: HERBERT TERRACE
Professor Psychology
Columbia University
Why Two Minds Are Better Than One: The Evolution of Words

2013: PAIGE WEST
Tow Professor of Anthropology
Barnard College and Columbia University
Accumulation by Dispossession?: Loss, Change, & the Future of the Melanesian Pacific
THE SCHOFF AND WARNER PUBLICATION AWARDS

In 1991, Leonard Hastings Schoff’s will endowed a fund to support the publication of books written under the auspices of The University Seminars that involve the Social Sciences or their subject matter and have been accepted for publication. Seminar members, guests, and even speakers may send the Seminars Director a letter, or better, an e-mail, naming the publisher, describing the contribution of a seminar to some part of their text, and giving an outline or table of contents in a page or two, as well as listing the sums available and those needed for indexing, translating, editing, picture permissions, etc. Usually, though not always, the Schoff Committee decides on its allocation quite promptly. Since 2008, The University Seminars, the Warner Family, and others have provided funds for parallel awards, to be granted in the same way as the Schoff funds, but not restricted to the social sciences. This fund is named for Aaron Warner, the social scientist and activist who ran The University Seminars from 1976 to 2000 and had a deep interest in both the arts and the natural sciences. In the period since the last Directory, the following books have been published with assistance from the Schoff or the Warner funds:

In 2014–2015, thirteen books were published with assistance from the Schoff fund; and seven books were published with aid from the Warner fund.

SCHOFF FUND

George Abosede, Making Modern Girls: A history of girlhood, labor, and social development in 20th century colonial Lagos

George Andreopoulos and Zehra F. Kabasakal Arat (editors), The Uses and Misuses of Human Rights: A Critical Approach to Advocacy

Weihong Bao, Fiery Cinema: The Emergence of an Affective Medium in China, 1915–1945

Linda Feng, City of Marvel and Transformation: Chang’an and Narratives of Experience in Tang Dynasty China

Carol Gould, Interactive Democracy: The Social Roots of Global Justice


John Stratton Hawley, A Storm of Songs: India and the Idea of the Bhakti Movement

John Stratton Hawley (translator), Sur’s Ocean: Poems from the Early Tradition

Rito Hofmann, The Fascist Effect Japan and Italy, 1915–1952

Ernest Ialongo, Filippo Tommaso Marinetti: The Artist and his Politics

Sarah Keller, Maya Deren: Incomplete Control

Jeffrey C. Kinkley, Visions of Dystopia in China’s New Historical Novels

Seth Kimmel, Parables of Coercion: Conversation and Knowledge at the End of Islamic Spain

WARNER FUND


Kaira Cabañas, Off-Screen Cinema: Isidore Isou and the Lettrist Avant-Garde

Paul Copp, The Body Incantatory: Spells and the Ritual Imagination in Medieval Chinese Buddhism

Reidar Maliks, Kant’s Politics in Context

Daniel Margocsy, Commercial Visions: Science, Trade, and Visual Culture in the Dutch Golden Age

Laura Neitzel The Life We Longed For: Danchi Mass Housing and the Middle-Class Dream in Postwar Japan

Molly Tambor, The Lost Wave: Women and Democracy in Postwar Italy
We mourn the death of long time University Seminars friend, Ene Sirvet. We got to know Ene through her friend, and colleague in EPIC, Robert Belknap. She was a cheerful and enlightening presence in our office and we miss her.

In Memoriam

ENE SIRVET
April 12, 1938 – April 22, 2015

Ene was born in Estonia and lived in Pärnu until her family was forced to leave in 1944 when the Soviets invaded, ending up in a displaced persons camp in Augsburg, Germany.

In 1949 the family immigrated to America and settled in Rochester, NY, where she graduated in 1956 from Benjamin Franklin High School. She studied history at the University of Rochester, graduating in 1960.

After college she came to New York City to pursue her interest in history and began a long career in a variety of administrative positions at Columbia University. She served as administrative assistant in the Department of History and worked with a number of distinguished professors, among them Fritz Stern and Kenneth Jackson. Her longest career engagement was with the John Jay Papers project in the Columbia University Libraries, where she worked closely with the late Richard B. Morris, Governeur Morris Professor of History.

Beyond Columbia, Ene served on the Board of the Jay Heritage Center in Rye, NY, and was an active member of the Friends of the John Jay Homestead, a NYS historic site based in Katonah.

Ene retired from full-time work in 1997 but continued to work in part-time positions, serving for many years as administrative secretary of the Society of American Historians at Columbia. In 2004 she became the administrator for EPIC (Emeritus Professors in Columbia), a position she held until she was taken ill in late 2014. Her charm, graciousness, care, professionalism, and efficiency contributed greatly to every position she held.

Ene was a woman of great taste and culture. She loved music; she was a gourmet cook. She befriended people from around the world and traveled widely, including several visits to her homeland Estonia after it declared freedom in 1991.

She is survived by a brother, Ain Sirvet, of Rochester; NY, and a niece, Kristin Haight, of Pennsylvania; and two grand-nephews.

“You will be missed, your memory will be a blessing for all those who knew you.”

Suzanne Anteby

“When I first arrived as a professor at Columbia 47 years ago, Ene became my first friend. I still remember the wonderful steak dinner she prepared in her apartment. For decades thereafter, when I was the executive secretary of the Society of American Historians, Ene and I worked together on elections, annual dinners, mailings, prize committees, and the like. She was a good friend and essential to my life.”

Kenneth T. Jackson, Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences

“A life well lived, a remarkable capacity to serve with grace to a diverse battery of major and minor Columbia people of all ages and genders. We will celebrate a superb existence.”

Richard Pierson, EPIC member and Professor of Clinical Medicine
The concept of “modernity” has been at the center of many thorny historiographical discussions, which too often have monopolized the attention of historians over the last few decades. This approach has led to a deeper understanding of many aspects of the historical past, and even a more sophisticated notion of “alternative modernities” that rejects the narrow view of steady progress along a single path set by Western industrialized nations. Critics, nonetheless, still question this linear notion of development, and fault the modernity paradigm for flattening the past and fragmenting scholarly research into isolated time bands.

The goal of this conference is to assess critically the modernity paradigm by exploring its utility and its limits through the lens of Chinese history during
the late-Imperial and Republican periods. The topic is certainly timely, and will bring together new generations of scholars whose innovative research has recast the Chinese past in wider, richer terms and through new theoretical approaches. Their contributions will also serve as an appreciation of the pioneering research of their mentor Professor Madeleine Zelin in the fields of late-Imperial and Republican Chinese history. In her work Professor Zelin has consistently demonstrated the limits of a stereotypical understanding of Chinese economic and legal actors as “pre-modern,” unaware of practical and effective economic policies and legal relations. As a result, her works question the validity of modernity-based periodizations and static notions of modernity itself. Zelin’s critique of the modernization formula was not articulated explicitly, but conducted through in-depth re-examinations of legal and economic practices, grounded thoroughly in archival resources and richly illustrated with the details and elements that did not fit pre-existing narratives.

It is this methodological legacy that Professor Zelin has passed along to her students, who work on fields ranging from economic to cultural history, but who all were trained to adopt the same attention for the detail, careful readings of sources, and distrust for meta-narratives.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014

10:00 am | Opening Remarks
Eugenia Lean, Columbia University
Haruo Shirane, Columbia University
Myron Cohen, Columbia University
Rashid Khalidi, Columbia University

11:00 am–12:30 pm
I: Framing, part I: The Big Picture
Chair: Andrew Nathan, Columbia University
Discussant: Dorothy Ko, Columbia University
Remington Worldwide: The Globalization of the Keyboard and the Xenogenesis of Chinese
Thomas Mullaney, Stanford University
Historical Séances: Lost Films, Modern Mediums
Kristine Harris, SUNY – New Paltz
The Social Life of the Foreignized Chinese Carpet
Elizabeth LaCouture, Colby College

2:00–3:30 pm
II: Becoming Accountable
Chairs: Feng Li, Columbia University
Zvi Ben-Dor Benite, New York University
Discussant: Robert Hymes, Columbia University

‘For Ten Thousand Years A Pattern for Those who Hold Command:’ Shahe County’s Investment in Shrines and Steles
Sarah Schneewind, University of California – San Diego

From Generosity to Accountability: Public Financial Reports in Qing China
Weiwei Luo, Columbia University

Mediating Modernization: Mobilizing Support for the Bank of China, 1912–1918”
Georgia Mickey, California State Polytechnic University Pomona

4:00–5:30 pm
III: Professional Practice
Chair: Benjamin Liebman, Columbia University
Discussant: Jonathan Ocko, North Carolina State University

Forensic Autopsy and its Fate in Republican China
Daniel Asen, Rutgers University - Newark

On Track to Modernity? The Making of the Civil Engineer in Republican China
Elisabeth Küll, Harvard University

Guilty by Association or by Action: Defining and Punishing Chinese Collaborators in Local Society, 1937–1949
Xu Xiaoqun, Christopher Newport University
Saturdays, September 20, 2014

9:00–10:30 am
IV: The Everyday Modern
Chair: Peter Perdue, Yale University
Discussant: Eugenia Lean, Columbia University

Joan Judge, York University

Pilgrim’s Chinese Progress: Old Texts/Modern Meanings in Constructing New Women for China
Sue Gronewold, Kean University

Displaying ‘Everyday Modernity’—and What is Beyond? Haircut Hygiene in the 1925 Taipei Police Exhibition
Hui-yu Caroline Ts’ai, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

11:00 am–12:30 pm
V: Reshaping Space
Chair: David Weiman, Barnard College
Discussant: Chuck Wooldridge, Lehman College of CUNY

The Building of Chungking Mansions and a History of the Site
Josephine Khu, Independent Scholar

A Modernist Revolution? Urban Space in Maoist China
Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona

Elusive Demobilization: Patterns of Place and Displacements in the Long War, 1937–1959
Rebecca Nedostup, Brown University

1:30–3:00 pm
VI: Extending Power
Chair: Robbie Robert J. Barnett, Columbia University
Discussant: Joshua A. Fogel, York University

Imperial Borderland to Socialist State: Change and Continuity on the Tibetan Frontier during the Late-Imperial, Republican, and Maoist Periods
Benno Ryan Weiner, Appalachian State University

Without the Luxury of Critique: Lin Biao and Military Modernity in Manchuria, 1945–1948
Harold Tanner, University of North Texas

Chinese Uhuru: Maoism and the Congo Crisis
Alexander C. Cook, University of California—Berkeley

3:30–6:00 pm
VII: Framing, Part II—The Fine Print
Chair: Robert P. Gardella, United States Merchant Marine Academy – Kings Point
Discussant: Rebecca Nedostup, Brown University

Negotiating with the Nation and Empire: Contested Visions of Chinese Legal Modernity in Post-1860 Qing China
Li Chen, University of Toronto – Scarborough

Consumption, Standards of Living, and the Question of Modernity in China (1500–1937)
Margherita Zanasi, Louisiana State University

No ‘Mean’ Solution: Socialist Statistics and Economic Calculation in 1950s PRC
Arunabh Ghosh, Columbia University

The Program Committee:
Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona
Rebecca Nedostup, Brown University
Margherita Zanasi, Louisiana State University

Co-sponsors:
The Department of East Asian Languages and Culture
The Department of History
The Columbia University Seminar on Modern East Asia: China
PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACHES TO TRAFFIC SAFETY: A RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM IN SUPPORT OF NEW YORK CITY’S VISION ZERO

The University Seminar on Injury Prevention and Control (719)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2014

Opening Remarks
Linda Fried, MD, MPH, Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health

Keynote Talk
Public Health Perspective on Injury Prevention and Control
Kenneth Moritsugu, MD, MPH, Former Acting US Surgeon General

Panel Presentations
Local Health Data: Key Questions on Injury Control and Road Safety
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Research Methods and Evaluation in Traffic Safety
Center for Injury Epidemiology and Control at Columbia

Lunch Roundtables
New York City Department of Transportation, New York City Police Department
Vision Zero Beyond the City Limits
National Transportation Safety Board, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Together for Safer Roads

Sponsored by:
The Columbia University Seminar on Injury Prevention and Control
The Columbia University Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology
The Columbia University Medical Center, Center for Injury Epidemiology and Prevention
NYC Health
Mailman School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology
ACTORS AND DIRECTORS AND TEACHERS TRY TO DO SHAKESPEARE WELL BUT OFTEN DO IT BADLY AND GET HIM WRONG. THEY TRY TO GET HIM “RIGHT”—BUT WHAT IS “RIGHT” SHAKESPEARE? IN THIS YEAR’S PROVOCATIVE COLLOQUIUM, WE THINK ABOUT THE VALUE OF GETTING SHAKESPEARE WRONG. WHAT CONSTITUTES BAD OR WRONG SHAKESPEARE AND WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THINKING ABOUT IT?

FOUR NOTED THEATER PRACTITIONERS AND EXPERTS DISCUSS THE PLEASURES, PERILS, AND CHALLENGES OF STAGING SHAKESPEARE’S PLAYS.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014

9:30 AM

Shakespeare Bad, Shakespeare Wrong:
Marking the Difference

Zoltán Márkus

Questioning “Shakespearean fundamentalism,” Zoltán Márkus distinguishes between “bad Shakespeare” and “wrong Shakespeare” and asks how investigations of the difference assume different critical protocols. What kind of ethical assumptions, implications, or judgments are presented when we distinguish “bad” Shakespeare from “wrong” Shakespeare?

Associate professor of English at Vassar College, Zoltán Márkus writes on the cultural appropriation of Shakespeare, foreign Shakespeare, Shakespeare in translation, and Shakespeare on stage and film. His recently completed book manuscript titled Shakespeares at War: Cultural Appropriations of Shakespeare in London and Berlin during World War II compares Shakespeare’s wartime cultural reception in these two cities.
10:45 am  
Shakespeare in Nazi Germany
Iska Alter

Appropriating Shakespeare as a “Germanic” writer, the Third Reich encouraged productions of Hamlet, Richard III, and Macbeth. (The Merchant of Venice was banned as insufficiently anti-Semitic.) Iska Alter will discuss how and why Shakespeare was adapted to serve the Nazi regime.

Iska Alter is Professor of English, Emerita, at Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York. Her writings on Shakespeare, the Yiddish theatre, American drama, and ethnic American literature have been published in such journals as Theatre History Studies, Shakespeare Survey, Modern Drama, and Shakespeare Bulletin and in a number of edited collections.

1:00–2:15 pm  
Stages of Revision: Anonymous and the Lessons of Wrong Shakespeare
Donovan Sherman

Donovan Sherman discusses Roland Emmerich’s 2011 film Anonymous (which contends that Shakespeare’s plays were written by the Earl of Oxford) and shows how its historical and aesthetic “wrongness” provides a powerful reflection of our practices as readers and audiences of Shakespeare.

Donovan Sherman, assistant professor of English at Seton Hall University, writes on Shakespeare, critical theory, and performance studies. His work has appeared in Shakespeare Quarterly, The Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Literature/Film Quarterly, and Shakespeare Bulletin. His current project is a book about souls in Shakespearean drama.

2:15–3:30 pm  
Getting Othello Wrong Right
Emily Weissbourd

Using an anachronistic reading of Othello and its treatment of servitude, Emily Weissbourd shows how differently racial categories functioned in the early modern period than they do today. She compares Othello to a little-known Spanish comedy, Jiménez de Enciso’s Juan Latino (1612–20), which complicates our idea of Othello and Desdemona’s interracial marriage.

Emily Weissbourd is Visiting Assistant Professor at Bryn Mawr College, has written on discourses of race and representations of slavery in early modern English and Spanish literature in Comparative Drama and Huntington Library Quarterly and she is the co-editor (with Barbara Fuchs) of Representing Imperial Rivalry in the Early Modern Mediterranean (University of Toronto Press 2014).

Special Thanks:
The Columbia University Seminar on Shakespeare
Office of the Provost, College at Florham
Office of the Dean, Becton College
Department of Literature, Languages, Writing, and Philosophy
Office of Public Relations
Publications Office
Sigma Tau Delta Honors Society
Dr. John Mucciolo
REWRITING ENGLISH: GAURI VISWANATHAN’S 
Masks of Conquest at Twenty-Five
The University Seminar on Literary Theory (711)

The Heyman Center hosts an all-day conference celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of Gauri Viswanathan’s Masks of Conquest: Literary Study and British Rule in India. Viswanathan’s book changed the way we think about English Literature as a “discipline”—both educational and colonial; it continues to be one of the most important works on the teaching of English in colonial India, and one of the most important analyses for the idea of literature as a conscious strategy of hegemony. In this commemorative event, sixteen of her former students, along with other scholars of postcolonial thought, will give short papers that consider the legacy of this work.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014
9:30–10:00 am | Welcome and Introduction
10:00–11:00 am
Speaking, Reading, Being Read
Sonali Perera, Associate Professor of English, Hunter College, City University of New York
Tim Watson, Associate Professor of English, University of Miami
Siraj Ahmed, Associate Professor of English, Lehman College, City University of New York

11:00 am–12:00 pm
Colonial Exchange and Change
Suzanne Daly, Associate Professor of English, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Sunil Agnani, Associate Professor of English and History, University of Illinois at Chicago
Amy Martin, Associate Professor of English, Mount Holyoke College

1:00–2:00 pm
Out of Place
Michael Malouf, Associate Professor of English, George Mason University
Coilín Parsons, Assistant Professor of English, Georgetown University
Sarah Phillips Casteel, Associate Professor of English, Carleton University
Sanjay Krishnan, Associate Professor of English, Boston University

2:00–3:00 pm
The Political Conscious
Helen Kapstein, Assistant Professor of English, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Richard Jean So, Assistant Professor of English, University of Chicago
Joshua L. Miller, Associate Professor of English, University of Michigan
3:30–4:30 pm

**Method and Mentorship**

- **Sailaja Sastry**, Lecturer in English, Barnard College
- **Moustafa Bayoumi**, Professor of English, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York
- **Radhika Jones**, Deputy Managing Editor, *Time* magazine

4:30–5:30 pm

**Crossing Paths**

- **Isabel Hofmeyr**, Professor of African Literature, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- **Una Chaudhuri**, Collegiate Professor and Professor of English and Drama, New York University Abu Dhabi

**Additional Participants:**

- Dohra Ahmad, Associate Professor of English, St. John’s University
- Elaine Freedgood, Professor of English, New York University
- Anjuli Raza Kolb, Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Williams College
- Sonali Perera, Associate Professor of English, Hunter College, City University of New York

**Sponsors:**

- Society of Fellows in the Humanities
- The Columbia University Seminar on Literary Theory
- Columbia University Press
- Institute for Comparative Literature and Society
- Department of English
- Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies
- New York University Department of English
Sam Devons—physicist, teacher, science historian, and creative communicator—came to Columbia in 1959. After a distinguished professional career at Cambridge and Imperial College and important work during WW II, he became the Langworthy Professor and Director of Physics at the University of Manchester. A highly regarded researcher, he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1955, and later received the prestigious Rutherford Medal and Prize from Britain’s Institute of Physics. At Columbia, besides continuing his prolific nuclear physics research, he served as chair of the Columbia Physics Department. He established the unique History of Physics Laboratory program at Barnard College, continued his lectures and writings on famous historical science figures, and actively promoted scientific literacy at all levels especially the enrichment of science teaching in secondary schools. He continued these activities after retirement in 1984, as well as renewed involvement in many Columbia University Seminars and in broadening activities at Faculty House. Devons demonstrated imagination, wit, and limitless energy all his life to broaden the intellectual world in which he, his colleagues, and the broader community lived.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014**

9:00 am | Welcomes by physics department, organizers and sponsors
Frank Sciulli, Conference Chairman, Physics Department
Cathryn Devons, Devons family
Linda Bell, Barnard College
Robert Pollack, Columbia University Seminars

9:35 am
*Early Days*
Sue Devons Gil

10:00 am
*Devons’ scientific research*
David Hitlin

11:00 am
*Founding of Emeriti Professors in Columbia (EPIC)*
Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr.

11:30 am
*Personal reminiscences and professional influences*
Judith Devons
Stanley Samora Devons was a renowned physicist and teacher. He received his Ph.D. in Physics at Columbia in 1968, was on the Columbia faculty from 1973 to 2000, chaired the Department of Biological Sciences, 1990–93, and was Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Education and Dean of Graduate School of Arts and Sciences from 1993 to 2000. Sam Devons was one of his doctoral research mentors in the mid-1960s.

Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr., was the editor for the Program for Studies of the Modern Corporation for the Columbia Business School and of the volume Columbia and the City: The University’s Commitment to New York City. He has been a member of several University Seminars, and founder and co-chair of the University Seminar on the History of Columbia University. He conducted extensive oral histories with several famous Columbians, including I. I. Rabi. Chauncey was an early member of the steering committee for the EPIC (see below) founded by Professor Devons.

John Roeder is a long-time teacher at the Calhoun School and Secretary-Treasurer of the Physics Club of New York. He has received several American Association of Physics Teachers’ awards, including the Excellence in Pre-College Teaching Award and the Distinguished Service Citation. John worked closely with Devons in the Joseph Priestley Association and Columbia’s Scientific Literacy Seminar.

Sam’s immediate family and close friends.
Columbia and Barnard colleagues.

Invited Speakers:

David Hitlin, Professor of Physics at the California Institute of Technology, worked with Devons as a graduate student in the 1960s on muonic x-ray experiments at Nevis Labs. He is an experimentalist known for his work on the properties of charm and bottom quarks particularly from the BABAR program. Dave was the founding spokesman of this collaboration, which discovered violation of particle-antiparticle symmetry in decays of bottom quarks.

Lillian (Hartmann) Hoddeson, Siebel Professor of the History of Science (Emeritus), University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign, worked with Devons as a Columbia physics graduate student and Barnard faculty member in developing the History of Physics Laboratory. Her books about the history of science include Out of the Crystal Maze (solid state physics), Critical Assembly (WWII Los Alamos), Crystal Fire (transistors), True Genius (Bardeen), and Fermilab.

Eduardo Macagno, Distinguished Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of California San Diego, moved from Columbia in 2001 as Founding Dean of UCSD Division of Biological Sciences. He received his Ph.D. in Physics at Columbia in 1968, was on the Columbia faculty from 1973 to 2000, chaired the Department of Biological Sciences, 1990–93, and was Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Education and Dean of Graduate School of Arts and Sciences from 1993 to 2000. Sam Devons was one of his doctoral research mentors in the mid-1960s.

