

history matters

WINTER 2022 | NEWSLETTER

2022 HISTORY LECTURE SERIES

CAPITALISM IN ACTION: CULTURE, POWER, HISTORY

The History Lecture Series returns in January 2022 with three presentations by UW history faculty on global capitalism. Our speakers will cover everything from financial crises to tea to the Jaffa orange. This year, each talk will be broadcast online for viewers all over the world and will be followed by a live Q&A hosted by Professor **Charity Urbanski**. The series will conclude with Professor **James Gregory** moderating a panel discussion with the three lecturers, allowing viewers to connect global histories of capitalism to the problems we face today as a society.

Registration is now open. Thanks to generous support from the UW Alumni Association and the Friends of History Fund, registration will be free again this year. Learn more at <https://history.uw.edu/history-lecture-series>



Professor **Anand Yang**, in “Commodities and Capitalism: A Tale of Tea in China and India,” will trace the development of tea as a beverage of choice across the modern world and its growth as an industry in China and India.

Professor **Mark Metzler**’s talk, “International Capitalist Crises, from the Late Middle Ages to the 21st Century,” will examine capitalism through its crises, from those that emerged on a regional scale seven centuries ago to the global capitalist crises of the 21st century.



Professor **Liora Halperin**’s talk, “The Jaffa Orange: Commodity, Empire, Nation, Land,” will share a tale of the many transformations of Palestine and Israel through the land’s most iconic commodity, which remains a symbol of nation, land, and nostalgia within both Israeli culture and the large displaced Palestinian diaspora.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

DEAR FRIENDS,

GREETINGS FROM SMITH HALL, which is surrounded by trees whose colors this year have been especially majestic. It is such a good feeling to be back on campus, even if the new “normal” is different from life on campus prior to the launch of the

pandemic in March 2020. I still find myself attending almost all meetings on Zoom. In-person conversations with colleagues are rarer, and shorter. But the halls of Smith and other buildings on campus abound with students who are excited about what they are learning—and that they are doing so in person.

The Department of History and our larger community, however, have suffered a great loss. Our hearts are heavy as we mourn the passing of Linda Nash, a distinguished historian of U.S. environmental history. Linda passed away on October 17, 2021, of lymphoma. She was a brilliant historian and a treasured teacher. She was deeply respected by her colleagues at the University of Washington and around the country for her stunning scholarship and coveted counsel. Our thoughts are with her husband, Jim Hanford, and their children Helen and Peter, as well as with Linda’s and Jim’s families.

CONTINUED INSIDE →

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR CONTINUED

We will be honoring Linda's memory by planting a tree near Smith Hall, and in other ways over the months and years to come. This newsletter includes a brief memorial to Linda, but you will also want to read John Findlay's beautiful remembrance, posted on the departmental website.

We are delighted to welcome two new colleagues to the department this fall: Dianne S. Harris, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Bianca Dang, Donald W. Logan Family Endowed Chair in American History.

Dianne Harris comes to the UW from the Mellon Foundation, where she was chief program officer. She is a prolific and wide-ranging historian. Some of her work, such as her highly influential study *Little White Houses: How the Postwar Home Constructed Race in America* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013), focuses on the history of housing and housing segregation in the U.S., race and space, and U.S. postwar suburbia. Outside the field of U.S. history, she has published *The Nature of Authority: Villa Culture, Landscape, and Representation in Eighteenth-Century Lombardy* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2003), and a coedited volume (with Mirka Benes), *Villas and Gardens in Early Modern Italy and France* (Cambridge University Press, 2001). Welcome, Dianne!

We are also very excited to welcome Bianca Dang, who recently defended her dissertation at Yale University. A specialist in the history of the Civil War and 19th-century African American history, she holds the Logan Chair in American History. You can read more about her pathbreaking dissertation and her teaching at the UW in this newsletter. Welcome, Bianca!

I have good news to report about enrollments and majors. This fall we have a near-record number of students taking history courses. And the number of history majors has been increasing, too. In spring 2021, we had 224 undergraduate history majors, which was an increase of 13 percent from 2020. This was our highest number of majors in six academic years. Students are drawn to our innovative courses, where they learn skills that will benefit them in their careers and as global citizens. In spring 2022 we will be offering three new courses: History of Sex, with Laurie Marhofer; History of the Japanese Empire, with Hajin Jun; and From 13

Colonies to Brexit: Making and Un-making of the British Empire, with Taylor Soja. For the first time in many years, students will be able to take American Constitutional History: From Colonial Times to the Present, with Michael Reagan, also in spring 2022.

The new year will bring another superb History Lecture Series with a timely theme, Capitalism in Action: Culture, Power, History. You'll be treated to stimulating talks by Mark Metzler, Anand Yang, and Liora Halperin. Charity Urbanski will be moderating the three talks. This year's series will have an innovative format. The series will conclude with James Gregory moderating a panel discussion with the three lecturers. Be sure to mark your calendars for all four evenings: January 19, January 26, February 2, and February 9, 2022.

In this newsletter, you'll find a number of articles that will give you a sense of the vibrant intellectual community in the Department of History. One of them spotlights the books that faculty have recently published. Congratulations to James Felak, Vanessa Freije, Liora Halperin, Hwasook Nam, and Anand Yang! You can read about the department's undergraduate journal, *Historical Review*. You won't want to miss the profile of our distinguished alumnus Larry Gossett.

We all wish that John Findlay had not retired. But you can read about his illustrious career in this newsletter. Congratulations, John!

