

THE UNIVERSITY SEMINARS

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2024

DIRECTORY OF SEMINARS, SPEAKERS, & TOPICS



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CONTACTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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George Andreopoulos, Professor of Political Science and Criminal Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and The Graduate Center, City University of New York

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INTRODUCTION

The University Seminars at Columbia University is an ongoing community of partnerships constituted by scholars from multiple academic departments and disciplines, often including experts from outside academia, devoted to the study of an institution, practice, or issue of theoretical and/or practical importance. The University Seminars originated in, and maintains its vitality through, spontaneous intellectual initiatives and is therefore considered a movement. The mission of The University Seminars collectively is to enable the intellectual missions of its individual constituent seminars.

Each seminar elects its own officers, plans its own program, and selects its own membership: members from Columbia, associate members from elsewhere, and any speakers or other guests it invites to its sessions. Approximately half of 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.

Some seminars are tight, restricted discussion groups that specialize in particular subfields; 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, seminars can take intellectual risks the schools and departments of the University might not otherwise assume. They provide something every great institution needs: private, autonomous venues where intellectual activity is fast, cheap, and beyond central control. Columbia is one of the few universities, or businesses, with the courage to institutionalize such independence.

Minutes are taken at all seminar meetings. Seminars may permit their members open and immediate access to these minutes, or they may keep them closed; after five years, all minutes are incorporated into The University Seminars Digital Archive, available to scholars through the Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Individual seminars decide which of these policies to adopt. The central office maintains a website and each seminar has a dedicated page.

The University Seminars subsidizes the publication of certain books written under its auspices and may help individual seminars arrange conferences, either to make discoveries public or to work privately with scholars too distant to be regular seminar participants.

Seminars are closed to the public; however, seminars welcome new members, both from Columbia and from the larger community. To be invited to attend a seminar, please write to the seminar chair expressing your interest and qualifications in the seminar's area of study.

For a complete list of current seminars and chairs, please visit: universityseminars.columbia.edu.



Drawing of Faculty House, 1923

HISTORY OF THE SEMINARS

In the 1930's, Professor Frank Tannenbaum and Columbia University President Nicholas Murray Butler discussed 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 saw the idea as a quick way to mobilize the intellectual resources of the University to confront suddenly emerging problems, but World War II supervened. It was 1944 before Butler's successor, Frank Fackenthal, approved the first five University Seminars. Three of these seminars still meet: The Problem of Peace, Studies in Religion, and The Renaissance.

The University Seminars continue to serve Tannenbaum's and Butler's purposes. The Seminars have also become an intrinsic part of the enterprise that Columbia excels more than any other university: 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 the demands of teaching such wide-ranging material are astonishingly unrecognized for imparting rigor and sophistication to the professors themselves: at few universities would one find an economist teaching Plato.

This tradition positioned Columbia professors to invent the interdisciplinary regional institutes that trained graduate students to handle post-war complexities beyond their departments, and forced political scientists, economists, and literary scholars to learn from each other. Over the past 79 years, The University Seminars have offered specialists from Columbia and elsewhere the chance to learn and discover together.

When Tannenbaum died in 1969, there were fifty seminars. He and his wife, Jane Belo, left The Seminars money in their wills 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."

In the four decades since Frank Tannenbaum's death, the number of seminars has grown. About half of the seminars founded are still meeting, while the other half have merged, split, or dissolved. James Gutmann served as Director from 1969 to 1975, Aaron Warner from 1976 to 2000, Robert Belknap from 2001 to 2011, and Robert Pollack from 2011 to 2019. Alice Newton was Interim Director from 2019 through December 2022. Susan Boynton is the current Director of The University Seminars.



Frank Tannenbaum, historian of Latin America, Slavery, and Prison Systems; founder and first Director of The University Seminars.



Jane Belo, teacher, painter, and anthropologist. Photograph by Carl Van Vechten.



Left to right: **James Gutmann**, Director, 1969-1975; **Aaron Warner**, Director, 1976-2000; **Robert L. Belknap**, Director, 2001-2010; **Robert Pollack**, Director, 2011-2019



Alice Newton, Interim Director, 2019-2022



Susan Boynton, Director from January 2023

ANNUAL REPORT

The 2023-2024 academic year was one of great intellectual stimulation for The Seminars.

In November 2023, Farah Jasmine Griffin presented the Leonard Hastings Schoff Memorial Lectures. The series, "The Abundant in-Between Time," explored the innovative creative and scholarly contributions of three Black women (Abbey Lincoln, Paule Marshall and Sylvia Ardyn Boone), all friends of Maya Angelou. Griffin's pathbreaking multidisciplinary lectures elicited lively discussion.

The other major event of the year was the Annual Dinner on April 17, 2024. Former Director Robert Pollack and I together presented the Tannenbaum-Warner Award to Alice Newton in recognition of her 18 years of extraordinary service to The University Seminars, including three years as Interim Director during a time of unprecedented change. Alice stewarded innumerable initiatives and spearheaded many important developments. After the award presentation, Professor Steve Coll of Columbia Journalism School presented a compelling Tannenbaum lecture entitled "What Was Saddam Hussein Thinking? A Case Study in Misunderstanding Dictators," drawing on the analysis of unpublished archives developed in Coll's recent book, *The Achilles Trap: Saddam Hussein, the C.I.A., and the Origins of America's Invasion of Iraq*. The lecture provided unparalleled insight into the reasons for the mistakes leading to the invasion.

The spring semester of 2024, during which access to the Columbia campus was repeatedly restricted, presented numerous challenges to The Seminars, particularly the need to make special arrangements for participants coming from off campus. Our office distinguished itself in its efforts to make events and meetings run as smoothly as possible, and to help groups when it was not feasible to meet on campus. Even when unable to enter campus to use the office, and in unpredictable circumstances, the team remained resourceful, gracious, and flexible.

Renewal is integral to The Seminars, and two new seminars were recently founded by Columbia faculty: World Philology (817), founded by Mana Kia and David Lurie, and Comics and Graphic Albums (819), founded by Aubrey Gabel.

While we have gained new seminars, we also have lost some important long-term members of our community. One was Dr. Emily Butler Anderson, Co-chair of The University Seminar on Memory and Slavery, Professor Emerita and former Chair of the Department of Social Sciences & Human Services at the City University of New York, and an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Social Work. Emily worked in social services, child welfare and early childhood education, and

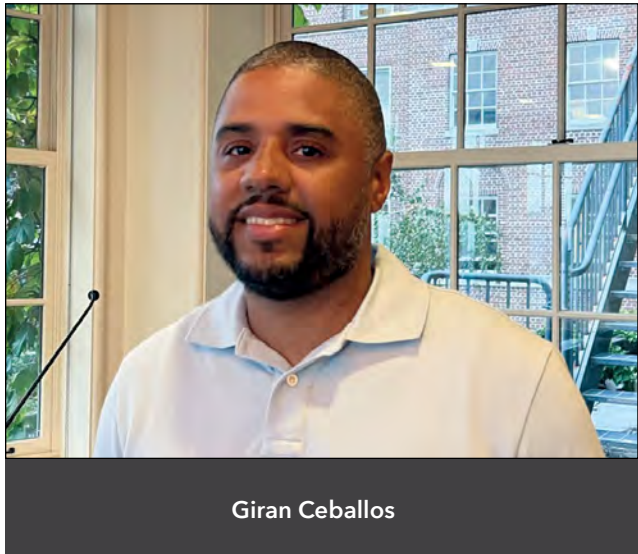
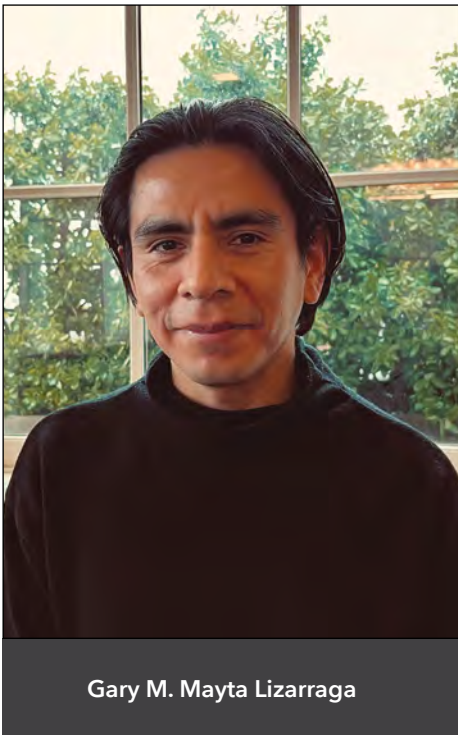
psychiatric social work, as well as in higher education, teaching, and administration.

Most recently, on August 8, we lost Elizabeth A.R. (Peggy) Brown, a longstanding member of the University Seminar on Medieval Studies. Professor Emerita at Brooklyn College and mentor to innumerable colleagues, Peggy specialized particularly in the history of France in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, authoring major studies on politics, ritual and liturgy, government, church architecture, manuscripts, women's history, and many other topics. Recognizing the active involvement of these departed members in their seminars, we are grateful for the knowledge and fellowship they offered to the community.

One of the most important accomplishments of our office over the last year has been the redesign of The Seminars website. Reconceiving the public-facing web presence of The Seminars is punctilious, slow, patient work involving many iterations of design, consultation, and discussion as well as many revisions of concept and content. Thanks to Summer Hart's creative genius and tireless efforts (with Pamela Guardia and web designer Jonas Palmer of The Assembly Design), and months of hard work by everyone else in the office, the project is now complete. The newly redesigned website has a new look, delivers information to its users more seamlessly, and illustrates the mission of The Seminars more vividly than before. The home page now features the covers of books published with subventions from The Seminars (awarded on application for books which contain material presented during a seminar meeting). Books are highlighted both as a rotating display (which will be updated periodically as new books appear) and on the separate [Books](#) page (carried over from the old website). Visually and thematically, the design aptly conveys the breadth of our community's intellectual contributions, research, and discussions.

Another newly enhanced feature of the website is the revised [History](#) page. Scrolling down to the end of the illustrated narrative, readers can consult in their entirety the original texts of the founding letter (from 1944) in [The University Seminar Movement at Columbia University](#) by Frank Tannenbaum and the [Constitution and Charter](#). The descriptions of The Seminars in those early documents offer insight into the ideas that shaped the organization at particular points in time. Even those with long experience of The Seminars may find unexpected perspectives in these documents. I encourage all seminar participants to peruse the letter and charter and to ponder their implications.

Susan Boynton
Director, The University Seminars

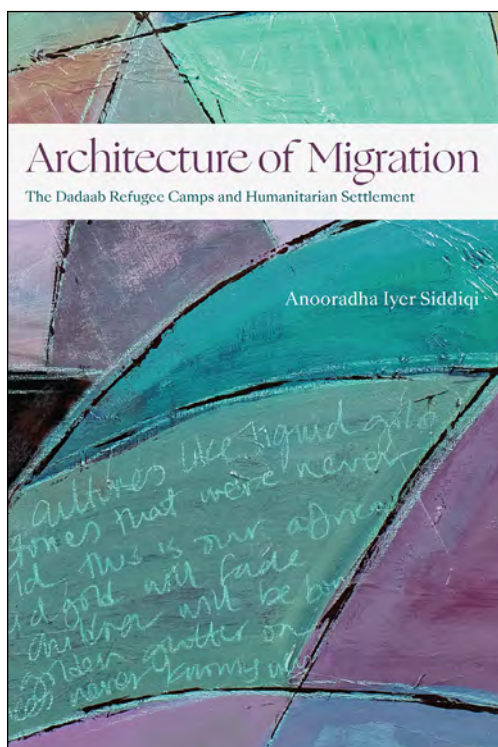


SEMINAR-SUPPORTED PUBLICATIONS

The **Leonard Hastings Schoff and Suzanne Levick Schoff Memorial Fund** is used for indexing, translating, technical editing, illustrating, or other publication costs of manuscripts or monographs produced under the auspices of The University Seminars in the fields of economics, sociology, psychology, penology, or the behavioral sciences which have already been approved for publication.

The **Aaron Warner Fund**, in honor of Aaron Warner—the social scientist who was director of The University Seminars for decades and whose devotion to music on the one hand, and to the world of physics at Columbia, on the other, carried him far beyond the social sciences, supports the publication of materials that emerge from a University Seminar. These publications do not need to fall under a specific field.

In 2023-2024, the following books were published with the assistance of either **The Leonard Hastings Schoff and Suzanne Levick Schoff Memorial Fund** or **The Aaron Warner Fund**.



Architecture of Migration The Dadaab Refugee Camps and Humanitarian Settlement

Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi

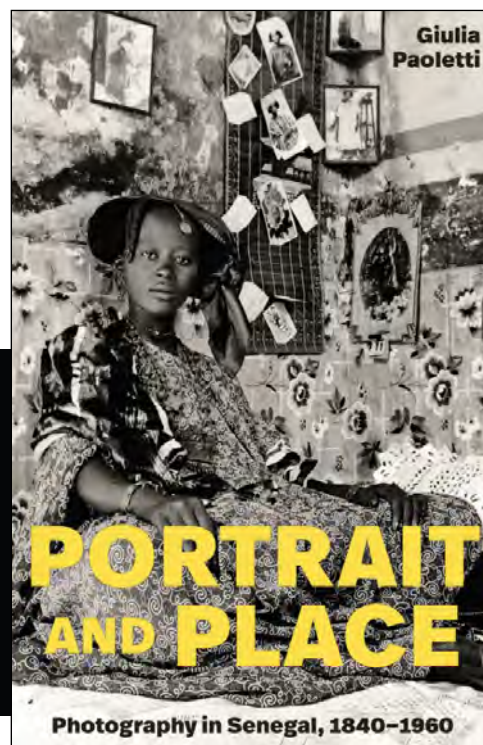
435 | Studies in Contemporary Africa



Portrait and Place Photography in Senegal, 1840-1960

Giulia Paoletti

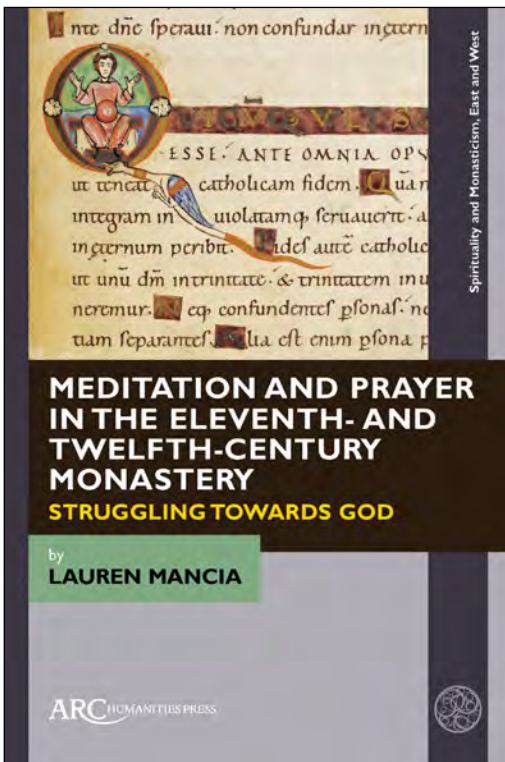
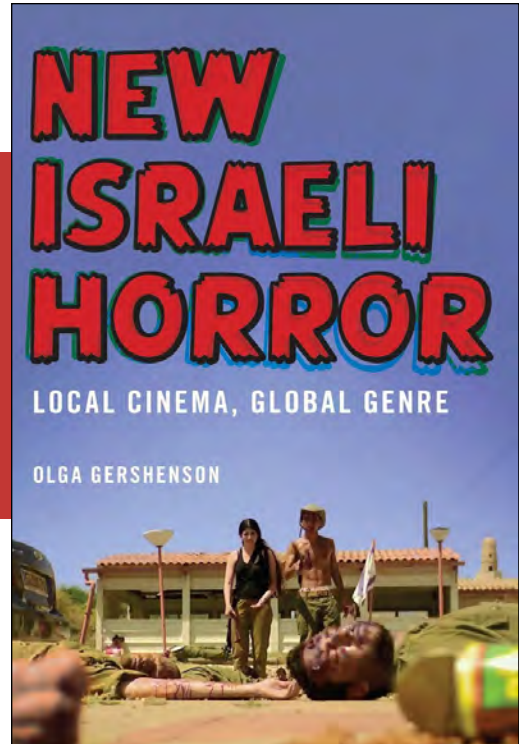
509 | The Art of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas



New Israeli Horror
Local Cinema, Global Genre

Olga Gershenson

539 | Cinema and Interdisciplinary Interpretation

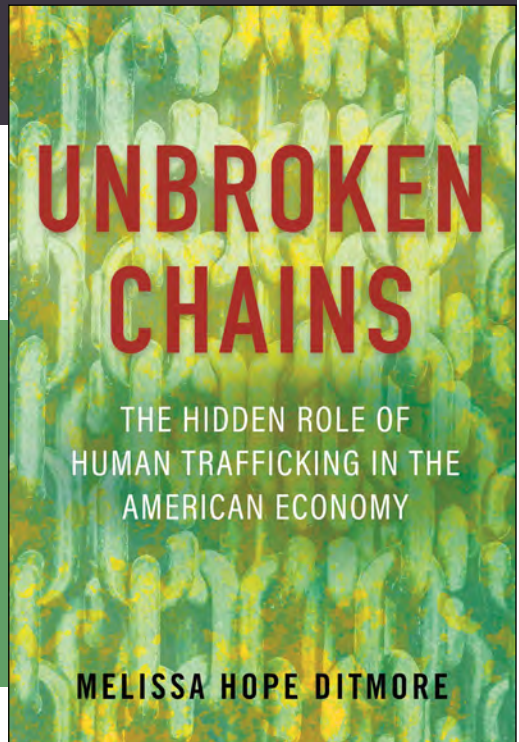


Meditation and Prayer in the Eleventh- and
Twelfth-Century Monastery

Struggling towards God (Spirituality and Monasticism, East and West)

Lauren Mancía

777 | Affect Studies



Unbroken Chains

The Hidden Role of Human Trafficking in the American Economy

Melissa Ditmore

545 | Woman and Society

Leonard Hastings Schoff (1884-1978) was a textile manufacturer, economist, and educator. In 1948, he was appointed “life membership” as Associate Member of The University Seminar on Rural Life (1945-1968). In 1970, Leonard Hastings and Suzanne Levick Schoff made a generous bequest to aid in the publication of manuscripts in the fields of economics, sociology, psychology, penology, or the behavioral sciences, which began The Leonard Hastings Schoff and Suzanne Levick Schoff Memorial Fund. This fund has been used to support hundreds of authors whose scholarly work was presented and discussed at a University Seminar prior to publication. The Leonard Hastings Schoff Memorial Lecture Series was established in collaboration with Columbia University Press in 1993. With few exceptions, each fall, a speaker is invited to give a series of three consecutive lectures. These lectures become the manuscript for a book then published by Columbia University Press as part of the Leonard Hastings Schoff Lectures series.

