The University Seminars Newsletter

Spring 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS from the OFFICE

Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the end of the semester, The University Seminars office begins to plan for the next. Our office will be reaching out to chairs in the upcoming weeks and again over the summer for schedules and for information for our 2018-2019 Directory. But, first, a moment of reflection. Those members who attended our Annual Dinner and Tannenbaum Lecture had the gift of hearing an engaging talk by Eric R. Kandel, M.D. on *The Biology of Memory and Age Related Memory Loss*. Kandel is a university professor and winner of The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2000. Ron Gross, a prolific longtime member of the seminar's community and co-chair of the University Seminar on Innovation in Education, was presented with the "Tannenbaum-Warner Award for Distinguished Scholarship and Great Service to The University Seminars." The takeaway? Never retire from doing what you love! This said we all need a break sometimes. Beginning July 2019, Robert Pollack will be taking his first sabbatical in 15 years, returning Fall 2020. During his sojourn, Alice Newton will serve as Acting Director.

In other news, our office has been working to simplify administrative procedures. Travel and hotel booking processes are now streamlined through our new travel agent and we have new travel funding and membership forms. An online PDF publication, *Guidelines for Chairs, Members and Rapporteurs*, which covers all changes, will be posted on our updated website, releasing in May. You will find all guidelines, announcements, & deadlines there.

Next fall's General Meeting will include a reception. After the business portion of the meeting is over, chairs will be invited to socialize with each other and our office over snacks and wine. We will be happy to answer additional questions during this time.

Have a wonderful break!

Bob, Alice, Gesenia, Pamela, Summer, & John

Presentation of the Tannenbaum-Warner Award to Ronald Gross, Eric R. Kandel, M.D., takes questions.

Cover image: Summer Hart, Flowers in the Faculty House Garden

End of Year Planning for Chairs

Seminar schedules for the New Academic Year are requested now. Submit a **New Academic Year Planning Form** to Pamela Guardia with your requested dates and seminar information by June 1. Review the University Seminars calendar for holidays and Faculty House closures as you select meeting dates to avoid conflicts.

The dates below indicate the dates in which the Faculty House is already fully booked during the next academic year, 2019-2020. **Contact Pamela with any questions.**

September 12, September 24, October 10, January 23-24, March 6.

CLICK FOR PLANNING FORM

New Travel Reservation Procedure

Our office is delighted to announce that we will use a new travel agency, DMS Travel. Our dedicated travel agent, Giulie Monteleone, will now book all hotel reservations in addition to all air and rail travel. To request hotel or travel accommodations, submit the **Travel Accommodation Form**.

CLICK FOR TRAVEL FORM

The University Seminars Calendar

Travel Fund Request Deadlines Fall: **9.6.19,** Spring: **1.21.20**

Monday	9.2 *+	Labor Day
Tuesday	9.3	Autumn Term begins
Wednesday	9.25	FH opens for lunch
Monday – Tuesday	9.30 –10.1	Rosh Hashanah (begins sunset on 9.29)
Wednesday	10.9	Yom Kippur (begins sunset on 10.8)
Monday – Sunday	10.14–20	Succoth (begins sunset on 10.13)
Tuesday	10.29	USEMs General Committee Meeting 4 – 6 pm (tentative)
Monday	11.4 *+	Academic Holiday
Tuesday	11.5 *+	Election Day – University Holiday
Mondays	11.11, 18 and 25	Schoff Lecture Series
Tuesday – Friday	11.26 –11.29	FH Dining Room closed for Thanksgiving break
Thursday – Friday	11.28 –11.29 *+	Thanksgiving Holidays
Friday	12.13	Autumn Term ends – FH Dining Room closes 2 pm
Friday	12.20	FH closes for regular seminar meetings
Monday – Monday	12.23 –12.30	Hanukkah (begins sunset on 12.22)
Tuesday	12.24 *+	University Holiday
Wednesday	12.25 *+	Christmas Day
Tuesday	12.31 *+	University Holiday
Wednesday	1.1 *+	New Year's Day
Monday	1.20 *+	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
Tuesday	1.21	Spring Term begins / FH reopens for regular meetings
Monday	2.3	FH reopens for lunch
Tuesday	3.10	Purim (begins sunset on 3.9)
Monday - Friday	3.16-3.20 *+	Spring Holidays / FH closed for all events
Monday	3.23	FH reopens for lunch
Thursday- Thursday	4.9-4.16	Passover (begins sunset on 4.8)
Friday	4.10	Good Friday
Sunday	4.12	Easter Sunday
Wednesday	4.1 or 4.22	University Seminars Annual Dinner / Tannenbaum Lecture (tentative)
Friday	5.1	FH Dining Room closes 2 pm
Monday	5.4	Spring Term ends
Wednesday	5.20	Commencement
Monday	5.25 *+	Memorial Day
Friday	5.29	FH closes for regular seminar meetings

*Morningside Campus are closed. +Faculty House is closed for seminars and events.