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Sponsored by:
The Columbia University Seminar on the History of Columbia University

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Barnard College
Department of Physics, Columbia University
Amanda Devons
Cathryn Devons
Judith Devons
Sue Devons Gil
12th International Columbia School Conference on

THE INTERACTION OF LINGUISTIC FORM AND
MEANING WITH HUMAN BEHAVIOR

The University Seminar on Columbia School Linguistics (739)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2015

9:15–9:30 am | Greetings
Radmila Gorup, President, Columbia School Linguistic Society
Ricardo Otheguy, for the conference organizers

9:30–10:00 am
Extending Diver’s Focus Hypothesis for Latin
Joseph Davis

10:00–10:45 am
Is there a place for traditional parts of speech in Columbia School theory?
Wallis Reid

11:15–11:45 am
Vowels and consonants: A new vision of syllable structure from PHB
Bob de Jonge

11:45 am–12:15 pm
Un-debunking the phoneme: How the space character and the Roman alphabet led phonology astray
Tom Eccardt

1:30–2:00 pm | Poster Sessions
Metadiscourse in Arabic and English research abstracts
Hmoud Alotaibi
Spanish a: A Columbia School road to homonymy
Joanna Birnbaum
Control and Focus in Gurung
Danielle Ronko

2:00–2:45 pm
Pragmatic analysis of wiretaps, foreign intelligence surveillance, pretext and consensual recordings: “smoking guns” vs speech event theory
Rob Leonard

2:45–3:15 pm
Linguistic and semiotic mechanisms and ideology in Israeli textbooks
Nurit Peled

3:30–4:00 pm
Semantic variation in Danish epistemic markers
Tanya Christensen

4:00–4:30 pm
The usefulness of imperfect paraphrases
Bob Kirsner

4:45–5:15 pm
The Focus System and the so-called nominalizers koto and no in Modern Japanese
Hidemi Sugi Riggs

5:15–5:45 pm
A sign-based account of the distribution of the forms any and some
Nadav Sabar

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

9:30–10:00 am
A comparative discourse study of the restrictive markings of Mandarin jiǔ, cāi, and zhū
Xuehua Xiang

10:00–10:45 am
A little common sense, please! Chinese word order versus the grammatical tradition
Alan Huffman

11:15–11:45 am
Vowels and consonants: A new vision of syllable structure from PHB
Bob de Jonge

11:45 am–12:15 pm
Un-debunking the phoneme: How the space character and the Roman alphabet led phonology astray
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Bob Kirsner

4:45–5:15 pm
The Focus System and the so-called nominalizers koto and no in Modern Japanese
Hidemi Sugi Riggs

5:15–5:45 pm
A sign-based account of the distribution of the forms any and some
Nadav Sabar
11:45 am–12:15 pm
Columbian COCA: Using big data
to test a Columbia School hypothesis
Ricardo Otheguy and Lauren Spradlin

2:15–2:45 pm
El “juego” intra-paradigmático: Una mirada al uso actual de los clíticos en Buenos Aires
Angelita Martínez

2:45–3:15 pm
An inquiry into the semantic substance of Spanish verbs: A sign based analysis
Jaseleen Ruggles and Ricardo Otheguy

3:15–3:45 pm
Discourse prominence and subject expression in Spanish
Berenice Darwich

4:00–4:30 pm
What is que? A monosemic approach
Eduardo Ho Fernández

4:30–5:00 pm
You can say that again: The communicative utility of that repetition
Andrew McCormick

5:15–6:00 pm
The puzzle of ‘determiners’ in Mopan Maya
Ellen Contini-Morava and Eve Danziger

6:00–6:30 pm
Linguistic creativity and children’s literature:
The case of Pinkalicious
Bill Carrasco

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2015

9:30–10:00 am
Observing speech acts in hospitality situations:
the role of linguistic forms
Leanne Schreurs

10:00–10:30 am
A new approach to case meaning in Russian
Mary Anne Consentini

10:30–11:00 am
The characterization of referents in Serbo-Croatian
Radmila Gorup

11:15 am–12:00 pm | Business Meeting

Conference Organizing Committee:
Radmila Gorup, Columbia University
Ricardo Otheguy, Graduate Center, City University of New York
Jaseleen Ruggles, Recumen
Nancy Stern, The City College, City University of New York

The generous support of the Columbia University Seminar on Columbia School Linguistics and of the Columbia School Linguistic Society is gratefully acknowledged. Special thanks to Ricardo Otheguy, Wallis Reid, and Jaseleen Ruggles for additional support.
Co-organized by Columbia University’s Department of Art History and Archaeology and Deutsches Haus in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut New York and the Jewish Museum, New York, this conference will bring together an international group of historians, art historians, scholars of provenance research and legal practice, museums directors, museum curators, and journalists. Beyond the specific case of Hildebrand and Cornelius Gurlitt’s long hidden treasures, the conference will explore the manifold legacies of Nazi-looted art that continue to haunt our present.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015
6:30 pm | Introduction
Andreas Huyssen, Director of Deutsches Haus, Columbia University

6:30–7:30 pm | Keynote Lecture
From “Degenerate Art” to Looted Art: Reflections on a Historical Process in Nazi Germany
Olaf Peters, Martin Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015
9:30 am | Welcome
Holger A. Klein, Chairman of the Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University

Morning Session I
Moderator: Andreas Huyssen, Columbia University

9:45–10:15 am
Five Uncomfortable and Difficult Topics Relating to the Restitution of Nazi Looted Art
Jonathan Petropoulos, Claremont McKenna College
10:30–11:00 am
Pressure, Erasure, Return? Investigating the “Grey Zone” of Interactions between Jewish Art Experts and German Art Historians in Nazi Occupied Europe—and After
Christian Fuhrmeister, Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich

Morning Session II
Moderator: Noam Elcott, Columbia University

11:45 am–12:15 pm
Networks, Structures, Mechanisms: The Art Market in the “Third Reich” through the auction House Adolf Weinmüller in Munich and Vienna
Meike Hopp, Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich

12:30–1:00 pm
Hildebrandt Gurlitt and his dealings with German museums during the “Third Reich”
Meike Hoffmann, Freie Universität, Berlin

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2015

Morning Session I
Moderator: Avinoam Shalem, Columbia University

9:45–10:15 am
‘The Largest Jewish Library in the World’: The Books of Holocaust Victims and their Redistribution Following World War II
Gish Amit, Mandel Leadership Institute, Jerusalem

10:30–11:00 am
Gurlitt, Weinmüller, Nolde: The Recent German Debate on Art Politics in the Nazi Era
Julia Voss, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Frankfurt

Afternoon Session II
Moderator: Anson Rabinbach, Princeton University

1:15–1:45 pm
Restitution as Diagnosis: Political Aspects of the “Trophy Art” Problem and Russian-German Relations
Konstantin Akinsha, Guest Fellow in Max Weber Kolleg, Erfurt, Germany

2:00–2:30 pm
All Paths Lead to New York; Cultural Plunder and Its Commercial Consequences, 1933–Today
Marc Masurovsky, Co-Founder, Holocaust Art Restitution Project, Washington

2:45–3:15 pm
The Restitution of Nazi-Looted Art and Other Cultural Property: Have we gone too far or not far enough?
Lawrence M. Kaye, Co-Chair of the Art Law Group at Herrick, Feinstein LLP in New York

4:00–5:30 pm | Panel Discussion
Moderator: Barry Bergdoll, Columbia University
Featured participants will include:
Stephanie Barron, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles
Ruth Beesch, Deputy Director Jewish Museum, New York
MaryKate Cleary, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)
Uwe Hartmann, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Berlin

Generous funding has been provided by:
The Samuel H. Kress Foundation
Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
New German Critique.

Co-sponsored by:
The Heyman Center for the Humanities
Department of History
The Columbia University Seminar on Cultural Memory
The Middle East Institute, Columbia University
FASCISM ACROSS BORDERS
An International Conference
The University Seminar on Studies in Political and Social Thought (427)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015

9:30 am

Past and Present of Fascism
Chair: Federico Finchelstein, The New School
Discussant: Turkuler Isiksel, Columbia University

Postfascism: the Politics of Xenophobia and the Legacy of the Twentieth Century
Enzo Traversom, Cornell University
Contemporary Fascisms and the Limits of Historical Analogies
Kostis Karpozilos, Princeton University

Old and New Ideological Borders
Chair: Jean Cohen, Columbia University
Discussant: Jose Moya, Columbia University

The Populism of the European Extreme Right: Myth and Realities
Yannis Stavrakakis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Crossing the Borders of Time and Space: The Italian Intellectuals and the “Fascist Culture”
Michele Battini, University of Pisa

Directory of Seminars, Speakers, & Topics 2014–2015 33
Within the Fortress of Europe 1
Chair: Nadia Urbinati, Columbia University
Discussant: Ruth Ben-Ghiat, New York University
Fascism(s) in Europe’s center and periphery through the crises of the 1970s and the 2010s
Dimitris Kousouris, University of Konstanz
The Neonazism Restructuring After 1989
Hubertus Buchstein, Greifswald University

Within the Fortress of Europe 2
Chair: Andrew Arato, The New School for Social Research
Discussant: Jeremy Varon, The New School for Social Research
Fascist Branding: Constructing the Spectacle of Ethnos in the Balkans
Kriss Ravetto, University of California Davis
The Crisis of Liberal Institutions in Mediterranean Europe
Giulia Albanese, University of Padua

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015
9:30 am
The Evolution of Populism in Latin America
Chair: Stathis Gourgouris, Columbia University
Discussant: Pablo Piccato, Columbia University
Populism and the Politics of the Extraordinary in Latin America
Carlos de LaTorre, University of Kentucky
Populism and Redistribution in Latin America: Conceptualizing a Threshold of Acceptance
Juan F Gonzalez Bertomeu, ITAM School of Law, Mexico
Maria Paula Saffon, Columbia University

New Challenges in the Age of New Media Technology
Chair: Neni Panourgia, Columbia University
Discussant: Silvana Patriarca, Fordham University
Violence, Breakdown, Consent: Fascism and the Technologies of Crisis
Geoff Eley, University of Michigan
Repressed genealogies of “race” and empire in the critical responses to the new European fascisms
Eleni Varikas, University Paris 8 and Centre de Recherches Sociologiques et Politiques de Paris (CRESPPA) CNRS

Fascism and Beyond: A Round Table Panel
Chair: Andreas Kalyvas, The New School for Social Research
Discussants: Victoria De Grazia, Columbia University
Simon Levis Sullam, University of Venice
Simon Levis Sullam, University of Venice
Is There Still Fascism in Latin America?
Carlos Forment, The New School for Social Research
Is There Still Fascism in Europe?
Paul Corner, University of Siena

The Conference is sponsored by:
The Columbia Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The Columbia University Seminar on Studies in Political and Social Thought
The Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University
The Department of Political Science at Columbia
The Department of Politics of The New School for Social Science
The Department of History of The New School for Social Science.
In September 2014, following an extensive process that included the participation of indigenous peoples, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples Outcome Document. Soon after, faculty members at Columbia and UiT agreed to organize a seminar examining the document’s impact on indigenous peoples and the indigenous rights community.

With 40 paragraphs of recommendations directed at States as well as the UN System, and given the fact that indigenous peoples were directly involved in the preparatory process, it is expected the document will directly impact the indigenous rights regime. In this seminar we will discuss the issues listed below, among others:

- What is the legal relevance of the WCIP Outcome Document?
- What might its impact be on the indigenous rights regime?
- What is the relationship between the Outcome Document, human rights treaties, and general principles of international law?
- Has the role of indigenous groups and peoples changed in light of the Outcome Document and its preparatory process?

We scheduled this seminar to fall on the weekend in between the two weeks of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues meeting in New York City. We hope you will join us in dialogue as we debate the Outcome Document.

The seminar is open to academics, representatives of Indigenous Peoples’ organizations and nations as well as non-governmental organizations and inter-governmental organizations.
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015

10:00–10:15 am
Welcoming remarks by representatives of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race and the Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University and the leader of the Sami and Indigenous Rights Group at the Arctic University of Norway, UiT

10:15–10:45 am
The relevance of the WCIP, the Alta Outcome Document, and indigenous peoples’ participation in the process in general. Introductory presentation by Les Malezer.

10:45–11:30 am | Discussion
Dr. Myrna Cunningham, facilitator

11:30 am–12:00 pm
The relationship between the WCIP Outcome Document and international human rights treaties and general principles of international law. Introductory presentation by Professor Martin Scheinin.

1:30–1:45 pm | Discussion
Associate Professor Mattias Åhrén, facilitator

2:00–2:30 pm
The legal relevance of the WCIP Outcome Document and its potential impacts on the indigenous rights regime, including on the legal status of the UNDRIP. Introductory presentation by Professor Hurst Hannum.

2:30–3:15 pm | Discussion
Professor Martin Scheinin, facilitator

3:30–4:00 pm
The proposed enhanced participatory status of indigenous peoples in the UN system; the potential impact on the legal status of indigenous peoples under international law. Introductory presentation by Manuel May Castillo.

3:30–4:15 pm | Discussion
Dr. Claire Charters, facilitator

4:00–4:45 pm | Discussion
Professor Hurst Hannum, facilitator

4:45–5:00 pm | Closing of first meeting day

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2015

9:00–9:30 am
A relevant mandate for the EMRIP; an insider’s perspective. Introductory presentation by Dr. Claire Charters, Senior Lecturer

9:30–10:15 am | Discussion
Professor Elsa Stamatopoulou, facilitator

10:30–11:00 am
The WCIP process, outcome, and road ahead; a state perspective. Introductory presentation by Elisa Diaz Gras, Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

11:00–11:30 am
A relevant mandate for the EMRIP; theoretical thoughts and considerations. Introductory presentation by Associate Professor Mattias Åhrén.

11:30 am–12:15 pm | Discussion
Professor Les Malezer, facilitator

1:30–2:00 pm
The relevance of recommendations directed at states for the implementation of indigenous peoples’ human rights at the national level, in particular for those rights enshrined in the UNDRIP. Introductory presentation by Dr. Myrna Cunningham.

2:00–2:45 pm | Discussion
Dr. Manuel May Castillo, facilitator

3:00–3:30 pm
The relevance of other recommendations contained in the WCIP Outcome Document. Introductory presentation by Professor Elsa Stamatopoulou.

3:30–4:15 pm | Discussion
Dr. Claire Charters, facilitator

4:15–4:30 pm | Closing of the seminar

Co-sponsored by:
The Sami and Indigenous Rights Group at the Arctic University of Norway, UiT
The Columbia Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race
The Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University
The Columbia University Seminar on Indigenous Studies
Below is a listing of the 2014–2015 University Seminars, with their topics and speakers. The seminars are listed in order of their Seminar Number, which roughly follows their chronological founding. Some of our seminars are still going strong after 70 years; new ones continue to be formed. Eight seminars were inaugurated last year. Seminars sometimes stop meeting, temporarily or permanently, for practical or intellectual reasons. Our seminars span a wide range of interests, from contemporary and historical topics in religion, literature, and law, to technical and administrative issues in contemporary society, to area studies, Shakespeare, and the sciences.

**THE PROBLEM OF PEACE (403)**

*Founded: 1945*

This seminar is concerned broadly with the maintenance of international peace and security and with the settlement of international disputes. It considers specific conflicts and also discusses the contemporary role of the United Nations, multinational peacekeeping, humanitarian efforts and other measures for the resolution of international conflicts.

Chair: Professor Roy Lee  
Rapporteur: Ms. Diandian Jiang

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>September 23</td>
<td><em>Who Are IS/ISIL/ISIS and What Are They Trying to Establish</em></td>
<td>Omar El Okdah, International Peace Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 18</td>
<td><em>Human Trafficking, Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Gender Equality</em></td>
<td>Taina BienAimé, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 16</td>
<td><em>Should a Head of State be Immune from Prosecution for International Crimes while He or She is in Office?</em></td>
<td>John Q. Barrett, St. John’s University</td>
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<td>February 17</td>
<td><em>The Rise of Isis</em></td>
<td>Martin Smith, Frontline</td>
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</tbody>
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Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Peter T. Coleman, coleman@exchange.tc.columbia.edu  
Professor Roy Lee, royslee@optonline.net
STUDIES IN RELIGION (405)

Founded: 1945

The approaches to religion in this seminar range from the philosophical through the anthropological to the historical and comparative. We concern ourselves with religion in all of its manifestations—ancient and modern, primitive and civilized, heretical and orthodox, individual and cosmic. The guiding thread is whatever subjects are uppermost in the minds of those composing the membership at a given time. Since members come from different disciplines as well as different traditions and have a variety of personal orientations, we are assured maximum openness and flexibility.

Co-Chairs: Mr. Tony Carnes, Professor Sidney Greenfield
Rapporteur: Ms. Liane Carlson

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 15  
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Content and Methods of the Social Sciences
Sociality, Sin and the Unbuffered Self in American Evangelicalism
Omri Elisha, Queens College, The City University of New York

November 19  
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Content and Methods of the Social Sciences
Ontological Stabilities and Ethnographic Knowledge: Experiencing the Mega Temple Complex and Swaminarayan Religious Subjectivity
Hanna Kim, Adelphi University

December 16  
Complexity and Contradiction in Religion News Reporting in the 21st Century
Tony Carnes, A Journey Through NYC Religions

February 19  
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Content and Methods of the Social Sciences
The Shared Parish: Latino and White Catholics and the Future of U.S. Catholicism
Brett Hoover, Loyola Marymount University

April 8  
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Content and Methods of the Social Sciences
The Sunday of Life: Hegel’s Aesthetics
Marcella Tarozzi-Goldsmith, Philosopher of Art

May 13  
Joint Meeting with the Seminars on Content and Methods of the Social Sciences and Catholicism, Culture, and Modernity
The 50th Anniversary of Vatican II and Joseph Komonchak’s “Realist’s Church”
Christopher Denny, St. John’s University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Mr. Tony Carnes, editor@nycreligion.info
Professor Sidney Greenfield, sidneygreenfield@gmail.com
The Seminar in the Renaissance, founded in 1945 by Paul Oskar Kristeller and John Herman Randall, hosts presentations of about 45–50 minutes on various aspects of Renaissance thought (including Renaissance humanism) and its ramifications in the arts (painting, sculpture, architecture, music, literature) and the sciences (physical, natural, historical and philological), as well as history and philosophy. The Renaissance is taken to include the period from about 1350 to about 1650. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in Faculty House from September through December and from February through May at 5:30 pm. Participants may choose to join the speaker for a buffet dinner from 7 pm.

Co-Chairs: Professor Cynthia Pyle, Professor Alan Stewart
Rapporteur: Mr. John Kuhn

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 9  Prolegomena for a new Intellectual History of the Italian Renaissance
Christopher Celenza, Johns Hopkins University

October 6  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Medieval Studies
Inventing Medieval Women: History, Memory, and Forgery in Early Modern Italy
Paula Findlen, Stanford University

October 14  What is the Scale of Epic Literature? Thoughts on the French Context
Phillip John Usher, New York University

November 11  The Physics and Metaphysics of Talismans (Imagines Astronomicae) in Marsilio Ficino’s De vita libri tres (1489): A Case Study in (Neo)Platonism, Aristotelianism and the Esoteric Tradition
H. Darrel Rutkin, Columbia University

December 9  Medieval Legends and Historical Writing in Sixteenth-Century Florence
Ann Moyer, University of Pennsylvania

February 10  Islamic Embryology and Renaissance Polemics
Pier Mattia Tommasino, Columbia University

March 10  Catastrophizing: Reading Disastrously in the Renaissance
Gerard Passannante, University of Maryland

April 14  The Death of Heavenly Harmonies
Eric Bianchi, Fordham University

May 12  From Colonne to Anticaglie; the Invention of Architectural Antiquities
Dale Kinney, Bryn Mawr College

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Cynthia Pyle, c.m.pyle@nyu.edu
Professor Alan Stewart, ags2105@columbia.edu
Acting Co-Chair: Professor Kathy Hannah Eden, khe1@columbia.edu
CONTENT AND METHODS OF THE
SOCIAL SCIENCES (411)

Founded: 1947

This seminar is concerned with methodology and theory in the social sciences as well as with its substantive results. As a rule, members and sometimes guest speakers present their current research in a manner which enlightens the seminar on various theoretical and methodological advances and helps the researcher to solve his difficulties and formulate a codified view of ongoing research in social sciences.

Chair: Mr. Tony Carnes
Rapporteur: Ms. Liane Carlson

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 15  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Studies in Religion
Sociality, Sin and the Unbuffered Self in American Evangelicalism
Omri Elisha, Queens College, The City University of New York

November 19 Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Studies in Religion
Ontological Stabilities and Ethnographic Knowledge: Experiencing the Mega Temple Complex and Swaminarayan Religious Subjectivity
Hanna Kim, Adelphi University

December 9 Trajectories of State: Making Gender, Heretics, and Race, and Why States Always Eventually Lose Against the Peoples Once Called Barbarians and Now Called Terrorists
Gerald Sider, Graduate Center, The City University of New York

February 19 Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Studies in Religion
The Shared Parish: Latino and White Catholics and the Future of U.S. Catholicism
Brett Hoover, Loyola Marymount University

April 8  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Studies in Religion
The Sunday of Life: Hegel’s Aesthetics
Marcella Tarozzi-Goldsmith, Philosopher of Art

May 13 Joint Meeting with the Seminars on Studies in Religion and Catholicism, Culture, and Modernity
The 50th Anniversary of Vatican II and Joseph Komonchak’s “Realist’s Church”
Christopher Denny, St. John’s University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Mr. Tony Carnes, contentsem@aol.com
This interdisciplinary seminar hosts leading national and regional scholars who present works-in-progress that explore aspects of eighteenth-century European culture of vital interest and concern to the wider field of eighteenth-century studies. Like our guest speakers, our membership is drawn from a wide variety of institutions and disciplines: history, literature, philosophy, political science, music, history of science, and art, as well as national traditions. The Seminar’s offerings are eclectic, but from time to time our Seminar has hosted special events such as symposia on the 18th-century reception of Classical, Hellenistic, and Late Antique texts (2003) and the intellectual origins of freedom of speech (2007, 2008). Proceedings from the latter recently appeared as a collection of essays edited by former Chair Elizabeth Powers, Freedom of Speech: The History of an Idea (Bucknell University Press, 2011). Most recently, our Seminar has co-sponsored, with the Seminar on Early Modern France, a series of roundtables on new directions in eighteenth-century studies under the rubric of “Literature and History in Dialogue.” Past roundtables have been devoted to concepts of authorship (Fall 2010), eighteenth-century science studies (Spring 2011), and comparative colonialisms and orientalisms (Fall 2011). The 2012–2013 program marked the Seminar’s 50th year in operation.

Chair: Professor Al Coppola
Rapporteur: Mr. Michael Paulson

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  
*Experimental Philosophy, Absolutism, Swift*
Tita Chico, University of Maryland

October 23  
*The Ins and the Outs: John Dryden and the Queering of Augustan Party Politics*
James Horowitz, Sarah Lawrence College

November 20  
*Prohibited Books, Science, and Biblical Criticism: Joseph Attias (1672–1739), a Jewish Cultural Mediator in the Republic of Letters*
Francesca Bregoli, Queens College, The City University of New York

December 18  
*Creaturely Life at Strawberry Hill*
Eugenia Zuroske Jenkins, McMaster University

February 19  
*A Natural History of Satyrs: Mythology and Science in the (Very) Long Eighteenth Century*
Daniel Margócsy, Hunter College, The City University of New York

March 26  
*China on Display: A Porcelain Menagerie at the Aranjuez Palace*
Tara Zanardi, Hunter College, The City University of New York

April 23  
*Eighteenth Century Formalism(s): A Symposium*
Starting from Scratch: “Camilla” and the Appeals of Inexperience
Stephanie Hershinow, Baruch College, The City University of New York

Form and Sense: Locke, Addison, and Empiricist Antiformalism
Abigail Zitin, Rutgers University
Respondent: Jenny Davidson, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Al Coppola, acoppola@jjay.cuny.edu
ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT (423)

Founded: 1951

This seminar addresses issues related to the structure and management of purposeful human enterprises. The membership is highly interdisciplinary. In addition to university and visiting scholars, distinguished individuals from industry and government participate regularly. The seminar selects themes for deliberation for one or more academic years. Recent themes have been: concept formation in developing theories of management; how should managers be educated, with implications for business administration curricula; managing increasing complexity, scale and change; measurement in management; and currently, managing in times of fundamental transformations. The consistent long-range effort has been toward an operationally verifiable theory of organizing and managing, including managers’ education and training, and the emerging effects of globalization.

