

# DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

2018-2019 Newsletter

## The History Community at Penn

### History Undergraduate Advisory Board and The History Student Society

For many years, the History Undergraduate Advisory Board (HUAB) has organized history-related events for Penn undergraduates while also serving as the student liaisons to the Department of History administration. Comprised of Penn History Majors, HUAB has cultivated a vibrant undergraduate community within the History department. HUAB also represents the History department at university-wide undergraduate functions, such as the Courses and Majors Fair, Palooza, and Majors and More dinners. In Fall 2019, HUAB members decided to create a new, parallel organization called the History Student Society (HSS), which would be open to all Penn undergraduates regardless of major or minor. HUAB serves as the executive board for HSS, but HSS members come from other departments within the College, as well Wharton and the School of Engineering.

The collaboration between HUAB and HSS has been extremely fruitful this year. HUAB has a long tradition of holding faculty lunch talks, during which faculty discuss a current research project over pizza with undergraduates. This year, HSS continued that tradition, organizing five talks as well as a number of other events, including a tour of the African-American Museum of Philadelphia during Black History month and a Halloween visit to Eastern State Penitentiary. During the Fall final exam period, HSS held a holiday-inspired Study Hours in College Hall featuring hot chocolate and donuts. Most recently, HSS organized something completely new: a competition called “The Books that Changed the World,” in which six faculty and graduate students argued for the significance of particular books on world history while undergraduates cheered them on. First place was *Coming of Age in Samoa*. The People’s Choice Award was Augustine’s *Confessions*. Student judges determined who made the most compelling case, and winners received prizes. The event was quite popular and will likely be repeated in the future.

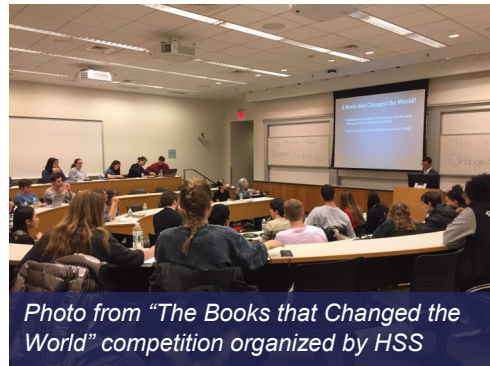


Photo from “The Books that Changed the World” competition organized by HSS

### Penn History at College Palooza

Undergraduate members of HSS and HUAB represented the department at the 2019 College Palooza.



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## 2018-2019 Annenberg Seminar in History

*The Annenberg Seminar brings distinguished historians from different fields to share their work-in-progress with faculty and graduate students*

*Talking Back to Thomas Jefferson: African American Nationalism in the New Republic, 1776-1808*

**Mia Bay, University of Pennsylvania**

*Writing the History of Money: Perspectives from Japan and France*

**Federico Marcon, Princeton University**

**Rebecca Spang, Indiana University**

*Conversation on the History of Genocide, Human Rights, and Humanitarianism.*

**Dirk Moses, University of Sydney**

**Samuel Moyn, Yale University**

*Urdu Ethics in Literature and Colonial India: A Genre of Muslim Modernity?*

**Farina Mir, University of Michigan**



*Conversation on the History of Genocide, Human Rights, and Humanitarianism*

*Cuba: An American History*

**Ada Ferrer, New York University**

Discussion and Celebration of *Democracy and Truth: A Short History*

*Upcoming: April 25, at 4:30PM in CH209*

**Sophia Rosenfeld, University of Pennsylvania**

**Benjamin Nathans, University of Pennsylvania**


## Additional Departmental Events

*The History Department has sponsored or co-sponsored a variety of events over the past year. To find upcoming departmental events, please see our [calendar](#).*

The History Department Presents

### THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY: HISTORIANS' PERSPECTIVES AT MID-TERM

Thursday November 8, 5:00PM-6:30PM  
241 Van Pelt Library (Class of '55 Conference Room)



Faculty Panel and Open Discussion featuring

**Beth Wenger**

Moderator

**Mary Frances Berry**

*History teaches us to resist*

**Benjamin Nathans**

*US-Russian relations*

**Kathy Peiss**

*Gender/sexuality and US politics*

**Alex Chase-Levenson**

*Brexit and US-EU relations*

**Ann Farnsworth-Alvear**

*Immigration*



Penn  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
FACULTY WORKING GROUP ON  
CONCEPTS, IDEAS, AND  
DISCOURSES

### "Sovereignty"

Monday  
April 29, 2019  
5:00PM  
Class of 1978 Pavilion  
Van Pelt Library  
6th floor

The "Sovereignty RIP" excerpt is available at <https://www.history.upenn.edu/events/2019/faculty-working-group-concepts-ideas-and-discourses-sovereignty>

**Don Herzog** is the Edson R. Sunderland Professor of Law at the University of Michigan. His main teaching interests are political, moral, legal and social theory; constitutional interpretation; torts; and the First Amendment. He is the author of numerous books, including *Defining the Dead* (Yale University Press, 2017) and *Household Politics: Conflict in Early Modern England* (Yale University Press, 2013). He is currently finishing a book on sovereignty.

**Claire Finkelstein** is Algeon B. Hilde Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy and Director, Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law, at Penn. Her current research addresses national security law and policy, with a focus on ethical and rule of law issues that arise in that arena. An expert in the law of armed conflict, military ethics, and national security law, she is a co-editor (with Jonathan Uhlir) of *The Oxford Series in Ethics, National Security, and the Rule of Law*, and a volume editor of, among others, *Sovereignty and the New Executive Authority* (Oxford University Press, 2016).

**Loren Goldman** is Assistant Professor at the Political Science Department at Penn. His research focuses on German and American political thought, with an emphasis on Kant, Hegel, Western Marxism, and American Pragmatism. Prof. Goldman is currently completing a book entitled *The Ends of Political Hope*.

**Paige Pendarvis** is a Ph.D. student in the Department of History at Penn. She works on modern European history, with a particular interest in intellectual and political history, France, the welfare state, social rights, and environmental thought. Her current research explores the relationship between early forms of environmentalism and the emergence of the welfare state in Third Republic France.