I look forward to seeing you at a department event in the near future. I hope that you and those you care about stay healthy. Please keep in touch.

With best wishes,



Glennys Young

Professor and Chair, Department of History
Professor of International Studies





DIANNE HARRIS JOINS UW AS DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND FACULTY MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

WE ARE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE that **Dianne S. Harris**, newly appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is joining the Department of History. A distinguished historian of the built environment, Dr. Harris has served most recently as chief program officer at the Mellon Foundation, where she oversaw the foundation's massive investment in higher education, including important initiatives in public humanities. Prior to that she was a professor and dean at the University of Utah.

Fusing social history and architectural history, she is the author or editor of six books, most of which concern the relationship between the construction of buildings, the construction of space, and constructions of race and class. This is the subject of her most influential work, *Little White Houses: How the Postwar Home Constructed Race in America* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013; second printing, 2020), and the preceding anthology, *Second Suburb: Levittown, Pennsylvania* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010). Her scholarship extends across geographies and centuries—ranging from housing and racial segregation in 20th-century America to studies of early modern Europe. Her books *The Nature of Authority: Villa Culture, Landscape,*

and Representation in Eighteenth-Century Lombardy (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2003) and *Villas and Gardens in Early Modern Italy and France* (Cambridge University Press, 2001, coedited with Mirka Benes) work with issues of class and authority in early modern architecture. A past president of the Society of Architectural Historians, Dean Harris also serves as editor for the University of Pittsburgh Press's Culture, Politics, and the Built Environment book series.

At the Mellon Foundation and in previous appointments, Harris has promoted innovative approaches to digital humanities and public education. Among other things, she helped launch the exciting and influential Humanities Without Walls project that links universities and communities throughout the Midwest. These commitments line up perfectly with the strengths and goals of the history department and those of the Simpson Center for the Humanities.

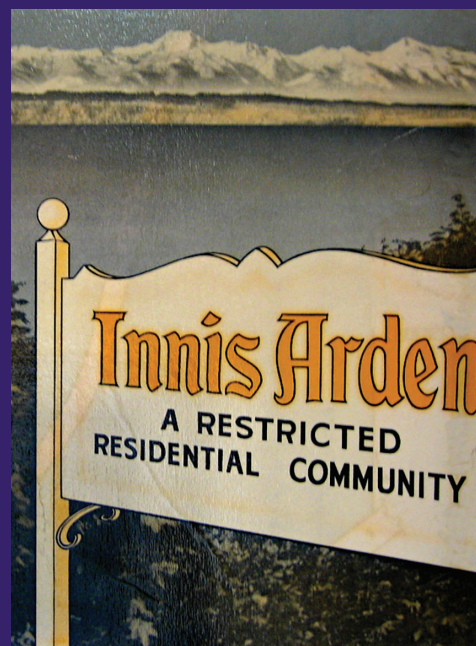
While her position as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences will command nearly all of her time, the history department is delighted that she elected to join us, and looks forward to the productive collaborations ahead.

CONFRONTING LEGACIES OF RACISM IN REAL ESTATE: RACIAL RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS PROJECT

WHAT'S IN YOUR DEED? Racial restrictions on the sale and rental of property became illegal in 1968, but for fifty years before that it was common practice for realtors, developers, and home-owner associations to impose legally binding deed restrictions that prevented people of color from living in many neighborhoods. Last spring the state legislature passed a law authorizing a team of UW researchers to locate racist property records across much of Washington State, and help current owners repudiate them. Led by Professor James Gregory, the team includes PhD candidate Madison Heslop, senior history majors Jazzlynn Woods and Sophia Dowling, and sophomore computer science major Nicholas Boren.

This project builds on earlier work focused on parts of King County, which discovered hundreds of restrictive covenants affecting 20,000 homes in Seattle and its suburbs. Maps and a detailed list of affected neighborhoods can be found on the *Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project* website (<https://depts.washington.edu/civilr/segregated.htm>).

Funding from the state is allowing the research team to complete work on King County and locate racial restrictions in each of the counties of western Washington. A team based at Eastern Washington University is researching the counties east of the Cascades. "This is a chance to fully understand and confront the history of racial segregation that has for too long been hidden or ignored," Gregory explains. "This is history that matters; it continues to shape the lives of everyone in our region."



CAN'T HOLD HIM BACK

FROM RADICAL YOUTH TO SENIOR STATESMAN, LARRY GOSSETT IS AN ACTIVIST FOR US ALL

THE ALUMNUS SUMMA LAUDE DIGNATUS is the highest honor bestowed upon a UW graduate and is presented annually by the UW and the UW Alumni Association. More than 70 alumni have received this prestigious honor since 1938. The list includes Nobel Prize winners, internationally recognized scientists, artists, business leaders, and educators, and many other influential figures.

You can't really talk about the UW in the 1960s without mention of Larry Gossett. A student activist and history major who helped organize the Black Student Union on campus, he formed tight bonds with his classmates and sparked a massive effort to make the university more diverse. The results of their activism enriched the college experience for everyone, not just underrepresented and economically challenged students.

But that's just part of why Larry Gossett is this year's Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus (alumnus most worthy of praise), the highest honor the UW confers on its alumni. Thousands know him as a human rights activist, a leader who crossed

cultural lines to support women and people of color through acts of civil disobedience.