Co-Chairs: Professor Howard Finkelberg, Professor Peter V. Norden

MEETINGS 2014–2015

December 8  Between A Rock and A Hard Place: How Corporations Comply With Conflicting Laws and Regulations In Which They Do Business, and How They Should Be Punished When They Don’t
Terry Meyers
Birgit Kurtz
Peter Flägel

February 9  Driving Business Value with Analytics
Emily Plachy, IBM

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Howard Finkelberg, hfinkelberg@gmail.com
Professor Peter V. Norden, nordenchildworks@aol.com
STUDIES IN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT (427)

Founded: 1968

The current diversity and vitality of the field of political theory is reflected in the wide ranging interests of the seminar. In recent years this seminar has explored a broad spectrum of topics and modes of discourse, including methodological analyses in historiography and the philosophy of social science, specific historical and conceptual studies of particular thinkers and ideas, and exercises in ‘applied’ political theory dealing with contemporary issues of social and public policy.

Co-Chairs: Professor David Johnston, Professor Nadia Urbinati
Rapporteur: Mr. Rob Goodman

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 9
Isaiah Berlin’s Neglect of Enlightenment Constitutionalism
Jeremy Waldron, New York University

November 6
‘Cooperation as Fairness’ between Enemies in War
Yvonne Chiu, University of Hong Kong

December 4
Thomas Hobbes: At the Edge of Promises and Prophecies
Alison McQueen, Stanford University

February 5
Reproductive Choices and International Distributive Justice
Louis-Philippe Hodgson, York University

March 11
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Knowledge, Technology, and Social Systems
A New Educational Paradigm and its Impact on Math and Science Achievement
Robert Goodman, New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning

March 26
Communism By the Numbers: On the Political Philosophy of Alain Badiou
Richard Wolin, Graduate Center, The City University of New York

April 16
A Good Economy: The Freiburg School of Ordo Liberalism
Ellen Kennedy, University of Pennsylvania

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Andreas Kalyvas, kalyvasa@newschool.edu
Nadia Urbinati, nu15@columbia.edu
AMERICAN STUDIES (429)

Founded: 1954

The concern of this seminar is the history, literature, and culture of the United States, focusing on the period from the nineteenth century to the present. Recent subjects have ranged from Margaret Fuller to the Hawaiian sovereignty movement, from Asian American fashion designers to letters from former slaves who settled in Liberia. A number of presentations have positioned the United States in transnational or comparative contexts. The seminar’s strength is the variety of fields represented by its intellectually active participants. The very lively discussion periods are one of the most appealing aspects of this seminar.

Co-Chairs: Professor Cristobal Silva, Professor Jordan Stein
Rapporteur: Ms. Mary Grace Albanese

MEETINGS 2014–2015

Edward Whitley, Lehigh University

October 7  Reading Boy’s Books with Master James
Patricia Crain, New York University

November 11  Improvising Enlightenment, or, Notes toward a Defensible Humanities
Kandice Chuh, Graduate Center, The City University of New York

December 4  Frederick Douglass, Thomas Auld, and the Reunion Narrative: 1877, 1881, 1892
Robert Levine, University of Maryland

February 3  Frederick Douglass and the Aesthetics of Black Evangelical Homiletics
Douglas Jones, Rutgers University

March 3  The Wild Not Less Than the Good: Thoreau, Sex, Biopower
Peter Coviello, University of Illinois at Chicago

April 7  Nudity and Other Sensitive States: Privacy and Secularity in the Antebellum United States
Justine Murison, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

May 5  Tasting the Bone: Animism, Assemblage, and the Theater of Zora Neale Hurston
Katherine Biers, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Cristobal Silva, cs2889@columbia.edu
Professor Jordan Stein, jstein10@fordham.edu
MEDIEVAL STUDIES (431)

Founded: 1954

This seminar addresses subjects of common interest to all branches of medieval studies. The seminar particularly encourages interdisciplinary topics and approaches, which will stimulate discussions of issues in the study of medieval culture. One of the great advantages of the seminar is that it brings together representatives of medieval disciplines, from Columbia and elsewhere, who otherwise would have only rare opportunities to talk about questions of common interest.

Chair: Professor Susan Boynton
Rapporteur: Mr. Jeffrey Wayno

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 16
‘A Lanterne of Lyght to the People’: English Narrative Alabaster Images of John the Baptist in their Visual, Religious, and Social Contexts
Kathryn Smith, New York University

October 6
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on The Renaissance
Inventing Medieval Women: History, Memory, and Forgery in Early Modern Italy
Paula Findlen, Stanford University

October 15
Marco Polo’s ‘Portrait’: Illumination and Agency in the Manuscripts of the Devisement du Monde
Mark Cruse, Arizona State University

November 10
Forging the Past: Invented Histories in Counter-Reformation Spain
Katrina Olds, University of San Francisco

December 1
False Gods, Idolatrous Desire, and the Nature of Art in the Roman de la Rose
Jonathan Morton, University of Oxford

February 25
Moses the Egyptian in the Illustrated Old English Hexateuch
H.R. Broderick, Lehman College, The City University of New York

March 23
From Shape to Sound in Medieval Song
Ardis Butterfield, Yale University

March 24
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Religion and Writing
Peoples of the Book: Middle-Eastern Ethnology in Western Medieval Encyclopedias
Michael Twomey, Ithaca College

April 29
Manasses of Hierges and the Monks of Brogne: New Sources and Perspectives on the Crusader and His Community
Nicholas Paul, Fordham University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Susan Boynton, slb184@columbia.edu
STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA (435)

Founded: 1956

The seminar provides a lively forum for historians and social scientists engaged in the advanced study of Sub-Saharan Africa. Faculty and visiting scholars from Columbia University and neighboring institutions actively participate in the monthly evening sessions. Seminar discussions often focus on theoretical and comparative approaches to the study of colonial and contemporary states, processes in political mobilization and leadership, the impact of the international community, and the roles of gender and cultural identities.

Co-Chairs: Professor Abosede George, Professor Hlonipha Mokoena
Rapporteur: Ms. Titilola Halimat Somotan

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  
Rationalizing Chronic Disease in Young Nations:  
Cancer, Aging and Experts in India and South Africa (1940–50s)  
Kavita Sivaramakrishnan, Columbia University

October 16  
The Rise and Fall (and Rise and Fall) of History in West Africa:  
“The Crisis of West African History and the Question of the Historical Fact” 1975–1985  
Sean Hanretta, Northwestern University

November 6  
Yinka Shonibare and the ‘Other’ Victorians  
Chika Okeke-Agulu, Princeton University

November 18  
Women’s Internationalism and the Politics of Nation-Building in Early Independent Ghana  
Naaborko Sackeyfio-Lenoch, Dartmouth College

February 17  
Citizen without Status: Métis, Citizenship, and Rights in Late Colonial French Equatorial Africa  
Rachel Jean-Baptiste, University of California, Davis

March 26  
Dissident Sexualities and the State in Colonial and Post-Independence Africa  
Carina Ray, Fordham University

April 23  
1989 and the Era of Relief: Ethiopia and the US at the End of the Cold War in Africa  
Benjamin Talton, Temple University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Abosede George, ageorge@barnard.edu  
Professor Rhiannon Stephens, rs3169@columbia.edu
CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION (441)

Founded: 1957

This seminar exists to further, in the New York area, the study of the literature, art, archaeology, and history of the ancient world. Seven meetings are held each year attended by twenty to sixty members drawn from universities and colleges within reach of New York. There is no set theme to the seminar for a given semester or year.

Co-Chairs: Professor Joel Lidov, Professor Katharina Volk
Rapporteur: Mr. Mathias Hanses

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  Writing with Posterity in Mind: Thucydides and Tacitus on Secession
Cynthia Damon, University of Pennsylvania

October 16  Apuleius the Provincial
Alessandro Barchiesi, New York University

November 20  Homer in the Soros of Posidippus: An Epigrammatic Collection and Its Sources
Peter Bing, Emory University

January 22  Engendering Harmony in the Second Best City:
Plato’s ‘Feminism’ and the Female Voice in the Laws
Marcus Folch, Columbia University

February 19  Horace’s Hymn to Bacchus (Odes 2.19): Poetics and Politics
Stephen Harrison, University of Oxford

April 23  Africitas and Augustine
Catherine Conybeare, Bryn Mawr College

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Joel Lidov, jlidov@gc.cuny.edu
Professor Katharina Volk, kv2018@columbia.edu
MODERN EAST ASIA: CHINA (443)

Founded: 1957

This seminar is concerned with the politics, society, culture, and international relations of China from the early nineteenth century to the present. Its broader purpose is to explore the evolution of Chinese civilization over the past century of revolution and rapid social change. Papers—works in progress—are circulated to members and associates in advance of each meeting. Authors are asked to give a brief oral introduction, after which a discussant comments. The entire remainder of each session is comprised of members’ reactions to the paper and the author’s responses.

Co-Chairs: Professor Robert Barnett, Professor William Charles Wooldridge
Rapporteur: Ms. Dongxin Zou

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 11  What Do We Believe? Citizen Faith in China Today
Carl Minzner, Fordham University
Discussant: Madeleine Zelin, Columbia University

October 9  Analyzing Tensions in China’s Ethnic Areas: Problems and Methods
Nicholas Bequelin, Human Rights Watch
Discussant: Alexa Olesen, The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists

November 13  Wartime Dead in Time and Place in Late 1940s Jiangsu
Rebecca Nedostup, Brown University
Discussant: Kevin Landdeck, Sarah Lawrence College

December 11  From Manchu Law to Qing Law: the Evolution of the Fugitive Law in the Qing Dynasty
Hu Xiangyu, Renmin University of China
Discussant: Madeleine Zelin, Columbia University

February 12  Between the Law: The Unmaking of Empire and the Persistence of Redress in China and Japan
Yukiko Koga, Hunter College
Discussant: Frank K. Upham, New York University

March 12  Archival Resources of Republican China at Columbia and Beyond
Chengzhi Wang, Columbia University

April 16  The Silk Road and the Crisis in the Humanities
Johan Elverskog, Southern Methodist University
Discussant: Robert Hymes, Columbia University

May 14  The Women’s Advisory Council and Transnational Relief Networks for China’s Resistance and Reconstruction, 1937–1949
Helen Schneider, Virginia Tech
Discussant: Robert Culp, Bard College

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Robert Barnett, rjb58@columbia.edu
Professor William Charles Wooldridge, william.wooldridge@lehman.cuny.edu
MODERN EAST ASIA: JAPAN (445)

Founded: 1960

The Modern Japan Seminar is concerned with the history, politics, society, and culture of Japan from the late nineteenth century to the present. It emphasizes interdisciplinary dialogue among historians, anthropologists, sociologists, literary critics and other scholars from the New York area institutions. The seminar meets regularly to discuss a paper from a work in progress by a member or invited speaker. Pre-circulation of papers and discussant comments encourage in-depth discussion and debate.

Co-Chairs: Professor Yukiko Koga, Professor Janis Mimura
Rapporteur: Mr. James Gerien-Chen

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 27  Encyclopedias in Japan’s Postwar Enlightenment
Miriam Kingsberg, University of Colorado, Boulder
Discussant: Seiji Shirane, City College, The City University of New York

November 14  Crossed Geographies: Endō and Fanon in Lyon
Christopher Hill, University of Michigan
Discussant: Emmanuelle Saada, Columbia University

April 17  Engaging Asia: Reintegrating Japanese Film Culture into Cold War Asia
Michael Baskett, University of Kansas
Discussant: Hikari Hori, Columbia University

May 1  The Chains of Freedom: Aesthetics and the Reenchantment of the Modern World
Raja Adal, University of Cincinnati
Discussant: Kim Brandt, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Yukiko Koga, ykoga@hunter.cuny.edu
NEW TESTAMENT (451)

Founded: 1959

This seminar focuses on texts from the Mediterranean world of late antiquity, particularly as they relate to Christian origins. While it studies the New Testament, it also considers the Dead Sea Scrolls, Nag Hammadi texts, patristic literature, rabbinic material, and Greco-Roman texts.

Co-Chairs: Professor Emma Wasserman, Professor Lawrence Welborn
Rapporteur: Ms. Amy Meverden

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 10  What Led to the Creation of Gospels?
Michael Winger, Independent Scholar

October 1   Remorse or Conversion? Metanoia in the New Testament and its Greek Context
David Konstan, New York University

November 5  A ‘Hope’ That Does Not Disappoint: Paul’s Rhetoric of ‘Hope’ in its Imperial Context
Rob Lewis, Fordham University

February 4  The Gospel of John and Some Philosophical Issues
Harold W. Attridge, Yale Divinity School

February 26  Diaspora Theory and the End of ‘Early Christian Identity’
Maia L. Kotrosits, Denison University

April 22   Jesus in the Epistle of Barnabas
John Edwards, St. Francis College

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Emma Wasserman, wasserme@rci.rutgers.edu
THE CITY (459A)

Founded: 1962

This seminar undertakes a wide-ranging consideration of the city—its history, functions, problems, and glories. Sessions are devoted to urban cultural and social history, and to the meaning of physical form and landscape of both American and world-wide cities. The heterogeneous nature of the seminar’s membership is reflected in the variety of subjects that the meetings address.

Chair: Professor Lisa Keller
Rapporteur: Mr. K. Ian Shin

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 21  
*Governing the Large Metropolis: Dilemmas of Urban Governance in Mexico, São Paolo, London and Paris*
Patrick Le Gales, Sciences Po

November 6  
*Frederick Law Olmsted and the World’s Columbian Exposition*
David Schuyler, Franklin and Marshall College

February 5  
*Latino Landscapes: The Transnational Origins of a New Urban America*
Andrew Sandoval-Strausz, University of New Mexico

March 4  
*Roaring the Tabloids: Newsboys and the Challenge of Modernity in 1920s America*
Vince DiGirolamo, Baruch College, The City University of New York

April 21  
*Research and Development on the Great White Way: Broadway Finance and the NYC Economy*
Tim White, New Jersey City University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Lisa Keller, lisa.keller@purchase.edu
LAW AND POLITICS (465)

Founded: 1963

Members of the seminar investigate the legal, political, and institutional aspects of society both as they function in reality and as they should function according to theory. The investigation is both global and timeless, although European and American interests seem to dominate. Lectures and discussions range from classical Greece, Rome and Israel, through medieval Europe, Islam and Asia, to modern and contemporary societies. Aspects of Roman, canon, Talmudic, common, and Islamic laws are examined. The majority of the lectures are presented by the members of the seminar, most of whom are academics in history, political science or law, or professionals who have become editors. One or two papers each year are presented by visiting scholars.

Co-Chairs: Professor Edmund Clingan, Dr. Sarah Danielsson, Dr. Theodore Kovaleff
Rapporteur: Ms. Megan McKenzie

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 23  
The Eurozone Crisis and the 2013 Federal Election in Germany  
Alexandra Hennessey, Seton Hall University

October 22  
The Birth of the New Justice: the Internationalization of Crime and Punishment  
Mark Lewis, College of Staten Island, The City University of New York

November 18  
Daniel Lipson, New Paltz, The State University of New York

December 10  
Issues of State Formation and National Identity During the Process of Mexican Independence  
Alejandro Quintana, St. John’s University

February 10  
Medieval Islamic Political Thought  
Neguin Yavari, The New School

March 10  
Local Politics of Colonial Schooling in Senegal at the Turn of the 20th Century  
Kelly Duke Bryant, Rowan University

April 1  
General Seminar Dinner and Presentation

April 14  
The Transfer of Hungarian Subcarpathia to the Ukrainian SSR of the Soviet Union in 1945  
Peter Pastor, Montclair State University

May 12  
Private Justice: Prosecutorial Accountability and Access to Justice in Chile, Guatemala and Mexico  
Veronica Michel-Luviano, John Jay College, The City University of New York

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Edmund Clingan, eclingan@qcc.cuny.edu  
Dr. Theodore Kovaleff, tkovaleff@gmail.com
KNOWLEDGE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS (467)

Founded: 1966

Technologies, scientific transformations, and new areas of knowledge are continuously, and rapidly, being introduced. These developments are transforming social systems around the world. We have seen networked computers rapidly converging with telephones and TV into globally pervasive digital communications systems. These systems—and the emerging New Media they create—are increasingly impacting what and how we communicate with each other, as well as how we write history and interact among ourselves. The opportunities and threats these and other systems pose to personal and global quality of life, and even to human survival, are very real and relatively little understood. This seminar will consider these aspects, as well as alternative social systems that may lead to a better future for humankind. This seminar was formerly called Computers, Man, and Society.

Co-Chairs: Professor Sidney Greenfield, Professor Jerry Spivack, Professor Takeshi Utsumi
Rapporteur: Ms. Moni Taichute

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 8  Knowledge and Knowing: the First 3 Billion Years
          James Smith, The New School

November 12 The Growing Existential Threat of Nuclear Weapons
              Edward A. Friedman, Stevens Institute of Technology

December 10 How Literature and Mediation Hold the Secret to World Peace
             Peter V. Arcese, The ABA Mediation Committee

February 11 Could a New Sheriff Reform Health Care?
              David Goldhill, GSN

March 11  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Political and Social Thought
            A New Educational Paradigm and its Impact on Math and Science Achievement
            Robert Goodman, New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning

April 15  Promoting Social Change: Social Media and Global Activism
           Felipe Queipo, United Nations

May 13   New Technologies for Sustainability: The Case of Renewable Energy
           Elliott Harris, UNEP New York Office

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Sidney Greenfield, sidneygreenfield@gmail.com
Professor Jerry Spivack, jspvk@aol.com
Professor Takeshi Utsumi, takutsumi0@gmail.com
ECOLOGY AND CULTURE (471)

Founded: 1964

This interdisciplinary seminar brings together participants from Columbia University and the New York City area for discussions around a range of socio-ecological topics. Our participants come from anthropology, law, geography, history, sociology, and ecology. We strive to bring together scholars, activists, artists, and practitioners in our discussions.

Chair: Professor Paige West
Rapporteur: Ms. Elizabeth Angell

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 25  Living with Crows in Hawai‘i: Conservation in Haunted Landscapes
Thom van Dooren, University of New South Wales

November 6  The Not Environmentalism of Masdar
Gökçe Günel, Columbia University

April 2  Mixing Oil and Water: Shrimp and Petroleum Industries Side by Side
Veronica Davidov, Monmouth University

April 30  Toward a History of Upcycling: The Case of Aluminum 1945–2015
Carl Zimring, Pratt Institute

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Veronica Davidov, veronica.davidov@gmail.com
Professor Paige West, pwest@barnard.edu
THE STUDY OF THE HEBREW BIBLE (473)

Founded: 1968

The seminar is composed of scholars of different faiths and traditions with a common interest in research and teaching of the Hebrew Bible. The focus of the seminar is research illuminating the cultural milieu, language, text, and interpretation of the Hebrew Bible. This research is characterized by a variety of methodologies, including historical-critical, literary, philological, archaeological, and sociological approaches to the text, as well as history of interpretation. Research on ancient near eastern cultures and languages relating to ancient Israel is also regularly presented.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Robbie Harris, Dr. Sharon Keller
Rapporteur: Mr. David DeLauro

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 16  The Inheritance of Prophecy in Apocalypse
Stephen Geller, Jewish Theological Seminary

October 21  Joseph in Egypt: A Tale of Israel without Tribes in Genesis 39–41 and 47
Dan Fleming, New York University

November 18  Jacob as a Fugitive Hero: A Challenge to Higher Critical Theories
Edward Greenstein, Bar Ilan
Respondent: David Carr, Union Theological Seminary

December 9  Joshua and Anomie: A Hypothesis for Dating the Book of Joshua
Douglas Knight, Vanderbilt University

January 20  Child Sacrifice in Ancient Israel: A Study in Diversity
Heath Dewrell, Princeton Seminary
Respondent: Mark Smith, New York University

February 24  Placing the Pentateuch’s Literary Values in History: Some Basic Considerations
Seth Sanders, Trinity College

March 24  The New Critical Edition of the Samaritan Pentateuch
Stefan Schorch, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg

April 21  The Impact of Siege Warfare on Biblical Conceptualizations of Yahweh
Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Saint Joseph’s University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Dr. Robbie Harris, robbieharris1@mac.com
SOUTH ASIA (477)

Founded: 1964

The University Seminar on South Asia seeks to broaden and deepen understanding about the region of South Asia by providing a forum to discuss ongoing research as well as special topics related to the complex and multiple societies of South Asia both past and present. Drawing together scholars from many different disciplines, the seminar fosters cross-disciplinary discussion and perspectives on a broad range of questions and concerns. In recent years, the seminar has deliberated on such issues as: religion and politics, the political function of violence in South Asia, national integration, language and community, South Asian identities in pre-colonial times, religious iconography, and many other topics. The University Seminar on South Asia is a merger of the University Seminar on Tradition and Change in South and Southeast Asia (founded in 1964) and the University Seminar on Indology (founded in 1993).

Chair: Professor Serinity Young
Rapporteur: Ms. Deepika Narasimhan

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 15  What Should the Bhakti Movement Be?
John Stratton Hawley, Barnard College, Columbia University

October 27  Rabindranath Tagore in Bangladesh: the Question of Secular Culture
Karunamay Goswami, Cambriem Center for International Studies

December 8  Households and Courts in Northern India, circa 1350–1550
Ramya Sreenivasan, University of Pennsylvania

February 9  Devotion and Donkeys: Traces of a Vernacular Public in Thirteenth-Century India
Christian Novetzke, University of Washington

March 23  The Science of Family Life: Bhudeb Mukhopadhyay and Conservative Discourse in Nineteenth-Century India
Satadru Sen, Queens College, The City University of New York

April 27  Boat Over Troubled Water: The Bhagavad Gita and Indian Nationalism
Richard H. Davis, Bard College

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Serinity Young, syoung@qc.cuny.edu
THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST (479)

*Founded: 1966*

This seminar was created to coordinate the archaeological chronologies of the regions of the Near East and the Eastern Mediterranean. It meets from six to eight times a year to discuss new research and hear reports of recent fieldwork. A number of relevant papers were published in the American Journal of Archaeology from 1968 until 1988, and in 1992 in the Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society. Since then, the focus of the seminar has been widened to include all aspects of the ancient cultures of the Near East and its adjoining regions.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Sally Dunham, Professor Allan Gilbert, Dr. Oscar White Muscarella
Rapporteur: Ms. Andrea Hinojosa

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

**September 16**  
*Aramaic Documents From Achaemenid Bactria: Connections To The West—and The East—and The Future*  
Peter T. Daniels, Independent Scholar

**October 2**  
*Bread Production In Southwest Asia 2000 Years Prior To Agriculture*  
David Eitam, Hebrew University

**October 14**  
*Child Sacrifice and The Tale Of A Second Millennium BCE City In Ancient Mesopotamia*  
Marta Luciani, University of Vienna

**December 10**  
*The Status Of The Children Of Slaves In Early Mesopotamia*  
John Nicholas Reid, Oxford University and New York University

**February 4**  
*Screening of a New Documentary Film, The Faces of Phlamoudhi*  
Ian Cohn, Independent Photographer  
Rupert Barclay, Independent Filmmaker

**February 11**  
*Gender and Adornment in the Hasanlu IVb Cemetery*  
Megan Cifarelli, Manhattanville College

**March 11**  
*The Erasure of Millennia: The Cultural Heritage Crises in Syria and Northern Iraq*  
Michael Danti, American Schools of Oriental Research Cultural Heritage Initiatives

**April 2**  
*Climbing Mountains and Moving Molehills: Highland Communities and Lowland Encounters in the Ancient Near East*  
Claudia Glatz, University of Glasgow

**April 23**  
*Seals and Social Interaction At Kültepe In The Early 2nd Millennium BCE*  
Agnete Lassen, Yale University

**May 7**  
*The Search for Insights: Comparing Mesopotamian Religion and Hinduism*  
Selim Ferruh Adali, Social Sciences University of Ankara

**Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:**  
Dr. Sally Dunham, sallydunham@sbcglobal.net  
Professor Allan Gilbert, gilbert@fordham.edu  
Dr. Oscar White Muscarella, oscarbey@aol.com
STUDIES IN MODERN ITALY (483)

Founded: 1966

This seminar is concerned with political, social, cultural, and religious aspects of Italian life from 1815 to the present. In recent years, the seminar has stressed an interdisciplinary approach to Italian studies, increasing the participation of anthropologists and scholars of art, film, and literature. The seminar generally meets on the second Friday of the month, from September to May, to discuss a paper presented by a member or an invited speaker. Papers cover a wide range of topics, approaches, and methodologies. The seminar occasionally holds a day-long conference or a more restricted symposium to explore a topic in depth.