The Abundant in-Between Time I: People in Me: Mapping Maya’s Circle, Following Abbey’s Road

Monday, November 13, 2023, 8:00 pm

II: A Timeless Tale: Paule Marshall’s Underappreciated Great Work, “The Chosen Place, The Timeless People”

Monday, November 20, 2023, 8:00 pm

III: To Be a Part of the Future: The Quiet Quest of Sylvia Ardyn Boone

Monday, November 27, 2023, 8:00 pm

Drawing upon Maya Angelou’s memoirs, *The Heart of a Woman* (1981) and *All God’s Children Need Traveling Shoes* (1986), these lectures identify a few of her friends—singer and composer, Abbey Lincoln; novelist, Paule Marshall; and art historian and ethnographer, Sylvia Ardyn Boone—major artists and intellectuals in their own right, who help us flesh out an understudied period in African American (particularly Black Women’s) intellectual and cultural history. More Pan-Africanist than Diasporic, not yet and possibly never, Black feminist, they nonetheless saw themselves as modern, global black women still bound by, but in search of new understandings of gender and sexuality. By the end of the period under consideration in the early 1970s, each of them would find themselves outside of the United States, in Black majority countries, creating works that are deserving of our continued attention and appreciation.

Farah Jasmine Griffin is the William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African American and African Diaspora Studies at Columbia University. Professor Griffin received her B.A. from Harvard and her Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale. She is the author or editor of eight books including *Who Set You Flowin?: The African American Migration Narrative* (Oxford, 1995), *If You Can’t Be Free, Be a Mystery: In Search of Billie Holiday* (Free Press, 2001), *Clawing at the Limits of Cool: Miles Davis, John Coltrane and the Greatest Jazz Collaboration Ever* (with Salim Washington, Thomas Dunne Press, 2008), and *Harlem Nocturne: Women Artists and Progressive Politics During World War II* (Basic Books, 2013). In 2021 W.W. Norton published the critically acclaimed *Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature*. *In Search of a Beautiful Freedom: New and Selected Essays*, was published in March 2023. Griffin has been a Cullman Center Scholar, a Guggenheim Fellow, and Mellon Foundation Fellow in Residence.

Columbia University Press & The University Seminars

30th Leonard Hastings Schoff Memorial Lecture Series

The Abundant in-Between Time

I: People in Me: Mapping Maya's Circle, Following Abbey's Road

Monday, November 13, 2023, 8 pm

II: A Timeless Tale: Paule Marshall's Underappreciated Great Work, "The Chosen Place, The Timeless People"

Monday, November 20, 2023, 8 pm

III: To Be a Part of the Future: The Quiet Quest of Sylvia Ardyn Boone

Monday, November 27, 2023, 8 pm



Farah Jasmine Griffin

William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African American and African Diaspora Studies, Columbia University

Photo: Ann Blake

FACULTY HOUSE | Columbia University | 64 Morningside Drive



Steve Coll, Professor and Dean Emeritus at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University



Alice Newton, Retired Interim Director of The University Seminars

2024 TANNENBAUM LECTURE: "What Was Saddam Hussein Thinking?" A Case Study in Misunderstanding Dictators

America committed its worst foreign policy mistake of the post-Cold War era when it invaded Iraq in 2003 to disarm Saddam Hussein of his supposed WMD. How might the U.S. invasion of Iraq have been avoided? Much of our post-hoc investigation has focused on the false and manipulated intelligence about Iraq's WMD, George W. Bush's choices, the selling of the war and the media's complicity. Another central question has rarely been examined: Why did Saddam sacrifice his long reign in power - and ultimately his life - by creating an impression that he held dangerous weapons when he did not? The question is answerable. Saddam tape-recorded his private leadership conversations as assiduously as Richard Nixon. He left behind about two thousand hours of recordings as well as a vast archive of meeting minutes and presidential records. The materials document Saddam's thinking at critical junctures of his long conflict with Washington, including his private reactions to 9/11 and the Bush administration's plans to oust him. And they clarify the complicated matter of why the Iraqi leader was unable to persuade UN inspectors, multiple spy agencies and many world leaders that he did not possess WMD.

Steve Coll is a professor and Dean Emeritus at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. He is currently on sabbatical in London, where he serves as a visiting senior editor at the Economist. Coll is the author of nine books of nonfiction about international and business affairs, and a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize. His most recent book is *The Achilles Trap: Saddam Hussein, the CIA, and the Origins of America's Invasion of Iraq*, which was published in February 2024. Between 1985 and 2005, Coll was a reporter, foreign correspondent, and senior editor at the Washington Post and subsequently was a staff writer at The New Yorker for 18 years.

2024 TANNENBAUM-WARNER AWARDEE: Alice Newton

Alice Newton retired after 18 years of distinguished service at The University Seminars, where she worked with three directors and was herself Interim Director for three years (2019 -2022). From 1968, while a student at Rutgers University, and later at New York University (where she completed a bachelor's degree in history), Alice participated in the anti-war, anti-racism, environmental justice, and women's movements. Social justice activism continues to be a central part of her life. Alice later earned a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs with a specialty in human rights and Latin America. While working toward this degree, she began as an administrative assistant at The University Seminars with Director Robert Belknap. She was promoted to Assistant Director, Associate Director, Deputy Director, Acting Director, and finally Interim Director. In partnership with Director Bob Pollack, Alice expanded the breadth of the Seminars' programming with initiatives to promote diversity and to raise the voices of underrepresented and emerging scholars. Alice made The Seminars inclusive and welcoming also by facilitating initiatives such as the Seminar Workshops and the Belo Award, both founded under her leadership and by working closely with the Columbia University Libraries to enable associate members to benefit from remote library privileges.

THE UNIVERSITY SEMINARS
at COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

77th **ANNUAL DINNER**

Tannenbaum Lecture

*"What Was Saddam Hussein Thinking?"
A Case Study in Misunderstanding Dictators*

given by

Steve Coll

Professor and Dean Emeritus at the Graduate
School of Journalism at Columbia University

Tannenbaum-Warner Award

presented to

Alice Newton

For Extraordinary Service
to The University Seminars

**April 17
2024**

SEMINAR-SUPPORTED CONFERENCES

Occasionally, a seminar's central concerns involve scholars too distant for regular participation or a seminar wants to engage a broader audience. On such occasions, the seminar may wish to organize a conference or public symposium. Conferences and public symposia on issues of paramount interest to the seminar members and the seminars community are an exciting part of The University Seminar's programming.

In academic year 2023-2024, The University Seminars sponsored or co-sponsored the following events.

MEMORY STUDIES: NEW DIRECTIONS

717 • Cultural Memory

October 4, 2023

THE CULTURAL MEMORY UNIVERSITY SEMINAR PRESENTS



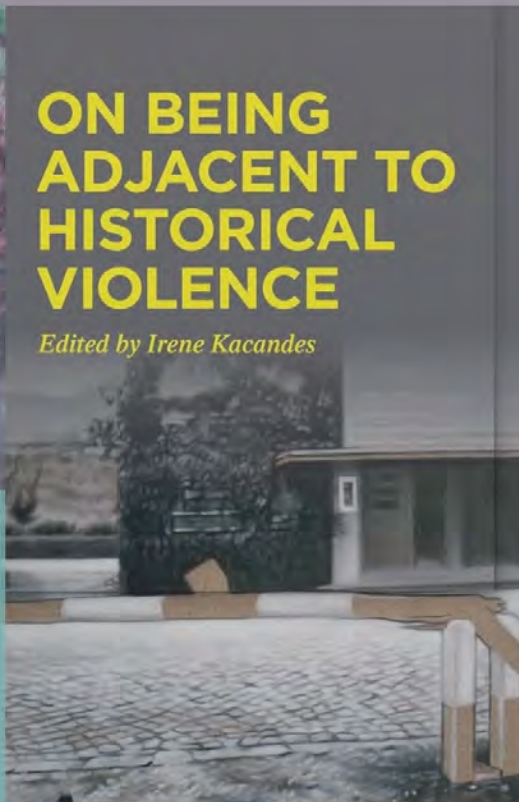
ON BEING ADJACENT TO HISTORICAL VIOLENCE

Edited by Irene Kacandes

CRITICAL MEMORY STUDIES

New Approaches

EDITED BY BRETT ASHLEY KAPLAN



Memory Studies: New Directions

Irene Kacandes & Brett Kaplan with responses from Claudia Breger, Leo Spitzer, Marita Sturken, Sonali Thakkar, and James Young

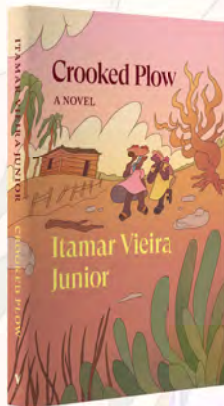
Please join us to discuss two recent collections in Memory Studies and to take stock of new directions in the field. Irene Kacandes, editor of *On Being Adjacent to Historical Violence* (De Gruyter, 2022) and Brett Kaplan, editor of *Critical Memory Studies* (Routledge, 2023) will each introduce their volumes and reflect on how the pandemic lock-down inflected the books' contributions.

CROOKED PLOW: TRANSLATING SOCIAL JUSTICE IN BRAZIL

805 • Public Humanities: Expanding Scholarship and Pedagogy

October 5, 2023

Co-sponsored by The University Seminar on Public Humanities, The Society for Fellows and the Heyman Center for Humanities, Columbia University Department of History, Columbia Global Centers: Rio de Janeiro, and Columbia University Institute of Latin American Studies



Crooked Plow: Translating Social Justice in Brazil

Join us for a discussion of Brazilian author Itamar Vieira Junior's best-selling novel *Crooked Plow*, now available in English. Our speakers will explore translation, literary writing, social justice work, and the long shadow that slavery casts.

Thursday, October 5, 2023 | 6:15pm
Columbia University, Faculty House
Seminar Level (2nd Floor)

Free and open to the public
Register at sofheyman.org

Speakers



Itamar Vieira Junior
author, *Crooked Plow*



Johnny Lorenz
translator, *Crooked Plow*



Keisha-Khan Perry
author, *Black Women against the Land Grab: The Fight for Racial Justice in Brazil*

MAKING CONNECTIONS FOR THE STUDY OF THE HEBREW BIBLE

473 • The Study of the Hebrew Bible

January 11, 2024

Organizers: **David Carr**, Union Theological Seminary and
Karina Martin Hogan, Fordham University, Chair
J. Christiaan Faul, Union Theological Seminary, Rapporteur

January 11, 2024

PARTICIPANTS AND PRESENTERS

Noah Avigan, Yale University*; **Allie Bass**, Princeton Theological Seminary*; **Beth Berkowitz**, Barnard College; **Mary Callaway**, Fordham University; **David Carr**, Union Theological Seminary; **Yudai Chiba**, Princeton Theological Seminary*; **Alan Cooper**, Jewish Theological Seminary; **Quinn Daniels**, New York University; **Julie Deluty**, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia; **Heath Dewrell**, University of Texas, Austin; **Chip Dobbs-Allsopp**, Princeton Theological Seminary; **Loraine Enlow**, Jewish Theological Seminary*; **Paul Essah**, Yale University*; **Christiaan Faul**, Union Theological Seminary*; **Liane Feldman**, Princeton University; **Stephen Garfinkel**, Jewish Theological Seminary; **Amit Gvaryahu**, Princeton University; **Robbie Harris**, Jewish Theological Seminary; **Peter Heasley**, Saint Joseph's Seminary; **Karina Martin Hogan**, Fordham University; **Shalom Holtz**, Yeshiva University; **Elaine James**, Princeton Theological Seminary; **Christine Jensen**, New York University*; **Jutta Jokiranta**, Princeton Theological Seminary/University of Helsinki (Finland); **Marleen Kassel**, Jewish Theological Seminary*; **Yedidah Koren**, Princeton University; **Yael Landman**, Jewish Theological Seminary; **Hatty Lee**, Yale University*; **Hindy Najman**, Oxford University (United Kingdom); **Julie Faith Parker**, Union Theological Seminary; **Andrew Peecher**, Princeton Theological Seminary; **James Platania**, Seton Hall University/Gregorian University, Rome (Italy)*; **Gary Rendsburg**, Rutgers University; **Erica Restaino**, Fordham University*; **Eric Raymond**, Yale University; **Ethan Schwartz**, Villanova University; **Bénédicte Sère**, Jewish Theological Seminary; **Byron Shafer**, Fordham University; **Rachel Slutsky**, Seton Hall University; **Mark Smith**, Princeton Theological Seminary; **Leslie Virlinson**, Princeton University; **Molly Zahn**, Yale University (* = Ph.D. student)

GATHERING AND BREAKFAST, WELCOME REMARKS

Session 1: *Interdisciplinary Connections*

From Babylon to Pretoria: Trauma-Forged Exilic Identity and Afrikaner Exclusivism

Chair: **J. Christiaan Faul**, Union Theological Seminary*

Lamentations: A Communal Trauma Narrative for the Healing of Ancient and Contemporary Survivors of Trauma and Injustice

Erica Restaino, Fordham University*

Esther's Identity in Exile through Postcolonial and Feminist Lenses
Hatty Lee and **Paul Essah**, Yale University*

Relating to the Other: Animals and Gentiles in the Hebrew Bible and Rabbinic Reception

Beth Berkowitz, Barnard College and **Rachel Slutsky**, Seton Hall University

Panel: *Making Connections in Biblical Studies*

David Carr, Union Theological Seminary
Karina Martin Hogan, Fordham University
Liane Feldman, Princeton University
Hindy Najman, Oxford University (United Kingdom)
Mark Smith, Princeton University

Panel: *Messengers, Divine and Human*

Jacqueline Vayntrub, Yale University
Ethan Schwartz, Villanova University
Julie Deluty, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia

Session 2: *Intertextual and Intercultural Connections*

Chair: **Molly Zahn**, Yale University

Inscribing Lore of the Southern Levant During the Time of the Kingdoms: Ugaritic Literature as a Model for Israel and Judah's Reception and Re-Inscribing of Regional Traditions
Quinn Daniels, New York University

Law, Literature, and Performance: New Directions in Biblical Law
Yael Landman, Jewish Theological Seminary

Moses the Scribe? Techniques of Legal Innovation Reflected in Narrative (Exod 12-16)

James Platania, Seton Hall University/Gregorian University, Rome (Italy)*

Hebrew Sounds on Christian Tongues: Transliteration in a Medieval Anglo-Norman Psalter

Loraine Enlow, Jewish Theological Seminary*

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON CRIME, VIOLENCE, AND VICTIMS IN LATIN AMERICA

515 • Latin America

Co-sponsored by the University Seminar on Latin America, Columbia University Institute of Latin American Studies, and the Columbia SIPA Latin American Student Association

March 1, 2024

Opening Remarks

Eduardo Moncada, Barnard College

Presentations

Paul Hathazy, Argentine Studies Visiting Fellow, ILAS, Columbia; National Scientific and Technical Research Council of Argentina, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (Argentina)

Martina Lassalle, Argentine Studies Visiting Fellow, ILAS, Columbia; FUNDAR; Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina)

Veronica Zubillaga, Edward Larocque Tinker Visiting Professor, ILAS, Columbia; Universidad Simón Bolívar (Venezuela)

Sarah Daly, Columbia University

New Perspectives on Crime, Violence, and Victims in Latin America

Guest Speakers



**VERONICA
ZUBILLAGA**



**SARAH
DALY**



**MARTINA
LASSALLE**



**PAUL
HATHAZY**

CRIMINALIZED AGAIN: CULTURE(S) OF LGBTQI+ IN SEARCH FOR FREEDOM

491 • Slavic History and Culture

April 11-13, 2024

Co-sponsored by The University Seminar on Slavic History and Culture, Columbia Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender, Columbia Harriman Institute, and University of Leeds

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Opening Session: Legal Systems of Repression: LGBTQI+ in the Russian Context

Masha Gessen in conversation with **Vlad Strukov**

Panel: Histories of (homo)phobia

Moderator: **Mark Lipovetsky**

Anti-Soviet, Counter-Revolutionary, Sympathetic to Fascism: The Invention of the "Traacherous" Homosexual and Recriminalisation of Homosexuality in the USSR
Irina Roldugina

"Aversion Therapy" in the Soviet Union from 1964 to 1982: What Was It, and How Was It Done?
Rustam Alexander

The Social Modelling of (Anti-)Gender Discourse in Russia and Poland in the Context of the History of Concepts
Ewelina Woźniak-Wrzesińska