Nearly 200,000 Seattle-area residents know him as their King County Council member. For a quarter century, until 2019, he represented a sizable segment of inner-city Seattle from the University District down to a patch of unincorporated county north of Renton. As a politician and public servant, Gossett was ahead of his time in calling out systemic inequities, pushing to change racist iconography and opposing the racial discrepancies in the justice system—the very things our nation is grappling with today.

Gossett was a solid student and basketball star at Franklin High School who enrolled at the UW in

1963 in the midst of the Vietnam War. He wasn't thinking about much except earning a degree that would land him a good job. As a junior, he joined AmeriCorps through VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) and was assigned to Harlem, which the government was then describing as a "pocket of poverty."

Gossett discovered a far different Black America than what he knew in Seattle. His hometown had a Black population that numbered around 30,000. In Harlem, where the population topped 100,000, each city block was home to thousands. "And most of them were poor," says Gossett. "I wondered, why does this exist in my country?"

He fed his understanding with books, starting with Black history. The bookstore clerks pushed him to read about non-Black revolutionaries as well, developing his understanding of race- and economic-based injustice. He started thinking about the exploitation of one class by another. By the end of his time there, he considered himself a Black revolutionary.

In May 1968, Gossett and a group of Black, Latino, and Native American students and their white classmates joined members of the greater community to march on the Administration Building (now Gerberding Hall), climbing the central stairway and taking over President Charles Odegaard's office. They brought a list of demands that included recruiting and supporting more students of color, diversifying the faculty, and delivering a Black studies

program. After a nearly four-hour sit-in, with more than 70 police officers and growing numbers of sympathizers gathering outside, the demonstration ended peacefully shortly before 9 p.m. Odegaard had agreed to their demands.

That 1968 sit-in motivated Odegaard and his administrative team. By that fall they had started the Educational Opportunity Program for low-income and first-generation students, founded the forerunner of what became the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity (OMA&D), accelerated the hiring of faculty of color, and developed programs in African American studies, Asian American studies and Indian studies.

Today, Gossett is working on a memoir, continuing his activism and seeking new ways to serve his community. While some people who leave office take a souvenir like a chair or painting, Gossett took his county phone number. If someone needs to reach him, they still can, he says. "I'm always going to be a servant of the people."

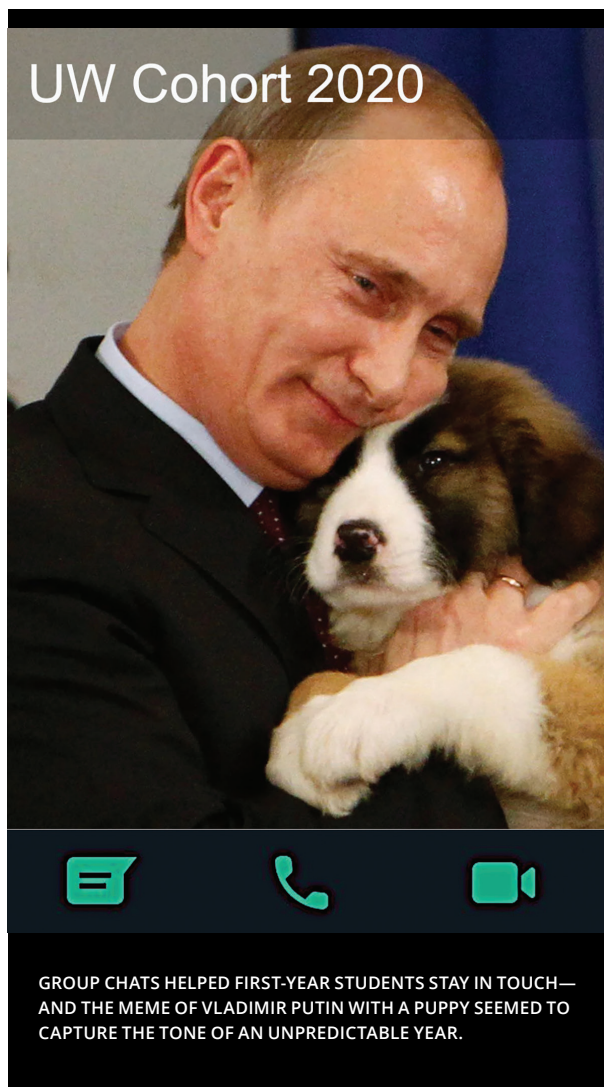
Written by Hannelore Sudermann and originally published in the *University of Washington Magazine* (June 2021 issue). To read the full article, visit: <https://magazine.uw.edu/feature/from-radical-youth-to-senior-statesman-larry-gossett-is-an-activist-for-us-all/>



NAVIGATING DIGITAL LEARNING AS FIRST-YEAR GRADUATE STUDENTS

FEELINGS OF UNCERTAINTY ARE COMMON among graduate students of all stripes, especially new students. But receiving an acceptance letter for the PhD program in history at the UW during the onset of a global pandemic was particularly surreal. The first-year graduate students of 2020 were in a difficult position in many ways. In addition to adjusting to the now ubiquitous Zoom classroom, they needed to build cohort solidarity, connect with more-advanced graduate students, navigate the PhD committee-building process, and conduct research, all through their computer screens.

Despite the circumstances, the new cohort of graduate students found ways to connect and bond with one another to build the peer-support network that is fundamental to any graduate program.



The first-year students almost immediately moved from an initial introductory email chain to a customized WhatsApp chat complete with a banner image of Vladimir Putin snuggling a puppy. The ability to easily share silly memes and videos allowed for more meaningful social interaction in a virtual setting. Normal activities such as studying together and socializing over food and drinks in the U District were replaced with socially distanced and masked walks, Zoom hangouts, and group-chat shenanigans.