Chair: Professor Ernest Ialongo
Rapporteur: Ms. Alessia Palanti

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 19  
*Neo-Bourbonism: What Is Going On?*  
Marta Petrusewicz, University of Calabria and Hunter College, The City University of New York  
Respondent: Jason Pine, Purchase, The State University of New York

October 17  
*The New Front: Painting and Politics in Cold War Italy*  
Adrian Duran, University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Respondent: Romy Golan, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

November 7  
*On Nationalism, Heritage, and Representation. Collecting, Researching and Building a Museum in Istria against Vienna (1884–1915)*  
Ilaria Porciani, Università di Bologna  
Respondent: Mahnaz Yousefzadeh, New York University
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<td>December 12</td>
<td>The Legacy of Fascism in the Built Environment: Fascist Party Headquarters after Fascism</td>
<td>Lucy Maulsby, Northeastern University</td>
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<td>Richard Etlin, University of Maryland</td>
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<td>February 20</td>
<td>Jewish Writers in Post-Unification Italy: the Formation of a National Culture</td>
<td>Gabriella Romani, Seton Hall University</td>
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<td>Giuseppe Gazzola, Stony Brook University</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>‘A Wider Circle of Humanity?’: Antonio Gramsci, the Armenian Genocide, and the Otherness of Suffering</td>
<td>Ara H. Merjian, New York University</td>
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<td>Nadia Urbinati, Columbia University</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>The Fall of Mussolini: Violence, Emotion and Memory</td>
<td>Joshua Arthurs, West Virginia University</td>
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<td>Stanislao Pugliese, Hofstra University</td>
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<td>May 8</td>
<td>A(ardvarks) to Z(ebras): Exotic Animal Imagery in Interwar Italy</td>
<td>Vivien Greene of the Guggenheim Museum</td>
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<td>Emily Braun, Hunter College and the Graduate Center, The City University of New York</td>
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Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Ernest Ialongo, eialongo@hostos.cuny.edu
EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE (491)

Founded: 1966

This seminar explores a variety of topics each year from the founding of the European colonies in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, until the demise of the Revolutionary generation in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The program tries to strike a balance between presentations by established scholars in the field and younger people who are just getting established. It also tries to do justice to the broad interests of colonial specialists, ranging from traditional political and constitutional themes through newer interests in demography, gender, race, and highly refined methodologies. Although the focus of the seminar has primarily been historical, participation by scholars in literature, religion, and other fields is increasingly encouraged.

Co-Chairs: Professor Zara Anishanslin, Professor Brian Murphy
Rapporteurs: Mr. Eric Herschthal, Ms. Kathryn Knowles Lasdow

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 9  Old Friends/New Editors: A Conversation About Early American Publishing
Cathy Kelly, University of Oklahoma
Joshua Piker, College of William and Mary

October 14  Preservation by Permanence: Sacred Historic Spaces and Market Morality in Jacksonian America
Whitney Martinko, Villanova University

November 11  Like Warren Hastings over India or Napoleon over Naples? The Lessons of History and the Problem of Occupation in the Post-Surrender United States
Greg Downs, Graduate Center and City College, The City University of New York

December 9  King Cotton, Emperor Slavery: Antebellum Slaveholders and the Global Economy
Matt Karp, Princeton University

February 10  Edmund S. Morgan and the Urgency of Good Leadership
Benjamin Carp, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York

March 10  Potosi: Crucible of the Atlantic World
John Demos, Yale University

March 31  Slavery, Property, and the Federal Constitution
Sean Wilentz, Princeton University

April 14  The United States and Spanish American Emancipation, 1815–1825
Caitlin Fitz, Northwestern University

May 12  ‘with all my right of Cominage, Woods, Underwoods, Bit of mouth and Turbud’: Robert Williams of Lusum and the Early Long Island ‘Deed Game’
Michael LaCombe, Adelphi University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Zara Anishanslin, zara.anishanslin@csi.cuny.edu
Professor Brian Murphy, brian.murphy@baruch.cuny.edu
POLLUTION AND WATER RESOURCES:
SCIENTIFIC AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS (495A)

Founded: 1968

The purpose of this seminar is to explore the effects pollution and environmental regulation on water and related environmental resources. Proceedings of the seminar, collections of the lectures, are published yearly. To date, forty volumes have been published. Besides these volumes, the seminar has contributed over forty articles written in seven languages abroad and in the United States. The research institute of the seminar, the American Academy of Ocean Sciences, conducted research actively from 1969 to 1985. During the past thirty years, thirty-three graduate students have participated in the seminar and their participation has been credited toward their studies.

Chair: Professor Richard W. Lo Pinto
Rapporteur: Ms. Joanne Lo Pinto

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 2  Response of Hudson River Shallow Habitats to Climate Change—At Risk or Resilient?
Dr. Stuart Findlay, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies

November 13  Historical Ecology and Archaeology’s Deep-Time Perspective on Environmental Decisions
April Beisaw, Vassar College

March 26  Marine Pollution—What Everyone Needs to Know
Judith Weis, Rutgers University

April 23  Performance Evaluation of Some Coagulants used in Water Treatment
Cristina Costache, University Politehnica of Bucharest, Romania

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Richard W. Lo Pinto, lopintor@fdu.edu
SLAVIC HISTORY AND CULTURE (497)

Founded: 1968

The major areas of concern for this seminar are the history, literature, and arts of the Slavic peoples. These topics are taken broadly enough to include such subjects as economic development and religious and philosophic thought. Since 1987, the seminar has proceeded beyond its previous focus on the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to include the twentieth century.

Chair: Professor Susan Smith-Peter
Rapporteur: Ms. Mie Mortensen

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 3  The Internationalist Gaze: China in Early Soviet Film
Edward Joseph Tyerman, Barnard College, Columbia University

November 7  Gendarmes and Counterfeiters: The Culture of Transnational Crime in the Long 19th Century
Sergei Antonov, Queens College, The City University of New York

December 5  Money for Nothing: The Libidinal Economy of the Russian Novel
Emma Lieber, Rutgers University

February 6  Sovietization with a Woman’s Face: Women and Sovietness in the Soviet West
Tarik Cyril Amar, Columbia University

March 6  “True” Selves and Masks: Complicity and Resistance in the Labor Camp Correspondence of Arsenii Formakov
Emily D. Johnson, University of Oklahoma

April 10  Sex and the City: Passazh, Prostitution and the Problem of Modernity in Saint Petersburg, 1848–69
Abby Schrader, Franklin and Marshall College

May 1  The Making of an Artist as National Hero: Karl Briullov and Society in Imperial Russia
Katia Dianina, University of Virginia

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Anthony Anemone, AnemoneA@newschool.edu
Professor Deborah Martinsen, dm387@columbia.edu
ISRAEL AND JEWISH STUDIES (501)

Founded: 1968

This seminar brings together approximately forty scholars from Columbia and the greater New York academic community. The seminar deals with the whole range of topics relating to Jewish studies and Israel—history, literature, sociology, religion, and political studies—and frequently presents distinguished lecturers from Israeli and European universities.

Co-Chairs: Professor Jeremy Dauber, Professor Seth Schwartz
Rapporteur: Ms. Debra Glasberg Gail

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 29  “I Am Building a City”: Agnon’s Buczacz Stories and the Re-Imagining of Polish Jewry
Alan Mintz, Jewish Theological Seminary

December 3  Writing Aramaic in the Early Hellenistic Age: New Perspectives on Jewish Knowledge in the Third Century BCE
Annette Reed, University of Pennsylvania

January 28  The Emergence of the Safadian Kabbalistic Center
K Moshe Idel, Hebrew University

April 29  Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts and Three Responses
Christine Hayes, Yale University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Jeremy Dauber, jad213@columbia.edu
Professor Seth Schwartz, srs166@columbia.edu
ECONOMIC HISTORY (503)

Founded: 1969

The concerns of this seminar are wide ranging in time, place, and method. Emphasis is on the logic of European and American economic growth from feudal times forward with regular, but less frequent, contributions on Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Topics range from microeconomic studies of firms undergoing rapid technical change and households changing their interaction between home and market to more macroeconomic topics concerned with national and regional economic growth performance, the economics of imperialism, and the political economy of the Great Depression. Given the breadth of the seminar’s membership and interests, comparative economic history is often a central element in seminar discussions. Pre-circulation of papers permits vigorous discussion.

Co-Chairs: Professor Alan Dye, Professor Susie Pak, Professor David Weiman,
Rapporteur: Ms. Sarah Lorch

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 2  Bankers and Andean Minerals in the German Global Strategy, 1901–1914
Oscar Granados, Jorge Tadeo Lozano University

November 6  It’s Always About the People: Enron is No Different
Jana Diesner, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

December 4  Taxes, National Identity, and National Building: Evidence from France
Noel D. Johnson, George Mason University

February 5  Mothers’ Pension Legislation and the Politics of Welfare Generosity
Carolyn M. Moehling, Rutgers University

March 5  The Effects of Lead Exposure on Violent Crime: Evidence from U.S. Cities in the Early Twentieth Century
Christopher Muller, Columbia University
James Feigenbaum, Harvard University

April 2  After the Rentier Society, The Great Shocks of the Twentieth Century Reconsidered: A Parisian Perspective 1872–1952
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, California Institute of Technology

May 7  Contested Property: Fugitive Slaves in the Antebellum U.S. South
Suresh Naidu, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Alan Dye, adye@barnard.edu
Professor Susie Pak, paks1@stjohns.edu
Professor David Weiman, dweiman@barnard.edu
DEATH (507)

*Founded: 1971*

This interdisciplinary seminar critically engages with aspects of death, dying, disposal and grief. Presentations and discussions explore topics from both academic and clinical perspectives in areas as diverse as medicine, psychology, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, religion, law, politics, architecture, and the media. In recent years the seminar has focused on contemporary developments in technology, culture and society. Attendance is maintained at a level that provides members with ample opportunity for active participation.

**Chair:** Dr. Christina Staudt  
**Honorary Chair:** Dr. Michael K. Bartalos  
**Rapporteur:** Ms. Manpreet Kaur

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

**October 8**  
*The Morbid Anatomy Museum: Art, Anatomy, and that Which Falls Between the Cracks*  
Joanna Ebenstein, Morbid Anatomy Museum

**November 12**  
*Palliative Care in the 21st Century*  
Craig D. Blinderman, Columbia University

**December 10**  
*Dead Bodies and the Body-Politic: The Destruction of Cemeteries in Singapore*  
Ruth E. Toulson, University of Pennsylvania

**February 11**  
*Senior (80+) Cultural Anthropologists Confront Their Own Aging and Mortality*  
Philip Singer, Oakland University  
Sidney Greenfield, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

**March 11**  
*Thinking Outside the Box: New Technologies for the Wholesome Dead*  
Philip Olson, Virginia Tech

**April 8**  
*Everything Dead Is New Again: Rethinking the “Tech” in Postmodern Technologies*  
John Troyer, University of Bath

**May 13**  
*On the Impossibility of Obituaries (Case Study: Artist Agnes Martin)*  
Karen Schiff, Boston Architectural College

**Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:**  
Dr. Christina Staudt, christinastaudt@gmail.com  
**Honorary Chair:** Dr. Michael K. Bartalos, bartalosmk@verizon.net
THE ART OF AFRICA, OCEANIA, AND THE AMERICAS (509)

Founded: 1970

Founded by Douglas Fraser, this seminar addresses major issues in the fields of African, Oceanic, Native American, and pre-Hispanic Latin American arts. The seminar provides an opportunity for members to analyze, evaluate, and discuss new and continuing research, as well as various trends in scholarship. Because the membership is comprised of art historians, curators, archeologists, anthropologists, and other field specialists, seminar meetings frequently involve in-depth discussions of theoretical and methodological issues. The seminar sponsors special symposia on diverse topics; the most recent entitled Art as Identity in the Americas.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Francesco Pellizzi, Professor Zoe Strother
Rapporteur: Mr. Alvaro Luis Lima

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 2  The Potlatch Ethic and the Spirit of Cannibalism: Ethnographic Mediation and the Making of a Northwest Coast Ritual Icon
Aaron Glass, Bard Graduate Center

December 4  Re-figuring Zapotec Funerary Rites: The Uses of Virtual 3D Modeling in Understanding Ancient Ritual Behavior in Oaxaca
Ellen Hoobler, Cornell College

February 5  Mining the Unsaid: Spectral Archives in South Africa
Rosalind C. Morris, Columbia University

March 5  Transnational Dimensions to Senegalese Modern Art, 1960–1980
Joshua I. Cohen, City College, The City University of New York

April 2  Bodies Transformed: Ancient Maya Carved Bones
Megan O’Neil, Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Francesco Pellizzi, pellizzi@fas.harvard.edu
Professor Zoe Strother, zss1@columbia.edu
INNOVATION IN EDUCATION (511)

Founded: 1970

The process of learning—in individuals, organizations, and society—is the subject of this seminar. Its scope includes learning throughout the lifespan, and via major institutions such as mass media, libraries, voluntary organizations, and educational systems.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Elizabeth Cohn, Mr. Ronald Gross, Professor Robert McClintock
Rapporteur: Ms. Rebecca Martin

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 6
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Ethics, Moral Education, and Society
The Discriminating Infant: Early Social Judgments and the Roots of Good and Evil
Karen Wynn, Yale University

November 10
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Ethics, Moral Education, and Society
Philosophy and Public Education: A Community Outreach Program with Court-Involved Youth
Max Hayward, Columbia University

December 8
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Ethics, Moral Education, and Society
Beyond Resilience and PTSD: Flexibility and Heterogeneity Following Potential Trauma
George A. Bonanno, Columbia University

March 2
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Ethics, Moral Education, and Society
Wisdom: What Does It Take To Become Wiser? A Psychological Perspective On Wisdom
Ursula Staudinger, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

April 27
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Ethics, Moral Education, and Society
Going Solo: The Extraordinary Rise and Surprising Appeal Of Living Alone
Eric Klinenberg, New York University

May 4
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Ethics, Moral Education, and Society
The “Good” Life: From Value, Truth and Control, Working Together
E. Tory Higgins, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Elizabeth Cohn, ec2341@columbia.edu
Mr. Ronald Gross, grossassoc@aol.com
LATIN AMERICA (515)

Founded: 1971

This seminar is devoted to developing a better understanding of the region, presenting current research and thinking in disciplines that range from anthropology to economics, history, human rights, political science, religion, literature, and the arts. In addition to scholars affiliated with the academic community, speakers are invited from the private sector, international organizations, and governments. The seminar, whose membership also reflects a broad range of disciplines, offers the framework for a lively exchange of ideas on Latin America, its past, present, and future.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Sara Calvo, Dr. Christopher Sabatini, Dr. George Vickers
Rapporteur: Ms. Maria Jesus Zevallos

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 2  What’s Left: The Problem of Liberal Democracy and Its Institutions
Tony Spanakos, Montclair State University

November 6  From 1996 to 2666: Reflections on the Contemporary Spanish American Novel
Juan De Castro, The New School for Liberal Arts

February 5  The ‘New’ New Latin American Cinema of the 21st Century: Some Narrative Trends
Jerry Carlson, City College and Graduate Center, The City University of New York

April 2  Change in the Dominical Political Party System, 1966–2015
Christopher Mitchell, New York University
Respondent: Bernardo Vega, Academia De La Historia Dominicana

May 7  Violence at Latin American Urban Margins
Javier Auyero, University of Texas

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Sara Calvo, sgc28@columbia.edu
Dr. Christopher Sabatini, cs2773@columbia.edu
Dr. George Vickers, gvickers@earthlink.net
POLITICAL ECONOMY AND CONTEMPORARY
SOCIAL ISSUES (523)
Founded: 1971

This seminar was founded to study the most compelling questions of the day which then related to the war in Southeast Asia, its causes, and consequences. Today the seminar continues to examine vital current issues with emphasis on their economic and political dimensions. Such issues have included welfare policy, homelessness, and strains in multicultural democracies. The underlying nature and structure of the political economy giving rise to these issues are also considered. In this regard, sessions have addressed the extension of democracy to economic enterprises, refashioning American government, developments in welfare state, changes in Marxism, and new principles of income distribution.

Co-Chairs: Professor Carol Gould, Professor Philip Green, Professor Gary Mongiovi
Rapporteur: Ms. Juliette Faure

MEETINGS 2014–2015

Jason Hecht, Anisfield School of Business, Ramapo College of New Jersey

January 29  After Ferguson: Notes on Oppression
Philip Green, The New School

March 5  Law and Economics of Bound Labor
Suresh Naidu, Columbia University

March 26  A Critique of the New Theory of Plutocracy
Ross Zucker, Touro College

April 23  Democracy and National Education Standards
Nicholas Tampio, Fordham University

Academic year 2015–2016 (on hiatus)
THE MIDDLE EAST (525)

Founded: 1971

The seminar usually meets once a month during the academic year. A prominent expert from here or abroad, commonly from the Middle East, leads a three and a half hour discussion at each meeting, assuring ample time for serious dialogue on focused issues. The seminar provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences by Middle East experts in various spheres—business, banking and investment, federal service, the foundations, the media, and the liberal professions as well as academia. The seminar has become a medium for carefully defined and informed evaluation of stubborn problems in a region that symbolizes persistent instability and proliferating crises. Detailed minutes are circulated to participating members for use without attribution to uphold the confidentiality of the discussion.

Founding Chair: Professor J.C. Hurewitz  
Chair: Professor Gary Sick  
Associate Chair: Professor Lawrence G. Potter  
Rapporteur: Mr. Seth Anziska

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 17  
Iraq, the Kurds and the New Islamic State  
Denise Natali, Institute for National Strategic Studies

October 15  
Islamists, the Military and Revolution in the Middle East  
Khaled Fahmy, American University in Cairo

November 19  
Understanding the Islamic State (ISIS)  
Cole Bunzel, Princeton University

December 10  
Afghanistan after the US/NATO Combat Mission  
Barnett R. Rubin, New York University

January 21  
The Price of Oil is Down: Should We Care?  
Jason Bordoff, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University  
Carlos Pascual, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University  
Andrew Cooper, author of The Oil Kings

February 18  
2015, A Century On: Is a New Sultan on the Rise?  
David Cuthell, The Institute of Turkish Studies, Georgetown University

March 11  
Periphery: Israel’s Search for Middle East Allies  
Yossi Alpher, Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University

April 22  
The Iran Negotiations: How We Got This Far and Where We Are Going  
Richard Nephew, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Gary Sick, ggs2@columbia.edu  
Professor Lawrence G. Potter, lgp5@columbia.edu
APPETITIVE BEHAVIOR (529)

*Founded: 1972*

This seminar is comprised of professors, research scientists, and physicians from institutions of higher learning and industry in the greater New York area with a common interest in the biological and behavioral bases of appetitive behavior. Four major areas of interest are found within the group: 1) the control of food and fluid intake in man and animals and their effects on variation in body composition; 2) disorders with links to ingestive behavior such as obesity, bulimia, anorexia nervosa, and diabetes; 3) the role of the brain from pharmacological, physiological, neuroimaging, and neuroanatomical perspectives on the control of ingestive behavior; 4) cognitive, social, and environmental controls of ingestive behavior. The seminar thus combines interests in basic control mechanisms with clinical applications.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Allan Geliebter, Dr. Harry R. Kissileff
Rapporteur: Ms. Musya Herzog

MEETINGS 2014–2015

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<td>Manipulation of Foods to Enhance Satiety</td>
<td>Nerys Astbury, Columbia University</td>
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<td>October 2</td>
<td>Alcohol and Fat Overconsumption: Influence of Neuropeptides in the Hypothalamus and Beyond</td>
<td>Jessica Barson, Rockefeller University</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
<td>Gut Microbiota Modulate Intestinal Signaling in Obesity</td>
<td>Mihai Covasa, Western University of Health Sciences</td>
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<td>December 4</td>
<td>Interoceptive Sugar Sensing by the Brain in Fruit Flies</td>
<td>Greg Suh, New York University School of Medicine</td>
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<td>January 22</td>
<td>Neurobiological Correlates of the Placebo Effect in Obesity-prone Animals</td>
<td>Emmanuel Pothos, Tufts University School of Medicine</td>
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<td>February 5</td>
<td>Developmental Influences on Circuits Regulating Food Intake and Body Weight</td>
<td>Lori Zeltser, Columbia University</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>Neural and Behavioral Mechanisms Underlying the Portion Size Effect in Children</td>
<td>Nicole Fearnbach, Pennsylvania State University</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Neuronal Metabolic Sensing and the Regulation of Energy and Glucose Homeostasis</td>
<td>Barry Levin, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Flavor-nutrient Learning and the Obesogenic Environment</td>
<td>Kevin Myers, Bucknell University</td>
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<td>May 28</td>
<td>Cognitive Neuroscience of Restricted Food Choice in Anorexia Nervosa</td>
<td>Joanna Steinglass, Columbia University</td>
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Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Allan Geliebter, AGeliebt@chpnet.org
Professor Harry Kissileff, hrk2@CUMC.columbia.edu
CULTURE, POWER, BOUNDARIES (531)

Founded: 1972

The Culture, Power, Boundaries Seminar is a forum for work and work-in-progress that strives for a critical analysis of contemporary power relations at local and global scales and how such power relations affect the analysis, reproduction, and transformation of inequality and its cultural expressions. The seminar began forty years ago with a focus on immigration and developed into a broad forum for critical social science. While the majority of seminar members are anthropologists, and presentations tend to focus on case studies, the seminar continues to welcome, as both guests and speakers, other social scientists interested in investigating the power dimension of cultural formations and the cultural aspects of inequality.