Experiences of Queer Exile

Moderator: **Vlad Strukov**
Olga Bar and **Zhenia Shtorn**

Friday, April 12, 2024

Panel: Queer Re-Readings

Moderator: **Liza Senatorova**

"The Love of This Summer": Queer Contra Gay in 1906 Saint Petersburg
Evgenii Bershtein

Late Soviet Gender Trouble: The Queer Texts and Contexts of Viktor Sosnora
Ivan Sokolov

Breaking Cultural Ice: Mission Impossible? On Misreception of Mikhail Kuzmin's "The Trout" Cycle, 1976-2023
Lada Panova

Panel: Queer Documentaries

Moderator: **Uma Payne**

The Fragile Promise of Making Oneself Heard: Cultural Paradigms of Queer Russophone Nonfiction Cinema from 2013 to 2022
Lora Maslenitsyna

Rudnitskaya's Victory Day: The Illiberal Trajectory of "Gay Politics under Putin
Brian Baer

Panel: De-Colonial Approaches to Queer Cultures

Moderator: **Alexei Shvyrkov**

Why Can't I Name My Child What I Want?: Queer-Feminist Legal Victory and Anti-Gender Backlash in Bishkek
Cassandra Hartblay

Compulsory "Feminine Happiness" and Lesbian Existence in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Mokhira Surakulova

Panel: Queer Media

Moderator: **Tatiana Efremova**

Queer Discourses in 21st Century: Russian Media as Spaces of De/Self-Colonization
Olga Andreevsikh

The Nativist-Populist Construction of the "Pure People" through the Othering of Sexual and Gender Minorities in Russia
Richard Mole

Saturday, April 13, 2024

Panel: Queer Aesthetics (A)

Moderator: **Tatiana Krasilnikova**

Outcasts: The Last Queer Soviet Generation
Roman Utkin

Renaissance and Resistance: Exhibiting Queer Art in Post-Soviet Russia
Maria Engstrom

What is Russian Queer Theatre?
Tatiana Klepikova

Instrumentalizing Affect and the Queer Body in Music Performances by Shortparis
Tatiana Efremova

Panel: Queer Aesthetics (B)

Moderator: **Myles Garbarini**
Queer Comics and Decolonization
Jose Alaniz

Queerness Ex Nihilo?: On the Continuous Invention of Queer Art

Brett Donohoe

Queering the Meanings of Production: A Comparison of 1920s Soviet Lesbian and 21st Century Queer Russian Understandings of Queerness as Cultural Capital

Egan Chambers

Roundtable Discussion: Queer Arts

Maya Garcia, Yevgeniy Fiks, and Victoria Suvoroff in conversation with **Vlad Strukov**

Panel: Queer Aesthetics (C)

Moderator: **Mark Lipovetsky**

Queer Young Adult Literature in Russia: Growth Despite Censorship

Ekaterina Tutatina

Summer in a Pioneer Tie: Boys Love Meets Girl Power in Putin's Russia

Julia A. Cassidy

Women's Queer Desire in Recent Russian and Soviet Cinema: Towards a Genealogy

Rachel Morley

Film Screening: Queendom

Moderator: **Vlad Strukov** Followed by Q&A with film producer **Igor Myakotin**

CRIMINALIZED AGAIN CULTURE(S) OF LGBTQI+ IN SEARCH FOR FREEDOM



GLP-1 AGONISTS: A NEW FRONTIER IN THE TREATMENT OF OBESITY

529 • Appetitive Behavior

Co-sponsored by the University Seminar on Appetitive Behavior and Boehringer Ingelheim

May 30, 2024

Symposium program committee:

John Glendinning, Chair

Allan Geliebter, Chair

Harry Kissileff, Past-Chair

Blandine Laferrère, Advisor

Anthony Sclafani, Advisor

Faris Zuraikat, Rapporteur

Introductory Remarks

John I. Glendinning, Barnard College, Columbia University

Advances in Obesity Pharmacotherapy Over the Past 60 Years

Judy Korner, Columbia University Irving Medical Center

Incretins For Obesity: How We Got Here And Where We Are Going

Brian Finan, Eli Lilly and Company

Dissociable GLP-1R Circuits For Satiety And Aversion

Amber L. Alhadeff, Monell Chemical Senses Center

Pharmacological Strategies For Mitigating Nausea And Emesis Side Effects Of GLP-1R Agonism

Tito Borner, University of Southern California

Leveraging Incretin Hormones for Weight Loss in Individuals with Obesity: Step & Oasis Trials

Ariana M. Chao, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

Leveraging Incretin Hormones For Weight Loss in Individuals with Obesity: Surmount & Triumph Trials

Louis J. Aronne, Weill Cornell Medicine

GLP-1 Receptor Agonists: Effects on Appetite and Food Intake

Richard D. Mattes, Purdue University

Clinical Challenges and Adverse Effects of GLP-1 Agonists

Peter Goulden, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

SEMINAR MEETINGS

The following pages list The University Seminars that were active in academic year 2023-2024, with their topics and speakers. The seminars are listed in order of their seminar number, which roughly follows their chronological founding. You can also search for a seminar by pressing command + F for a Mac or control + F for a PC. There is a blue button at the bottom right-hand corner of each page that will return you to the contents page when clicked. The page numbers in the contents link directly to each section, for quick navigation. 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, area studies, Shakespeare, and the sciences.

For practical or intellectual reasons, seminars sometimes stop meeting, temporarily or permanently. Others remain active. Seminar workshops meet for one to three years and work toward a culminating project or event.

For a complete list of current seminars, please visit the [SEMINARS PAGE](#) of our website.

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/S: **Roy Lee** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Margot Sterckman**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 12 *Ambassador Skoog's Talk and Discussion on the United Nations and the European Union Cooperation*
Ambassador Olof Skoog, United Nations in New York
- November 28 *Ambassador De Rivière's Talk and Discussion on the United Nations' challenges and strategies*
Ambassador Nicolas De Rivière, French Delegation to the United Nations in New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **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 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.

CHAIR/S: **Tony Carnes**; **Sidney Greenfield** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Shreyaa Suresh**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 13 Joint meeting with (411) and (557) *The Pastor Arrives at the Aiwekara Village and Meets the Pajé: Conflict or Adaptation?*
Donizete Rodrigues, CRIA-Nova University of Lisbon (Portugal)
- October 4 Joint meeting with (411) *A 'Model Minority' Myth: A White Male Sociologist Named Asian Americans in The New York Times Magazine on January 9, 1966 as "The Model Minority" in Order to Undermine the Civil Rights of African Americans*
Tony Carnes, A Journey through NYC Religions
- November 15 Joint meeting with (411) *Regimes of Happiness: Civilizations, Disease and the Search for a Fulfilled Life*
Yuri Contreras-Vejar, Universidad Diego Portales (Chile)
- December 13 *The Three Worlds of Evangelicalism*
Aaron Renn, Journalist, Urbanologist
- February 21 Joint meeting with (411) *Fetal Positions: Understanding Cross-national Public Opinion About Abortion*
Amy Adamczyk, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- March 20 Joint meeting with (411) *Reflections on the Queens Religion Project*
Richard Cimino, Religion Watch
Hans Tokke, New York City College of Technology
- April 3 Joint meeting with (411) *What Is An Evangelical? An Insider/Outsider Bioethnoconfession*
Daniel Varisco
- May 8 Joint meeting with (411) and (557) *Live, Work and Pray in New York City: Brazilian Immigrants and Ethnic-Religious Entrepreneurship*
Donizete Rodrigues, University of Beira (Portugal)
Sidney Greenfield, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Tony Carnes**, editor@nycreligion.info; **Sidney Greenfield**, sidneygreenfield@gmail.com

THE RENAISSANCE (407) • Founded: 1945

The Seminar in the Renaissance, founded in 1945 by Paul Oskar Kristeller and John Herman Randall, Jr., hosts presentations of about 50 minutes on various aspects of Renaissance thought (including Renaissance humanistic thought) 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 usually have met in Faculty House at 17:30 on the second Tuesday of each academic month (except January). Since the onset of the pandemic in 2020, we have been meeting earlier (16:00, New York time; 22:00 in Europe) via Zoom, and in the future, we will be meeting in a hybrid format, i.e. in person and by Zoom, allowing until 18:00 for the talk and ample discussion of the talk, followed for those present in person by dinner at Faculty House and further informal discussion. We have found that this allows colleagues from other parts of the globe to join the talk and discussion, to our great mutual profit.

CHAIR/S: **Cynthia M. Pyle**; **Alan Stewart** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Mackenzie Fox**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 12 *Leo Steinberg (1920-2011), Controversial Historian of Renaissance and Baroque Art*
Francis B. Randall, Sarah Lawrence College
- October 10 *Pier Vettori and Aristotle's Eudemian Ethics*
Christopher Rowe, Durham University (United Kingdom)
- November 14 *Scholarship as a Philosophical Way of Life: The Case of Leon Battista Alberti*
John Sellars, Royal Holloway, University of London (United Kingdom)
- December 12 *Celibacy, Scholarship, and Service to the State in Quattrocento Venice: The Case of Ermolao Barbaro*
Gareth Williams, Columbia University
- February 13 *Sun Worship in Fifteenth Century Rome? Bessarion and the Worship of the Sun/Son*
Scott Kennedy, Bilkent University, Ankara (Turkey)
- March 5 *The Renaissance Question in Petrarch*
H. Wayne Storey, Indiana University, Emeritus
- April 9 *Animals on Early Modern Maps*
Chet Van Duzer, The Lazarus Project of the University of Rochester
- May 7 *A Time Capsule of Late Renaissance Botanical Publishing: Caspar Bauhin (1560-1624) and the De Bry Family*
Karen Reeds, Princeton Research Forum
Davina Benkert, University of Basel (Switzerland)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Cynthia M. Pyle**, c.m.pyle@New York University.edu; **Alan Stewart**, ags2105@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/S: **Tony Carnes**; **Sidney Greenfield** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Shreyaa Suresh**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 13 Joint meeting with (405) and (557) *The Pastor Arrives at the Aiwekara Village and Meets the Pajé: Conflict or Adaptation?*
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Donizete Rodrigues, University of Beira (Portugal)
Sidney Greenfield, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Tony Carnes**, editor@nycreligion.info; **Sidney Greenfield**, sidneygreenfield@gmail.com

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY EUROPEAN CULTURE (417) • Founded: 1962

This interdisciplinary seminar hosts speakers ranging from established scholars to early-career researchers who present works-in-progress that explore and redefine eighteenth-century European culture. Our interests range from material culture to textual history, national traditions to colonial formations, historicist practice to theoretical investigation, and we therefore seek to query, expand, and innovate 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 varied in scope, and occasionally our seminar hosts special events, such as a symposium on the intellectual origins of freedom of speech (2007, 2008) and a 50th-anniversary retrospective of the seminar (2014). Our seminar has hosted, in addition to full-length talks, roundtables on science studies (2011), comparative orientalisms (2011), the quantitative eighteenth century (2016), rediscovering race (2017), and human rights (2019).

CHAIR/S: **Stephanie Insley Hershnow** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Lilith Todd**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 *Napoleon's Nemesis: Madame de Staël (1766-1817) and the Origins of Liberalism*
Helena Rosenblatt, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- October 12 *Imoinda and Oroonoko's Signed Language*
Jason Farr, Marquette University
- November 9 *Empirical Statecraft: The Emergence of an Information Empire in the Eighteenth-Century Spanish Atlantic*
Fidel Tavárez, Queens College, City College of New York
- January 18 *Being Classical: Women, Queerness and the Ancients in the Long Eighteenth Century*
Caroline Gonda, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge
- February 8 *Olaudah Equiano's Ottoman Dreams*
Kasia Bartoszynska, Ithaca College
- March 21 *Pacific Northwest Performances: "Curious Gestures with a few English Words"*
Monica Anke Hahn, Community College of Philadelphia
- April 18 *"The Devel Was in the English Man": Slavery, Friendship, and Heterodoxy in the Seventeenth-Century Colonial Archive*
Melissa Mowry, St. John's University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Carrie Shanafelt**, carrie.shanafelt@yu.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. Several 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.

CHAIR/S: **Diane Detournay**; **Brandy Monk-Payton**; **Matt Sandler** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **May Niiya**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 18 *A Conversation with Neferti X.M. Tadiar, Author of Remaindered Life (Duke University Press 2022) and Reena N. Goldthree*
Neferti X.M. Tadiar, Barnard College
Reena N. Goldthree, Princeton University
- November 14 *A Conversation With Kelli Moore, Author of Legal Spectatorship: Slavery and the Visual Culture of Domestic Violence (Duke University Press 2022), and Amber Musser, Author of the Forthcoming Between Shadows and Noise: Sensation, Situatedness, and the Undisciplined (Duke University Press (2024)*
Kelli Moore, New York University
Amber Musser, City College of New York Graduate School
- March 6 *A Conversation with Caitlin Meehye Beach and Emilie Boone*
Caitlin Meehye Beach, Fordham University
Emilie Boone, New York University
- April 3 *A conversation with Clifton Boyd and Matthew D. Morrison*
Clifton Boyd, New York University
Matthew D. Morrison, New York University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Diane Detournay**, ddetournay@fordham.edu;
Brandy Monk-Payton, bmonkpayton@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/S: **Neslihan Şenocak**; **Hannah Weaver** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Jilian Pizzi**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 Joint meeting with (777) *Wings of Desire: Avian Erotic Entanglements*
Eliza Zingesser, Columbia University
- November 30 *Patterns of Diversity: Law Compendia and Legal Pluralism in the Carolingian World*
Helmut Reimitz, Princeton University
- February 22 *The Ethiopian Community of Santo Stefano, Rome: Between a European and an Ethiopian Archive*
Samantha Kelly, Rutgers University
- March 19 *War, Crusade, and the Making of Famine in the Mediterranean (11th-13th Centuries)*
Pere Benito Monclus, Universidad de Lleida (Spain)
- April 11 *The Bucolic Mode in Byzantine Art and Text: Imperium, Weather, and Nature*
Paroma Chatterjee, University of Michigan

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Hannah Weaver**, hmw2147@columbia.edu; **Jeffrey Wayno**, jeffrey.wayno@columbia.edu

STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA (435) • Founded: 1956

The seminar provides a lively forum for scholars engaged in the advanced study of Africa. Faculty and visiting scholars from Columbia University, Barnard College, and neighboring institutions actively participate in the regular series of sessions. Seminar discussions focus on theoretical and comparative approaches to the study of colonial and contemporary states, built environments and ecologies, gender, the arts, media, cultural studies, and processes in political mobilization and leadership.

CHAIR/S: **Laura Fair**; **Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Anusha Sundar**

ADVISORY AND STEERING COMMITTEE:

Emanuel Admassu, Robyn d'Avignon, Cécile Feza Bushidi, Laura Fair, Abosede George, Sean Jacobs, May Joseph, Julie Kleinman, Fabian Krautwald, Brian Larkin, Daniel Magaziner, Manjari Mahajan, Casey McNeill, Prita Meier, Abdul Nanji, Nana Osei Quarshie, Antina von Schnitzler, Shobana Shankar, Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi, Rhiannon Stephens, Zoë Strother, Matthew Swagler, Adedoyin Teriba, Madina Thiam, Gregory Valdespino, Jennifer Wenzel, Elleni Centime Zeleke

2023-2024 MEETINGS

Fall 2023, *Grounded Epistemologies and Artistic Methodologies*

September 18 *Kusoma Pamoja / Books in Dialogue*

Prita Meier, New York University

Tasha Rijke-Epstein, Vanderbilt University

Respondent: **Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi**, Columbia University

October 19 *Narratives for the City and the Worlding of African Literature*

Cajetan Iheka, Yale University

Respondent: **Jennifer Wenzel**, Columbia University

November 28 *On Journalism*

Sharon Tshipa (Gaborone), **Christine Mungai** (Nairobi), **Sada Malumfashi** (Kaduna), and **Anakwa Dwamena** (Accra), in dialogue with **Sean Jacobs**, The New School for Social Research

Spring 2024, *Migrations/Circulations*

February 27 *Black Markets and Militants: Informal Networks in the Middle East and Africa*

Khalid Mustafa Medani, McGill University (Canada)

March 26 *Of Centers, Margins, and Intermediacies: the Moi International Sports Complex, Nairobi*

Cole Roskam, Hong Kong University (Hong Kong)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Laura Fair**, lf2694@columbia.edu; **Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi**, asiddiqi@barnard.edu

2024-2025 ADVISORY AND STEERING COMMITTEE: **Emanuel Admassu, Robyn d'Avignon, Cécile Feza Bushidi, Laura Fair, Abosede George, Sean Jacobs, May Joseph, Julie Kleinman, Fabian Krautwald, Brian Larkin, Daniel Magaziner, Manjari Mahajan, Casey McNeill, Prita Meier, Abdul Nanji, Nana Osei Quarshie, Antina von Schnitzler, Shobana Shankar, Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi, Rhiannon Stephens, Zoë Strother, Matthew Swagler, Adedoyin Teriba, Madina Thiam, Gregory Valdespino, Jennifer Wenzel**

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.

CHAIR/S: **Marcus Folch**; **Joel Lidov** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Jose Antonio Cancino Alfaro**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 *Declamatory Fictions and the Crimen Maiestatis - Seneca, Controversiae 9.2*
Matthew Leigh, St. Anne's College, University of Oxford (United Kingdom)
- October 26 *Smelling the Gods in Greek Tragedy*
Rosa Andújar, King's College London (United Kingdom)
- November 16 *Archilochus' Symptotic Shield and the Repetitive Crux*
Alexander Forte, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- January 18 *The End of a Dynasty: Commemoration and Appropriation of the Aeacid Past*
Elizabeth Carney, Clemson University
- February 22 *"I am a Roman Citizen": The Negotiators of Sicily in the Second and First Centuries BCE*
Sailakshmi Ramgopal, Columbia University
- March 21 *Hacking the Classics in Haiti*
Tom Hawkins, Ohio State University
- April 18 *Making It Up as You Go Along: Imperialist Historiography in Livy*
Christina Kraus, Yale University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Marcus Folch**, mf2664@columbia.edu; **Joel Lidov**, jbl104@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—work 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.