When asked about their experiences with their advisors, the first-year graduate students expressed gratitude for the support they received. The UW history faculty made themselves available to the new graduate students in a variety of ways, from holding weekly Zoom meetings to orchestrating virtual introductions with other graduate students and professors to leading COVID-conscious walking tours of campus. "Our faculty managed to carve out an alternative learning space for us to learn the craft of history and rethink the methods of research in a digital age," first-year graduate student Sue Zhou remarked, "and provided us with all kinds of accommodations to make us feel more confident about our nascent research." Another student, Jake Beckert, explained how "our mentors consistently exuded a calming aura, guiding us through our first year with a steady hand. Our professors were so skilled at normalizing our experiences." In spite of their first year being entirely remote, history faculty ensured that the first-year graduate students still received the guidance that they required.

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Perhaps the most daunting task for first-year students in history at the UW is completing the research seminar that spans the winter and spring terms. In this endeavor the new students benefited immensely from the guidance of Professor Josh Reid. "Professor Reid's guidance in the research seminar was indispensable," first-year graduate student Jess Cavalari explains. "He made the absolute best of Zoom-bound learning, and he made ample room for graduate students to voice all of their needs. He was so diligent in providing extensive answers to all of our questions about the nuts and bolts of historical research and writing." Moreover, Professor Reid was incredibly conscious of the difficulties posed by conducting archival research remotely. He spent many weeks facilitating discussions about sources, about when and how to contact archivists with inquiries, and about where to look for digital materials. In the end, the research seminar was perhaps even more rewarding than in past years, given that it armed the now second-year graduate students with new modalities of learning, researching, and working together.

History Undergrads Shine

CREATING A FORUM FOR BUDDING HISTORIANS: THE HISTORICAL REVIEW AT UW

EVERY PROFESSOR AND TA wants to showcase their undergraduates' stellar work. Now, thanks to a group of dedicated undergraduates, there is a way for students to share their ideas and research with others at the University of Washington and beyond.

The Historical Review at UW is a new forum for publishing long-form research articles. Founded by a mix of history and non-history majors in November 2019, it allows undergraduates to submit papers on a variety of topics to a peer-review and editing team. The current issue includes offerings such as "The Hippie Movement from 1960-1975: An Analysis of Social and Political Factors," "The Sweet Fruit of Labor: An Examination of Black Labor Unions in South Africa," and "The Pink Scare: The Woman Patriot and the Gendering of Radicalism."

When asked about the idea behind the journal, lead founder Wendi Zhou commented that she hoped to highlight the need to study history at a university that was much more closely associated with STEM. "[History is] a field that has the reputation of being boring or only about things that happened in the past," she wrote. "I think that history is very relevant to the present and can shed light on how things are the way they are, and making history relevant and accessible for students is another of my goals for creating the journal." Perhaps fittingly, the journal's homepage quotes Harry Truman as part of its founding philosophy: "There is nothing new in the world except the history you do not know."

Zhou has explored UW's course offerings deeply and widely with a double major in history and philosophy, along with a minor in the comparative history of ideas. Although she has taken a number of classes in history, she cites HSTEU 234: History of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, with Laurie Marhoefer, HSTCMP 485: Comparative Colonialism, with Vicente Rafael, and HSTAA 337: The Holocaust and American Life, with Susan Glenn, as some of the most influential, helping her to develop her interests in histories of race, gender, and sexuality in post-WWII Germany.

The Historical Review at UW is a welcome initiative to help undergraduates hone their interests and research skills outside of class assignments. For students seeking a community that wrestles with big questions, it offers a chance to bond over shared intellectual interests. Submission to the journal is open to all students, regardless of whether or not they are a history major, and each new edition is published in spring quarter. Additionally, those interested in reviewing or serving on the editorial board can apply during fall quarter. Read more about the journal, or find out how to submit a paper, at the *Historical Review's* website: <https://sites.google.com/view/historicalreview/home>

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND UW CONTINUUM COLLEGE TEAM UP FOR DISTANCE LEARNING INNOVATION

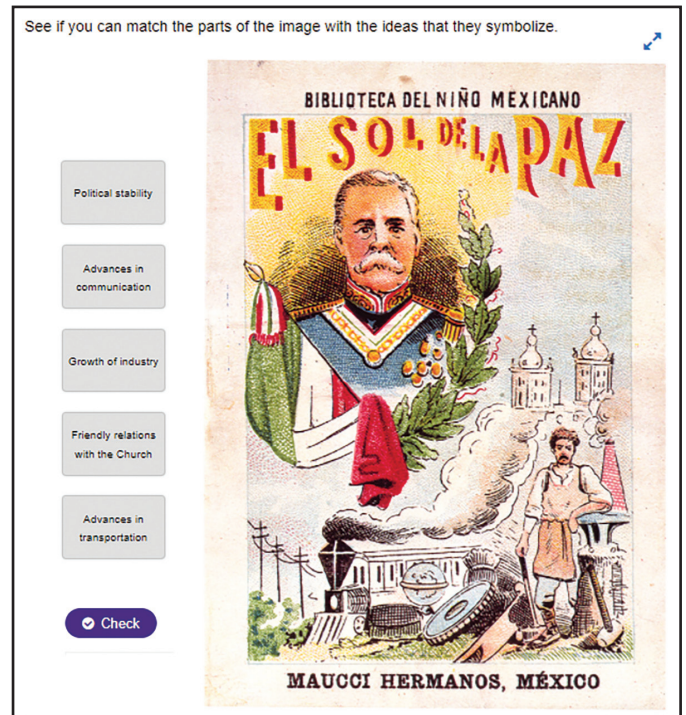
This year the Department of History teamed up with the UW Continuum College (UWC²) to retool two history courses to reflect the state of the art in distance learning.