The University Seminars office will be closed on Fridays from **6.5.2019** *until* **8.28.2019.**

BAR DATES

4.25
5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.10

FACULTY HOUSE COMMUNITY HOURS

Thursday, 5.16

Faculty House
Ivy Lounge, 1st Floor

$10 open bar with beer and wine. Complimentary light snacks. No reservations required. Cash and credit cards both accepted.

EPIC YOGA

Yoga for EPIC members is led by Virginia Papaioannou, Professor of Genetics and Development, and a registered teacher with the Yoga Alliance Registry.

Yoga can benefit people at all levels of physical training and health, but it is always wise to consult with a physician before undertaking any new exercise regime. Modifications will be offered to any participants with specific limitations arising from recovery from injury, arthritis, limited movement, or other causes.

Read more...

CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA

4.18 – 4.20.2019 | 559 | Arabic Studies

The Cultural Turn in Arabic Literary Production

This conference addresses the turn to humanities and social sciences in Arabic literary production, with emphasis on a digital age that brought print culture and its mode and means of production in dialogue with new developments in the field. Thus, its papers engage with rising issues, problems, and effects. It'll try to offer perspectives on these new developments that make use of print industry but also with less literariness, a tendency that may impact the quality of writing and criticism in the near future. What is applicable to Arabic is certainly applicable to other languages and cultures, and hence the need for a comparative framework that prompts a wider outlook and worldview.

5.3 – 5.4 | 703 | Modern Greek

Breaking News: Greece, Turkey, and the Media in the New Political Landscape

May 3 Faculty House, May 4 Deutsches Haus

The conference seeks to understand the ways in which the production, circulation, and consumption of news affect contemporary Greek-Turkish relations. The role of news media was brought to the fore during the 1996 dispute between the two countries over the Imia/Kardak islet in the Aegean Sea, when extensive news coverage played a driving role in escalating tensions. While most considerations of Greek-Turkish relations tend to focus on historical animosity or geopolitical developments, this two-day conference will ask what understandings of these relations emerge from an examination of the ways in which news media shape foreign policy. This question is particularly pressing today as a result of developments in digital technologies and the radical reconfiguration of the media and political landscape in Greece and Turkey. The conference will bring together academics, policy makers, journalists, and media producers to consider topics such as the significance of information and objectivity in an era of so-called "fake news," the role of public opinion in the shaping of foreign policy, diplomacy and statecraft in the digital era, and the methodological challenges of studying news media as crucial actors in international relations.

5.28 | 583 | Southeast Asia in World Affairs

CJEB Annual Tokyo Conference 2019: U.S.-Japan Relations in a New Era: Trade, Governance, and the Global Economy

Seminar chair, **Hugh Patrick** will be a participant.

Read more...

PUBLICATIONS and AWARDS

417 | Eighteenth-Century European Culture

The Postwar Moment: Progressive Forces in Britain, France, and the United States After World War II (Yale U. Press, 2019) by long-time member **Isser Woloch** has now been published.

Wendy Anne Lee, Associate Member and Assistant Professor of English at NYU, had her book *Failures of Feeling: Insensibility and the Novel* published by Stanford University Press in early 2019.

Stephanie Insley Hershinow's book, *Born Yesterday: Inexperience and the Early Realist Novel* is forthcoming from Johns Hopkins University Press in July 2019.

Katie Gemmill, Associate Member, accepted a tenure-track position in English at Vassar College, specializing in literature of the eighteenth century and Romantic period.

443 | Modern East Asia: China

Robert Culp, *The Power of Print in Modern China: Intellectuals and Industrial Publishing from the End of Empire to Maoist State Socialism*
(forthcoming May, 2019)

459A | The City

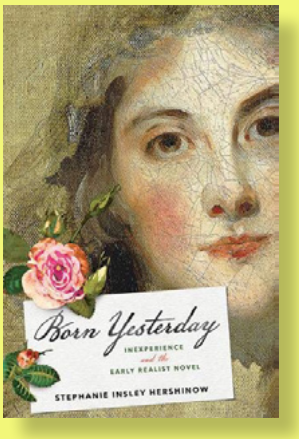
Vincent Digirolamo, *Crying the News: A History of America's Newsboys*