Co-Chairs: Professor Maria-Luisa Achino-Loeb, Professor Patricia Antoniello
Rapporteur: Ms. Christina Fox

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 15  Mobilization around Anti-Mining in Ecuador and Anti-Oil in the Amazon
Veronica Davidov, Monmouth University

October 6  Grassroots Organizing of Taxi Drivers in Nairobi, Kenya
Megan Ference, Washington University, St. Louis

November 10  Moral Economy after Neoliberalism: Reading E.P. Thompson in Rural Jamaica
Edward Sammons, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York

February 2  Changing the Channel: Class Conflict, Everyday State Formation, and television in Venezuela
Naomi Schiller, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York

March 7  Feminist Activist Ethnography
Dana-Ain Davis, Queens College, The City University of New York

April 6  Grassroots Organizing of Mineworkers in Colombia
Avi Chomsky, Salem State University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Maria-Luisa Achino-Loeb, mluisa164@aol.com
Professor Patricia Antoniello, pata@brooklyn.cuny.edu
THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE (533)

*Founded: 1973*

This seminar is devoted to exploring substantive as well as methodological issues in the history and philosophy of science. Science is construed broadly and the issues considered range from epistemic and historiographic questions to issues of relevance and accountability. Topics include the presuppositions and practice of a range of life sciences, earth sciences, and social sciences as well as the physical sciences and mathematics. In the physical sciences its interests range from antiquity to contemporary quantum theory. In the life sciences and social sciences the fields considered include various forms of historical, evolutionary inquiry (in biology, geology, and the historical social sciences), biotechnology and ecology, economics, psychology and cognitive science, and interpretive social inquiry. The membership of this seminar includes scientists, philosophers, and historians. Most sessions take place in conjunction with the New York City History of Science Working Group.

Co-Chairs: Professor Matthew Jones, Professor Pamela H. Smith
Rapporteur: Mr. Sean O’Neil

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

October 8  
*Mutant Sexuality*  
Luis Campos, University of New Mexico

October 29  
*Clean, Limitless, Classified: The Secret Histories of Laser Fusion*  
Alex Wellerstein, Stevens Institute of Technology

December 3  
*The Art of Encryption: Music-Image-Text in Michael Maier’s Alchemical Emblem Book, Atalanta fugiens (1618)*  
Donna Bilak, Columbia University  
Robin Bier, Les Canards Chantants

February 25  
*Facts and Figures: The Birth of Numerical Objectivity*  
William Deringer, Columbia University

March 25  
*Across Disciplines and Borders: The Big Science of Acid Rain*  
Rachel Rothschild, Yale University

April 29  
*Commercializing Medicine or Benefiting the People: The Imperial Apothecary in China 1076–1600*  
Asaf Goldschmidt, Yale University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Matthew Jones, mj340@columbia.edu  
Professor Pamela H. Smith, ps2270@columbia.edu
IRISH STUDIES (535)

Founded: 1973

This seminar serves as an interdisciplinary forum on all aspects and periods of Irish culture. Seminar participants come from a wide variety of fields: history, literature, art history, film studies, political science, sociology, anthropology, music, and folklore. These scholars bring to any topic under discussion a diversity of background which is stimulating and informative for all present. The concern for Irish studies as a field of scholarly inquiry is reflected in the collegial sharing of information about resources and repositories for research in the field.

Co-Chairs: Professor Terrence Byrne, Professor Mary McGlynn
Rapporteur: Ms. Marcella Yakalis

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 5  Communist Modernism and the Making of Ernie O’Malley’s On Another Man’s Wound
Spurgeon Thompson, Fordham University

November 7  The O’Kalems: Ireland and the Irish on Screen, 1910–1914
Peter Flynn, Emerson College

December 5  The Genders of Nationalistic Space
Aidan Beatty, University of Chicago

February 6  Robert Flaherty and Seán Ó Direáin: Lights, Camera, and (Not Too Much) Action
Tomás Ó h-Íde, Lehman College

March 6  Loyalty, Treason, and the Irish Revolution: The Impact of Shifting Allegiances, 1913–1923
Justin Stover, Idaho State University

April 10  Ireland at Sea: An Offshore Cultural History
Nicholas Allen, University of Georgia

May 1  Becoming Irish: Daniel Patrick Moynihan and the Last Hurrah
Peter Aigner, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Terrence Byrne, byrnereter@tcnj.edu
Professor Mary McGlynn, mary.mcglynn@baruch.cuny.edu
CINEMA AND INTERDISCIPLINARY INTERPRETATION (539)

Founded: 1974

The seminar draws from the faculty of New York-area universities and independent scholars; regular participants come from as far away as Baltimore. Attendance varies from twenty to forty-five people, with thirty being average. Half of the speakers are from within the seminar, half are from outside. They present works in progress that generally address important groundbreaking topics in film and media studies within an interdisciplinary perspective. Most sessions have a respondent, often a regular member of the seminar. The seminar has an international reputation among film and media scholars and has become the center for ongoing face-to-face scholarly exchanges in the field.

Co-Chairs: Professor William Luhr, Professor Cynthia Lucia (Spring), Professor David Sterritt (Fall)
Rapporteur: Mr. Patrick Brodie

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  Bad Mixings: Dirty Harry, Social Anomaly, and the Gospel of Healthy Mindedness
David Sterritt, Columbia University and Maryland Institute College of Art
Respondent: William Luhr, St. Peter’s University

October 23  An Embarrassing Genre: Patriotic Films of the 21st Century from China, Cuba, and the USA
Jerry Carlson, The City University of New York
Respondent: Robert Singer, Kingsborough Community College and the Graduate Center, The City University of New York

November 13  Film as Soft Power and Hard Currency: The Sino-Hollywood Courtship
Ying Zhou, Staten Island, The City University of New York
Respondent: Peter Biskind, Cultural Critic

December 11  Roundtable: World War I and the Media
Charles Silver, MoMA
John Belton, Rutgers University
Chris Straayer, New York University
Richard Koszarski, Rutgers University
Respondent: Christopher Sharrett, Seton Hall University
January 22  
*Wong Kar-Wai: Weak Theory and Liminality*
Martha P. Nochimson, Mercy College, Emerita
Respondent: Joseph Kickasola, Baylor University

February 19  
*Cinema and the Human Figure: Sitting/Standing*
Joe McElhaney, Hunter College, The City University of New York
Respondent: Amy Herzog, Graduate Center and Queens College, The City University of New York

March 12  
*The Portrait in Fred Zinnemann’s Renaissance: Rebuilding Film Authorship in the Remains of an Archive*
J.E. Smyth, University of Warwick
Respondent: Noah Isenberg, The New School

April 16  
*The Current Fate of Experimental Films of the 1960s and 1970s in a Digital Age*
Wheeler Winston Dixon, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Respondent: David Sterritt, Columbia University and Maryland Institute College of Art

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Cynthia Lucia, Cindylucia@aol.com
Professor William Luhr, luhrwg@aol.com
WOMEN AND SOCIETY (545)

Founded: 1974

This seminar is devoted to the interdisciplinary study of women in their historical and social contexts, as well as feminist historiography. Among the topics the seminar considers are: the status and function of women historically; cross-cultural and sociological perspectives on women; representations of women in literature, media, and the arts; women and ethics; and feminist theories of class, race, and sexuality.

Co-Chairs: Professor Samantha Majic, Professor Jennifer Rutledge
Rapporteur: Ms. Billur Avlar

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 22  Contextualizing Trafficking: The History Of Forced Labor In The United States Since 1865
Melissa Hope Ditmore, Independent Scholar
Discussant: Mindy Chateauvert, Leather Archives and Museum

October 20  Amicitia e Famiglia: Female Friendship, Family Ties, and the Exchange of Gossip in Early Modern Florence
Megan Moran, Montclair State University
Discussant: Alison Smith, Wagner College

November 19  Difference, Solidarity and Inclusion: Lessons from Feminist Organizing
Laurel Weldon, Purdue University
Discussants: Samantha Majic and Jennifer Rutledge, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, The City University of New York

Beth Simmons, Harvard University
Discussant: Tanya Putnam, Columbia University

March 23  Gender, Class and the Politics of Everyday Foodwork
Norah MacKendrick, Rutgers University
Discussant: Barbara Katz Rothman, The City University of New York

April 13  Why So Little Policy Movement on Caring Issues? A Policy Feedback Perspective
Andrea Louise Campbell, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Discussant: Miriam Laugesen, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Karen Baird, Karen.Baird@purchase.edu
Professor Emily Tai, ETai@qcc.cuny.edu
OTTOMAN AND TURKISH STUDIES (551)
Founded: 1974

From its inception, this seminar adopted an interdisciplinary approach to Turkic studies, and its members represent many fields. At the same time, their interests span more than twelve centuries. In most years, the program covers a selection of topics reflecting current research of members. Special anniversaries such as the Atatürk centennial (1981–1982), the sixtieth anniversary of the Turkish Republic (1983–1984), and the traveling exhibition, The Age of Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent (1987–1988), however, have provided themes around which all papers or a series of papers have been centered. Discussion on papers presented—no matter what their topic—has shown that dialogue between, for example, political scientist and art historian, medievalist and modernist, can be both stimulating and productive.

Chair: Professor Christine Philliou
Rapporteur: Ms. Anna Wood

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 31  The Curious Case of Saliha Hatun: Healers and the State in Early Modern Istanbul
Nükhet Varlık, Rutgers University

November 14  Far from Ankara: Celebrating the ‘New Language’ in Early Republican Turkey
Emmanuel Szurek, Princeton University

December 5  Technology of Colonialism and the Resistance along the Ottoman Borderlands in Arabia
Mostafa Minawi, Cornell University

January 28  Erdoğan’s New Turkey: The Struggle for Political Legitimacy
Sinan Ciddi, Institute of Turkish Studies

February 25  The (Un)Protected: Foreign Muslims and Extraterritoriality in the Fin de Siècle Ottoman Empire
Lale Can, City College, The City University of New York

March 25  Survivors into Minorities: Armenians in Post-genocide Turkey
Lerna Ekmekcioglu, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Discussant: Melissa Bilal, Columbia University

April 17  Denial of Violence: Ottoman Past, Turkish Present and the Collective Violence against the Armenians, 1789–2009
Fatma Müge Göçek, University of Michigan

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular, la2142@columbia.edu
Professor Zeynep Celik, zc2162@columbia.edu
DRUGS AND SOCIETY (553)

Founded: 1975

This seminar provides a forum for the scholarly exchange of information among key representatives of the chemical dependency research, treatment, prevention, and policy development communities. It seeks to address the important and complex questions relating to the root causes of chemical dependency and abuse, to examine and evaluate epidemiological studies, to determine the effectiveness of various treatment and prevention strategies, and to discuss the wisdom and value of current international, national, and local policies. Membership is comprised of prominent researchers, established leaders in the treatment and prevention fields, and government policy makers. Speakers in the seminar are drawn from the membership itself and by invitation from other institutions.

Chair: Ms. Susan Ohanesian, LCSW, ACSW, CASAC
Rapporteur: Ms. Annum Hussain

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 16  
Motivation and Self-Efficacy in the Context of Moderated Drinking—Global Self-report and Ecology Momentary Assessment  
Alexis Kuerbis, Hunter College, The City University of New York

October 21  
Young Adults with Co-Occurring Disorders: Substance Use Disorder Treatment Response and Outcomes  
Brandon G. Bergman, Mass General Hospital, Boston

November 18  
Treating Veterans with SUD: What Is Unique and What Do They Share in Common with Civilian SUD Patients  
Jerome F.X. Carroll, Brooklyn VA Hospital  
Charles Hall, NY Harbor Staff Chaplain  
Michael Mooney, Brooklyn VA Hospital  
Roy Kearse, Samaritan Village;  
Jo Potestivo, Health Science Specialist  
Nancy Forman, Brooklyn VA Hospital

December 9  
Residential Redesign  
Norwig DeBye-Saxinger, Phoenix House  
Robert Kent, NY State OASAS
January 20  
*Crime*inal Justice Outcomes after Engagement in Substance Abuse Treatment*  
Deborah W. Garnick, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University

February 17  
*Evalu*a*tion of a Housing Intervention for Substance Using Adults with Multiple Episodes of Homelessness and Incarceration*  
Angela A. Aidala, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

March 10  
*Web-Based CBT for Substance Misusing and PTSD Symptomatic OEF/OIF Veterans*  
Andrew Rosenblum, National Development and Research Institutes  
Michelle Acosta, National Development and Research Institutes

April 14  
*Predictors and Treatment Outcomes of Perceived Ward Atmosphere Among Therapeutic Community Residents*  
W. Amory Carr, University of New Haven

May 12  
*Variations and Commonalities of Sexual Offenders and Heroin Abusers on Management of Stigma*  
R. Terry Furst, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, The City University of New York  
Douglas Evans, Medical College of Wisconsin

**Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:**  
Dr. Frank McCorry, famcc127@gmail.com
TWENTIETH-CENTURY POLITICS AND SOCIETY (555)

Founded: 1992

The seminar concerns Europe, the United States, and the non-West. It brings together historians, sociologists, political scientists, literary critics, and other scholars to discuss current research on diverse cultural, social, and political theses, especially those that stimulate comparative perspectives.

Chair: Professor Christopher Dietrich
Rapporteur: Mr. Stephen Wertheim

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 7  The Historical Development of International Criminal Law, 1919–1950: Some Basic Arguments
Mark Lewis, College of Staten Island, The City University of New York

October 21  Umpire or Empire? American Foreign Relations in World History
Elizabeth Cobbs Hoffman, San Diego State University

November 11  Conscription Against Communism
Jeremy Kessler, Columbia Law School

December 2  Global Thermidor: The Recession of 1920–1921 and the Making of the Interwar Order
Adam Tooze, Yale University

February 10  Stalin: Terror and Foreign Policy, 1929–1941
Stephen Kotkin, Princeton University

February 24  Beyond Camp David: Jimmy Carter, Palestinian Self-Determination, and Human Rights
Craig Daigle, City College of New York

March 10  Capitalism, Modernity, and The Growth Debate
Wallace Katz, Stony Brook University

March 31  Faculty Politics in the 1960s and 1970s
Ellen Schrecker, Yeshiva University

April 21  The Crucible of Humanitarian Warfare: The Interrogation Rooms of the Korean War
Monica Kim, New York University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Christopher Dietrich, cdietrich2@fordham.edu
BRAZIL (557)
Founded: 1976

Recently completed field studies and research from primary sources on Brazil constitute the main interest of this seminar. Brazilian, U.S. and other visiting scholars participate, contributing their interpretations of recent events. Portuguese may be spoken whenever convenient.

Co-Chairs: Professor Diana Brown, Professor John Collins, Professor Sidney Greenfield, Professor Vânia Penha-Lopes
Rapporteur: Mr. João Villela de Faria

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  Community Participation and Empowerment: The Case of PROVOZ in Fortaleza, Brazil
Timothy J. Finan, University of Arizona

October 16  Images of Brazil
Renato Ortiz, University of Campinas

November 20  Protests in Brazil, 2013
Marcelo Ridente, University of Campinas

December 18  Space and Race: The Politics of Inequality at Brazil’s Satellite Launch Center
Sean T. Mitchell, Rutgers University

February 12  Lundu: Music and the Politics of Class, Race, and National Identity in Past and Presentday Brazil
Marcelo Campos Hazan, University of South Carolina

March 12  “Eis a cidade!” Odorico Tavares, the Museu de Arte Moderna, and the Mid-Century Struggle Over Cultural Politics in Salvador, Brazil
Scott Ickes, Gustavus Adolphus College

April 16  The Rise and Retreat of Globalized Capitalism: A Study of Telecommunication Multinationals in Brazil after Privatization
Jawdat Abu-d Laj, Federal University of Ceará

May 14  Perspectives on Corruption
Judivan J. Vieira, Procuradoria-Geral Federal

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Diana Brown, dbrown@bard.edu
Professor John F. Collins, john.collins@qc.cuny.edu
Professor Sidney Greenfield, sidneygreenfield@gmail.com
Professor Vânia Penha-Lopes, vania_penha-lopes@bloomfield.edu
ARABIC STUDIES (559)

Founded: 1977

The concerns of this seminar are interdisciplinary and humanistic. In addition to Arabic language and literature, the range of interests includes topics of significance for Islamic studies: religion, philosophy, science, law and history of the Muslim world, and modern social and cultural history. The seminar affords an opportunity to members and guest speakers to discuss research in progress. Because the members come from several disciplines, the substantive discussions draw upon various fields to expand the sources, help reformulate questions, and anticipate future publications.

Chair: Professor Muhsin Al-Musawi
Rapporteur: Ms. Ouijdane Absi

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 25  Speculating in Egypt: Fiction and Finance at the Turn of the Twentieth Century
Elizabeth Holt, Bard College

December 4  Sex Across the Border: Fractured Reflections of Arab Sexual Attitudes in Some Latin Texts
Everett Rowson, New York University

January 29  Bu’ayd Rulers and Shi ‘i Scholars
Roy Parviz Mottahedeh, Harvard University

February 26  A Phenomenology of Violence: Art and Spatial Politics
Abeer Shahin, Columbia University

March 25  Mahmud Darwish: Technologies of Selfhood and Commitment to Palestine
Ali J. Al Allaq, University of Exeter

April 9  The Arabic-Islamic Manuscript Tradition and the Rise of the Professional Editor (al-Muhaqqiq) in 19th and 20th Century Egypt
Islam Dayeh, Freie Universitaet Berlin

April 23  The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters
Muhsin alMusawi, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Muhsin Al-Musawi, ma2188@columbia.edu
HUMAN RIGHTS (561)

Founded: 1978

This seminar addresses various human rights issues at monthly meetings, sometimes by designating a theme to be followed during the entire academic year. The topics cover international and domestic areas of concern, and reflect problems of both conceptualization and application. Emphasis is also placed on dialogue between advocates of western and non-western ideas and practices.

Co-Chairs: Professor George Andreopoulos, Professor Yasmine Ergas
Rapporteur: Mr. Daniel Golebiewski

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 6  
*Human Rights and Political Legitimacy: A Democratic Perspective*
John R. Wallach, Hunter College and The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
Discussant: Omar Dahbour, Hunter College and The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

December 1  
*The Shape of Appeals in International Relations: Justice, Thick and Thin*
Ann Marie Clark, Purdue University
Discussant: Jack L. Snyder, Columbia University

March 2  
*Children’s Rights NGOs, the Hague Convention, and Intercountry Adoption*
Marijke Breuning, University of North Texas
Discussant: Ulrike Capdepon, German Institute of Global and Area Studies

April 6  
*Organizing Repression: Coercive Institutions and State Violence Under Authoritarianism*
Sheena Greitens, University of Missouri
Discussant: Florencia Ruiz-Mendoza, Social Movements Historical Research Center

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor George Andreopoulos, chrighet@jjay.cuny.edu
Professor Yasmine Ergas, ye36@columbia.edu
NEO-CONFUCIAN STUDIES (567)

Founded: 1979

NEO-CONFUCIAN STUDIES (567)

This seminar examines the formation, development, and role of Neo-Confucian thought in China, Japan, and Korea. The relationship between Neo-Confucianism and other aspects of the history of East Asia is considered, and on occasion intellectual responses to Neo-Confucianism are also examined. The seminar circulates copies of papers to its members prior to meetings.

Co-Chairs: Mr. Ari Borrell, Professor Tao Jiang,
Professor On-cho Ng, Professor Deborah Sommer
Rapporteur: Mr. Yao Lin

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 3   Acceptance of Presidential Medal
William Theodore de Bary, Columbia University

November 7  Imagined Seclusion: The Construction of Su Shi’s Literary Persona at Huangzhou
Zach Berge-Becker, Columbia University

December 5  The Problem with Common Physicians and Its Solutions in the Northern Song
Stephen Boyanton, Columbia University

February 6  Restoring Cosmic Order Through Ritual and Music:
Zhu Yunming’s Unheeded Alternative to Daoxue in Mid-Ming
Jiyan Claire Qiao, National Committee on U.S.-China Relations

March 6     Varieties of Knowing
Stephen Angle, Wesleyan University

April 3     A Confucian Theory of Immorality
Chi-keung Chan, City University of Hong Kong

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Mr. Ari Borrell, aborrell@msn.com
Professor Tao Jiang, tjiang@rci.rutgers.edu
Professor On-Cho Ng, oxn1@psu.edu
Professor Deborah Sommer, dsommer@gettysburg.edu
GENETIC EPIDEMIOLOGY (577)
Founded: 1982

The purpose of this seminar is to bring together researchers in human genetics, epidemiology, and related disciplines, to discuss issues of common interest. Topics focus primarily on genetic and environmental contributions to disease, and gene-environment interaction. Our goal is to use information from both human genetics and epidemiology to arrive at a methodology for understanding the complex etiology of common diseases.

Chair: Professor Gary Heiman
Rapporteur: Ms. Esther Drill

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 9  Transposable Elements and Psychiatric Disorders
Guia Guffanti, Columbia University

December 11 Pedigree-Based Disease-Gene Identification Using High-Throughput Sequencing
Jinchuan Xing, Rutgers University

January 8  Getting More For Less: Pedigree-Based Imputation and Error Detection Combining STR, SNP and NGS Data
Scott R. Diehl, Rutgers University

February 12  Power and Sample Size Calculations for Genetic Association with Pleiotrophic Phenotypes
Derek Gordon, Rutgers University

March 12  Whole-Exome Sequencing Results From The Tourette International Collaborative Genetics Study
Gary Heiman, Rutgers University
Thomas Fernandez, Yale University School of Medicine

April 16  The Genetics of Congenital Heart Disease
Yufeng Shen, Columbia University

May 14  Prioritizing GWAS Results by Integrating Pleiotropy and Annotation
Hongyu Zhao, Yale University School of Public Health

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Gary Heiman, heiman@dls.rutgers.edu
SHAKESPEARE (581)

Founded: 1982

This seminar explores issues of interest to current Shakespeare scholarship. Principal topics include the relation of play-script to performance, the implications of recent changes in textual study, the relevance of texts to the social and political world in which they were produced, and the impact of contemporary theory on Shakespeare criticism. A Bernard Beckerman Memorial Lecture is presented annually in honor of the seminar’s founder.

Co-Chairs: Professor Andras Kisery, Professor John Staines
Rapporteur: Mr. Alexander Lash

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 12  The Void in the Evidence: Edward Alleyn, Philip Henslowe, and Christopher Marlowe
Susan Cerasano, Colgate University

October 10  Affective Politics: Alternative Histories on the Early Modern English Stage
Mario DiGangi, Lehman College and Graduate Center, The City University of New York

November 14  Shrill-voiced suppliants: Ritual Forms, Constraint, and Coercion in Richard II
Leah Whittington, Harvard University

December 12  ‘So Shakespeare’: Francis Meres and The Genius Of Resemblance
Catherine Nicholson, Yale University

February 13  ‘All the Brothers’ in Twelfth Night
Corey Abate, Paramus Catholic High School

March 13  ‘Unless. . .’ (Prospero, Gonzalo, and the Shakespearean Monument)
Naomi Liebler, Montclair State University

April 10  Spangled With Flatteries: The Language of Credit Intimon of Athens (And Beyond)
Laura Kolb, Baruch College, The City University of New York

Richard Strier, University of Chicago

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor John Staines, jstaines@jjay.cuny.edu
Professor Denise Walen, dewalen@vassar.edu
SOUTHEAST ASIA IN WORLD AFFAIRS (583)

Founded: 1982

This seminar is concerned with the contemporary political economy of Southeast Asia, and in particular with its international dimensions. The agenda includes current problems of economic and political change in the countries of the region, as well as issues in relations with the United States, Japan, China, and Russia. The seminar membership includes policymakers from the public and private sectors, as well as scholars, and the group as a whole has a strong policy orientation.