The courses were Professor Adam Warren's History of Mexico: Culture, Identity, and the Politics of Rule from the Aztecs to the Present and Dr. Eric Johnson's History of the Islamic World, 1453-1800. Both courses began as more traditional or hybrid courses in previous quarters, but were converted to fully online learning experiences with the help of UWC² for summer 2021. Student feedback was enthusiastic, and both instructors tell us we can look for the courses to be offered again in the future.

History of the Islamic World focuses on the political history of the three major Islamic states of the early modern era—the Safavid, Ottoman, and Mughal Empires. Johnson aims to put the Islamic world into a global context, highlighting the key role it played in the world systems of the early modern period. In History of Mexico, Warren introduces students to the long history of the United States' southern neighbor "from below." The course puts particular focus on how traditionally marginalized social groups have resisted discrimination and shaped Mexico's history.

Both courses were made possible by the expert work of UWC² and one of its senior instructional designers, Dr. Sarah Cohen. UWC² leverages the technical expertise and pedagogical experience of its staff to help instructors create courses that make online learning as engaging and effective as possible. The key to successful online courses, according to Cohen, is keeping the students at the center of the learning process. Instructional designers and the media team create interactive activities that allow students to be in control of their own learning, and to build an online community.

In practice, participating in one of these classes entails more than simply watching a lecture online and doing the same types of coursework one might do on campus. Based on extensive research in user experience, they have been carefully designed from beginning to end to keep remote learners engaged. Lecture material is split



into 10- to 12-minute chunks, and traditional exams are traded in for progress quizzes and smaller papers. Because students cannot stop the instructors to ask clarifying questions, the mini-lectures are scripted to be as direct and clear as possible, then professionally produced and edited by the media team at UWC². This requires more planning ahead of time, but as Cohen puts it, "That thoughtfulness really pays off in the end."

Both historians took advantage of this format to make effective use of images and art to bring their areas of study alive for students. Instead of simply appearing in a PowerPoint presentation, such images were incorporated into the lessons as fully integrated, interactive components. For example, after a theme was introduced in a short video, the students might then be shown a map or piece of art in digital form, and given time to interact with the image. They might click on details to see annotations and translations, or answer a short quiz that asked them to analyze what they were seeing. "This task-oriented method," in Warren's words, "elicited really impressive levels of engagement."

Readings are also integrated seamlessly into the online courses. Johnson describes this as a particular benefit of the format. "Readings can fall right in the middle of other content. I can introduce an emperor in a video, then have students read an excerpt from the emperor's memoir, and finally proceed to a slideshow highlighting competing historical interpretations of that ruler's policies. This tight integration made the readings much more meaningful for students."

Undergraduates and Access students can look for History of the Islamic World (HSTAFM 162) again in summer 2022, and History of Mexico (HSTLAC 282) in summer 2022 and academic year 2022-23. As Warren emphasized, "These classes were not just intended for the pandemic. They form part of the larger effort to make our department's course offerings accessible to a broader range of students in future."





Faculty News

Patricia Ebrey was a senior fellow at the European Research Institute for Chinese Studies in Paris from September to October 2021. The American Historical Association established the Patricia Buckley Ebrey Prize, which will be awarded annually for a distinguished book in the history of China proper, Vietnam, Chinese Central Asia, Mongolia, Manchuria, Korea, or Japan, prior to 1800.

Vanessa Freije won the Eugenia M. Palmegiano Prize in the History of Journalism for her book *Citizens of Scandal: Journalism, Secrecy, and the Politics of Reckoning in Mexico* (Duke University Press, 2020).

Alexandra “Sasha” Harmon won the 2020 Robert G. Athearn Award for her book *Reclaiming*

the Reservation: Histories of Indian Sovereignty Suppressed and Renewed (University of Washington Press, 2019).

Moon-Ho Jung has a new book forthcoming in 2022, entitled *Menace to Empire: Anticolonial Solidarities and the Transpacific Origins of the US Security State*, with University of California Press.

Vicente Rafael has a new book forthcoming in 2022, entitled *The Sovereign Trickster: Death and Laughter in the Age of Duterte*, with Duke University Press. He also published several articles and book chapters.

The Alcohol and Drugs History Society established a book prize in the name of the late **William J. Rorabaugh**, which

will be awarded annually to the author(s) of a first or second monograph in the history of alcohol and drug studies.

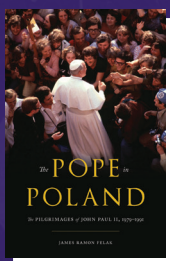
Benjamin Schmidt was named Doan Senior Fellow by the Science History Institute for Spring 2022. He also received an *Einladung des Direktors* Fellowship from the Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, for Summer 2022 and was invited to present at the prestigious William and Mary Quarterly—Early Modern Studies Institute Annual Workshop.

In October 2020, **Lynn M. Thomas** delivered online the invited history lecture at the University of Basel in Switzerland. Her lecture was titled “Skin Color and Race in African History: A Layered Approach.”