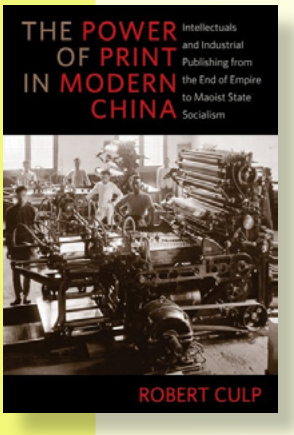
483 | Studies in Modern Italy

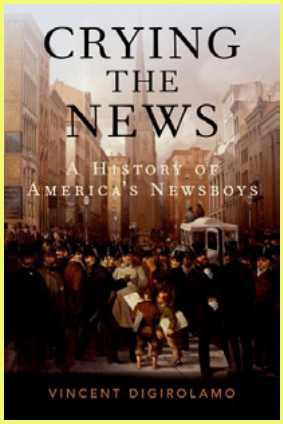
Mary Gibson, *Italian Prisons in The Age of Positivism, 1861-1914*
(forthcoming May, 2019)

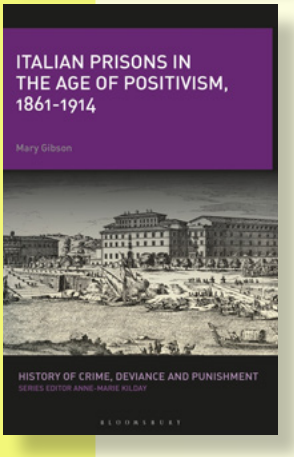
511 | Innovation in Education

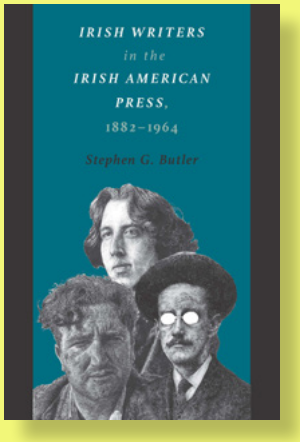
Elizabeth Cohn, PhD, co-chair of the Seminar on Innovation in Education and Rudin Professor of Community Health at Hunter College, addressed the Nursing Research Forum at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center on January 7th, with a presentation live-streamed to health professionals nationwide. She is also one of five finalists in the Heritage Healthcare Innovation Awards recognizing "new leaders who understand the urgent, critical need for innovation if we are to solve today's healthcare challenges and improve the quality and access to affordable care."

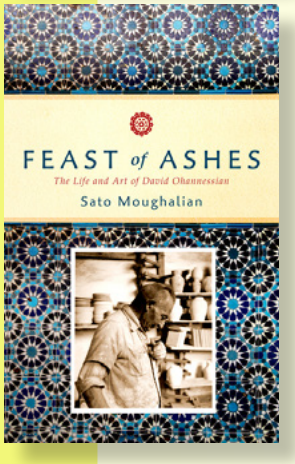


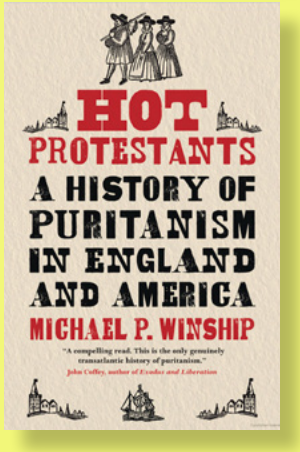


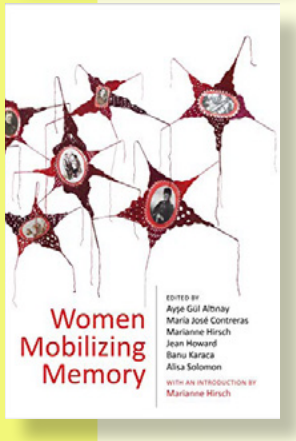












Ronald Gross, co-chair of the Seminar on Innovation in Education, received the 2019 *Tannenbaum-Warner Award for Distinguished Scholarship and Great Service to The University Seminars*

535 | Irish Studies

Stephen G. Butler, Irish Writers in the Irish American Press, 1882-1964

551 | Ottoman and Turkish Studies

Sato Moughalian, *Feast of Ashes: The Life and Art of David Ohannessian*

661 | Religion in America

Michael P. Winship, *Hot Protestants: A History of Puritanism in England and America*

689 | Memory and Slavery

Visual artist and seminar member, **Amy Pollack** is showing her artwork as part of the Tenth Anniversary Annual CUIMC Fine Art Exhibition.