Co-Chairs: Professor Ann Marie Murphy, Professor Hugh T. Patrick, Professor Jayne Werner
Rapporteur: Mr. Rafael Ignacio

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 22  The Economic and Business Challenges Facing Indonesia’s Jokowi Administration
Wayne Forrest, American Indonesian Chamber of Commerce

November 12  Southeast Asia’s Strategic Environment
Joseph Chinyong Liow, Brookings Institution

February 25  The Trouble with Transitional Justice? The Khmer Rouge Tribunal, Thai Truth Commissions and Other Debacles
Duncan McCargo, Columbia University and University of Leeds

March 25  Dealing in Desire: Asian Ascendancy, Western Decline and the Hidden Currencies of Global Sex Work
 Kimberly Kay Hoang, Boston College

April 30  Who Can Be Killed with Impunity and Who Cannot Be Impugned in Thailand
Tyrell Haberkorn, Harvard University and Australian National University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Ann Marie Murphy, amm31@columbia.edu
Professor Hugh T. Patrick, htp1@columbia.edu
ETHICS, MORAL EDUCATION, AND SOCIETY (585)

*Founded: 1983*

This seminar, made up of theoreticians, researchers, and educators, examines the themes of ethics, moral education, and society in a genuinely interdisciplinary fashion, covering such topics as moral motivation, moral development, moral education, and moral theory. Membership is drawn from the fields of psychology, philosophy, sociology, education, political theory, and religion. The seminar provides a meeting ground for communication and support unique to the New York metropolitan region.

**Chair:** Dr. Michael Schulman  
**Rapporteur:** Ms. Rebecca Martin

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

**October 6**  
**Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Innovation in Education**  
*The Discriminating Infant: Early Social Judgments and the Roots of Good and Evil*  
Karen Wynn, Yale University

**November 10**  
**Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Innovation in Education**  
*Philosophy and Public Education: A Community Outreach Program with Court-Involved Youth*  
Max Hayward, Columbia University

**December 8**  
**Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Innovation in Education**  
*Beyond Resilience and PTSD: Flexibility and Heterogeneity Following Potential Trauma*  
George A. Bonanno, Columbia University

**March 2**  
**Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Innovation in Education**  
*Wisdom: What Does It Take To Become Wiser? A Psychological Perspective On Wisdom*  
Ursula Staudinger, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

**April 27**  
**Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Innovation in Education**  
*Going Solo: The Extraordinary Rise and Surprising Appeal Of Living Alone*  
Eric Klinenberg, New York University

**May 4**  
**Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Innovation in Education**  
*The “Good” Life: From Value, Truth and Control, Working Together*  
E. Tory Higgins, Columbia University

**Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:**  
Dr. Michael Schulman, mdschlmn41@yahoo.com
For more than 100 years, comparative psychologists have sought to understand the evolution of human intelligence. New paradigms for studying cognitive processes in animals—in particular symbol use and memory—have, for the first time, allowed psychologists and neuroscientists to compare higher thought processes in animals and human beings. New imaging approaches have also facilitated exploring the neural basis of behavior and both animals and humans. Questions concerning the nature of animal and human cognition have defined the themes of this seminar whose members include specialists in cognition, ethology, philosophy and neuroscience.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Yaakov Stern, Professor Herbert S. Terrace
Rapporteur: Ms. Cait Williamson

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  Neurobiology of Primate Prosocial Behavior
Steve Chang, Yale University

October 14  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Language and Cognition
The Syntax of Mind: Dendrophilia and Human Cognition
Tecumseh Fitch, University of Vienna

November 20  Developmental Origins of Differential Responding to Social Categories
Paul Quinn, University of Delaware

December 11  The Emerging Synthesis of Evolutionary and Developmental Biology: Implications and Limits for Understanding the Transgenerational Effects of Early Experience
Myron Hofer, Columbia University

January 22  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Language and Cognition
Can Nonlinguistic Musical Training Change The Way The Brain Processes Speech?
Aniruddh Patel, Tufts University

February 19  Constraints and Flexibility in Early Quantification: Insights from Infancy
Lisa Feigenson, Johns Hopkins University

March 5  Inferential Understanding of Ostensive Communication in Preverbal Infants
Gyorgy Gergely, Central European University

April 16  Consciousness and the Social Brain
Michael Graziano, Princeton University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor James Curley, jc3181@columbia.edu
Dr. Yaakov Stern, ys11@columbia.edu
Professor Herbert S. Terrace, terrace@columbia.edu
SCIENTIFIC LITERACY/SCIENTIFIC FRONTIERS (611)

Founded: 1987

In view of the widespread concern with the notion of scientific literacy on the part of scientists, educators at all levels, industrialists, politicians, and the media, this seminar aims to analyze the wide diversity of views as to how a greater measure of scientific literacy might be obtained. There are many ways of teaching science, looking at science, and practicing science. The notion of a universal scientific literacy as a unique set of things is not at all defined; the seminar’s goal is to delineate its significance and implications.

Chair: Ms. Jean Delfiner
Rapporteur: Ms. Adrija Thakur

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  Safety Policy and Procedure in the Science Classroom and Laboratory
Lew Malchick, Brooklyn Technical High School

October 17  MOF/Graphene Composites: Exploring the New Concept of Separation Media
Teresa J. Bandosz, City College, The City University of New York

November 14  Engineering Shape: The Novel Geometries of Colloidal Self-Assembly
Stefano Sacanna, New York University

December 12  The Lost Elements—The Periodic Table’s Shadow Side
Mary Virginia Orna, College of New Rochelle

January 30  Indigo and Cochineal: Uniform Colors
Robert F. Drake, The Physics Teachers Club of New York

February 27  Materials Chemistry in a Virtual Laboratory: Structure, Transport, and Functionalization
Mark Tuckerman, New York University

April 17  The Annual Demo Derby

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Ms. Jean Delfiner, jadelfiner@verizon.net
FULL EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND EQUITY (613)

Founded: 1987

The seminar focuses on the analytical and policy issues related to full employment, social welfare, and equity. These include crossnational perspectives, primarily in other industrialized economies. The purpose is to identify and clarify the more difficult and central intellectual questions which relate to and affect the national commitment and capability to assure full employment, social welfare, and equity over long periods.

Co-Chairs: Professor Sheila Collins, Professor Helen Lachs Ginsburg, Professor Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg
Rapporteur: Ms. Loren Cobbs

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 22  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Globalization, Labor, and Popular Struggles
From Paternalism to a Race Fair America: Why ’My Brother’s Keeper’ Just Won’t Cut It
Darrick Hamilton, The New School for International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy

October 27  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Globalization, Labor, and Popular Struggles
Social Movements in the 1930s: What They Can Teach Us about Social Protest Today
Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg, Emerita, Adelphi University

November 17 Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Globalization, Labor, and Popular Struggles
The People’s Climate March: Where Do We Go From Here?
Leslie Cagan, People’s Climate March
Joe Uehlein, Labor Network for Sustainability
Charles Bell, Consumers Union

March 2   Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Globalization, Labor, and Popular Struggles
Rebuilding the Union Movement in a Time of Crisis
Henry Garrido, DC 37, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

April 6  TPP: What Would the Biggest U.S. Free Trade Deal Mean for Workers, Consumers and the Public Interest?
Ben Beachy, Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch

May 4  The U.S. Green Energy Transformation
Robert Pollin, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Sheila Collins, sheila.collins65@verizon.net
Professor Helen Lachs Ginsburg, helenginsburg@yahoo.com
Professor Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg, trudygoldberg@msn.com
IRANIAN STUDIES (615)

Founded: 1987

The purpose of these monthly gatherings is to present and promote new research in Iranian studies from pre-Islamic times to the present. The seminar provides an opportunity for scholars and researchers in the greater metropolitan area to meet regularly and exchange views and discuss the topics of their research interests.

Co-Chairs: Professor Ahmad Ashraf, Professor Vahid Nowshirvani
Rapporteurs: Ms. Zeinab Azarbadegan, Ms. Suzanne A. Toma

MEETINGS 2014–2015

Hassanali Mehran, Former Governor of Central Bank of Iran

September 19 Nightingale’s Fever: The Life and Poetry of Simin Behbahani
Farzaneh Milani, University of Virginia at Charlottesville

October 8 Zoroastrians in the Pre and Post Islamic Revolution Period: A Comparative View
Janet Kestenberg Amighi, Montgomery County Community College

November 5 Local Roots of Iranian Nationalism?: Identity and the Construction of Space in Nineteenth Century Persian Geographical Writing
James M. Gustafson, Indiana State University

December 3 The Construction of the Sanction Regime against Iran: Political and Strategic Dimensions
Hisae Nakanishi, Doshisha University

February 11 Triumphant and Lachrymose Narratives of Fire Temple Desecration in Early Islamic Iran
Andrew Magnusson, California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo

March 11 The Puzzle of the Iranian Revolution
Behrooz Moazami, Loyola University

April 17 Celebration of Professor Yarshater’s 95th Birthday
Mohammad Tavakoli-Targh, University of Toronto
Ali Banuazizi, Boston College
Martin Schwartz, University of California, Berkeley
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Maryland

May 6 The Conjuncture of Religion and Politics in the Emergence of Khomeini
Fakhreddin Azimi, University of Connecticut

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Ahmad Ashraf, aa398@columbia.edu
Professor Vahid Nowshirvani, vfn1@columbia.edu
BUDDHIST STUDIES (629)

Founded: 1990

The seminar discusses issues and ongoing research in Buddhist Studies, as well as the interface between Buddhist Studies and other humanistic and scientific disciplines. Buddhism has been a powerful cultural and intellectual, as well as religious, current in all of the Asian civilizations. Its manifestations engage the scholarly concern of members of a wide range of disciplines: religious studies (itself an interdisciplinary enterprise), philosophy, psychology, history, sociology, anthropology, comparative literature, art history, and political science, among others. The seminar is focused not on a narrow range of issues concerning the Buddhist religions, but on a broad range of philosophical, cultural, social, and scientific subjects arising from the long and rich historical experience of the numerous Buddhist civilizations.

Co-Chairs: Professor Michael I. Como, Professor David Max Moerman
Rapporteur: Mr. Alessandro Poletto

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 7  
Scholars and Scribes: Leveraging Computerized Tools for Navigating an Uncharted Tibetan Buddhist Philosophical Corpus
Orna Almogi, University of Hamburg
Dorji Wangchuk, University of Hamburg

February 6  
Curing with Ox-Bezoars: The Materiality of Heian-period Therapeutic
Benedetta Lomi, University of Virginia

February 13  
Sino-Indian Cultural Encounters in the Medieval Period: Analysis of a Chain of Evidence from Dunhuang and Turfan Manuscripts
Ming Chen, Peking University

February 27  
Restoring the Dragon Princess: Her Episode in the Lotus Sutra and its Implications for Medieval Japanese Art and Literature
Abe Ryuichi, Harvard University

April 16  
Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Japanese Culture
When Men Become Gods: The Ritual Basis for Political Authority in Japan, 1351–1551
Thomas Conlan, Princeton University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Michael I. Como, mc2575@columbia.edu
Professor David Max Moerman, dmoerman@barnard.edu
RELIGION IN AMERICA (661)

*Founded: 1997*

This seminar explores the role of religion in American society from cross-disciplinary perspectives: history, anthropology, literature, sociology, theology, material culture, etc. Both “religion” and “America” are broadly defined: “religion” takes into account multicultural and multifarious religious expressions in an increasingly pluralistic setting; “America” includes not merely the United States but Canada and the Caribbean as well. The members of the seminar are particularly interested in examining the religiously rich environment of New York City.

Chair: Professor Courtney Bender
Rapporteur: Ms. Cara Rock-Singer

MEETINGS 2014–2015

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker/Institution</th>
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<td>September 8</td>
<td><em>The Work of Art in the Age of Inarticulate Religion</em></td>
<td>Courtney Bender, Columbia University</td>
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<td>October 13</td>
<td><em>A Life in the Spirit: Norman Lear, Religious Liberalism,</em></td>
<td>Benji Rolsky, Drew University</td>
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<td><em>and Late Twentieth Century American Politics</em></td>
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<td>November 10</td>
<td><em>Sympathy and Cosmopolitanism in the Ecumenical Women’s Missionary Movement</em></td>
<td>Gale Kenny, Barnard College, Columbia University</td>
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<td>December 8</td>
<td><em>Wonder of Wonders: A Cultural History of Fiddler on the Roof</em></td>
<td>Alisa Solomon, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University</td>
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<td>February 16</td>
<td><em>Religion in Plain View: The Public Aesthetics of American Belief</em></td>
<td>Sally Promey, Yale University</td>
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<td>March 9</td>
<td><em>Altars of Ammo: Catholic Materiality in the Second World War</em></td>
<td>John Seitz, Fordham University</td>
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<td>April 20</td>
<td><em>Fording a Right to Work Religion: ‘The Human Element’ and the Work of Incorporation</em></td>
<td>Kati Curts, Yale University</td>
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Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Courtney Bender, cb337@columbia.edu
THE HISTORY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (667)
Founded: 1998

This seminar provides a forum where issues that define the institutional, intellectual and social history of Columbia University will be given scholarly consideration. Speakers will consist of a mix of “outside” specialists in American academic history and Columbia “insiders” who have had a direct involvement with a particular issue and a familiarity with recent Columbia folkways.

Chair: Mr. Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr.
Rapporteur: Ms. Sarah Lorch

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 12  Further Research on Jane Belo Tannenbaum
Georgina Marrero, Independent Scholar

November 5  The Life and Work of I. I. Rabi at Columbia
Malvin Ruderman, Columbia University

February 4  Oral History Interview of Professor Frank Tannenbaum
Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr., Columbia University

April 1  Jane Belo Tannenbaum
Georgina Marrero, Independent Scholar

May 6  The Troubles at Columbia in 1968
Allan Silver, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Mr. Chauncey G. Olinger, Jr, cgolinger@verizon.net
GLOBALIZATION, LABOR, AND POPULAR STRUGGLES (671)

Founded: 1998

The seminar seeks to clarify the boundaries of what might be broadly understood as labor politics and the labor movement by examining theoretical and historical developments in order to clarify what has been learned and what needs to be learned in the current world-historical moment of global capitalist reorganization. Included in the purview of the seminar are broader issues in popular politics as well as forms of popular action that are often identified by such alternative labels as “social movements” or “contentious” politics. Presentations, by specialists from the academic and labor communities, focus on issues in contemporary labor and popular politics, on a thematic basis, in settings around the world, and bring to bear a strongly comparative focus, which challenges a common division between specialists on labor in the industrialized world and labor in less developed areas. Debate is facilitated by the provision of papers in advance.

Co-Chairs: Dr. David Bensman, Professor Sheila Collins
Rapporteur: Ms. Loren Cobbs

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 22  
JOINT MEETING WITH THE SEMINAR ON FULL EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND EQUITY  
From Paternalism to a Race Fair America: Why ‘My Brother’s Keeper’ Just Won’t Cut It  
Darrick Hamilton, The New School for International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy

October 20  
The Grey Zone in Global Employment Relations  
David Bensman, Rutgers University

October 27  
JOINT MEETING WITH THE SEMINAR ON FULL EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND EQUITY  
Social Movements in the 1930s: What They Can Teach Us about Social Protest Today  
Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg, Emerita, Adelphi University

November 17  
JOINT MEETING WITH THE SEMINAR ON FULL EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND EQUITY  
The People’s Climate March: Where Do We Go From Here?  
Leslie Cagan, People’s Climate March  
Joe Uehlein, Labor Network for Sustainability  
Charles Bell, Consumers Union

March 2  
JOINT MEETING WITH THE SEMINAR ON FULL EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND EQUITY  
Rebuilding the Union Movement in a Time of Crisis  
Henry Garrido, DC 37, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

April 6  
JOINT MEETING WITH THE SEMINAR ON FULL EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND EQUITY  
TPP: What Would the Biggest U.S. Free Trade Deal Mean for Workers, Consumers and the Public Interest?  
Ben Beachy, Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor David Bensman, dbensman@smlr.rutgers.edu  
Professor Sheila Collins, sheila.collins65@verizon.net
SEXUALITY, GENDER, HEALTH, AND HUMAN RIGHTS (673)
Founded: 1999

This seminar uses the new scholarship on sexuality to engage with ongoing theoretical conversations and activism in gender, health, and human rights. Pressed by the increasing recognition of the importance of sexuality in a wide range of advocacy and rights work (for example, HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health, and sexual violence), theorists and advocates alike have struggled with the complex, sometimes fluid and elusive nature of sexuality. What is this “sexuality” in need of rights and health? How does it manifest itself across a range of persons and cultures? And how can the body of culturally and historically situated work about sexuality be helpful to advocacy interventions? The seminar also turns a critical lens on recent scholarship in light of current issues raised by policy interventions and grass roots organizing in many countries and cultures. The seminar aims to promote dialogue and exchange between academic, activist, and advocacy work and is sponsored by the Program for the Study of Sexuality, Gender, Health, and Human Rights.

Co-Chairs: Professor Rebecca Jordan-Young, Professor Alice Miller, Professor Carole S. Vance
Rapporteur: Ms. Ronna Popkin

MEETINGS 2014–2015

January 29  When Security Fails: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Biometric Technologies at the Canada-US Border
Shoshana Magnet, University of Ottawa

February 26  Hijacking Feminist Rhetoric: The Latest PR Tactics in the Promotion of “Female Sexual Dysfunction”
Leonore Tiefer, New York University School of Medicine

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Rebecca Jordan-Young, ryoung@barnard.edu
Professor Alice Miller, alice.miller@yale.edu
Professor Carole S. Vance, csv1@columbia.edu
LANGUAGE AND COGNITION (681)

Founded: 2000

What can the study of language contribute to our understanding of human nature? This question motivates research spanning many intellectual constituencies, for its range exceeds the scope of any one of the core disciplines. The technical study of language has developed across anthropology, electrical engineering, linguistics, neurology, philosophy, psychology, and sociology, and influential research of the recent era of cognitive science has occurred when disciplinary boundaries were transcended. The seminar is a forum for convening this research community of broadly differing expertise, within and beyond the University. As a meeting ground for regular discussion of current events and fundamental questions, the University Seminar on Language and Cognition will direct its focus to the latest breakthroughs and the developing concerns of the scientific community studying language.

Chair: Professor Robert E. Remez
Rapporteur: Ms. Mimi LaValley

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  Reverse Engineering the Neural Mechanisms Involved in Robust Speech Processing
Nima Mesgarani, Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, Columbia University

October 14  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience
The Syntax of Mind: Dendrophilia and Human Cognition
Tecumseh Fitch, University of Vienna

December 4  Speech Perception and Speech Production: Two Sides of the Same Sensorimotor Coin
Vincent L. Gracco, McGill University

January 22  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience
Can Nonlinguistic Musical Training Change The Way The Brain Processes Speech?
Aniruddh Patel, Tufts University

February 19  Great Expectations: How Prediction in Speech Affects Processing
Laura C. Dilley, Michigan State University

April 23  Bilingualism: Consequences for Mind and Brain
Ellen Bialystok, York University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Robert E. Remez, remez@columbia.edu
MEMORY AND SLAVERY (689)

Founded: 2001

The foundational premise of this seminar centers on the continued effects of slavery in the United States. Such social constructs depend upon human conceptions, behaviors, and key neurobiological regulatory mechanisms sculpting them. For the 2014–2015 academic year, the seminar discussions focused upon the dynamic interactions among neuroscience, psychiatry, psychology, and neurobiology, and their influence on medicine, culture, law, and religion. Members of this seminar include scientists, sociologists, clergy, medical doctors, therapists, legal scholars, and others who share an interest in learning from the collective memories of slavery.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Pilar Jennings, Professor Robert Pollack
Rapporteur: Ms. Carolyn Brokowski

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 30  Who Am I? The Origins and Development of a Sense of Self
Pilar Jennings, Union Theological Seminary
Robert Pollack, Columbia University

November 21  Anatomy of Short Lives
Patricia J. Williams, Columbia Law School

December 16  Historical Trauma and the Vast Problems that Exist in Many Native American Communities
Dan Press, Columbia University
Rebecca Cohen

February 27  Transgenerational Inheritance in Mammals
Frances Champagne, Columbia University

March 27  Racism in U.S. Incarceration Policies
Jed S. Rakoff, Columbia Law School

April 17  Space Justice
Marcia Sells, Columbia Law School

May 15  Unearthing Memories and Naming the Unknown: A Genealogist’s Journeys
Marya Pollack, Columbia University Medical Center

June 19  Medicine and Love
Don Shriver, Union Theological Seminary

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Pilar Jennings, pj38@columbia.edu
Professor Robert Pollack, pollack@columbia.edu
EARLY CHINA (691)

Founded: 2002

The seminar focuses on early Chinese civilization from the Neolithic Age to the Han Dynasty and brings together scholars from all Early China related fields: history, archaeology, art history, literature and language, religion and philosophy. The seminar will facilitate interregional exchanges by inviting distinguished Sinologists from other parts of the country, and will publicize new archaeological discoveries.

Co-Chairs: Professor Jue Guo, Professor Roderick Campbell
Rapporteurs: Ms. Glenda Chao, Mr. Maxim Korolkov, Mr. Brian Lander

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 3  Wen, Wu and Me, Too: A Hypothesis on Public Memory Construction in Early China
Kenneth Brashier, Reed College

October 27  The System Of Official Documentation As Reflected By The Qin Texts On Bamboo and Wood
Chen Wei, Wuhan University
The ‘Night Prayer’ In Ancient China: A Note On The Relationship
Between The Ancient Magic and ‘Confucian’ Ritual
Yang Hua, Wuhan University
The Discovery and Preliminary Study Of Zeng-Hou Chime Bells
Excavated From Tomb #1 At Wenfengta
Li Tianhong, Wuhan University

November 7  Why Did The Chinese Make Bronze Ritual Vessels: Origins and Outcomes
Jessica Rawson, Oxford University

December 5  “Rabbit” (Tu) and “Rat” (Shu) in Chu Manuscripts:
The Contact and Impact of the Linguistic Substratum on Old Chinese
Lai Guolong, University of Florida and Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University

February 6  Translating the Tian Wen: Where is the Irony?
Gopal Sukhu, Queens College and Columbia University

March 6  Why History Mattered? On the Politics of the Past in Early China
Vincent Leung, University of Pittsburgh and Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University

April 3  Crooked and Licentious Cults: Han Popular Movements Seen Through Religion’s Double Lens
Mark Csikszentmihalyi, University of California, Berkeley

May 8  The Evolution of Xiwangmu (Queen Mother of the West) and Dongwanggong (King Father of the East) in Archaeological Records
Jianing Chen, Tianjin University and University of Pennsylvania

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Roderick Campbell, rbc2@nyu.edu
Professor Jue Guo, jguo@barnard.edu
DISABILITY STUDIES (697)

Founded: 2003

This Seminar takes a broad interdisciplinary approach to Disability Studies—a rapidly expanding field informed by the knowledge base and methodologies of the traditional liberal arts and post-positivist perspectives. Disability Studies focuses on a sociopolitical analysis of disability: it examines both the social meaning we give to variations that exist in human behavior and appearance—implicit or explicit valuing—explicitly or implicitly constructing exclusionary categorical binaries—and the role that disability has played, currently plays and can potentially play in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and education.