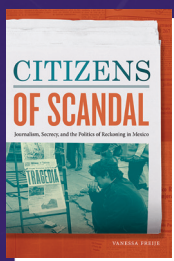
Joel Walker, in collaboration with Jeffrey Haines (History), Ryan Robinson (Anthropology), and Stephanie Selover (Near Eastern Languages and Civilization), launched a website with visual resources for the history and archaeology of Ancient Iran—“Ancient Iran: A Digital Platform.”

Daniel Waugh published several articles and book chapters, including two photo essays in the journal *The Silk Road*, and contributed to the volume *Russia’s Theatrical Past: Court Entertainment in the Seventeenth Century* (Indiana University Press, 2021). He gave multiple presentations at virtual conferences in Russia.

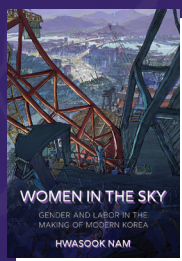
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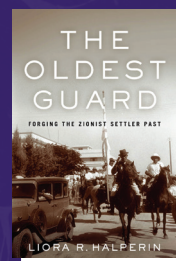
Professor James Felak’s *The Pope in Poland: The Pilgrimages of John Paul II, 1979-1991* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2020) examines Pope John Paul II’s dramatic visits to his native Poland, momentous events that played a major role in the collapse of Communism in his homeland.



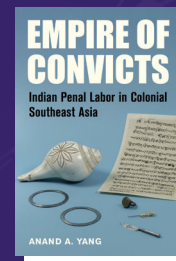
Professor Vanessa Freije’s *Citizens of Scandal: Journalism, Secrecy, and the Politics of Reckoning in Mexico* (Duke University Press, 2020) explores the causes and consequences of political scandals in Mexico from the 1960s through the 1980s.



Professor Hwasook Nam’s *Women in the Sky: Gender and Labor in the Making of Modern Korea* (Cornell University Press, 2021) examines Korean women factory workers’ activism in the twentieth century, with a focus on gender politics both in the labor movement and in the larger society.



Professor Liora Halperin’s *The Oldest Guard: Forging the Zionist Settler Past* (Stanford University Press, 2021) tells the story of Zionist settler memory in and around the private Jewish agricultural colonies (*moshavot*) established in late 19th-century Ottoman Palestine.



Professor Anand Yang’s *Empire of Convicts: Indian Penal Labor in Colonial Southeast Asia* (University of California Press, 2021) investigates the history of male and female Indians incarcerated in Southeast Asia for criminal and political offenses committed in colonial South Asia.

INTRODUCING PROFESSOR BIANCA DANG

THIS FALL WE HAVE WELCOMED a new historian to the history department faculty, Dr. Bianca Dang. Dang received her training at Stanford and Yale, where she specialized in American history and African American studies.

Dang joins the department as the Donald W. Logan Family Endowed Chair in American History. The Logan Chair was created in 2007 with a generous gift to the department from the former Husky and Seattle Public Schools history teacher Don Logan. Thanks to this gift, the department has succeeded in recruiting an excellent scholar whose work breaks new ground in the transnational history of race, gender, and freedom struggles in the United States and Haiti.

Dang's research is rooted in the nineteenth century but speaks to recent trends in historical scholarship and, more broadly, to the ongoing struggle for a more equitable world. She has presented papers across the United States and at Oxford University in the United Kingdom, as her approach is highly regarded in the field. Her research agenda is guided by Black women's history and Black feminist theory. In particular, she looks at the history of Black women's activism and the intersections between gender and Black movements for freedom throughout the Western Hemisphere. She centers the history of Black women's activism because it is "crucial for developing critical social theory that can be used to enact new, more equitable tomorrows."

This link between scholarship and social justice is central to Dang's teaching philosophy as well. When asked why she chose history teaching as a vocation, she answered: "As a non-Black Asian-Latinx scholar invested in confronting and opposing anti-Blackness in my personal and scholarly communities, one of the major reasons I became a history teacher is to offer courses that not only illuminate how foundational anti-Blackness has been to the history of the hemisphere, but also emphasize how the struggles of Black people throughout history have critically informed liberation movements today."

In winter 2022, Dang will teach a lecture course on the Civil War and Reconstruction era, using African American social history as a lens through which to examine these crucial years. She will also offer a seminar on the various yet interconnected movements for Black freedom in North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean during the nineteenth century.



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AWARDS CEREMONY, 2021

This year, more than \$200,000 in departmental scholarships and prizes was awarded to undergraduate and graduate students in recognition of their excellent work and service. These awards are made possible by contributions from our generous donors, and we are deeply grateful for their continued support!