CHAIR/S: **Nick Bartlett**; **Ying Qian**; **William Charles Wooldridge** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Tenggeer Hao**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 19 *"I Can't Even Read One Word": Women's (Il)lteracy and the Unmaking of the Chinese Peasant Class*
Britta Ingebretson, Fordham University
Discussant: **Leta Hong Fincher**, Columbia University
- November 16 *Cross Border Media and Exchange: Hong Kong and China's Citizen in the 1980s*
Denise Ho, Yale University
Discussant: **Eugenia Lean**, Columbia University
- December 7 *The Chinese Anatomical Revolution and Its Limits*
David Luesink, Sacred Heart University
Discussant: **Grace Shen**, Fordham University
- February 8 *The (F)utility of Western Gunboats: Naval Technology and Maritime Geography in Late Imperial China*
Sau-Yi Fong, Columbia University
Anne Reinhardt, Williams College
- February 22 **A Labor of Distinction: Time and the Material in Guangzhou's Scrap Trade**
Amy Zhang, New York University
Discussant: **Jonathan Bach**, The New School
- March 21 *Dreams of Stability: Polyethylene and the Transformation of Taiwan's Agricultural and Industrial Ecosystem*
Ying Jia Tan, Wesleyan University
Discussant: **Paul Kreitman**, Columbia University
- April 18 *Toward the Study of a Crowd-Like Group in China*
Nick Bartlett, Barnard College
Discussant: **Tani Barlow**, Rice University
- May 9 *Livestreaming Precarity: Temporal Aesthetics, the Chinese Internet, and the Contingency of the Live Screen*
Chenshu Zhou, University of Pennsylvania
Discussant: **Nico Baumbach**, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Nick Bartlett**, nbartlet@barnard.edu; **Ying Qian**, yq2189@columbia.edu;
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.

CHAIR/S: **Sarah Kovner** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Zhanying Wang**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 5 *Female Spirit Mediums Act Out: Performance, Mediality, and Spiritual Power in Early-Twentieth Century Okinawa*
H. Yumi Kim, Johns Hopkins University
Discussant: **Kirsten Ziomek**, Adelphi University
- November 8 *Biological Subject-Making in the Quest for a Longer Life: Kidney Donation and Transplantation in Japan*
Amy Borovoy, Princeton University
Lesley Sharp, Barnard College
- December 6 *Why Does a Red-Light District Exist in the Era of Neoliberal Urban Policies? A Case of Kabukicho in Tokyo, Japan*
Takeoka Toru, City University of New York and Ritsumeikan University, Japan
Sarah Kovner, Columbia University
- February 21 *Port Spatialities and Japanese World-making in the 1950s-1960s*
David Ambaras, North Carolina State University
Seiji Shirane, The City College of New York
- April 3 *Training for Democracy: Railways and the Cultivation of a New Postwar Japan*
Jessamyn Abel, Pennsylvania State University
Sarah C. Kovner, Columbia University
- April 24 *Codification and the Spread of the Industrial Revolution*
David Weinstein, Columbia University
Takatoshi Ito, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Sarah Kovner**, sck25@columbia.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.

CHAIR/S: **Colleen Conway**; **John Edwards** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Karl M. Taps**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 12 *The Secretary: Collaborative Authorship and the Composition of the Pauline Epistles*
Candida Moss, University of Birmingham; New York University
- October 19 *Antinous and the Problem of True Beauty in Clement of Alexandria*
Benjamin Dunning, Harvard University
- November 9 *Is 'John Within Judaism' a Helpful Approach to John's Gospel?*
Adele Reinhartz, University of Ottawa (Canada)
- December 12 *Spirit Mediumship and the Future and Past of New Testament Studies*
Denise Kimber Buell, Williams College
- March 13 *The Limits of Early Christian Imaginations*
Julia Kelto Lillis, Union Theological Seminary
- April 9 *2 Peter 3, the Conflagration, and the End of Time*
Jeremy F. Hultin, Union Theological Seminary

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Jeremy F. Hultin**, jhultin@uts.columbia.edu; **Colleen Conway**, colleen.conway@shu.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/S: **Mary Rocco** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Elizabeth Milagros Alvarez**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 26 Joint meeting with (511), (561), (585), and (689) *Why Public Spaces Matters*
Setha Low, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- November 1 *Collective Stewardship: Flexibility and Evolution for a Successful Public Private Partnership*
Meredith S. Horsford, Historic House Trust of New York City and New York City Parks
- January 31 *Mapping Historical New York*
Gergo Baics, Barnard College
Rebecca Kobrin, Columbia University
Dan Miller, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
- February 21 *Right to Suburbia*
Willow S. Lung-Amam, University of Maryland
- March 20 *"In the Life of a Building Our Moment is Brief": J. Max Bond, Jr.'s Long View*
Brian Goldstein, Swarthmore College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Mary Rocco**, mrocco@barnard.edu

LAW & POLITICS (465) • Founded: 1963

Members of the seminar investigate the legal, political, and institutional aspects of society both as they function 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, Talmudic, Islamic, canon and common 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.

CHAIR/S: **Sarah Danielsson; Kenneth Pearl**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 24 *Clarence Darrow for the Defense: Leopold-Loeb, Chicago Politics, and the Perfect Crime*
Simon Baatz, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City College of New York
- November 28 *Gaza, the Laws of Armed Conflict and the Question of Genocide*
Dirk Moses, City College of New York
- February 20 *The Ruble: A Political History*
Ekaterina Pravilova, Princeton University
- March 19 *Colonizing Palestine: The Zionist Left and The Making of the Palestinian Nakba*
Areej Sabbagh-Khoury, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Simon Baatz**, sbaatz@jjay.cuny.edu

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/S: **Veronica Davidov**; **Paige West** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Stephanie Ratte**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- December 7 *Academic Journeys: Writing on Bougainville*
Gordon Peake, United States Institute of Peace
- February 8 *Pleistocene Park: Extinction and Eternity in the Russian Arctic*
Anya Bernstein, Harvard University
- April 2 *Imperial Chimps: Similitude, science, and spectacle in the Congo River Basin, 1885-1965*
Stephanie Rupp, Lehman College, City College of New York

CHAIR/S: **Veronica Davidov**, vdavidov@monmouth.edu; **Paige West**, cw2031@columbia.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 on and teaching of the Hebrew Bible. The seminar aims to illuminate 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, sociological and ideological approaches to the text, as well as history of interpretation. Research on ancient Near Eastern cultures and languages relating to the Hebrew Bible is also regularly presented.

CHAIR/S: **David Carr**; **Karina Martin Hogan** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Christiaan Faul**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 11 *Udders, Queer Nests, and Animal Family Trees: Kinship in Animal Bible Studies*
Beth Berkowitz, Barnard College
- October 16 *"He Nursed Hadassah"? Childist and Cross-Cultural Insights in Adoption Texts Related to Women and Girls*
Julie Faith Parker, Union Theological Seminary
- November 15 *Literacy in the Kingdom of Judah: Old and New Arguments*
Matthieu Richelle, Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium)
- December 12 *Samuel and Genesis: Two Books, One Story*
Gary Rendsburg, Rutgers University
- February 26 *The Elihu Speeches in Light of Legal Metaphor in the Book of Job*
Michael Legaspi, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary
- April 17 *Aesthetics of the Everyday: Qohelet and Women's Arts*
Elaine James, Princeton Theological Seminary

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **David Carr**, dcarr@utsnyc.edu; **Karina Martin Hogan**, kahogan@fordham.edu

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/S: **Carla Bellamy** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Kamini Masood**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 23 *From Man to Woman: The Trans Self as Moral Exemplar in Bengali Public Life*
Katherine Ewing, Columbia University
Baishakhi Taylor, Columbia University
- January 22 *Bearing the Burden of History: Religion, Race, and Caste in the Indo-Caribbean Diaspora*
Gaurika Mehta, Columbia University
- February 12 *A Fatal Policy: War-Time in the Astral State*
Marko Geslani, University of South Carolina
- March 4 *The God of Death Yama in Company Paintings from Southern India*
Subhashini Kaligotla, Columbia University
- April 1 *Eternally Lifting Mount Govardhan: Poetic Inspiration and Artistic Representation at Udaipur*
Jack Hawley, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Carla Bellamy**, carla.bellamy@baruch.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. Several 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.

CHAIR/S: **Allan S. Gilbert**; **K. Aslihan Yener** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Jeiran Jahani**; **Kutay Sen**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- November 2 *High, Middle, or Low? Establishing an Absolute Radiocarbon Chronology for the Middle Bronze Age Levant*
Felix Höflmayer, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Austria)
- November 6 *Tree-Ring and Radiocarbon Refinements Towards More Precise Chronology for the Near Eastern Bronze Age*
Charlotte Pearson, University of Arizona
- January 17 *Post-earthquake Response at Alalakh: A World Heritage Initiative at the Bronze Age Capital (Hatay, Türkiye)*
Murat Akar, Mustafa Kemal University, Antakya (Turkey)
- March 28 *Milking, Manure, and Meadows: Isotopic Results From Neolithic Barcın Höyük*
Rana Özbal, Koç University, Istanbul (Turkey)
- April 17 *Synchronous Eastern Hemisphere Societal Collapses at 4.2 ka BP*
Harvey Weiss, Yale University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Allan S. Gilbert**, gilbert@fordham.edu; **K. Aslihan Yener**, akyener12@gmail.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 meets on the second Friday of the month, from October to April, 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/S: **Molly Tambor** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Giulia Ricca**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 15 *The Voice of the Rural and Migrant Moroccan Men in Umbria*
Alessandra Ciucci, Columbia University
Pier Mattia Tommasino, Columbia University
- October 6 *Industrious Skies: The Chemistry of Fascist Nature*
Rebecca Falkoff, University of Texas, Austin
Respondent: **Suzanne Stewart Steinberg**, Brown University
- October 20 *Metamorphosis of an Intellectual: Gaetano Salvemini Exile Between Europe and the United States*
Renato Camurri, University of Verona (Italy)
Respondent: **David Forgacs**, New York University
- November 17 *The Republican Roots of the «Buon Colonizzatore»: Italy and Its Decolonization*
Alessandro Pes, University of Cagliari, Italy and Remarque Institute, New York University
Respondent: **Elleni Centime Zeleki**, Columbia University
- December 8 *Fragments of Female Becoming: Conducting Research with Italian Teen Audiences*
Romana Andò, Sapienza University, Italy
Danielle Hipkins, University of Exeter (United Kingdom)
- January 19 *Rebuilding Italy After World War II: Casabella Continuità's Search for New Alternatives*
Elisa Dainese, Georgia Institute of Technology
Respondent: **Mary McLeod**, Columbia University
- February 9 *Jews and the Italian Colonization of Libya*
Shira Klein, Chapman University
Respondent: **Pamela Ballinger**, University of Michigan
- March 8 *The Risorgimento and International Law*
Steven Soper, The University of Georgia
Respondent: **Isaac Nakhimovsky**, Yale University
- April 12 *Fanciulli Girovaghi: Child Migrants During the Age of Mass Migration*
Victoria Calabrese, Lehman College
Respondent: **Mary Gibson**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City College of New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Molly Tambor**, molly.tambor@liu.edu

EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE (491) • Founded: 1966

This seminar is a forum for scholarly conversations and works-in-progress on early American history, broadly defined. It seeks both to support scholarship on the Anglo-American colonies and the early United States (pre-Civil War), and to situate these political entities within broader frameworks (e.g. global history, early modern history, the Age of Revolution, hemispheric history, and the Atlantic World). The seminar aims to involve a wide range of historians (including specialists in Native American history, Caribbean history, and Latin American history) in this discussion about early America. Scholars of literature, religion, slavery and African diaspora, Native American studies, anthropology, sociology, and related fields are also encouraged to attend.

CHAIR/S: **Hannah Farber**; **John Dixon** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Grant Kleiser**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 19 *To Rebut a Presumption that She was Born a Slave: Practical Abolition and Its Opponents in New Jersey, 1793-1809*
Jonathan Sassi, College of Staten Island, City College of New York
- October 17 *Some Thoughts about the Stamp Act Crisis*
Andrew Shankman, Rutgers University
- November 14 *Colonial Print Culture in a Society With Slaves: The Example of British Jamaica*
Jordan Alexander Stein, Fordham University
- December 12 *Enslavement During Periods of Colonial Crisis and Change in Early America*
Andrea Mosterman, The University of New Orleans
- January 23 *Freedom Round the Globe: A New History of the American Revolution. Chapter 3, A Street in Kolkata*
Sarah Pearsall, Johns Hopkins University
- February 20 *Reconsidering the African Atlantic: Castle Cormantine and Early English Africa, 1632-1672*
Michael Jarvis, University of Rochester
- March 19 *Great Falls: Alexander Hamilton's Vision of Industry and Work in Early America*
Brian Murphy, Rutgers University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Hannah Farber**, haf2126@columbia.edu; **John Blanton**, jblanton@ccny.cuny.edu

POLLUTION AND WATER RESOURCES: SCIENTIFIC AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS (495A) • Founded: 1968

The purpose of this seminar is to explore the effects of pollution and environmental regulation on water and related environmental resources. Forty-one volumes of the Proceedings of the Seminar, collections of the lectures 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. Since its founding, thirty-three graduate students have participated in the seminar, and their participation has been credited toward their studies.

CHAIR/S: **Richard W. Lo Pinto** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Joanne Lo Pinto**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 28 *Dahla Dam-Afghanistan: Project Review Summary*
Vincent Uhl, UHL & Associates, Inc.
- December 14 *Nature Based Solutions for Stormwater Management and Sea Level Rise*
Samantha Rebecca Cohen, Brown and Caldwell

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Richard W. Lo Pinto**, lopintor@fdu.edu

SLAVIC HISTORY AND CULTURE (497) • Founded: 1968

The Seminar on Slavic History and Culture was founded in 1968 on the initiative of the renowned scholar of Russian literature and specialist on Dostoevsky, Robert Belknap. It was initially conceived as a broad exploration of history, literature, and arts of the Slavic peoples, to include topics from economic development to religious and philosophic thought. Today, after many years bringing together the Slavic studies community in the New York City area, our Seminar continues to bridge the disciplines of literature, language, and history, with a focus on original research across the range of Russian and East European history, as well as a lively exploration of the contemporary literary and artistic scene. We are pleased to welcome a dynamic group of graduate students who bring their energy and enthusiasm to our meetings.

CHAIR/S: **Jessica Merrill**; **Nathaniel Knight** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Jamie Nadel**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 6 *A Multispecies Marine Environmental History of the Russian North in Different Climate Regions*
Julia Laius, Columbia University
- December 13 *The Revolution of the New Narod: Popular Will and Post-Socialist Television, from Perestroika to 1991*
Pavel Khazanov, Rutgers University
- February 2 *Recipe for Catastrophe: Chernobyl, Invasive Species, and Communism's Collapse in the Black Sea Region*
Taylor Zajicek, Columbia University
- March 22 *New York and Odesa as emerging world cities through the eyes of Pavel P. Svinin*
Guillaume Nicoud, Archivio del Moderno, Università delle Svizzera Italiana (Switzerland)
- April 12 *Capital Acts: Maxim Gorky and the Capitalist Aesthetics of Late Imperial Russia*
Valeriia Mutc, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Nathaniel Knight**, nathaniel.knight@shu.edu; **Jessica Merrill**, jem2159@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.

CHAIR/S: **Elisheva Carlebach**; **Rebecca Kobrin** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Charles Steinman**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 23 *Diary of a Black Jewish Messiah*
Alan Verskin, University of Toronto (Canada)
- May 8 *The Missing Chapter in Ottoman-Jewish Musical and Cultural History: Songs, Soundscapes, and Early Modern Society*
Hadar Feldman Samet, Tel Aviv University (Israel)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Elisheva Carlebach**, ecarlebach@columbia.edu; **Rebecca Kobrin**, rk2351@columbia.edu

ECONOMIC HISTORY (503) • Founded: 1969

The concerns of this seminar are wide-ranging in time, place, and method. Emphasis is on European and American economic growth and development from feudal times to the present, with a growing representation of 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 economic development. 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.

CHAIR/S: **Alan Dye**; **Susie Pak**; **David Weiman** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Rohan Niraj Shah**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 5 *WWII Contract Spending and Labor and Capital Income*
Andrew Bossie, New Jersey City University
- November 2 *Schwartz Cheap Grocery: Jews and the Live Poultry Trade, 1880-1945*
Roger Horowitz, University of Delaware
- December 7 *Weathering Life's Problems: Living Standards and Income Inequality in 20th Century Burkina Faso*
Thomas Zuber, Columbia University
- February 1 *Women and the Econometrics of Family Trees, Co-written with Joseph P. Ferrie and Christopher Vickers*
Jose-Antonio Espin Sanchez, Yale University
- March 7 *Enlightening the Deeper Problems: Lack of US Private Investment in 1950s Turkey through the Lens of Clarence B. Randall's Missions*
Murat Iplikci, Columbia University
- April 4 *How to Be a Success in Business: Storytelling & Belonging in Finance*
Susie Pak, St. John's University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Alan Dye**, adye@barnard.edu; **Susie Pak**, paks1@stjohns.edu;
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/S: **Karla Rothstein**; **Christina Staudt** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Nikita Shepard**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| October 11 | <i>Matters of Life and Death</i>
Robert Pollack , Columbia University |
| November 8 | <i>Counseling in the Liminal Space</i>
Susan Gerbino , New York University |
| December 13 | <i>Under Pressure: The Material and Affective Registers of Organ Donation</i>
Tanya Zivkovic , University of Adelaide (Australia) |
| February 14 | <i>Global Warming, Ecological Degradation, and the Future of Mortality</i>
Tony Walker , University of Bath (United Kingdom) |
| March 20 | <i>End of Life Ethics: An Ecological Approach</i>
Kenneth J. Doka , Hospice Foundation of America |
| April 10 | <i>The Torments of Despair Masquerading as Hope: Anticipating Medical Aid in Dying and Discovering Hope, Differently</i>
Ashley Moyse , Columbia University |
| May 8 | <i>Aesthetics: Expanding Life through/beyond "Life's Ending"</i>
Kei Okada , Independent Scholar |

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Karla Rothstein**, kmr16@columbia.edu; **Christina Staudt**, christinastaudt@gmail.com

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."