Co-Chairs: Professor Michelle Ballan, Ms. Colleen Lewis
Rapporteur: Ms. Rhiannon Maycumber

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 23  
*Eugenics and Disability: A Troublesome History*
Paul A. Lombardo, Georgia State University

November 20  
*Concordance between Parents and Students about Autism Spectrum Disorder*
Ruth L. Fischbach, Columbia University

February 26  
*Aid in Dying . . . And the Right of Patients to Decide How They Will Die*
David C. Leven, End of Life Choices New York

March 26  
*Don’t Judge a Book by its Cover: Contextual Antecedents of Identity Complexity in Individuals with Developmental Disabilities*
Bonnie Wilkenfeld, Rutgers University

April 16  
*Community Integration for People with Disabilities: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going*
Alison Barkoff, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Michelle Ballan, msb2008@columbia.edu
Ms. Colleen Lewis, cl2328@columbia.edu
MODERN BRITISH HISTORY (701)

Founded: 2004

The seminar in Modern British history brings together historians from the different New York area institutions, together with literary scholars, political scientists, philosophers and others working historically, to hear research papers by visiting scholars, to discuss recent significant books in the field of Modern British history (from the late 17th century to the present) or to comment on work in progress by members of the group.

Chair: Professor Guy Ortolano
Rapporteur: Ms. Alma Igra

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 8       A Breed in Any Other Place: Heredity, Type, and Place in British Livestock Breeding since 1800
                    Rebecca Woods, Columbia University

October 2          Trans-Atlantic Celebrity: Sarah Cole on H.G. Wells, Hilary Hallett on Elinor Glyn, and Sharon Marcus on Sarah Bernhardt
                    Sarah Cole, Columbia University
                    Hilary Hallett, Columbia University
                    Sharon Marcus, Columbia University

                    Simon Gunn, Leicester University

November 5         Humanity After Empire: British Relief in an Era of Decolonization
                    Tehila Sasson, University of California, Berkeley

February 12        Ireland, India, and Quebec: Economy and Aristocracy in the Age of Revolution
                    Heather Welland, Binghamton University

March 12           Cinderella of the Education System: Nursery Expansion in 1970s Britain
                    Anna Danziger Halperin, Columbia University

April 9            De-Industrialisation not Decline: Britain since the 1950s
                    Jim Tomlinson, University of Glasgow

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Chris Brown, clb2140@columbia.edu
Professor Carl Wennerlind, cwennerl@barnard.edu
MODERN GREEK (703)

Founded: 2005

The seminar’s title emphasizes the language—modern Greek—over the metropolitan nation-state, modern Greece. By so doing, the seminar uses the enduring and versatile nature of the language as a symbol for broader themes that, both diachronically and synchronically, depict the tension between sameness and difference, between the continuities and discontinuities that comprise the Hellenic world. The seminar does not limit its focus to Modern Greece, even though it remains its foremost concern, instead it seeks to provide a forum for original interdisciplinary perspectives on Byzantine, Ottoman, and Modern Greece and the Greek diaspora. Seminar participants from a wide variety of fields consider all aspects of the post-classical Greek world as well as the reception and creative appropriation of the classical Greek tradition both in Greece and abroad. The seminar examines Greek relations with Western Europe, the Balkans, the Mediterranean, the Caucasus and the Middle East, tracing also the cultural presence of historic Greek communities in these areas as well as in more recent diasporas, in the United States and Australia. The seminar also examines the presence of diverse communities within Greece.

Co-Chairs: Professor Stathis Gourgouris, Dr. Maria Hadjipolykarpou
Rapporteur: Mr. David Schneller

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 2  Media Representations of the Greek Crisis
Maria Kakavouli, Panteion University

October 21  Screening of “Kisses to the Children”
Vassilis Loules, Director

November 12  The Politics of Hospitality: Gender Performativity as Political (Dis)obedience
Elena Mamoulaki, Columbia University

November 18  Greek Crisis and Social Criticism: From Democracy to Demo-crisis
Antonis Liakos, University of Athens

April 7  Poetry Reading
Elsa Korneti, Poet
Patricia Felisa Barbeito, translator

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Karen Van Dyck, vandyck@columbia.edu
The focus of the seminar is the cultural and intellectual history of early modern France (from 1500 to 1800) and the approach is interdisciplinary. The seminar includes literature scholars, historians, and philosophers. It meets at least once a month. The current format, which has proven very successful, consists in circulating a relatively short piece written by the invited speaker among the group members and discussing it at the meeting. Thus, instead of a formal talk followed by a few questions, there is an in-depth, 90-minute conversation.

Chair: Professor Charly Coleman  
Rapporteur: Mr. Yohann Ripert

MEETINGS 2014–2015

February 4  
*When Did “Rights” Become Rights?*  
Dan Edelstein, Stanford University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:  
Professor Joanna R. Stalnaker, jrs2052@columbia.edu
LITERARY THEORY (711)

Founded: 2005

This seminar has had a long and distinguished history at Columbia. Originally called Theory of Literature (469), it was revived under its current title in 2006 with a view to pursuing the relations between literature, philosophy, and the politics that pervades our cultural production and its study. For some time now, literary studies has been engaged in wider theoretical approaches to texts and to the very idea of literature and criticism, and the seminar hopes to take philosophical stock of this tendency as well as to try to bring to it, wherever possible, more creative and more rigorous angles. These goals will initially be pursued broadly and ecumenically and should it turn out that one or other theme surfaces, which demands our sustained focus, the seminar will very likely take it up for a whole year, approaching it from different angles. For the most part, one of the members will circulate a paper, introduced for the seminar by another member, but occasionally, we will invite a speaker from outside the membership.

Chair: Professor Bruce Robbins
Rapporteur: Ms. Mary Grace Albanese

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 29       Planet vs Globe
Jennifer Wenzel, Columbia University
Respondent: Ariane Lourie Harrison, Yale University

October 22          The Politics of Debt
Etienne Balibar, Columbia University
Respondent: Richard Dienst, Rutgers University

November 12         Reading (or The Reading Effect)
Ellen Rooney, Brown University
Respondent: Nicholas Dames, Columbia University

February 25         Depressive Reading
Christine Smallwood, Columbia University
Respondent: Elaine Freedgood, New York University

April 7             Universal Philosophy and Antihumanist Theory
Mark Greif, The New School
Respondent: Ross Posnock, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Bruce Robbins, bwr2001@columbia.edu
CULTURAL MEMORY (717)

Founded: 2007

The University Seminar on Cultural Memory began in 2005 as an interdisciplinary colloquium welcoming graduate students and faculty from Columbia and its neighbors. The Seminar, incepted in 2007, builds upon this already-established community and aims to further develop a vibrant interdisciplinary dialogue on contemporary issues of cultural and collective memory, including but not limited to traumatic memory, collective and national forgetting, memorialization and museology, historical consciousness and historiography, embodied memory and performance, archive and testimony. The Seminar meets monthly and, in addition to discussing chapters and works-in-progress, hosts a series of distinguished visiting speakers, working in close cooperation with relevant departments and institutes at Columbia.

Co-Chairs: Professor Marianne Hirsch, Professor Andreas Huyssen
Rapporteur: Ms. Alyssa Greene

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 25  (Post)Colonial Violence and the Terror of History
A. Dirk Moses, European University Institute

October 27  The Politics of Memory: Contemporary Art and Historical Sites in Spain
Miriam M. Basilio Gaztambide, New York University

December 1 Remembering To Forget In The Web: The Right To Be Forgotten and Its Paradoxes
Elena Esposito, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia

February 2 The Witness and the Historian: Screening and Discussion of Bach in Auschwitz
Sonia Combe, Institut des Sciences Sociales du Politique (ISP-CNRS)

March 30 Cultural Memory Seminars Roundtable

April 6 Book Discussion on Omens of Adversity
David Scott, Columbia University
Respondent: Jennifer Wenzel, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Marianne Hirsch, mh2349@columbia.edu
Professor Andreas Huyssen, ah26@columbia.edu
INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL (719)

Founded: 2007

Established by the faculty from the Department of Anesthesiology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Department of Epidemiology in the Mailman School of Public Health, this interdisciplinary colloquium welcomes participation by the Columbia University faculty, the professional community and key stakeholders in the New York metropolitan area. This seminar addresses a wide range of issues in the field of injury prevention and control, and provides an opportunity for seminar participants to analyze and evaluate new and continuing issues of growing significance with respect to injury epidemiology. Current topics of interest include motor vehicle crashes and pedestrian injuries, violence, emergency and disaster preparedness, and the implications of aging on health and safety. The seminar provides a framework for a multidisciplinary scholarly exchange of ideas on emerging issues, research, practice and policies affecting injury control and prevention in the 21st century.

Chair: Professor Charles J. DiMaggio
Rapporteur: Mr. Cameron Vanderscoff

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 15  Supporting Children at Times of Crisis
David J. Schonfeld, National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Joyce C. Pressley, jp376@columbia.edu
COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY (721)

Founded: 2007

The Comparative Philosophy Seminar seeks to advance constructive philosophical projects by bringing together scholars with training in diverse areas of Asian (mostly Buddhist) thought and Western Philosophy. Comparison in this context is not employed to loan authority to one set of obscure discoveries by revealing its resonances with the works of others, deemed less obscure. Nor does it sociologize philosophy in search of general laws of human cultural and intellectual development. Rather, the intent is to explicate, and employ, the fullness of an expanded philosophical toolset—and see how that works. The seminar ordinarily invites respondents who are versed in the relevant field of philosophical inquiry, but who are not necessarily specialists in Asian thought. In order to facilitate an ongoing conversation, seminar meetings for a given year are loosely organized around a very general theme, which speakers are asked to address when possible. In past years, the themes have been “Personal Identity” (2007–2008) and “Meta-Ethics” (2008–2009).

Co-Chairs: Professor Jonathan Gold, Professor Hagop Sarkissian
Rapporteur: Mr. Daniel del Nido

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 24  
‘The Scope for Wisdom’: Early Buddhism on Reasons and Persons
Jake Davis, Graduate Center, The City University of New York
Respondent: Charles Goodman, Binghamton, The State University of New York

November 14  
On Wielding Moral Sway: Influence and Manipulation in Social Networks
Hagop Sarkissian, Baruch College, The City University of New York

December 5  
Virtue Ethics, Role Ethics, and the Early Confucian Self
Tim Connolly, East Stroudsburg University
Respondent: Scott Stroud, University of Texas at Austin
February 27  
*Reading Nagarjuna as a Political Philosopher*
Joseph Walser, Tufts University  
Respondent: Sandeep Sreekumar, Baruch College, The City University of New York

March 27  
*The Possibility of a Confucian Doctrine of Free Expression*
David Elstein, New Paltz, The State University of New York  
Respondent: Warren Frisina, Hofstra University

April 10  
*Should we be Pluralists about Buddhist Ethics?*
Bronwyn Finnigan, Australian National University  
Respondent: Nic Bommarito, New York University

April 24  
*Naïve Realists and Innate Essentialists: Yogācāra Buddhism and Cognitive Science on our Innate Dispositions*
William Waldron, Middlebury College

May 8  
*Another Way into Buddhist Philosophy: the Path as a Philosophical Concept*
Pierre-Julien Harter, University of Chicago Divinity School  
Respondent: Chris Gowans, Fordham University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Jonathan Gold, jcgold@princeton.edu  
Professor Hagop Sarkissian, hagop.sarkissian@baruch.cuny.edu
The University Seminar on the Theory and History of Media brings together scholars from the humanities and social sciences to examine emerging concepts in media theory. Media, in this conception, refers to material technologies that (re)produce, store, and transmit information—a conception broad enough that allows us to move from, say, the role of print technologies in early modern Europe, through spirit photography to the emergence of contemporary digital media. We are especially interested in the ways in which technologies shape and are shaped by cultural practices, and social sensibilities, and we consider a historical dimension as central to this effort. There is nothing so powerful in understanding the novelty and dynamism of contemporary media as looking at the introduction of earlier technologies whose technical and social influence was yet to be understood. At the same time, we are also committed to moving beyond the specifics of media in the U.S. to incorporate the different histories and trajectories of media in Europe and elsewhere. Finally, we intend this to be beyond any one disciplinary approach and each year is organized around a specific theme that sets the frame for questions and conversation.

Co-Chairs: Professor Stefan Andriopoulos, Professor Noam Elcott, Professor Brian Larkin
Rapporteur: Mr. Alex Weintraub

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 15  Cultural Techniques
Reinhold Martin, Columbia University

October 20  Body Techniques
Brian Larkin, Barnard College, Columbia University

November 17  Gilbert Simondon
Nico Baumbach, Columbia University

February 16  The Dispositif
Noam M. Elcott, Columbia University

April 13  Cultural Techniques: Grids, Filters, Doors, and Other Articulations of the Real
Bernhard Siegert, Bauhaus-University Weimar

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Stefan Andriopoulos, sa610@columbia.edu
Professor Noam Elcott, nme2106@columbia.edu
Professor Felicity Scott, fs2248@columbia.edu
HISTORY, REDRESS, AND RECONCILIATION (729)

Founded: 2009

Historical redress continues to occupy public and political debates as well as scholarly research. The study of human rights abuses and the ways in which redress addresses past injustices has gained broad recognition across a wide range of academic fields. Despite, or perhaps because of this widespread attention, there has been no systematic attempt to integrate what remain largely disconnected efforts into a trans-disciplinary enterprise let alone paradigmatic approach. In short, the history and the contemporary culture of redress remain a scholarly subject matter that is still in search of its own field. The objective of this seminar is to forge a more structured exchange among scholars and practitioners who engage a set of issues that are yet to self identify as an academic field, and is addressed in different disciplinary spaces. The seminar provides a forum for interdisciplinary work on issues at the intersection of history, memory and contemporary politics with particular emphasis on redressing past wrongs and gross violations of human rights. It encompasses questions among others of transitional justice, cultural resolution, and reconciliation. Its main principle revolves round the question of how history and memory inform contemporary politics, in particular around conflict and post conflict societies.

Co-Chairs: Professor Elazar Barkan, Professor Daniel Levy
Rapporteur: Ms. Zeynep Sila Sonmez

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 8  Can We Reconcile? Understanding the Multi-Level Challenges of Conflict Transformation
Sarah Maddison, University of New South Wales

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Elazar Barkan, eb2302@columbia.edu
Professor Daniel Levy, daniel.levy@stonybrook.edu
JAPANESE CULTURE (733)

Founded: 2009

The purpose of the University Seminar on Japanese Culture is to address the rich tradition of Japanese culture, with special focus on literary and visual arts. The seminar takes an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on the fields of literature, art history, religion, and cultural and social history, to shed new light on the multitude of visual, textual, material, and performative genres that are hallmarks of Japanese culture.

Co-Chairs: Professor Haruo Shirane, Professor David Lurie
Rapporteur: Mr. Ariel Stilerman

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 23  The Culture of Hyakunin isshu: A Hundreds Poems by a Hundred Poets
Tomomi Yoshino, Chûô University
Discussant: Haruo Shirane, Columbia University

April 16  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Buddhist Studies
When Men Become Gods: The Ritual Basis for Political Authority in Japan, 1351–1551
Thomas Conlan, Princeton University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Haruo Shirane, hs14@columbia.edu
Professor David Lurie, DBL11@columbia.edu
“Sites of Cinema” takes a new approach to the question of cinema at the moment when cinema is said to be in decline, even in some accounts said to be facing its “death.” At this moment, when are focused on a convergence of moving image forms into a single delivery system we take up divergence over convergence, a divergence. Alternative to André Bazin’s question “What is Cinema?” “Sites of Cinema” will ask “Where is Cinema?” Where has it been seen to be and where will it be spaced in the future—as theoretical construct, national culture, material object, artistic work, social practice and space of exhibition. Cinema has moved and is still moving—from theatrical stages to museum walls, in and on buildings as well as within historical nations and regions of the world. “Sites of Cinema” signals our interest in site-specific cinemas plural but also cinema as a total apparatus—the “cinema of the mind” for the mass audience.

Co-Chairs: Professor Jane Gaines, Professor Rob King
Rapporteur: Mr. Aaron Boalick

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 23  What’s All the Promotion?: American Film History as Hollywood Public Relations  
Mark Lynn Anderson, University of Pittsburgh

December 4  Form, Function, Fantasy: Early Studio Architecture in New York  
Brian Jacobson, University of St. Andrews  
Respondent: Noam Elcott, Columbia University

February 19  The Persistence of Cinema in a Post-cinematographic Age  
Francesco Casetti, Yale University  
Respondent: Malcolm Turvey, Sarah Lawrence College

March 12  Doing Digital Archeology: Nam June Paik’s Etude  
Gregory Zinman, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Respondent: Thomas Elsaesser, Columbia University

April 2  The Aesthetics and Politics of Narcissism in Media Today: Notes Toward an Investigation  
Nico Baumbach, Columbia University  
Respondent: Damon Young, University of Michigan

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:  
Professor Jane Gaines
NARRATIVE, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (737)
*Founded: 2010*

This interdisciplinary and inter-institutional seminar explores the connection between narrative, health, and social justice. If disease, violence, terror, war, poverty and oppression all manifest themselves in narrative, then it is equally true that resistance, justice, healing, activism, and collectivity can be products of a narrative-based approach to ourselves and the world. Narrative understanding helps unpack the complex power relations between North and South, state and worker, disabled body and able-body, bread-earner and child-bearer, subject and researcher, patient and provider as well as self and the other. The seminar will draw from such fields as journalism, performance arts, law, public health, trauma studies, anthropology, sociology, literary studies, medicine, writing, and cultural studies. The common thread will be the narratives we tell as individuals, families, communities, and nations that situate our experience in social, political, and cultural contexts, and that express in so many ways our search for justice in our world and for our world. Our aim is to broaden the mandate of each of our disciplines, challenging each of us to bring a critical, self-reflective eye to our scholarship, teaching, practice, and organizing. How are the stories we tell manifestations of social injustice? How can we transform such stories into narratives of justice, health, and change?

Co-Chairs: Dr. Sayantani DasGupta, Dr. Marsha Hurst
Rapporteur: Mr. Cameron Vanderscoff

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

**September 11**  
*Oral History Meets Dementia: A Staged Reading of the Play*  
Timothy and Mary Sam Robson, Independent Historian

**October 9**  
*Enwheeled: The Interdependent Identity of Wheelchair and User*  
Penny Wolfson, Center for the Study of Social Difference  
Respondent: Ynestra King, Barnard College, Columbia University

**November 6**  
*Life Outsourced: Globalization and Transnational Surrogacy in India*  
Co-sponsored by The Heyman Center for the Humanities and the Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality  
Sayantani DasGupta, Columbia University  
Vaishali Sinha, Filmmaker

**December 11**  
*[Re]Narrating Ebola: Contagion, Race Panic, and Boundaries Breached*  
Sayantani DasGupta, Columbia University  
Graduate Students, Narrative Medicine, Columbia University
February 12  
*Narrative Advocacy: Stories of Sexual Violence, Action and Inaction on Campus*

Rebecca Breslaw, Barnard College, Columbia University  
Rosie Hoffman, Columbia University  
Camila Quarta, Columbia University  
Amanda Taub, Vox

March 12  
*A Funny Thing about Death: Using Humor and Narrative to Tackle a Taboo*

Cherie Henderson, Narrative Medicine, Columbia University  
Marsha Hurst, Columbia University

April 9  
*Enwheeled, Part II: The Wheelchair in Early Film*

Penny Wolfson, Center for the Study of Social Difference

May 14  
*Symposium on Spoken Word as Artistry and Activism*

Akua Doku, Independent Poet  
Caroline Rothstein, Independent Writer  
Caridad De La Luz, Independent Poet

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Dr. Sayantani DasGupta, sd2030@columbia.edu  
Dr. Marsha Hurst, mh812@columbia.edu
The seminar series continues the line of research established by Professor of Linguistics William Diver. The aim in this approach, as contrasted with formal linguistics, is to account for observed language use, with authentic text as the main source of data. For grammar, this typically entails hypotheses about linguistic signals and their meanings; for phonology, hypotheses about the relevant phonetic characteristics of phonological units. The roles of communication and a human factor are explicitly acknowledged as supporting the explanations offered. The series was begun in 1968 by Diver for the benefit of graduate students working on doctoral theses under his guidance. Since his death in 1995, the series has continued under the auspices of the Columbia School Linguistic Society, with participants presenting analyses or work in progress. Occasionally, it hosts by invitation presenters doing compatible work outside the Columbia School tradition. Work coming out of the seminar has led to numerous conference presentations and publications.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Radmila Gorup, Professor Wallis Reid
Rapporteur: Ms. Billur Avlar

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 5  
*The Russian Control System*
Mary Anne Cosentini, Independent Scholar

September 19  
*Italian si and the Spectrum of Control*
Joseph Davis, The City University of New York

October 10  
*Semiotic Analysis of ‘Seem’, ‘Look and ‘Appear’*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

October 24  
*Data on the Spanish Subjunctive*
Joss Ruggles, The City University of New York

November 7  
*The Importance of Oronyms in a Radically Functional Phonology*
Thomas Eccardt, Independent Scholar

November 21  
*Discussion about Dan Everett’s Works*
Nancy Stern, The City University of New York

December 11  
*On the Role of Culture in the Emergence of Language*
Daniel Everett, Bentley University

December 19  
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear, and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York
January 30  
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

February 27  
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

March 13  
*Case Meaning in Russian*
Mary Anne Cosentini, Independent Scholar

March 27  
*The Logic and the Linguistics of Subordinate Clauses*
Joseph Davis, The City College of New York

April 17  
*Grammatical Systems Involving the Semantic Substance of Concentration of Attention*
Wallis Reid, Rutgers University
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

May 1  
*Least Inappropriate Meaning Rationale*
Wallis Reid, Rutgers University
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

May 22  
*A Justification For Grammatical Systems*
Wallis Reid, Rutgers University
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

June 5  
*Sign-Based Analysis of Look, See, Appear and Seem*
Nadav Sabar, The City University of New York

**Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:**
Dr. Radmila Gorup, rjg26@columbia.edu
Professor Wallis Reid, wallis.reid@gse.rutgers.edu
COMPLEXITY SCIENCE, MODELING, AND SUSTAINABILITY (743)

Founded: 2011

Our world is becoming increasingly complex. Due in large part to biological, technological and human cultural evolution, we are being confronted with progressively more complex ecological, political, economic, technical and social problems. These problems place extreme demands on our capacities to comprehend and react adaptively, and as a consequence we may very well reach the limits of the Earth’s capacity to support our increasing population if we remain unable to understand the complexities of the human-environment interface. In this emerging world, our scholarship and evidence-based practices require new metaphors, methods, and measures. This Columbia University Seminar will provide an intellectual forum to explore and cultivate these new perspectives and tools.