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Burke-Erickson Endowed Fund for Foreign Language Study:
Fatima Al-Rikabi

C. R. Des Hart Memorial Prize: **Quinn Wyatt**

Otis Pease Scholarship: **Julia Schoemig**

Virginia Brandeberry Denison and Mark Kernaghan Endowed Scholarship: **Ryan Mealiffe**

Meder-Montgomery Family Endowed Student Support Fund in History: **Audun Holland-Goon**

Faye A. Wilson Endowed Scholarship Fund: **Marshall Bender, Ethan Benson, Andrew Carr, Devin Deatrich, Claudia Modarelli, Kristina Nguyen, Itai Segre, Jazzlyn Woods, Quinn Wyatt, and Samantha Zink**

Maurice D. and Lois M. Schwartz Scholarship Fund: **Sariah Burdett, Eilis Bury, Estey Chen, Anna Minamoto, and Melinda Whalen**

Dale Roger Corkery Endowed Scholarship in History:
Madison Frederick

Larry Lee Sleizer Endowed Scholarship Fund: **Brittany Bertolin, Liam Blakey, Estey Chen, Samantha Cutts, Zacharie Dupertuis, Emma Goolsby, Audun Holland-Goon, Skylar Hunley, Frances Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Hallie Jones, Marissa Levine, Davis Massey, Ryan Mealiffe, Hope Morris, Julia Schoemig, Hailey Warhol, Kaityn Zagelow, and Wendi Zhou**

Freedman Remak Family Scholarship in History: **Amy Sommercamp**

Thomas M. Power Endowed Prize for Outstanding Graduating Senior:
Cameron Molyneux

John and Linda Ravage Endowment Paper Prize: **Wendi Zhou, Ryan Mealiffe** (honorable mention)

Thomas M. Power Endowed Paper Prize: **Aidan Gertz, Jesse Du** (honorable mention)

GRADUATE AWARDS

Thomas M. Power Prize for Outstanding Student Leader:
Collaborative Group, "A Peoples' Landscape." Recognizing **Oya Aktas** and **Madison Heslop's** work as current history students.

John and Linda Ravage Endowment Paper Prize: **Frances O'Shaughnessy**

Thomas M. Power Endowed Paper Prize: **Oya Aktas, Devin Short** (honorable mention)

EDUCATOR AWARDS

Thomas J. and Cameron Pressly Endowed Prize for Excellence in Secondary Education: **Paul Fischburg**, Chief Sealth International High School, Seattle

A more extensive list of the award recipients can be found on the department website:

<https://history.uw.edu/history-awards-ceremony-2021>

history matters

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Sophie Carter received honorable mention for the 2021 Library Research Award for her thesis "Days of Decision: San Francisco's 1960 House Un-American Activities Committee Protest as a Turning Point of the New Left."

Estey Chen, double major in history and political science, published the essay "Months after Coup, Myanmar Accelerates toward Surveillance State" with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Frances Johnson won the 2021 Outstanding Student in Jewish Studies Award. She also received an honorable mention for the 2021 Library Research Award for her project "The Pink Scare: *The Woman Patriot* and the Gendering of Radicalism."

Cameron Molyneux was selected as the *gonfaloniere* representing the College of Arts and Sciences at the 2021 UW Commencement.

Calvin Paulsen was selected as the *gonfaloniere* representing the College of Arts and Sciences at the 2020 UW Commencement.

Melinda Whalen, double major in history and Russian, won a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for 2021-22.

Wendi Zhou, double major in history and philosophy, was awarded the Thomas A. Lederman Endowed Scholarship for 2021-22. She won the 2021 Stroum Center for Jewish Studies Excellence in Scholarship Holocaust Paper Prize for her paper "'Shouldering Their Responsibilities': Critical Refugee Studies and European Jewish Refugees in Shanghai, 1938-1945," the 2021 John and Linda Ravage Endowment Paper Prize, and a 2021 Library Research Award. She is also a Sleizer Scholar and received a Mary Gates Research Scholarship.

ALUMNI NEWS

Kate Brown (PhD 2000), professor of science, technology, and society at MIT, won the Reginald Zelnik and Marshal Shulman book prizes for her book *Manual for Survival: A Chernobyl Guide to the Future* (W. W. Norton, 2019).

Xiaolin Duan (PhD 2014) published her first book, *Rise of West Lake: A Cultural Landmark in the Song Dynasty* (University of Washington Press, 2020) and was promoted to associate professor of Chinese history at North Carolina State University.

Amanda Robb (MA 2018) started a full-time position as a Chinese language materials archivist at the Hoover Institution Library and Archives, Stanford University.

Dale Soden (PhD 1980), professor of history at Whitworth University, won the Robert Gray Medal bestowed by the Washington State Historical Society in recognition of distinguished and long-term contributions to Pacific Northwest history.

Isolde Thyr t (PhD 1992), associate professor of history at Kent State University, received honorable mention for the Reginald Zelnik Prize for her book *Saint-Making in Early Modern Russia: Religious Tradition and Innovation in the Cult of Nil Stolobenskii* (New Academia, 2019).

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Jessica Bachman won the New York Public Library Short-Term Research Fellowship for 2021-22.

Jorge Bayona earned a PhD for his dissertation "Contesting Dismemberment: Rumor, Revolt, and Empire in Peru and the Philippines (1920-1930)." He has accepted a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the National University of Singapore.

Jonathan Bowdler earned a PhD for his dissertation "The Countercultural Back-to-the-Land Movement."

Katia Chaterji won the Society of Scholars fellowship from the Simpson Center for 2021-22.

Ross Coen earned a PhD for his thesis "The Myth of Elizabeth: History, Memory, and Race in Alaska, 1867-2020."

Arna Elezovic earned a PhD for her thesis "Modern Antiquities: Arthur Evans, the Balkans, and the Discovery of a Lost European Civilization."

Jos   Estrada earned a PhD for his thesis "A History of the Latinx Voting Rights Movement, 1960-1980." He is now an assistant professor of history at Central Washington University in Ellensburg.

Jeffrey Haines won a Graduate School Chester Fritz International Research and Study Fellowship for 2020-21.

Andrew Hedden published the essay "*Streetwise/Tiny: The Life of Erin Blackwell: Qualities of Life*," commissioned by Criterion to coincide with its DVD release of the classic Seattle documentary *Streetwise* (1983).