CHAIR/S: **Zoë Strother**; **Lisa Trever** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Brandon Agosto**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- November 2 *Making Pre-Hispanic Art Through Letters: Dealer Correspondence and Object Transformations*
Megan E. O'Neil, Emory University
- December 6 *Rereading the Missionary Archive: Dr. George W. Harley in and Out of the African Art Market*
Christopher Steiner, Connecticut College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Zoë Strother**, zss@columbia.edu; **Lisa Trever**, lt2731@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.

CHAIR/S: **Elizabeth Cohn**; **Ronald Gross** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Lorna Jepkoech Kimaiyo**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 26 Joint meeting with (561), (585), (689), and (459A) *Why Public Spaces Matters*
Setha Low, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- March 1 Joint meeting with (585) *The talking Revolution: How Creative Conversation Can Change the World*
Eddy Canfor-Dumas, Independent Scholar
Peter Osborn, University of London (United Kingdom)
- April 9 Joint meeting with (585) and (689) *Saving Democracy: What Do We Need to Do?*
- May 31 Joint meeting with (585) and (689) *Harnessing Neuroscience To Transform our Lives*
John Delfs, GOODWOLF

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Elizabeth Cohn**, ec2341@columbia.edu; **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.

CHAIR/S: **Peter Winn** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Sara Pan Algarra**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 *Joint meeting with (771) *An Illegible Relation?: Black/Indigenous Being and a Study of Hemispheric Racializations**
Ashley Ngozi Agbasoga, New York University
- November 30 *Argentina Turns Hard Right. Argentina: Elections and Politics*
Victoria Basualdo, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Guatemala)
Jordana Timerman, Latin America Daily Briefing
- February 15 *China and Latin America's Political Economy: Obstacles and Opportunities*
Barbara Stallings, Brown University
- March 7 *Technology, Design, and Memory in Chile: The History of Project Cybersyn*
Eden Medina, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Hugo Palmarola, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Chile)
Pedro Ignacio Aloson, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Chile)
- April 4 *The Landscape of Violence in Venezuela: A Focus on Policing and Women's Responses*
Verónica Zubillaga, Universidad Simón Bolívar (Venezuela)
Rebecca Hanson, University of Florida

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Peter Winn**, pwinn2@gmail.com

POPULATION BIOLOGY (521) • Founded: 1971

This seminar covers all aspects of population biology, broadly defined to include ecology, evolution, and other aspects of modern organismal biology. It also encompasses studies of animal behavior in the field and laboratory, paleontology, theoretical and experimental biology, genetics, and genomics.

CHAIR/S: **Alison Cucco**; **Kathleen A. Nolan** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Lorna Jepkoech Kimaiyo**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 3 *Sunbears (*Helarctos melayanus*) as Seed Dispersal Agents of Megafaunal-Syndrome Plants*
Christina Colon, Kingsborough Community College
- November 14 *Suburban Meadows Can Improve Soil Microbial Communities and Chemistry*
Michael Tessler, Medgar Evers College
- December 5 *Captive Population of *Crocodylus Intermedius*: A Genetic Reservoir to Save the Species*
Ana Saldarriaga, Fordham University
- February 6 *Zooplankton of the East River (Brooklyn Bridge Park, New York)*
Emily M. Herstoff, St. Francis College, Brooklyn, New York
- April 2 *Time Traveling with Ancient DNA from Caves, Cabinets and Crocodiles*
Evon Hekkala, Fordham University
- May 7 *Aquatic Insect Biodiversity and Trophic Dynamics in the Highly Urbanized Bronx River*
Matthew Lundquist, Marymount Manhattan College
- May 14 *Hunting Bird Viruses in the City*
Christine Marizzi, BioBus New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Alison Cucco**, alisoncuc@gmail.com; **Kathleen A. Nolan**, knolan@sfc.edu

POLITICAL ECONOMY (523) • Founded: 1971

This seminar was founded to study the most compelling questions of the day, which are related to the war in Southeast Asia and its causes and consequences. Today, the seminar continues to examine vital current issues with an emphasis on their economic, political, and philosophical dimensions. Such issues have included welfare policy, homelessness, and strains in multicultural democracies, and violent conflicts within and across nation-states. 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 states, and new principles of income distribution. Theories oriented to deepening democracy and realizing human rights both in the US and abroad are also an ongoing focus.

CHAIR/S: **Carol Gould**; **Omar Dahbour** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Christian Aleksander Jensen**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 12 *A Discussion of Scarcity: A History From the Origins of Capitalism to the Climate Crisis*
Carl Wennerlind, Barnard College
- February 29 *Planetmaking: Nature as Capital*
Alyssa Battistoni, Barnard College
- March 28 *The Frontiers of Green Capitalism*
Thea Riofrancos, Providence College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Carol Gould**, carolcgould@gmail.com; **Omar Dahbour**, odahbour@hunter.cuny.edu

THE MIDDLE EAST (525) • Founded: 1971

The seminar meets once a month during the academic year. A prominent expert from here or abroad leads a ninety-minute discussion at each meeting. 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 mounting instability and proliferating crises. Detailed minutes are prepared for archival purposes.

CHAIR/S: **Gary Sick**; **Lawrence G. Potter** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Roland Gillah**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 11 *The Gulf Goes Green: Can the Fossil Fuel Giants Lead the Energy Transition?*
Karen E. Young, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
- October 11 *Iran's Revolutionary Guards and the Iran-Iraq War*
Annie Tracy Samuel, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
- November 8 *Developments in the Israel-Gaza War*
Hussein Ibish, Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington
- December 6 *Egypt and the United States: Managing Long-term Interests and Immediate Crises*
James Ketterer, Bard University
- January 17 *Two Existential Crises: The Birth of the Conflict between Left and Right in Zionism, 1931-35 and the Watershed of 2023 in Israeli Politics*
Mitchell Cohen, Baruch College, City University of New York
- February 14 *Reflecting on the War in Yemen*
Peter Salisbury, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
- March 20 *Iran Watcher Program*
Alan Eyre, United States State Department

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Gary Sick**, ggs2@columbia.edu; **Lawrence Potter**, lgp5@columbia.edu

APPETITIVE BEHAVIOR (529) • Founded: 1972

This seminar is comprised of faculty, students, fellows, research scientists, and physicians from academia and industry in the greater New York area who share a common interest in the biological bases of appetitive behavior. The group has four major areas of concentration: 1) control of food and fluid intake in humans and animals, and how these control mechanisms impact body weight and composition; 2) disorders with links to ingestive behavior such as obesity, bulimia, anorexia nervosa, and diabetes; 3) pharmacological, physiological, and neurobiological perspectives on how the brain controls ingestive behavior; 4) cognitive, social, and environmental determinants of ingestive behavior. The seminar combines basic research with clinical applications. To be added to our mailing list and receive monthly communications about the Appetitive Behavior seminars, please contact us at apbsem@gmail.com.

CHAIR/S/S: **Allan Geliebter**; **John Glendinning** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Faris Zuraikat**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 14 *Embryonic Exposure to Substances of Abuse: Disturbances Across Species of Neuronal Development and Early Drug-Related Behaviors that Later Promote Overconsumption*
Sarah Leibowitz, The Rockefeller University
- October 12 *Does Discounting Supermarket Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and Noncaloric Beverages Lead to Increased Intake?*
Allan Geliebter, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York
- November 9 *Taste and Smell, Love and Death: Lessons From COVID-19*
Danielle R. Reed, Monell Chemical Senses Center
- December 14 *The Cephalic Phase Insulin Response - Myths and Facts*
Wolfgang Langhans, ETH Zürich Schwerzenbach (Switzerland)
- January 18 *What Can We Learn From an Animal Model of Food Insecurity?*
Kevin Myers, Bucknell University
- February 8 *Timing of Eating and Its Relation to Body Weight and Metabolism*
Kelly C. Allison, University of Pennsylvania
- March 21 *Development of Genetic Models and Novel Small Molecule Antagonists to Reveal the Importance of Cocaine- And Amphetamine-Regulated Transcript Peptide (CARTP) in Pain, Stress and Appetite*
Willis 'Rick' Samson, St. Louis University School of Medicine
- April 11 *Appetite and Body Weight in Children and Adults: Behavioral and Neuroimaging Studies*
Susan Carnell, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Allan Geliebter**, allan.geliebter@mountsinai.org; **John Glendinning**, jg263@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.

CHAIR/S: **Patricia Antonello** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Shreyaa Suresh**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

October 30 *"A Religion Run By a Biker Gang": Cultural Christianity in the American CrossFit Gym*
Katie Rose Hejmanek, Brooklyn College, City College of New York

December 11 *Chimpanzees, Bonobos, And Evolution*
R. Brian Ferguson, Rutgers University-Newark, Emeritus

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Patricia Antonello**, pata@brooklyn.cuny.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.

CHAIR/S: **Mary McGlynn**; **Seamus O'Malley** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Kate Reeve**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- November 3 *The Linguistic Ecology of Irish, Sustainability, and the Utopian Impulse*
Jonathan O'Neill, Villanova University
- December 1 *Sally Rooney: Perspectives and Approaches*
Ellen Scheible, Bridgewater State
Barry Devine, Heidelberg (Germany)
- February 2 *The Emergence of the Global Irish-Speaking Population in the Nineteenth-Century: Implications and Impacts*
Nicholas Wolf, New York University
- March 1 *Post-Nature Irish Climate Fiction and Its Decolonial Imperative*
Malcom Sen, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- April 5 *The Necromantics: Reanimation, The Historical Imagination, and Victorian British and Irish Literature*
Renee Fox, University of California, Santa Cruz
- April 19 *The Body of the Law in Contemporary Irish Poetry*
Adam Hanna, University College Cork (Ireland)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Mary McGlynn**, mary.mcglynn@baruch.cuny.edu; **Seamus O'Malley**, seamusomalley@gmail.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.

CHAIR/S: **Maria DeLongoria**; **Emily Sohmer Tai** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Katy Habr**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 30 *The Give and Take of Community Based Research: Re-Thinking Vulnerability*
Samantha Majic, John Jay College, City College of New York
Respondent: **Melissa Ditmore**, Independent Researcher
- November 27 *Politics Online: Sex Workers and Platform Power*
Amy Adamczyk, John Jay College, City College of New York
Respondent: **Melissa Ditmore**, Independent Researcher
- December 11 *What's in a Name Reclaiming Third World Feminisms and Serving Epistemic & Translational Justice*
Zehra Arat, University of Connecticut
Respondent: **Brooke Ackerly**, Vanderbilt University
- February 26 *Liberating & Learning from Banned Books by Black Women*
Dionne Bennett, New York City College of Technology
- March 25 *What's in a Name: Reclaiming Third World Feminisms and Serving Epistemic & Translational Justice*
Owen Brown, Medgar Evers College and City College of New York
Respondent: **Dionne Bennett**, New York City College of Technology

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Maria DeLongoria**, historydoc@icloud.com; **Emily Sohmer Tai**, etai@qcc.ccny.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/S: **Leyla Amzi-Erdoğdular**; **A. Tunç Şen**; **Louis Fishman** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Yasemin Akçagüner**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

February 9 *Urban Agency in Ottoman Age of State Building: The Halvetiyye's Soujourn In Amasya (1412-1481)*
Hasan Karataş, Wesleyan University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Leyla Amzi-Erdoğdular**, la2142@columbia.edu; **A. Tunç Şen**, ats2171@columbia.edu;
Louis Fishman, lfishman@brooklyn.cuny.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 policymakers. Speakers in the seminar are drawn from the membership itself and by invitation from other institutions.

CHAIR/S: **Frank McCorry**; **Steve Rabinowitz** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Lorna Jepkoech Kimaiyo**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 19 *Harm Reduction Developments and Findings on Effectiveness*
Mary Brewster, Associate Commissioner Division of Harm Reduction
- October 17 *Efforts to Distribute the Opioid Settlement Dollars, Its Priorities and Success to Date*
Constance Burke, New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports
- November 21 *Current Policy and Practice Issues in OTP Services*
Allegra Schorr, Coalition of Medication Assisted Treatment Providers & Advocates
Mark Parrino, The American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence, Inc
- December 19 *Faith Based Recovery*
Rabbi Ilan Glase, Our Jewish Recovery
Fr. Dennis Polanco, St. Christopher's Inn
- January 16 *Risk and Protective Factors for Older Adults for Problem Substance Use*
Steven Rabinowitz, Angus Community
- February 20 *Federal and State Policy Updates*
Robert Kent, Kent Strategic Advisers
- March 19 *Qualitative Studies in Substance Abuse: Themes Emerging From a Dozen International Studies With Subsequent Implications for Policies*
Sharon Kahn, New York City Psychologist
- April 16 *Drug and Society Planning Meeting*

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Frank McCorry**, famcc127@gmail.com; **Steve Rabinowitz**, steverabinowitz55@gmail.com

BRAZIL (557) • Founded: 1976

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

CHAIR/S: **Diana Brown**; **John F. Collins**; **Sidney M. Greenfield**; **Vânia Penha-Lopes** •
RAPPORTEUR/S: **Tales Cardeal da Costa Cunha**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 13 Joint meeting with (405) and (411) *The Pastor Arrives at the Aiwekara Village and Meets the Pajé: Conflict or Adaptation?*
Donizete Rodrigues, The Centre for Research in Anthropology, Nova University of Lisbon, Portugal
- October 19 *Neocolonial Promises of Freedom: Brazilian Candomble in West Africa*
Moises Lino e Silva, Federal University of Bahia (Brazil)
- November 30 *Infrastructures of Unfreedom: Exponential Prison Construction and the Sustainability of Punitive Developmentalism in Brazil*
Graham Denyer Willis, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom)
- February 20 *Media Presentation and Self-Representation of Indigenous Peoples in Brazil*
Robert P. Stam, New York University
- May 8 Joint meeting with (405) and (411) *Live, Work and Pray in New York City: Brazilian Immigrants and Ethnic-Religious Entrepreneurship*
Donizete Rodrigues, The Centre for Research in Anthropology, Nova University of Lisbon (Portugal)
Sidney Greenfield, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Emeritus

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Diana Brown**, dbrown@bard.edu; **John F. Collins**, zemilideias@yahoo.com;
Sidney M. Greenfield, sidneygreenfield@gmail.com; **Vania Penha-Lopes**, vania_penha-lobes@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/S: **Muhsin al-Musawi** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Ruwa Mohammed Alhayek**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 22 *The Worlding of Arabic Literature: Language, Affect, and the Ethics of Translatability*
Anna Ziajka Stanton, The Pennsylvania State University
- October 26 *Other Places, Upside-Down Places: Narrating the Nakba (1948) From the Future*
Ada Barbaro, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)
- December 7 *Authority and Truth in Islamic Medicine*
Elaine van Dalen, Columbia University
- February 1 *Late Style—a Palestinian Aesthetic?*
Robert J.C. Young, New York University
- March 28 *One Thousand and One Days: The Story of a Contemporary Scheherazade From a Creative Perspective*
Irene Lozano, Casa Árabe (Spain)
- April 11 *The Conceptualizations of 'People' and 'Revolution' from Marx, Sartre, and Rancière to Arab Fruit Vendors*
Rim Chakraoui, Lusail University (Qatar)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **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. This year, the Columbia University Human Rights Seminar is focusing on Implementation of Human Rights Norms: Challenges and Prospects.

CHAIR/S: **George Andreopoulos** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Tatiana Cordero-Romero**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 2 *The Human Rights Situation in China*
Andrew J. Nathan, Columbia University
- October 26 Joint meeting with (459A), (511), (585), and (689) *Why Public Spaces Matters*
Setha Low, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- October 30 *The Role of Affective Empathy in Eliminating Discrimination Against Women: A Qualitative Investigation*
Michaela Guthridge, Monash University (Australia)
Tania Penovic, Deakin University (Australia)
- December 4 *The Arc of International Justice is Long, But It Bends Towards Accountability. Why Did It Take Democracies Three Decades to Create the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights?*
Leonardo Castilho, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- February 5 *"Magnitskied": The Growing Use of Human Rights Sanctions in a Divided World*
Louis Charbonneau, Human Rights Watch
- March 4 *Conflict-Related Sexual and Gender-Based Crimes: A Threat to Gender Equality and Women's Rights*
Jelena Pia-Comella, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- April 15 *United Nations Counterterrorism since the adoption of Resolution 1373 (2001): Achievements Made and Work Still to Be Done*
Edward J. Flynn, Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **George Andreopoulos**, chrights@jjay.cuny.edu

NEO-CONFUCIAN STUDIES (567) • Founded: 1979

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.