Opening Reception, Friday, 4.26.2019, 5 – 7:30 pm
Hammer Health Sciences Building, Room LL-104

Dr. and Mrs. Pollack in 19th Century Garb

717 | Cultural Memory

Editied by **Ayşe Gül Altınay, María José Contreras, Marianne Hirsch, Jean Howard, Banu Karaca, and Alisa Solomon**, *Women Mobilizing Memory* (forthcoming July, 2019)

RIVERSIDE PARK CONCERVENCY AND WOMEN'S HISTORY

For Womens History Month, Riverside Park Concervancy celebrated the fact that two of New York City's five statues honoring women reside in Riverside Park. They are, of course, the stately Eleanor Roosevelt at 72nd Street and the proud Joan of Arc at 93rd Street.

The Woman's Health Protective Association Fountain, located at 116th Street, just at the entrance to the Park, was dedicated in 1910 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Woman's Health Protective Association (WHPA). The Association was founded by eleven women residing in Beekman Hill, on the East Side of Manhattan, to address their concerns about the air quality of their neighborhood.

The image engraved on the fountain represents two women holding a lamp, shedding light on the challenges and public health issues that they were facing at the time. The Riverside Park Conservency encourages you to take a stroll to 116th Street and to celebrate these pioneering women!

FACULTY HOUSE GOES GREENER...

Effective immediately, events taking place on the 1st, 2nd and 4th floors will include high-end, scratch resistant tables that do not require linen.

The environmental benefits of going linen-free include a reduction in water waste and eliminating the need for harmful chemical cleaners, bleaches, and starches.

IN MEMORIUM

2013 Tannenbaum Lecturer

Dr. Wallace S. Broecker

Dr. Wallace S. Broecker in 2010. His research into the oceans, the atmosphere and the planet's ice gave him a deep understanding of global warming – a term he helped establish in the popular imagination.

Photo Credit:
Bruce Gilbert, via Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

Dr. Wallace S. Broecker, one of the first scientists to sound the alarm about climate change and the researcher who popularized the term "global warming," died on Monday, February 18th in Manhattan. He was 87.

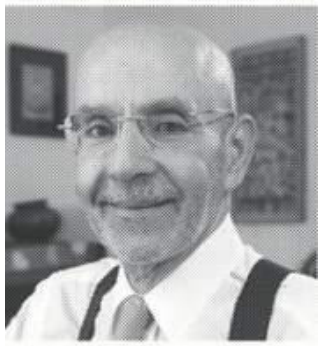
Read more...

411 | Content and Methods in the Social Sciences

On January 8th, the Columbia University Seminar on Contents and Methods in the Social Sciences lost one of its esteemed members, **Tadeusz Karol Krauze**, while he was visiting Warsaw, Poland. He was born in 1934 and was an emeritus professor of sociology at Hofstra University in Long Island. His wife is Robin and son Andrzej.

Read more...

477 | South Asia



Peter J. Awn, Professor of Religion and Dean Emeritus of the School of General Studies at Columbia University, died in Washington Heights on February 17, 2019.

Read more...

479 | Ancient Near East

Prof. **Ralph S. Solecki** passed away on March 20, 2019. He was Professor of Anthropology at Columbia from 1957 to 1988, when he retired. His early work in archaeology was focused on the New York metropolitan area, but he is best known for his prehistoric discoveries at Shanidar Cave in Iraqi Kurdistan (1951-1960) and Nahr Ibrahim Cave in Lebanon (1969-1970, 1973).

A memorial may be arranged in May.

Read more...

Ralph Solecki in 1961, when he was an associate professor of anthropology at Columbia University. His research pointed to the possibility that Neanderthals had humanity – as he put it, that they "had a 'soul.'"

Photo Credit: Columbia University

515 | George Vickers

George Vickers, who passed away on December 2, devoted much of his professional life to advancing human rights and social justice both in the United States and in Latin America.

Read more...

A memorial service was held on March 7, 2019 at Open Society Foundations in NYC to celebrate George's accomplishments and to honor his lasting impace on the lives of so many.

George Vickers December 26, 1943 – December 3, 2018

THE UNIVERSITY SEMINARS • COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Faculty House
64 Morningside Drive, 2nd Floor • MC 2302
New York, NY 10027

p: 212 • 854 • 2389
w: universityseminars.columbia.edu
e: univ.seminars@columbia.edu

Make a Donation

Got news?

Deadline for the Fall 2019 issue: September 6, 2019

Please visit our website for **submissions guidelines**.