Madison Heslop won the Washington State Historical Society's Charles Gates Award for her article "Linking Violence across the Pacific: The B-29 Superfortress in Seattle's and Tokyo's Urban Landscapes," published in *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* (Winter 2019/2020).

Emma Hinchliffe earned a PhD for her thesis "England's Worldly King: The Foreign, the Global and the Rise of Cultural Cosmopolitanism at the Court of Henry VIII."

Aaron Lillie earned a PhD for his dissertation "Politics, Protest and Revolution: The Origins and Evolution of Networks of the Communist Party and the NLF in Central Vi t Nam."

Hongxuan Lin won the Graduate School's 2020 Distinguished Dissertation Award for his dissertation "Ummah Yet Proletariat: Islam and Marxism in the Netherlands East Indies and Indonesia, 1915-1959."

Brendan McElmeel published the article "From Don Juan to Comrade Ivan: Educating the Young Men of the Urals for Love and Marriage, 1953-1964" in *Aspasia* (2021).

Devin Short won the American Meteorological Society's 2021 Graduate Fellowship in the history of science.

Taylor Soja won the Mellon-Council for European Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2021-22. Her article "Kitchen Window Feminism: Sarah Macnaughtan, Wartime Care, and the Authority of Experience in the South African and First World Wars" was published in *Gender & History* (October 2021).

Retirements



JOHN M. FINDLAY

Professor Emeritus John Findlay is a social and urban historian of the North American West and Pacific Northwest. He retired in December 2020 after teaching at the University of Washington for nearly four decades. He is now completing a new monograph, "The Mobilized West, 1941-2001," which offers an overview of the West during World War Two and the Cold War. He looks forward to traveling when things get "back to normal."

Below, Professor **Margaret O'Mara** reflects on Professor Findlay's career.

"As often happens in our profession, I knew John Findlay's scholarship before I knew him as a colleague. *Magic Lands*, his marvelous 1992 study of western cityscapes and American culture, was an instant classic; his work before and since has had a profound influence upon the field of western history and on

the history of the Pacific Northwest in particular. With his current project on the West since the 1940s, John continues to define and advance the field even as he retires from active duty in the UW Department of History.

"And what active duty it was. Since joining the department in 1983, John taught thousands of UW undergraduates, mentored scores of graduate students, and not only served six years as chair but also held other critical departmental leadership roles. It was a particular joy to serve on graduate committees he chaired, as he was a model mentor: wise, meticulous, a sure captain of the ship, and unflagging champion for all he advised. John left a deep impression on undergraduates as well; I heard many enthusiastic reports from students over the years about the family history project that was the research centerpiece of his lower-division course on American citizenship.

"His record of accomplishment might have given John reason to swagger, but he never did. His humility, kindness, and collegial generosity made our department a better place. As we salute him upon his well-earned retirement, we will greatly miss his regular presence here in Smith Hall."

In Memoriam



LINDA LORRAINE NASH, 1962-2021

We mourn the passing of Professor Linda Nash, a distinguished scholar and teacher of American environmental history, and an exceptionally generous departmental citizen. Professor Nash passed away from lymphoma on October 17, 2021. Born in California, she held degrees from Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley, including a BA in history, a BS in civil engineering, and an MS in

energy and resources. She earned her PhD from our own department in 2000, and remained an influential member of the history faculty thereafter.

Professor Nash's first book, *Inescapable Ecologies: A History of Environment, Disease, and Knowledge* (University of California Press, 2006), won three major prizes, establishing her as a leading environmental historian. She also wrote award-winning articles. At the time of her passing, she was nearing completion of another book, "Americans in Arid Lands: Engineers and the Materials of Modern Empire," under contract with Oxford University Press.

Within the history department, Professor Nash was known for her legendary teaching of U.S. environmental history, which inspired students as well as colleagues who audited her classes. Scholars and students with whom she worked describe her as "a powerful influence." "She did not usually seek out leadership positions, but in so many ways she led by example. She made us all better," shared Professor Emeritus John Findlay.

Professor Nash's legacies went far beyond the history department. A cofounder of the annual Cascadia Environmental History Collaborative retreat, she brought together environmental studies communities from throughout the Pacific Northwest. "So many people in the larger environmental studies groups at UW and elsewhere would never have had the rich conversations, steady emotional support, and valuable feedback from these groups had she not been such a great facilitator," shared Professor Purnima Dhavan. "She opened doors to new perspectives for so many of us."

To learn more about Professor Nash's exemplary career, as well as contribute to the graduate fellowship established in her memory, see the tribute by Professor Emeritus John Findlay on the department website: <https://history.uw.edu/news/2021/11/01/memorial-linda-nash>

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NEW FACES



DIANNE S. HARRIS

We are thrilled to announce that Dianne S. Harris, newly appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is joining the Department of History. A distinguished historian of the built environment, Harris has served most recently as chief program officer at the Mellon Foundation. Read a full profile of Dean Harris on page 3.



BIANCA DANG

This fall we are welcoming a new assistant professor to the history faculty, Bianca Dang. Dang received her training at Stanford and Yale, where she specialized in American history and African American studies. She is appointed as the Donald W. Logan Family Endowed Chair in American History. For more on Dr. Dang read page 9.

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Also make sure to check out our online calendar history.uw.edu/calendar for the latest information on events. There is always something going on in the Department of History and our affiliated centers!