CHAIR/S: **Ari Borrell**; **Tao Jiang**; **On-cho Ng** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Weiling Kong**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 6 *The Fourth Sprout and the Storehouse of Wisdom*
Hagop Sarkissian, Baruch College, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- December 1 *Political Thinking in a Classless Society*
Dongxian Jiang, Fordham University
- February 2 *To Confucianism, Are Perfectionist Policies a Help or a Trap? Lessons From Wang Yangming's Moral Psychology*
Baldwin Wong, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)
- April 5 *What Is an Emotion? An Early Chinese Perspective in the Xing Zi Ming Chu*
Wenqing Zhao, Baruch College, City College of New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Ari Borrell**, arinborrell@gmail.com; **Tao Jiang**, tjiang@rutgers.edu; **On-Cho Ng**, oxn1@psu.edu

SHAKESPEARE (581) • Founded: 1982

This seminar explores issues of interest to the 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 and Gloria Beckerman Lecture is presented annually in honor of the seminar's founders.

CHAIR/S: **Debapriya Sarkar; Jenny C. Mann** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Shanelle Kim**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 8 *Cleopatra's Boyhood*
Scott Trudell, University of Maryland
- October 13 *Bernard and Gloria Beckerman Lecture*
Tanya Pollard, Brooklyn College, City College of New York
- November 10 *Shakespeare's Mediterranean Recognitions: Shipwreck, Sexual Experience and Servitude in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night and Pericles*
Susanne Wofford, New York University
- December 1 *Queen Nzinga and the Example of African Female Agency*
Danielle Lee, State College of New York College at Old Westbury
- February 9 *"Yf Thou Seeke Glory by Bookes": Book Display and the Signification of Erudition*
N. Amos Rothschild, St. Thomas Aquinas College
- March 8 *Austerity Measures: The Poetics of Food Insecurity in Early Modern England*
Andy Crow, New York University Law School
- April 5 *The "Ethnike" Poet as Ethnic Poet: Seneca the Spaniard in Early Modern England*
Victoria Muñoz, Hostos Community College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Allison Deutermann**, allison.deutermann@baruch.ccny.edu;
Jenny C. Mann, jenny.mann@nyu.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.

CHAIR/S: **Ann Marie Murphy** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Lauren Elizabeth Stricker**

2023-2024 Meetings

September 20 The 2023 Elections and the Return of the Princes
Pavin Chachavalpongpun, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University (Japan)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Ann Marie Murphy**, amm31@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/S: **Elizabeth Cohn**; **Ronald Gross** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Lorna Jepkoech Kimaiyo**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 26 Joint meeting with (511), (561), (689), and (459A) *Why Public Spaces Matters*
Setha Low, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- March 1 Joint meeting with (511) *The talking Revolution: How Creative Conversation Can Change the World*
Eddy Canfor-Dumas, Independent Scholar
Peter Osborn, University of London (United Kingdom)
- April 9 Joint meeting with (511) and (689) *Saving Democracy: What Do We Need to Do?*
- May 31 Joint meeting with (511) and (689) *Harnessing Neuroscience to Transform Our Lives*
John Delfs, GOODWOLF

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Elizabeth Cohn**, ec2341@columbia.edu; **Ronald Gross**, grossassoc@aol.com

COGNITIVE AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE (603) • Founded: 1986

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.

CHAIR/S: **Christopher Baldassano**; **Herbert S. Terrace** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Camille Gasser**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 23 *The Role of Frontoparietal Networks in Attention and Voluntary Imagination*
Alfredo Spagna, Columbia University
- November 27 *Representation and the Brain*
John Morrison, Barnard College
- December 11 *Learning Representations of Specifics and Generalities Over Time*
Anna Schapiro, University of Pennsylvania
- January 22 *Top-Down Control of Visual Word Recognition*
Alex White, Barnard College
- March 18 *The Brilliance Barrier: Stereotypes About Brilliance Are an Obstacle to Diversity in Science and Beyond*
Andrei Cimpian, New York University
- April 29 *Learning and Memory in the Infant Brain*
Nick Turk-Browne, Yale University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Christopher A. Baldassano**, c.baldassano@columbia.edu;
Herbert S. Terrace, hst1@columbia.edu

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.

CHAIR/S: **Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg**; **Raúl Carrillo** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Vignesh Ramesh Gaikwad**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 2 *Mobilizing and Organizing for True Full Employment
Strategies for Economic Justice Advocacy in the Near Term*
Mark Paul, Rutgers University
Raúl Carrillo, Yale University
- December 4 *Breaking the Two-to-One Black-to-White Unemployment Rate*
Algernon Austin, Race and Economic Justice at the Center for Economic and Policy Research
Charles Bell, National Jobs for All Network; Consumer Reports
Discussant: **Algernon Austin**, Center for Economic and Policy Research
- March 4 *The Economics of Building a Better Democracy*
Erica Smalley, Jobs with Justice
Sarita Gupta, United States Programs, Ford Foundation
- April 8 *Green Jobs and a Just Transition from Fossil Fuel*
Vivian Price, California State University, Dominguez Hills

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg**, trudygoldberg@njfac.org

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.

CHAIR/S: **Mahnaz Moazami**; **Marisa McCrone** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Angie Tao Henon**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 26 *The Deep Blue Beards of the Achaemenids: Hairy Matters in Studying Ancient Persian Art*
Alexander Nagel, Fashion Institute of Technology
- October 26 *The Making of Syriac Jerusalem Representations of the Holy City in Syriac Literature of Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages*
Catalin-Stefan Popa, Institute for Advanced Studies in Levant Culture and Civilization, Bucharest (Romania)
- February 20 *The Color Black: Enslavement and Erasure in Iran*
Beeta Baghoolizadeh, Princeton University
- April 23 *Heroes to Hostages: America and Iran, 1800-1988 (Through Race, Gender, and Culture)*
Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, University of Pennsylvania

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Mahnaz Moazami**, m_moazami@yahoo.com; **Marisa McCrone**, mm3811@columbia.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/S: **Gale Kenny** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Cella Masso-Rivetti**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 9 *Mirrors of the Past: Prediction and Historical Consciousness in Western Astrology*
Omri Elisha, Queens College, City College of New York and The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- November 13 *Rome Is Not Just Catholic, and Its Religions Are Not Just Italian: U.S. Support for the Emergence of a New Religious Freedom*
Mariachiara Giorda, Roma Tre University (Italy)
- January 29 *Drain the Swamp: The Infrastructure of American Civil Religion in the Everglades Drainage District*
Isaiah Ellis, University of Toronto (Canada)
- February 26 *“A Little Experiment on the Edge”: The Settlement House Movement and the Search for Solidarity in the Industrial City*
Heath Carter, Princeton Theological Seminary

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Courtney Bender**, cb337@columbia.edu; **Gale Kenny**, gkenny@barbard.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/S: **Robert Remez** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Xinming Zhou**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 26 *Cognitive Reserve in Aging and Dementia*
Yaakov Stern, Columbia University
- November 30 *How Infants Make Sense of Speech, and How We Can Find Out*
Daniel Swingley, University of Pennsylvania
- February 22 *An Autoregressive Conversational Dynamics Model For Dialogue System*
Rivka Levitan, Brooklyn College, The Graduate Center, City College of New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Robert Remez**, remez@columbia.edu

MEMORY AND SLAVERY: SOCIAL AND HUMAN CONSEQUENCES (689) • Founded: 2001

This Seminar addresses the legacy of slavery in the western hemisphere, focusing on African-American slavery in the United States. Presenters and discussants participate in dialogue on the history of slavery, its neurobehavioral and cultural underpinnings, the social, economic, and political factors facilitating ongoing racism and inequities, and the consequences for ancestors of enslaved peoples and enslaving peoples in the modern world. Members of this seminar include anthropologists, clergy, historians, neuroscientists, psychologists, sociologists, and other scholars and guests who share an interest in learning from the collective memories of slavery, determining what must be done to heal the wounds left behind by slavery, and determining how to move toward equitable and healthy societies in which all peoples can thrive.

CHAIR/S: **Emily Anderson; John Delfs** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Eleanor Xu**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 *Epigenetic Inheritance: Understanding Intergenerational Trauma*
Thiago Arzua, Columbia University
- October 26 Joint meeting with (459A), (511), (561), and (585) *Why Public Space Matters*
Setha Low, The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- November 16 *Sojourner Truth Was a New Yorker, and She Didn't Say That*
Nell Irvin Painter, Princeton University
- April 9 Joint meeting with (585) and (511) *Saving Democracy: What Do We Need to Do?*
- May 31 Joint meeting with (585) and (511) *Harnessing Neuroscience to Transform Our Lives*
John Delfs, GOODWOLF

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **John Delfs**, john@goodwolf.org

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.

CHAIR/S: **Glenda Chao**; **Ethan Harkness** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Yong-ha Kim**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 29 *Stirrings of the Heart, Stirrings of the Cosmos: The Worlds of Classical Chinese Aesthetics*
Paul R. Goldin, University of Pennsylvania
- October 20 *Hunting and Warfare: History of Shi 勢 in Early China*
Boqun Zhou, University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)
- November 10 *Hepu and the Maritime Silkroad*
Francis Allard, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- December 8 *On the Newly Identified Phrase 'Worry is gone' yōu wáng 憂亡, in the Shāng Oracle Bone Inscriptions*
Adam Schwartz, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)
- February 2 *Tracing the Origins and Evolution of the Signature System in Early Imperial China*
Hsinning Liu, Academia Sinica (Taipei)
- March 29 *Local Administrative Centers and their Transitions during the Warring States and Qin-Han Period*
Tao Guo, Tang Center for Early China, Columbia University and Central China Normal University (China)
- April 19 *Remembrance in Clay and Stone: Early Memorial and Funerary Art of Southwest China*
Hajni Elias, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Glenda Chao**, gchao@ursinus.edu; **Ethan Harkness**, harkness@nyu.edu

MODERN BRITISH HISTORY (701) • Founded: 2004

The seminar in Modern British History brings together historians from 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 books in the field of modern British history (from the late seventeenth century to the present), or to comment on work in progress by members of the group.

CHAIR/S: **James Stafford**; **Ren Pepitone** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Kate Reeve**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 28 *Our NHS: A History of Britain's Best-Loved Institution*
Andrew Seaton, Oxford University (United Kingdom)
Sheri Berman, Barnard College
- November 8 *Decolonization and the 'Break up of Britain'*
Ben Jackson, Oxford University (United Kingdom)
Stuart Ward, University of Copenhagen (Denmark)
Discussant: **James Stafford**, Columbia University
Discussant: **Susan Pedersen**, Columbia University
- December 6 *Speciated Crossings: Fishwives and the Limits of Sex and Species*
Dale Booth, Bryn Mawr College
- December 6 Fluid Economies, Fluid Identities: Gender, Water and Work in Britain, 1750 - 1918
Dale Booth, Bryn Mawr College
Respondent: **Deborah Valenze**, Barnard College
- February 16 *Imperfect Technologies of Moralization: Railway Paternalism in Mid-Nineteenth Century Britain*
Mattie Armstrong-Price, Fordham University
Respondent: **Ren Pepitone**, New York University
- March 21 *Thatcher's Carers: British Caregivers, Community Welfare and the European Court of Justice in the 1980s*
Roslyn Dubler, Columbia University
Respondent: **Lise Butler**, City University of London (United Kingdom)
- April 11 *The Mix-up Around "Unmixing": Population Exchange, the British Empire and the Treaty of Lausanne*
Michelle Tusan, University of Nevada
Respondent: **Mark Mazower**, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **James Stafford**, jms2533@columbia.edu; **Ren Pepitone**, ren.pepitone@nyu.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.

CHAIR/S: **Nikolas P. Kakkoufa**; **Dimitrios Antoniou** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Dimitra Loumiotis**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 29 *Screening of "Hussies" (Tsoulakia, 2022, Dir. Despina Mavridou) and Discussion with the Creators*
Despina Mavridou, Filmmaker
Photis Korrosiadis, Filmmaker
Kalliopi Arampatzi, Screenwriter
- October 6 *"I Lose My Screams": Unmourned Bodies And Performances of the Lamenting Voice from Latin America to Greece*
Marios Chatziprokopiou, University of Thessaly (Greece)
Respondent: **Emma Ianni**, Columbia University
- November 14 *Greek Literature on Shifting Ground: Nationalism, Migration, and Belonging in the Modern Greek Literary Sphere*
Karen Emmerich, Princeton University
Nicholas J. Dames, Columbia University
- December 7 *Screening of Queen of the Deuce and Discussion With Filmmaker*
Valerie Kontakos, Filmmaker
Bondi Walters, Producer
Don Walters, Producer
- January 25 Joint meeting with (805) *A Bag Full of Telephone Cards: Exhibiting the Archive of Albanian Immigration to Greece*
Ilirida Musaraj, The Contemporary Social History Archives
Respondent: **Amy Starecheski**, Columbia University
- February 28 *Boy meets boy and girl meets girl: Foregrounding the Greek American Queer Narrative*
Theodora Patrona, Aristotle University
Giorgos Anagnostou, Ohio State University
- March 21 *Weird Entanglements of Fiction and Reality: Lost, Disappearing, and Virtual Islands, from the Aegean to the Pacific*
Maria Boletsi, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands and University of Leiden (Netherlands)
Respondent: **Stathis Gourgouris**, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Dimitris Antoniou**, da2500@columbia.edu; **Nikolas P. Kakkoufa**, nikolas.kakkoufa@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 have 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. The Columbia University Seminar in Literary Theory meets several times per semester to discuss new work on the relations between literature, philosophy, and politics. A paper is pre-circulated and discussed at the seminar. We invite faculty and graduate students of all institutions to attend.

CHAIR/S: **Emily Apter**; **Bruno G. Bosteels** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Connor Spencer**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 26 *Contemporary Political Adventures of Meaning: What Is Hegemony?*
Catherine Malabou, New York University, The European Graduate School (Switzerland), and University of California, Irvine
Bruno Bosteels, Columbia University
- November 9 *Notes on Tone: Three American Poets*
Anahid Nersessian, University of California, Los Angeles
Respondent: **Jeff Dolven**, Princeton University
- December 4 *Mass Death/Full Speech/Tobacco and Salt*
Ranjana Khanna, Duke University
Camille Robcis, Columbia University
- February 6 *Unborn Persons and Their Women Containers*
Lisa Siraganian, Johns Hopkins University
Julie Stone Peters, Columbia University
- April 18 *Black Reconstruction*
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Columbia University
Surya Parekh, Binghamton University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Emily Apter**, emily.apter@gmail.com; **Bruno G. Bosteels**, bb438@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, inceptioned 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.

CHAIR/S: **Marianne Hirsch**; **Andreas Huyssen**; **Sonali Thakkar** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Annabelle Tseng**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 4 *Memory Studies: New Directions*
Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College
Brett Kaplan, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- November 1 *Discussion of Palestinian Author Adania Shibli's Novel Minor Detail*
- March 25 *Subcontractors of Guilt: Holocaust Memory and Muslim Belonging in Postwar Germany*
Esra Özyürek, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom)
- April 18 *Central America on the Move: Migration, Asylum, and Transnational Adoption*
Co-sponsored with Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities
Jonathan Blitzer, Journalist
Rachel Nolan, Historian

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Marianne Hirsch**, mh2349@columbia.edu; **Andreas Huyssen**, ah26@columbia.edu;
Sonali Thakkar, st4617@nyu.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).

CHAIR/S: **Allison Aitken**; **Jonathan C. Gold**; **Hagop Sarkissian** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Cole Fishman**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 15 *War and Shame—A Debate on the Appropriate Response to Insults between the Confucians and their Interlocutors*
Jing Hu, Concordia University (Canada)
Discussant: **Nalei Chen**, New York University
- October 13 *Buddhist Analyses of the Unconscious Construction of Our Collective ‘Life-Worlds’*
William Waldron, Middlebury College
Respondent: **Jonathan Gold**, Princeton University
- October 27 *Zhuangzi on Not Following the Leader*
David Wong, Duke University
Respondent: **Christopher Gowans**, Fordham University
- December 1 *Mind the Gap: Methodological Pluralism in Comparative Philosophy*
Stephen Angle, Wesleyan University
Discussant: **Katja Vogt**, Columbia University
- January 19 *Nyāya, Buddhism, Rāmakaṇṭha, and Galen Strawson on the Existence of Selves*
Alex Watson, Ashoka University, India
Discussant: **Martin Lin**, Rutgers University
- February 2 *Mental Imagery, Tantric Practice, and the Drama of the Imagination*
Davey K. Tomlinson, Villanova University
Discussant: **Thomas Yarnall**, Columbia University
- April 12 *Comparative Philosophy and Practical Applied Ethics*
Laura Specker Sullivan, Fordham University
Wengqing Zhao, Baruch College, City College of New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Allison Aitken**, allison.aitken@columbia.edu; **Jonathan C. Gold**, jcgold@princeton.edu;
Hagop Sarkissian, hagop.sarkissian@baruch.cuny.edu

THEORY AND HISTORY OF MEDIA (727) • Founded: 2009

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.

CHAIR/S: **Dennis Tenen**; **Noam Elcott** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Cecilia Santos**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 18 *Literary Theory for Robots*
Dennis Tenen, Columbia University
Respondent: **Mara Mills**, New York University
- November 9 *Art and AI: Past, Present, Future*
Michelle Kuo, Museum of Modern Art
Antonio Somaini, Paris 3 Sorbonne Nouvelle
Kate Crawford, University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism
Noam M. Elcott, Columbia University
- November 27 *AI and the Visual Economy of Style*
Noam M. Elcott, Columbia University
Dennis Tenen, Columbia University
- February 12 *The Return to Aesthetics*
Reinhold Martin, Columbia University
Zeynep Çelik Alexander, Columbia University
Claudia Breger, Columbia University
Respondent: **Lydia Goehr**, Columbia University
- April 19 *Rules/Data: A Conversation with Lorraine Daston and Matthew L. Jones*
Lorraine Daston, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, University of Chicago
Matthew L. Jones, Princeton University
Respondent: **Zeynep Çelik Alexander**, Columbia University
Respondent: **Noam Elcott**, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Stefan Andriopoulos**, sa610@columbia.edu, **Dennis Tenen**, dt2406@columbia.edu

SITES OF CINEMA (735) • Founded: 2010

"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.