Chair: Professor Peter T. Coleman
Rapporteur: Ms. Kristen Rucki

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 18  
Modeling Sustainable Human Development: Lessons Learned from Complex Systems in Other Disciplines  
Christoph Meinrenken, Earth Institute, Columbia University

October 23  
Using Simple Quantitative Measures to Evaluate Broader System Properties: Examples from Data of Social Interactions  
Larry Liebovitch, Queens College, City University of New York

November 20  
Closing the Carbon Cycle: From Climate Stabilization to Chaos Control  
Peter Eisenberger, Columbia University

February 19  
Physical Limits of the Earth System: Emergent Simplicity in Complex Dynamics  
Axel Kleidon, Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Peter T. Coleman, pc84@columbia.edu  
Dr. Josh Fisher, jf2788@columbia.edu
CATHOLICISM, CULTURE, AND MODERNITY (745)

Founded: 2011

This interdisciplinary seminar explores aspects of the relationship between Catholicism and the modern world, and examines alternatives to standard narratives of secularization by drawing on recent work in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. The seminar provides a forum for scholars to present and discuss the Catholic intellectual tradition in a modern academic setting.

Co-Chairs: Professor Pierre Force, Professor Lorenzo Polvani
Rapporteur: Mr. Michael West

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 25  Research as Conversion
Richard Liddy, Seton Hall University

October 21  Community, Religion and Virtue In Modern Liberal Democracies
Christopher Cullen, Fordham University

November 3  Are There As Many Gods as There Are Religions?
Remi Brague, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

December 2  A Current of Catholic Renewal: The Roots of Vatican II
and the Context For Thinking Judaism Anew
Brenna Moore, Fordham University

January 29  What We Talk about When We Talk about ‘Secular’
Peter Steinfels, Commonweal Magazine

February 26  Narratives of the Reformation and Modernity
Brad Gregory, University of Notre Dame

March 26  Faith and Culture: Gaudium et Spes in a Post Secular World
J. Paul Martin, Barnard College, Columbia University

May 13  JOINT MEETING WITH THE SEMINARS ON STUDIES IN RELIGION
and Content and Methods of the Social Sciences
The 50th Anniversary of Vatican II and Joseph Komonchak’s “Realist’s Church”
Christopher Denny, St. John’s University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Pierre Force, pf3@columbia.edu
Professor Lorenzo Polvani, lmp@columbia.edu
STUDIES IN DANCE (749)

Founded: 2011

Studies in Dance takes a broad, interdisciplinary approach to dance scholarship, while serving as an ongoing forum for discussion by established and younger scholars. The Seminar embraces all forms of dance scholarship, regardless of discipline, research area, and methodology, and has the long-term goal of encouraging academic publication and new research. The members include Barnard College and Columbia University faculty as well as independent scholars and faculty from other New York institutions, although speakers may come from outside the metropolitan area.

Chair: Professor Lynn Garafola
Rapporteur: Mr. Seth Williams

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 29  Writing the Life of Martha Graham
Deborah Jowitt, New York University

October 20  Dancing National Identity in Daily Life: A New German Folk, 1945–61
Jens Giersdorf, Marymount Manhattan College

February 16  From the Kirov Ballet to the GULAG: Nina Anisimova, 1938–1939
Christina Ezrahi, Independent Scholar

March 23  Televised Teen Dance Programs in the 1950s and early 1960s
Julie Malnig, New York University

April 27  The Postcolonial Blind Spot
Emily Wilcox, University of Michigan

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Lynn Garafola, lg97@columbia.edu
RELIGION AND WRITING (751)

Founded: 2011

The seminar was founded to create a research group dedicated to the investigation of literacy and writing in world religions. Its focus is the comparative study of the roles of literacy vis-à-vis the uses of writing as a form of communication technology in religious traditions. Approaching the relationship between religion and writing through the lenses of literacy and communication technology, the seminar strives to address all media—from inscriptions on stone and clay tablets to internet websites—and all literary genres—from myths and commentaries to divine revelations and hymns—as well as the theoretical and practical implications of the absence, or rejection, of writing.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Mahnaz Moazami, Dr. Dagmar Riedel
Rapporteur: Ms. Deborah Shulevitz

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 9  Christian Ethics in American Antislavery Writings, 1688–1865
James G. Basker, Barnard College and Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

October 21  Reading Abroad: Women, Religion and Sociability in Early Modern England
Julie Crawford, Columbia University

November 11  What Was Buried in Numa’s Tomb? Religion and Politics in Roman Book-Burning
Joseph A. Howley, Columbia University

December 2  The KKK and the Separation of Church and State
Philip Hamburger, Columbia Law School

February 2  Classicizing the New: The Publication of the Tarikh al-Hind al-gharbi al-musammar bi-hadith-i nuw (Istanbul, Ramaḍān 1142/1730)
Avinoam Shalem, Columbia University

February 24  The Story of a Remarkable 15th Century Manuscript and the Story of its Scholarly Discovery: The Monk’s Haggadah (Munich, BSB Cod. hebr. 200)
David Stern, University of Pennsylvania

March 24  Joint Meeting with the Seminar on Medieval Studies
Peoples of the Book: Middle-Eastern Ethnology in Western Medieval Encyclopedias
Michael Twomey, Ithaca College

April 28  Writing and Reading the Words of Zarathustra
Oktor Skjaervø, Harvard University

This meeting was generously sponsored by the American Institute of Iranian Studies

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Mahnaz Moazami, mm1754@columbia.edu
Dr. Dagmar Riedel, dar2111@columbia.edu
WORK/FAMILY IN THE 21ST CENTURY (755)

Founded: 2012

The American family is changing, but work/family policies have not kept up with those changes. The focus of this seminar is to: 1) review recent demographic trends and their implications for American families; 2) consider the range of work/family policies and their rationales; 3) learn about new approaches to work/family policy, drawing on examples from innovative cities and states as well as other countries; 4) discuss the politics of work/family policies and what is needed to influence adoption of new policies, particularly at the federal level; 5) identify knowledge gaps and agendas for further research. The goal of this seminar is to advance knowledge on this important topic and to promote further research collaborations among Columbia faculty, and between Columbia faculty and outside experts.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Wendy Chavkin, Associate Provost Carol Hoffman, Professor Jane Waldfogel
Rapporteur: Ms. Alice Lesman

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 21       Aging
Ursula Staudinger, Columbia University

November 18      Delayed Childbirth, Egg Freezing, Surrogacy, and Other Technologies
Wendy Chavkin, School of Public Health, Columbia University
Yasmine Ergas, Institute for the Study of Human Rights
Respondent: Elizabeth Scott, Columbia University

February 11      Trends In Fertility In The Longer Term and Its Social Dimensions
Vegard Skirbekk, Columbia Aging Center, Columbia University

April 15         Expectations and Realities of Dividing Labor in Same and Different Sex Couples
Ken Matos, Families and Work Institute

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Dr. Wendy Chavkin, wc9@columbia.edu
Associate Provost Carol Hoffman, choffman@columbia.edu
Professor Jane Waldfogel, jw205@columbia.edu
GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH (757)

Founded: 2012

Historically, the global health agenda has prioritized communicable and non-communicable diseases other than mental health; however, the data now unequivocally and overwhelmingly point to the essential need to make mental health an integral component of the global health agenda. This will require innovative thinking, multidisciplinary collaboration, and strategic initiatives. The GMH University Seminar is supported by faculty from across multiple departments at Columbia; it provides the opportunity for intellectual discourse on the essential issues in global mental health; and it serves as a seminal component of the multidisciplinary program in global mental health at Columbia University.

The GMH University Seminar aims to facilitate professional collaborations and contribute to the field by hosting programs that address and advance the scientific, policy, and practical aspects of making mental health a core component of the global health agenda.

Chair: Professor Kathleen Pike
Rapporteur: Ms. Patricia E. Kelly

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 29  How Does Social Change Influence Mental Disorders and Mental Health Services in Rural China
Mao-Sheng Ran, University of Hong Kong

October 6  Assessing the Full Value of Interventions for Improving Mental Health: A Conceptual Framework
Chris Desmond, Human Sciences Research Council

November 10  OSITA: Stepped-Care Program for Internally Displaced Women (IDWs) in Bogota, Colombia
Yuval Neria, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University
Liat Helpman, Global Mental Health Program, Columbia University

February 23  A Global Perspective on Diagnostic Classification and Clinical Practice for Eating Disorders
Robyn Sysko, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

March 9  Global Mental Health and Poverty: Points of Intersection and Influence
Fred Ssewamala, School of Social Work, Columbia University
Mary McKay, School of Social Work, New York University
Claude Mellins, Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute

April 27  Neurological Disorders in Resource-Limited Settings: Esoteric or Overlooked?
Ana-Claire Meyer, Yale School of Medicine

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Kathleen Pike, kmp2@cumc.columbia.edu
DEFENSE AND SECURITY (759)

*Founded: 2013*

The Columbia University Seminar on Defense and Security advances understanding of global military issues through sustained analysis. The seminar addresses the most urgent problems of our time; assesses strategies to resolve, mitigate, and meet these challenges; and initiates specific courses of action. All are welcome to participate.

Co-Chairs: Professor Nancy Walbridge Collins,
Professor Austin Long, Ms. Stephanie Simone-Mahaney

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

- **September 30**  
  *Future Concept of the U.S. Army*  
  Michael W. Rauhut, U.S. Army

- **October 7**  
  *Nexus of Technology and Security*  
  Scott Carpenter, Google  
  Dan Keyserling, Google

- **October 14**  
  *The Interagency Problem in U.S. National Security*  
  Rick Ozzie Nelson, Center for Strategic and International Studies

- **October 21**  
  *Today’s Military Strategy*  
  Eric T. Olson, U.S. Special Operations

- **October 28**  
  *U.S. Senate and National Security Legislative Change*  
  Elana Broitman, U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee

- **November 18**  
  *Comparative Approaches to Global Maritime Strategy*  
  Pat DeQuattro, U.S. Coast Guard  
  Stephen E. Liszewski, U.S. Marine Corps  
  Robert A. Newson, U.S. Navy
February 10  Counterterrorism After Charlie Hebdo  
Steve Coll, Columbia Graduate School of Journalism

February 24  Changes to Pentagon Internal Operations  
Chandru Krishnamurthy, McKinsey and Co.

March 3  Private and Forensic Intelligence in the Fortune 500  
Whitney Kassel, The Arkin Group

March 31  Risk, Drones, and New Air Strategies  
Scott Clint Hinote, U.S. Air Force  
Global Leadership and Practical Ethics  
Joel Rosenthal, Carnegie Council

April 7  Foreign Policy Begins at Home  
Richard Haass, Council on Foreign Relations

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Nancy Walbridge Collins, nwcollins@columbia.edu  
Professor Austin Long, al2866@columbia.edu  
Ms. Stephanie Simone-Mahaney, ss859@caa.columbia.edu
BEYOND FRANCE (763)

Founded: 2014

This University Seminar focuses on the transnational material, intellectual and symbolic exchanges that have characterized the regions that once composed successive French empires since the seventeenth century. The seminar will not be an exercise in colonial or imperial history, organized around the opposition between « center » and « periphery », but rather an exploration of connections and lines of fragmentation within that space. The goal of the seminar will be to explore not only France’s global expansion and retraction in the modern period, but, no less significantly, the after-lives of French empire in various post-colonies, networks, and institutions. Our goal is to map a distinct—but not isolated—world within the “globe,” one conditioned but not defined by France, its empires, its language, and its ecumene. Inherently interdisciplinary, the seminar will bring together scholars in the humanities and the social sciences from Europe, North America, Asia, and Africa in order to understand these complex exchanges that reach « Beyond France ».

Co-Chairs: Professor Gregory Mann, Professor Emmanuelle Saada
Rapporteur: Ms. Pandora O’Mahony-Adams

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 19  ‘See Our Arms, See Our Physicians’: The Algerian Health Services Division and the Politics of Nation Building
Jennifer Johnson, The City University of New York

October 17  Husbands Into Frenchmen: Immigrant Bachelors, French Officials and the Politics of Marriage in Third Republican France
Nimisha Barton, Princeton University

November 7  ‘Every Skin Color is Represented’: Black, ‘Cafe-au-lait,’ and ‘Grey’ French Citizens in Colonial Indochina, 1862–1945
Paul Sager, New York University

January 23  A Jewish “Program” Against Muslims: The Polemics of Muslim-Jewish Relations in the Last Years of Colonial Algeria
Joshua Schreier, Vassar College

February 13  Colonial Literature, Customary Law Reform, and the Interswar Crisis of Representation in French Algeria
Judith Surkis, Rutgers University

March 13  Training for Africanization in Postwar France and Africa: Images from the 1960s
Michelle M. Pinto, University of Pennsylvania

April 10  The Slaves of Paris: Revelations from the Archives de la Bastille
Miranda Spieler, American University of Paris

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Gregory Mann, gm522@columbia.edu
Professor Tabetha Ewing, email
LOGIC, PROBABILITY, AND GAMES (765)

*Founded: 2014*

The seminar is concerned with applying formal methods to fundamental issues, with an emphasis on probabilistic reasoning, decision theory and games. In this context “logic” is broadly interpreted as covering applications that involve formal representations. The topics of interest have been researched within a very broad spectrum of different disciplines, including philosophy (logic and epistemology), statistics, economics, and computer science. The seminar is intended to bring together scholars from different fields of research so as to illuminate problems of common interest from different perspectives. Throughout each academic year, meetings are regularly presented by the members of the seminar and distinguished guest speakers.

Co-Chairs: Professor Haim Gaifman, Professor Rohit Parikh

Rapporteur: Mr. Yang Liu

**MEETINGS 2014–2015**

- **October 31**  
  *The Rise and Fall of Accuracy-first Epistemology*  
  Greg Wheeler, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

- **November 7**  
  *Conversation about Human Judgment and Decision-making*  
  Daniel Kahneman, Princeton University

- **December 5**  
  *Sleeping Beauty and the Law of Too Much Probability*  
  Teddy Seidenfeld, Carnegie Mellon University

- **February 13**  
  *Learning Conditionals and the Problem of Old Evidence*  
  Stephen Harman, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

- **May 8**  
  *Gödel on Russell: Truth, Perception, and an Infinitary Version of the Multiple*  
  Juliet Floyd, Boston University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:

Professor Haim Gaifman, hg17@columbia.edu

Professor Rohit Parikh, rparikh@gc.cuny.edu
ARTS AND SCIENCE (767)

Founded: 2014

This seminar is an outgrowth of a project developed in 2013 called CUriousity3. These talks brought together an artist and scientist in conversation about a specific topic. This project attracted a varied collection of scholars, scientists and artists interested in having more conversations at the intersection of art and science. This seminar will connect Columbia and Barnard faculty from the arts and in the sciences, with artists, scientists and thinkers from New York City who want to engage in discussion at the intersection of science and art/humanities. It also offers a space to explore potential partnerships, research ideas or artistic presentations, which highlights art and science.

Chair: Professor Marcia Sells
Rapporteur: Ms. Kyoungjin Bae

MEETINGS 2014–2015

October 16  
*Turbulent Ice: Dance and Science in the Arctic*  
Jody Sperling, Time Lapse Dance

November 13  
*Holescenes*  
Lars Jan, Affiliation

December 11  
*The Potential Poetics of Physics and Dance*  
Emily Coates, Yale University

April 27  
*Discussion on Ideas for Next Year’s Seminar*

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:  
Professor Marcia Sells, mls19@columbia.edu
HUMAN-ANIMAL STUDIES (769)

Founded: 2014

The University Seminar on Human-Animal Studies is open to faculty and professional membership in the field of Human-Animal Studies. Vibrant new scholarship is emerging in this area of work. The field’s focus is on how humans and (other) animals have interacted across cultures and histories: how the protein, work, and products derived from animals have contributed to human projects; how cross-species relationships have shaped human histories; and how animals’ imaginative and aesthetic roles in cultures are connected to the living presence of animals. Work in this field tends to be interdisciplinary, drawing on the social sciences and the humanities as well as on the already interdisciplinary fields of environmental and posthumanist studies.

Co-Chairs: Professor Brian Boyd, Professor Susan Crane
Rapporteur: Mr. Matthew Margini

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 15  The Animal Turn
Dale Jamieson, New York University

October 7  LaTour D’Ooz: Zoological Encounter in Multi-Species Networks
Natalie Jeremijenko, New York University
Respondent: Ralph Acampora, Hofstra University

November 18  Rastelli, The Conjurer
Michael Taussig, Columbia University

February 4  What We Talk About When We Talk About Dogs
Alexandra Horowitz, Barnard College, Columbia University

April 14  Pedestrian Animals
Colin Jerolmack, New York University

April 21  The “War on Pity” in 19th Century France (Or Putting Descartes Before the Horse)
Kari Weil, Wesleyan University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Brian Boyd, bb2305@columbia.edu
Professor Susan Crane, sc2298@columbia.edu
INDIGENOUS STUDIES (771)

Founded: 2014

Indigenous Peoples’ claims for retributive justice are leading to debates over restitution, and the legal, political and moral consequences of the acknowledgement of past wrongs. What are the ramifications of the right to self-determination for Indigenous Peoples in a contemporary world? Collective and individual identities and human rights may be in tension with each other. How are these to be reconciled? Gender and generational differentiations may underscore not just individual rifts, but potentially broader conflict within groups themselves. What could be a human rights response to such conflicts? Economic interests of majorities are put forward to justify displacement, dispossession and other violations of Indigenous Peoples’ rights. And the hunger for the world’s still unexplored natural resources that reside on Indigenous Peoples’ lands motivates major decisions of governments and the private sector, with unclear commitment to benefit sharing and even the human rights of Indigenous Peoples. How are conflicting claims and rights between Indigenous Peoples and the dominant society to be resolved? What should be the role of the state in these conflicts? Is the dichotomy between western knowledge and indigenous knowledge a true dichotomy? Can one think “scientifically” and yet be open to an indigenous worldview? Does the adoption of Western epistemologies, ontologies, and methodologies really entail the wholesale rejection of their indigenous counterparts and vice-versa? What is the role of expressive culture and aesthetics in these inquiries? How do they reveal and help us think through indigenous sovereignty or its pursuit, indigenous epistemologies, inter- and intra-community conflict over definitions of identity, social roles, relationships to the physical world and political organization and action?

The University Seminar on Indigenous Studies at Columbia provides the opportunity for sharing research on these many critical issues, which are challenging and unsettling scholars, researchers, and practitioners in and around this field. Discussions revolve around contentious and emerging issues in the field of indigenous studies and research and contribute to the advancement of the field.

Co-Chairs: Professor Elizabeth Povinelli, Professor Elsa Stamatopoulou
Rapporteur: Ms. Theresa Castillo

MEETINGS 2014–2015

John Bernard Henriksen, Sami Parliament Council of Norway

November 6  The Rights of Indigenous Peoples: the Power of Ideas and the Challenges of Practice
S. James Anaya, University of Arizona

December 2  Urbis Nullius: Gentrification and Indigenous Colonization
Glen Coulthard, University of British Columbia
February 3  
*Repatriation of Indigenous Recordings from Columbia’s Center for Ethnomusicology*  
Aaron Fox, Columbia University

March 10  
*Culture of Conquest and the Doctrine of Discovery: The United States as a Colonial Settler State*  
Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, California State University, Hayward

April 7  
*Indigenous Women and the Hegemony of a ‘Cultural Revolution’ in Bolivia*  
Pamela Calla, New York University

**Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:**  
Professor Elizabeth Povinelli, ep2122@columbia.edu  
Professor Elsa Stamatopoulou, es3054@columbia.edu
THE INTEGRATIVE STUDY OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR (773)

Founded: 2014

Animal behavior is the ultimate complex and integrated trait, shaped not only by gene, protein, neural, endocrine interactions, but also by interactions among animals of the same and even different species. This Seminar takes an integrative approach to exploring animal behavior by bringing together scientists that work in the lab and field to study neuroscience, behavioral ecology, behavioral endocrinology, functional genomics, population genetics, comparative physiology, and more.

Chair: Professor Dustin Rubenstein
Rapporteur: Ms. Suzanne Toma

MEETINGS 2014–2015

September 29
Neural and Hormonal Correlates of Female Mate Choice in the Túngara Frog
Kathleen Lynch, Hofstra University
Gonadotropin Inhibitory Hormone: New Insights into the Neuroendocrinology of Stress and Social Conditions
Rebecca Calisi-Rodriguez, Barnard College, Columbia University

November 24
The Role of the Song System in the Vocal Coordination in Songbirds
Ofer Tchernichovski, Hunter College, The City University of New York

March 9
Behavior Meets Morphology
Not Just For Swimming: Flexible Fish Fins Offer Feedback
Brooke Flammang, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Limits to Egg Color and Its Perception in Birds
Mark Hauber, Hunter College, The City University of New York

April 13
Collective Behavior Across Scales
An Ant Bridge Too Far: Self-Organized Living Architectures in Eciton Army Ants
Simon Garnier, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Tracking Bird Migration at Night Through Urban Landscapes
Alan Clark, Fordham University

Academic year 2015–2016 Chair:
Professor Dustin Rubenstein, dr2497@columbia.edu
THE FUTURE OF AGING RESEARCH (775)

Founded: 2014

Human aging is the result of biopsychosocial forces. The interactions among these three sources—biology, culture and the aging individual—provide for variation within and between individuals. The range and limits of the modifiability of aging trajectories in light of this interactive nature of aging is the main focus of this Seminar which will draw from a wide range of disciplines—from biology, neurology, medicine and public health to psychology, sociology, economics, political science, demographics, and engineering.

Co-Chairs: Professor Bruce Kogut, Professor Franck Polleux, Professor Ursula Staudinger
Rapporteur: Ms. Erin Beck

MEETINGS 2014–2015

February 10  Modifiability of Cognitive Aging: A Perspective from Behavioral Demography
Vegard Skirbekk, Columbia Aging Center, Columbia University

May 5  Mechanisms underlying the relationship between education and cognitive aging: A neuropsychological perspective
Jennifer Manly, Taub Institute, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:
Professor Bruce Kogut, bruce.kogut@columbia.edu
Professor Franck Polleux, fp2304@columbia.edu
Professor Ursula Staudinger, ums2103@columbia.edu
AFFECT STUDIES (777)

Founded: 2015

This seminar seeks to bring together scholars in the fields and subfields that have been touched by a growing interest in emotional or affective experience, whether understood as embodied or incorporeal, emotional or impersonal, quantifiable or escaping measurement. This inter/multidisciplinary seminar on affect will incorporate a wide range of approaches and topics across disciplines and periods. We aim to provide a forum for a discussion of affect in the arts, sciences, history, psychology, philosophy, ecology, queer/feminist studies, and social theory, among others, as well as a means to historicize how affect and emotion have served in religious, social, and political contexts in different periods and locales, from Antiquity to contemporary life. We feel that fostering interdisciplinary exchange on the question of affect is vital for understanding the many valences of affect studies’ vocabulary and concerns.

Co-Chairs: Professor Patricia Dailey, Professor Lauren Mancia
Rapporteur: Ms. Valeria Tsygankova

MEETINGS 2014–2015

March 12  
In the Aporia of Ontology and Epistemology: Toward a Politics of Measure  
Patricia Ticineto Clough, Graduate Center and Queens College,  
The City University of New York

April 17  
Affect in Cassian’s Conferences and in Athanasius—Letter to Marcellinus  
Amy Hollywood, Harvard Divinity School

April 29  
Affect in Spinoza’s Ethics and Deleuze’s Expressionism in Philosophy  
Branka Arsić, Columbia University

Academic year 2015–2016 Co-Chairs:  
Professor Patricia Dailey, pdailey@columbia.edu  
Professor Lauren Mancia, laurenmancia@brooklyn.cuny.edu
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