CHAIR/S: **Racquel Gates; Jane Gaines** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Max Gaan; Matthew Huh**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 15 *A 'Toy Film' History of Shōwa: The Second Sino-Japanese War, 1931-1945*
Yoneo Ota, Toy Film Museum, Kyoto (Japan)
Respondent: **Joanne Bernardi**, Rochester University
- October 26 *Heels on Concrete: New York's Black Women Film Critics and the Sublation of Classical Hollywood Cinema*
Ellen Scott, University of California, Los Angeles
Respondent: **Racquel Gates**, Columbia University
- November 9 *Circulation Worries*
Kaveh Askari, Michigan State University
Respondent: **Farbod Honarpisheh**, Yale University
- December 7 *We Protest! Women-Directors in contemporary Russian Documentary Cinema*
Anzhelika Artyukh, St. Petersburg University, Russia
Respondent: **Rossen Djagalov**, New York University
Respondent: **Tatiana Efremova**, Columbia University Harriman Institute
- March 7 *Settle For My Love: Tyler Perry's Traumatic Romantic Aesthetic*
Miriam Petty, Northwestern University
Respondent: **Danielle Dougé**, Barnard College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Racquel Gates**, rjg2184@columbia.edu; **Jane Gaines**, jmg2196@columbia.edu

COLUMBIA SCHOOL LINGUISTICS (739) • Founded: 2011

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 guest presenters doing compatible work outside the Columbia School tradition. Work coming out of the seminar has led to numerous conference presentations and publications.

CHAIR/S: **Eduardo Ho-Fernández** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Hanyang Chen**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 22 *Andrew McCormick: On the Non-synonymy of 'How', 'The Way' and 'Why'; Daan Van Soeren: Why We Can Do without the Phoneme - The Inferential Process of Speech Recognition*
Andrew McCormick, City University of New York
Daan van Soeren, University of Groningen (Netherlands)
- December 1 *Technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Columbia School Linguistics*
Ryder Wishart, McMaster Divinity College (Canada)
- April 5 *The Form 'They' and a Number-Meaning Hypothesis: A Columbia School Analysis Word Order in Central Tibetan Conversation*
Tanisha Pandey, University of Bern (Switzerland)
Ryan Ka Yau Lai, University of California Santa Barbara
- May 10 *The Signals of Probability in English*
Alan Huffman, City University of New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Andrew McCormick**, a.mccormick081@gmail.com;
Joss Ruggles-Sackler, josscsling@gmail.com; **Daan van Soeren**, dpvansoeren@gmail.com

GLOBAL AND INTERDISCIPLINARY CORE CURRICULA (741) • Founded: 2011

Purpose: To collectively explore the pedagogical purpose and best practice approaches to interdisciplinary and global humanities “core” at the level of higher education to meet the challenges of the emerging world. A major challenge to teaching humanities today is how to rethink its pedagogy in such a way that students not only learn *about* different cultures of the world but learn “from” them to think critically about the way each of us understand, experience, and broaden our own culture. This Seminar welcomes the participation of faculty and administrators from Columbia and beyond, as well as select invested students, to 1) help frame the kinds of questions that most demand humanity’s collective concern in this new age of interdependence; 2) to identify those classics—including seminal advances in contemporary sciences where advisable—from throughout the world’s traditions that will help bring those concerns into sharpest focus; and 3) to rethink from fresh perspectives the institutional structures and resources by which this new generation of interdisciplinary “core” courses may be most effectively implemented.

CHAIR/S: **Rachel E. Chung**; **Gareth D. Williams** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Priya Chainani**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 14 *Symposium Fellow Reflection Session*
- November 16 *The Ramayana*
Rachel McDermott, Barnard College
Respondent: **Rachel E. Chung**, Columbia University
- February 21 *Aeschylus’s Agamemnon*
Gareth Williams, Columbia University
Respondent: **Rachel E. Chung**, Columbia University
- March 6 *Life of the Buddha*
Rachel E. Chung, Columbia University
Respondent: **Gareth Williams**, Columbia University
- March 27 *Alumni Panel/Pedagogical Workshop*
Rachel E. Chung, Columbia University
Respondent: **Gareth Williams**, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Rachel E. Chung**, ec61@columbia.edu; **Gareth D. Williams**, gdw5@columbia.edu

COMPLEXITY SCIENCE, MODELING AND SUSTAINABILITY (743) • Founded: 2011

For AY2023-2024, The University Seminar on Complexity Science, Modeling and Sustainability focused on the neglected nexus between Eco-Climate Crisis, Public Health and Equity. Ecosystem and biodiversity protection can support both human health and help address carbon emissions. Climate change is also impinging on ecosystems and biodiversity, so addressing climate change, in turn, will help mitigate ecosystem and species loss. The pathways we choose to address the eco-climate crisis have large impacts on already deep inequities that exist at local and global scales. For example, current decarbonization pathways often imply deepening extraction and use of Global South resources as well as biodiversity destruction. Thus, we must be able to build approaches that grapple with these complexities. Finally, links between these dynamics and ongoing public health challenges need more discussion given that the inter-related dynamics of biodiversity loss, habitat destruction and climate change (eco-climate nexus) are linked to increasing zoonotic diseases and other public health challenges that have deeply inequitable effects. This year, we plan to work on these themes by inviting researchers and policymakers who can help us think through how to escape silos and work in frameworks that embrace this complexity in our research, education, and action.

CHAIR/S: **Joshua Fisher**; **Jacqueline Klopp**; **Christoph Meinrenken** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Christina Lee**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

October 17 *Green Curses and Conflicts: The Security Implications of Renewable Energy Sector Development in Africa*
Siri Aas Rustad, Peace Research Institute in Oslo (Norway)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Joshua Fisher**, jf2788@columbia.edu; **Jacqueline Klopp**, jk2002@columbia.edu;
Christoph Meinrenken, cjm2177@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 writers, independent scholars, and faculty from other New York institutions, although speakers may come from outside the metropolitan area.

CHAIR/S: **Lynn Garafola** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Emily Hawk; Juliana DeVaan**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 23 *Ukrainian Ballet Librettos*
Ania Nikulina, Binghamton University
- November 20 *Ballet for the Masses*
Laura Quinton, Harvard University
- December 11 *"I Saw What They Were Hiring": Casting and Recasting a Chorus Line*
Ryan Donovan, Duke University
- January 29 *"Tap Women, Then and Now" / Ayodele Casel in Conversation with Margo Jefferson*
Ayodele Casel, Independent Artist
Margo Jefferson, Columbia University
- February 26 *Ballet Modernisms: Adolph Bolm and the Chicago Allied Arts*
Carolyn Watts, Princeton University
- March 25 *"The Gown and Paraphernalia": Dora Cole Norman's Star of Ethiopia*
Carrie Streeter, Appalachian State University
- April 29 *The Resilience of Lycra™: Militarism, Dance and Historical Expansion (Or, the Story of Fiber K)*
Rachel Fensham, University of Melbourne (Australia)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Lynn Garafola**, lg97@columbia.edu

RELIGION AND WRITING (751) • Founded: 2011

The seminar investigates the roles of literacy and writing in religious traditions. Its goal is to serve as a research group for the comparative study of literacy and the uses of writing as a form of communication technology in world religions. 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.

CHAIR/S: **Dagmar A. Riedel** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Heidi Elizabeth Hansen**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 19 *Writing on Ecstasy in the Academy: Can It Be Done? Should It Be Done?*
June McDaniel, College of Charleston
- November 8 *Deploying Writing and Craft in the Twelfth-Century Cult of St. Frideswide*
Andrew Dunning, Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford (United Kingdom)
- March 28 *Immanuel of Rome: A Jewish Dante?*
Dana W. Fishkin, Touro University
- April 18 *The King's Song: Poet Kings in the Islamic East*
Ali Karjoo-Ravary, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Dagmar A. Riedel**, dar2111@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/S: **Claire Greene**; **Katheyn L. Lovero** • RAPPOREUR/S: **Jiangyuan Zhu**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

February 21 *Doctoral Student Salon*

March 4 *Ukraine in the Context of War: Trauma, Resilience, and the Development of Mental Health Interventions*
Sergiy Bogdanov, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Ukraine)
Kimberly Hook, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Claire Greene**, mg4069@cumc.columbia.edu; **Kathryn L. Lovero**, kll2153@columbia.edu

DEFENSE AND SECURITY STUDIES (759) • Founded: 2013

Defense & Security Studies advances understanding of global security through research, analysis, and programs. Since its establishment in 2013, DSS has led and convened conferences, workshops, and seminars on contemporary defense challenges. DSS emphasizes interdisciplinary methods, integrating the security advancements of several fields, to include development, diplomacy, economics, history, law, management, and technology.

CHAIR/S: **N. W. Collins** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Ana Zuniga**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- November 13 *Portfolio of Structured Methods in U.S. National Security*
Gina Bennett, Georgetown University
- January 29 *Strategic Methods and Reconnaissance on the Global Seas*
Matthew J. Burns, Naval Postgraduate School
- March 4 *Advanced Topics in Digital Operations and Information Campaigns*
Richard E. Angle, United States Military Academy West Point
- April 8 *Fieldwork and Pathways in U.S. National Security*
DSS Leadership Team

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **N. W. Collins**, nwcollins@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 afterlives of the 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 to understand these complex exchanges that reach «Beyond France».

CHAIR/S: **Ralph Ghoche**; **Samia Henni**; **Aubrey Gabel** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Nadrah Mohammed**; **Eponine Senay**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 29 *Maghreb Noir: The Militant-Artists of North Africa and the Struggle for a Pan-African, Postcolonial Future*
Paraska Tolan-Szkilnik, Cornell University
Respondent: **Gregory Mann**, Columbia University
- November 3 *Everything Contained in Your Home: Plague, Homes, and State Responsibilities in Coastal Senegal, 1914-1921*
Gregory Valdespino, Princeton University
Madina Thiam, New York University
- February 9 *Transoceanic Cancerous Breasts: Shaping Caring as Praxis of Resistance through the Visibility of Vulnerability*
Jennifer Boum Make, Georgetown University
Respondent: **Emily Bloom**, Sarah Lawrence College
- March 8 *Notes for a Foyer Literature: On Reading and Writing in the Depiction of West African Workers' Struggles*
Jennifer Bajorek, Hampshire College
Respondent: **Kaiama L. Glover**, Yale University
- April 19 *The Anonymous Artist: René Guénon on the Nature and Function of Art and Architecture*
Iheb Guermazi, Columbia University
Respondent: **Ali Karjoo-Ravary**, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Ralph Ghoche**, rghoche@barnard.edu; **Samia Henni**, sh2494@cornell.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.

CHAIR/S: **Brian Boyd**; **Naama Harel** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Fern Margot Thompsett**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- October 4 *The Synanthrope Preserve*
Gal Nissim, New York University
- February 6 *The Rational Animal: On the Limits of the Human Animal, Largely in the Middle Ages*
Karl Steel, Brooklyn College and The Graduate Center, City College of New York
- March 5 *On the Creative Practice of Spiders*
Anna Blume, Fashion Institute of Technology, State College of New York

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Brian Boyd**, bb2305@columbia.edu; **Naama Harel**, nh2508@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 acknowledgment 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 the 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.

CHAIR/S: **Pamela Calla**; **Elizabeth Hutchinson** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Sara Pan Algarra**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 18 *Roundtable Dialogue - The Global Alliance of Territorial Communities: Indigenous Knowledge and Proposals as a Response to the Climate, Humanitarian, and Environmental Crisis*
Juan Carlos Jintiach, The Global Alliance of Territorial Communities
Nina Kantcheva, United Nations Development Programme
Balkissou Buba, Network for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa (Congo Basin)
Cristiane Pankararú, The Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (Brazil)
Gustavo Sánchez, Red MOCAF (Mexico)
Giuseppe Villalaz, Congress of the Comarca Guna Yala (Panama)
Respondent: **Elsa Stamatopoulou**, Columbia University
Respondent: **Raúl Hinojosa**, Center of Chicano Studies, University of California, Los Angeles
- September 21 Joint meeting with (515) *An Illegible Relation?: Black/Indigenous Being and a Study of Hemispheric Racializations*
Ashley Ngozi Agbasoga, New York University
- October 19 *Education Policy Research by, for, and with Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Mexico, and the United States*
Michelle Pidgeon, Simon Fraser University (Canada)
Regina Cortina, Teachers College, Columbia University
Respondent: **Amanda Earl**, Teachers College, Columbia University
- November 16 *Collective Rights and Human Rights Education: Lessons From the Indigenous Navigator*
Romina Quezada Morales, Columbia University
Respondent: **Felisa Tibbitts**, Utrecht University (Netherlands)
- December 5 *Declarations Through Design: Producing Places, Identities, and Relationships in Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations' Textiles and Regalia*
Denise Green, Cornell University
- February 28 *The Shape of Time: Art and Ancestors of Oceania: An Exhibition Takes to the Seas*
Maia Nuku, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- April 30 *Racialized Geographies in Mexico: Violence and Disappearance in Mexico*
Rosalba Aida Hernandez Castillo, Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology (Mexico)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Pamela Calla**, pc1210@nyu.edu; **Elizabeth Hutchinson**, eh499@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 explore 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/S: **Dustin Rubenstein**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 18 *Species Recognition in Brood Parasitic Birds and their Hosts*
Mark Hauber, Advanced Science Research Center, City University of New York
Nature, Nurture and the Neuroscience of Parenthood
Bianca Jones Marlin, Columbia University
- October 23 *The Neurobiology of Touch from Mice to Naked Mole Rats*
Ishmail Abdus-Saboor, Columbia University
- February 12 *The Genetic Basis of Glucocorticoid Levels in Biparental Deer Mice*
Jennifer Merritt, Columbia University
Different Solutions to the Same Problem? Habitat Specialization and Evolutionary Trajectories of Urban Lizards
Kristin Winchell, New York University
- April 15 *Social And Environmental Modifiers of the Aging Primate Immune and Nervous System*
Noah Snyder-Mackler, Arizona State University
Ctenophore Life History and Laboratory Tractability: Can We Teach an Old Animal New Tricks?
Allison Edgar, New Jersey Institute of Technology

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Dustin Rubenstein**, dr2497@columbia.edu

THE FUTURE OF AGING RESEARCH (775) • Founded: 2014

Initiated by the Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center, the University Seminar on the Future of Aging Research has as its mission to provide an interactive, interdisciplinary forum for scientists to engage with one another, to generate new ideas and new methods, and to stimulate new approaches to the science of aging. The format emphasizes dynamic exchanges and dialogue, catalyzed by brief presentations of new work by CU/CUMC researchers. Discussions are sparked by leaders in complementary areas spanning context, individual, and organismal/biological perspectives.

CHAIR/S: **Jennifer Manly**; **Brandon Pearson**; **Kavita Sivaramakrishnan**; **Caitlin Hawke** •
RAPPORTEUR/S: **Rachel Farber**; **Matthew Coulson**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 18 *Zebrafish As a Translational Genomics Model and Its Implications in Age-Related Neurodegeneration*
Caghan Kizil, Taub Institute
- December 4 *Human Caregiving and Affective Brain Development*
Nim Tottenham, Columbia University
- February 26 *Health Consequences of Working Longer*
Teresa Ghilarducci, The New School
- March 25 *Brain Arterial Aging and Its Relationship to Alzheimer's Dementia Non-atherosclerotic Brain Arterial Aging as a Catalyst of Brain Aging*
Jose Gutierrez, Columbia University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Jennifer Manly**, jjm71@columbia.edu; **Elizabeth Bradshaw**, emb2280@cumc.columbia.edu; **Kavita Sivaramakrishnan**, ks2890@cumc.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 the 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.

CHAIR/S: **Patricia Dailey**; **Thomas Dodman**; **Lauren Mancía** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Alec Joyner**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 Joint meeting with (431) *Wings of Desire: Avian Erotic Entanglements*
Eliza Zingesser, Columbia University
- February 9 *The Affective Academic?: A Discussion of the Role of Affect in Academic Life in the 21st Century*
Donovan Schaefer, University of Pennsylvania
Respondent: **Sarah Gerth Van Den Berg**, Teachers College
Respondent: **Lauren Mancía**, Brooklyn College
Discussant: **Patricia Dailey**, Columbia University
- March 6 *Act Fact Affect: Psychoanalysis Between Linguistics & Ethics*
Marcus Coelen, University of Munich (Germany) and Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry (Germany)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Patricia Dailey**, pd2132@columbia.edu; **Thomas Dodman**, td2551@columbia.edu;
Lauren Mancía, laurenmancia@brooklyn.ccny.edu

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE (783) • Founded: 2016

The transition to a sustainable economic system looms as one of the key challenges of the present generation. This seminar brings together academically-minded practitioners and practically-oriented academics to explore how the financial sector can play an essential and constructive role in funding this transition. The seminar touches on a variety of topics including social impact investing, the integration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into analysis, the financing of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, and financial system integrity. It also explores the limits to sustainable development policies.

CHAIR/S: **Mark Townsend Cox; Jeffrey Potent** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Khulan Batkhuyag**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 18 *Net Zero Investing - Is it Going to Be Enough?*
Franziska Jahn-Madell, Massachusetts Financial Services
- October 16 *Startups Vs. Extinction*
Kevin Webb, SuperOrganism
- November 13 *Top-Down Analysis of the Global Energy Transition*
Thomas Rowlands-Rees, BloombergNEF
- January 22 *Complying with New Standards for Human Capital Reporting*
Solange Charas, HCMoneyball
- March 4 *Climate Tech Funding Trends 2023 and Beyond*
Pratibha Vuppuluri, Unreasonable Group
- April 15 *The Rise of Debt-For-Nature Swaps*
Armelle de Vienne, PGIM Fixed Income

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Caroline Flammer**, caroline.flammer@sipa.columbia.edu

MATERIAL TEXTS (787) • Founded: 2017

This seminar brings together from various disciplines scholars who work on the history of the book and the study of material texts in order to place the technical and bibliographical study of text objects in dialogue with cultural studies and both the textually- and the materially-oriented humanist disciplines more broadly. Over recent decades, book history has emerged as a necessarily and productively interdisciplinary field; with this in mind, this seminar focuses on the interpretation of material textual objects from an array of disciplinary perspectives. Our aim is to provide a clearinghouse for emerging methods and work, and a nexus for scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds to discuss and pursue shared interests in the study of the book and the material text.

CHAIR/S: **Alexis Hagadorn**; **Jane Siegel** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Anya Wilkening**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- November 14 *Artists' Books: A Few Made Strategies and Tactics*
Marjorie Welish, Independent Scholar, Artist
- December 12 *Printing and Metaphor*
Clifton Meador, Appalachian State University
- January 30 *Woodblock Printers of the Mind: Problems of Analogy in Western and East Asian Descriptive Bibliography*
Devin Fitzgerald, Yale University
- February 20 *Material as Substrate and Content in Contemporary Artists' Books*
Russel Maret, Independent Scholar, Artist
- March 26 *Evidence in Old Books: Identification, Interpretation and Preservation*
Maria Fredericks, Morgan Library and Museum
- April 9 *A Treasure from the Library of Jacques Amyot (1513-1593) Rediscovered in Provins: The Edition of Euripides' Tragedies by Jean Hervagius (Basel, 1537)*
Luc Duchamp, Fond Anciens, Ville de Provins (France)

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Alexis Hagadorn**, ah333@columbia.edu; **Joseph Howley**, jah2220@columbia.edu

SCIENCE AND SUBJECTIVITY (791) • Founded: 2018

The Seminar on Science and Subjectivity was established in 2018 after a prior period of a few years as a class in the Hovde Seminar series at the Heyman Center. The Seminar continues to follow the format that worked well in that earlier iteration: we all read a book in advance of the session, then we all have something to say about it. In the past we then would all have dinner and continue the conversation. Since Covid we have met by zoom earlier in the day, and then those members who are in the area have come together to continue the discussion over dinner at 6:00 at Faculty House. We have begun to invite authors of our books, and other scholars who are focused on the work we are discussing to join our discussions; regardless, we plan to remain a convivial group of interested and articulate readers willing to delve deeply into the intersection of science and individual subjective experience.

CHAIR/S: **Robert Pollack**; **Peter Gruenberger** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Tara Anne Hillman**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

July 20	<i>Home Is Where We Start From—Essays by a Psychoanalyst</i> by Donald Winnicott
September 21	<i>Quarrel and Quandry</i> by Cynthia Ozick
October 19	<i>Einstein: His Life and Universe</i> by Walter Isaacson
November 16	<i>Rescuing Socrates</i> by Roosevelt Montas
December 21	<i>The Exceptions—Nancy Hopkins, MIT and the Fight for Women in Science</i> by Kate Zernicky
January 18	<i>The Lottery and Other Stories</i> by Shirley Jackson
February 22	<i>They All Laughed at Christopher Columbus—Tales of Medicine</i> by Gerald Weissman
March 21	<i>The Rooster's Egg—On the Persistence of Prejudice</i> by Patricia Williams
April 18	<i>This Chair Rocks—A Manifesto Against Ageism</i> by Ashton Applewhite
May 9	<i>Read Until You Understand—The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature</i> by Farah Jasmine Griffin

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Robert Pollack**, pollack@columbia.edu; **Elaine Bernstein**, ESBern@aol.com

COLLABORATIVE OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (793) • Founded: 2018

This seminar explores and examines the intersection of scholarship and practice around higher education institutions' (HEIs) civic engagement with a specific focus on youth and families within their communities. The membership consists of researchers and practitioners from Columbia University as well as the community who share this common interest. As such, the seminar is uniquely positioned to cultivate an intersection of scholarship and practice through discussions focused on HEIs' approaches to defining, fulfilling, and assessing their roles as engaged anchor institutions within their communities; and the implications of their efforts to the community and the institutions.

CHAIR/S: **Shaba Keys**; **Alissa Mayers** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Leopoldo Daniel Moncada**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

Pathways to success - How HEIs Can Collaborate with Communities for Educational Equity

October 12	<i>Meeting 1</i>
November 9	<i>Meeting 2</i>
February 1	<i>Meeting 3</i>
March 7	<i>Meeting 4</i>
April 4	<i>Meeting 5</i>
June 6	<i>Meeting 6</i>

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Shaba Keys**, sk3785@columbia.edu; **Alissa Mayers**, am4459@columbia.edu

KOREAN STUDIES (797) • Founded: 2019

The Korean Studies Seminar is an interdisciplinary forum that brings together scholars, artists, and professionals working on Korea-related subjects from a wide variety of disciplines: history, literature, art history, visual and media studies, architecture, religion, sociology, anthropology, music, and performance studies. The seminar discusses current research and issues in the study of Korea drawn from the dynamic intellectual community in and around New York City.

CHAIR/S: **Dong-Sei Kim**; **Jae Won Chung**; **Jenny Wang Medina** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Ye Lim Oh**; **Hetty Lee**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 21 *General Meeting*
Dong-sei Kim, New York Institute of Technology
- October 19 Koreatown in Manhattan: Branding Korea and Consuming Ethnicity in the Global Economy
Jinwon Kim, New York City College of Technology
- November 16 *Accessories*
Dongwoo Yim, Hongik University, South Korea; PRAUD, Seoul (South Korea)
- February 22 *Tour of the Lineages Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art*
Eleanor Soo-ah Hyun, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- March 28 *Zombie Avant-Gardes: Subterfuge as Radical Agency in Postwar South Korean Art*
Sooran Choi, University of Vermont, Burlington

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Dong-Sei Kim**, dongsei.kim@nyit.edu; **Jae Won Chung**, jchung@alc.rutgers.edu;
Sohl Lee, sohl.lee@stonybrook.edu

MENSTRUATION AND SOCIETY (799) • Founded: 2021

The last years have brought a tremendous diversity of menstrual-positive expressions—from the artistic to the practical, the serious to the playful, the provocative to the educational, the local to the global. The Menstruation and Society Seminar was established as an interdisciplinary forum for advancing conversations and research around menstruation from a range of different angles. The seminar explores the current state of research, engages new audiences and fields of study, and discusses how collaboration across disciplines can advance the field of menstrual studies and translate to improved programs and policy.

CHAIR/S: **Marni Sommer**; **Inga Winkler** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Isabella Brocato**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 20 *The Safety of Tampons*
Marianthi-Anna Kioumourtzoglou, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
Laura Strausfeld, Period Law
- November 8 *What's A 'Normal' Menstrual Cycle? - Insights from Anthropology*
Kate Clancy, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Kim Hopper, Columbia University
- February 14 *Menstruation and Sports*
Sarah Zipp, Bolte School of Business, Mount St. Mary's University
Sasha Sutherland, Caribbean Regional Anti-Doping Organization
- April 3 *Insights from the Multi-City Menstrual Friendly Public Toilet Study*
Marni Sommer, Mailman School of Public Health
Natália Helou Fazzioni, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
Andrew Maroko, Geospatial Health Research Group at the Institute for Health Equity Research at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Marni Sommer**, ms2778@cumc.columbia.edu; **Inga Winkler**, inga.winkler@wur.nl

PUBLIC HUMANITIES: EXPANDING SCHOLARSHIP AND PEDAGOGY (805) • Founded: 2021

The Public Humanities workshop features the work of scholars engaged in public-facing modes of scholarship and pedagogy. Meeting two to three times per semester, each seminar highlights one or more public humanities projects in progress with the aim of nurturing interdisciplinary thinking and new, imaginative collaborations that bridge scholarly and applied knowledge. These intellectual projects will draw on a variety of disciplinary methods while engaging non-academic partners such as community members, civic organizations, artists, and activists. Meetings have a thematic focus while enabling participants to examine topics of concern to the public humanities broadly, including intellectual dynamics, research strategies, program access, and pedagogy.

CHAIR/S: **J.M. Chris Chang**; **Amy Chazkel**; **Eileen Gillooly**; **Maria Gonzales Pendas**; **Amy Starecheski** •
RAPPORTEUR/S: **Claire Dillon**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 29 *The Public Humanities after Covid: A Conversation with the Humanities New York Fellows*
Lauren Cooper, Syracuse University
Joanna Beltrán Girón, City University of New York
Alexa Rodriguez, The TransLatin@ Coalition
Shruti Jain, Binghamton University
Le Li, Binghamton University
Moderator: **Adam Capitanio**, Humanities New York
- November 28 *The Ethics of Public Archaeology*
Meredith Linn, Seneca Village Project, Bard Graduate Center
Christopher Matthews, Montclair State University
- January 25 Joint meeting with (703) *A Bag Full of Telephone Cards: Exhibiting the Archive of Albanian Immigration to Greece*
Ilirida Musaraj, The Contemporary Social History Archives
Respondent: **Amy Starecheski**, Columbia University

ON HIATUS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CONTEMPORARY FOREIGN POLICY (809) • Founded: 2021

The Seminar explores topics in international relations that have direct implications for contemporary issues of foreign policy. Through regularly hosting a community of scholarly experts engaged in analyzing current events through the lens of the existing academic conversation, the seminar strives to produce rigorous academic analysis of contemporary developments in foreign relations, synthesizing international relations theory and real-world events.

CHAIR/S: **Page Fortna**; **Ingrid Gerstmann** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Eric Ryan**; **Mikayla Tai Cheng**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- November 16 *War and International Politics*
John Mearsheimer, University of Chicago
- November 28 *International Relations in the Anthropocene*
V. Page Fortna, Columbia University
- January 23 *Pro-Government Militias*
Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Columbia University
- February 1 *American Power and the Short Peace*
William C. Wohlforth, Dartmouth College
- February 28 *International Security and Supply Chain Politics*
Kimberly Marten, Barnard College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Page Fortna**, vpf4@columbia.edu; **Ingrid Gerstmann**, ig79@columbia.edu

DRAMA, THEATER, AND PERFORMANCE (811) • Founded: 2023

This seminar aspires to spark and to sustain new scholarship in drama, theatre, and performance studies, recognizing that such research frequently spans disciplines. The seminar features the full spectrum of research in drama, theatre, and performance, while focusing particularly on three areas of scholarship: first, critical methods in the study of drama, theatre, and performance; second, work that probes the intersection of performance and literary or textual practice; and third, theatre and performance cultures in and around New York City. We aim to facilitate critical engagement among scholars from multiple fields – including cultural studies, dance studies, history, anthropology, sociology, and classics – and to support generative, cross-disciplinary encounters with current research. The seminar also connects issues of concern to theatre and performance artists and critics with emerging scholarship on these subjects.

CHAIR/S: **Shonni Enelow**; **Rebecca Kastleman**; **Derek Miller** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Adrian Guo Silver**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 28 *Roundtable and Welcome Event*
Sebastián Calderón Bentin, New York University
María José Contreras Lorenzini, Columbia University
Derek Miller, Harvard University
Hillary Miller, Queens College, City College of New York
- November 30 *Mass Performance: Systems and Citizens*
Kimberly Jannarone, Yale University
- February 29 *"In Possession Of Her Part": Powers and Pleasures of Theater in Henry James's the Golden Bowl*
Julia Jarcho, Brown University
- March 21 *The Tawdry, Terrifying but Totally True History of the Casting Couch*
Brian Herrera, Princeton University

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Shonni Enelow**, senelow@fordham.edu; **Rebecca Kastleman**, rrk2157@columbia.edu;
Derek Miller, dmiller@fas.harvard.edu

CUBA (813) • Founded: 2023

The history of Cuba is a highly complex and controversial topic. Beginning in the sixteenth century, it has been the locus of repeated encounters between diverse cultures and subcultures. The sixteenth century witnessed devastating contacts between Europeans and the indigenous peoples of the Caribbean. As the Spanish presence expanded in subsequent centuries, so did the role of Cuba as an economic and political linchpin of the Spanish empire. Armadas loaded with goods and riches from the Spanish colonies throughout the hemisphere rendezvoused in Cuba prior to their departure for Spain in an effort to reduce the depredations of European competitors. The increased importation of Africans as slave labor in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries diversified Cuba demographically and culturally even more, as did Cuba's increasing reception of Haitians, Jamaicans, Mexicans, Chinese, and North Americans, among others. Proximity to the emerging power to the North resulted in increased US influence to the extent that Cuban independence from Spain was circumscribed by the Platt Amendment (1903-34) written into its constitution. This limited Cuban sovereignty and helped feed movements throughout the 20th and 21st centuries to eliminate US influence. This struggle culminated in the 1959 emergence of a revolutionary government that resulted in ongoing tensions between the island and the US. The complexities of Cuban history, including its relationship with the US continue to ensnare the two countries. This University Seminar will focus on the political, economic, social, and cultural issues and complexities of the island, as well as its relationship with the US.

CHAIR/S: **Margaret Crahan** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Tatiana Cordero-Romero**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 26 *Cuban History: Diverse Visions*
Oscar Zanetti Lecuona, University of Havana, Emeritus (Cuba)
Lillian Guerra, University of Florida
Alejandro de la Fuente, Harvard University
Raul Perez Monzon, University of Havana (Cuba)
Philip J. Brenner, American University, Emeritus
- October 10 *The Catholic Church in Revolutionary Cuba*
Petra Kuivala, Visiting Scholar, Harvard University
Moderator: **Anne Nelson**, SIPA, Columbia University
Discussant: **Margaret E. Crahan**, Columbia University
- November 14 *Operation Pedro Pan: The Legacy of the Migration of Unaccompanied Children From Castro's Cuba*
John A. Gronbeck-Tedesco, Ramapo College of New Jersey
Emilio Cueto, Independent Scholar
- January 30 *Evolution of Cuban Dance Music*
Edmundo Carlos Pina Machin, Musician
- March 19 *Cuba Updates: Roots of Current Conditions*
William LeoGrande, American University
Gabriel Vignoli, The New School
Harold Cárdenas Lema, Joven Cuba
Philip Brenner, American University, Emeritus

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Margaret Crahan**, mec55@columbia.edu; **Antonio M. Mendez**, antoniomendezruiz@gmail.com;
Gabriel Vignoli, gabrielvignoli@gmail.com

CURRENT RESEARCH IN APPLIED MICROECONOMICS (815) • Founded: 2023

This seminar explores recent research in applied microeconomics. Through regularly hosting a community of women researchers doing cutting-edge work in applied microeconomics, broadly defined, the seminar strives both to increase the voice of women in the research community and to foster a collaborative environment among female researchers.

CHAIR/S: **Sandra E. Black; Anja Benshaul-Tolonen; Liz Ananat; Belinda Archibong** • RAPPORTEUR/S: **Kate Musen**

2023-2024 MEETINGS

- September 19 *The Social Integration of International Migrants: Evidence from the Networks of Syrians in Germany*
Theresa Kuchler, New York University Stern School of Business
- October 03 *The Messy Boundaries of School/Work: Federal Work-Study, Labor Market Transitions, and the Pandemic*
Judith Scott-Clayton, Teachers College, Columbia University
- October 10 *Backward Linkages in the Copper Mining Sector in Zambia*
Anja Benshaul-Tolonen, Barnard College, Columbia University
- October 17 *Internal and External Labor Markets and Declining Dynamism*
Sadhika Bagga, Columbia University
- October 24 *Enhancing Learning Outcomes in Econometrics*
Seyhan Erden, Columbia University
- October 31 *There's No Place Like Home? The Rise in Parental Cohabitation Among Young Adults*
Sandra Black, Columbia University
- November 14 *'Glossy Green' Banks: The Disconnect Between Environmental Disclosures and Lending Activities (with Mariassunta Giannetti, Maria Loumioti, Caterina Mendicino)*
Martina Jasova, Barnard College
- November 21 *Does the Gender Composition of An Occupation Affect its Compensation? (with Nicola Fuchs-Schundeln)*
Alexandra Spitz-Oener, Humboldt University of Berlin (Germany)
- November 28 *Firm Culture*
Belinda Archibong, Barnard College
- December 5 *Customer Data Access and Fintech Entry: Early Evidence from Open Banking*
Tania Babina, Columbia University Business School
- December 12 *The Competitive Preferences of Asian and White Americans*
Homa Zarghamee, Barnard College
- February 27 *How did East Asia overtake South Asia on Gender?*
Alice Evans, King's College London (United Kingdom)
- March 5 *Intergenerational Correlations in Longevity in the U.S.*
Sandra Black, Columbia University
- March 19 *Enclaves and Assimilation in the Age of Mass Migration: Evidence from Ethnic Catholic Churches*
Leah Boustan, Princeton University
- March 26 *Artificial Intelligence and Firms' Systematic Risk*
Tania Babina, Columbia University
- April 2 *Personal Connections and Hiring Decisions in the Public Sector*
Tatiana Mocanu, Columbia University

April 9

Schedule Unpredictability, Required Availability, and Effective Wages in Hourly Service Work
Elizabeth Ananat, Barnard College

2024-2025 CHAIR/S: **Sandra E. Black**, sblack@columbia.edu; **Anja Benschaul-Tolonen**, atolonen@barnard.edu;
Elizabeth Ananat, eananat@barnard.edu; **Judith Scott-Clayton**, scott-clayton@tc.columbia.edu

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