

# AZ Undergrad History Research Symposium

## "Prospecting the Past"

April 19-20, 2024  
University of Arizona

### SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM (Abstracts)

#### Friday, April 19

*Location: Bear Down Gymnasium*  
*Participants/Invited Attendees Only*

5:00-6:30      **Keynote Dinner**

"Sidewalk Archives and Doodled Manuscripts: The Importance of Doing History of, with, and by the Public"

**Speaker: Dr. Trevor R. Getz**, San Francisco State University

7:00-9:00      Game Night!

#### Saturday, April 20

*Location: Main Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*  
*Open to the Public*

8:30-9:00      Breakfast

**9:00-10:30      Panels 1-4**

**1. Chronicles of Community: Food, Immigration, Censorship, and Activism in Arizona**

*Room B201*

"Convictions, Communism, and the Cold War: The Sanctuary Movement in the 1980s"

**Felix Brigham**, Library & Information Science

The Sanctuary Movement of the 1980s arose in response to the failure of the US government and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to provide asylum to the thousands of Central Americans who fled their countries and came to the US under threat of death. It was a political, religious, and humanitarian movement composed of an amalgamation of churches, non-religious organizations, and activists that established a national network of sanctuary churches to assist undocumented Central American refugees. Tucson was a center for such activity and home to a number of notable Sanctuary Movement figures and actions.

I utilized the University of Arizona Special Collections' collection of Sanctuary Movement Trial Papers, as well works by Miriam Davidson and Ann Crittenden to argue that the US government's prosecution of Sanctuary Movement workers was unjust. These sources revealed that the US government by denying Central American asylum was in direct violation of the 1980 Refugee Act. Furthermore, the US government egregiously mishandled the Sanctuary Movement case and the trial was overseen by an explicitly biased judge. However the US government's attempt to halt the Sanctuary Movement was unsuccessful, as the movement continued in Tucson and the rest of US for decades to come.

**“Dirt, Rocks & Shells”**

**Skylar Fry**, Dance & English

My work, entitled, “Dirt, Rocks, & Shells,” is a creative nonfiction food magazine entirely written, photographed, and designed by me. I use mostly primary research to engage with the people, establishments, and history of food and culture in Tucson, supplementing with secondary sources.

The magazine is broken into three sections: Dirt, Rocks, and Shells. The Dirt section highlights parallels between local culture and the role of soil in sustaining life; dirt supports life, protects roots, and recycles nutrients. History and culture work similarly, sustained by local relationships. Rocks highlights my journey with nutrition and meat while addressing the future of food sustainability. Distinguishing between factory farming, local butcheries, and innovative new eating habits (like bug-based foods) holds promise for the future. Finally, Shells covers seafood in the Sonoran Desert and our underappreciated relationship with the ocean. I dive into geologic history, when Tucson was a pre-historic swamp, before bringing the narrative back to my favorite current seafood establishments. To understand food, you must understand how our geologic and social history creates the flavors we love today.

My work celebrates how food represents history, people, and place as I share my love of this community through research, words, and good meals.

**“Catch and Release - Police Recording Laws and Chilling Effects on Journalists”**

**Frances LaBianca**, Journalism

The ability of journalists to record law enforcement officers carrying out their duties in public spaces is integral to their watchdog roles. When journalists are wrongfully punished for filming law enforcement officers or when officers do not allow journalists to get content, this potentially violates journalists’ First Amendment rights. The idea of “catch and release” is that law enforcement officers encroach on journalists’ abilities to film them in public spaces without facing the consequences. “Catching” stops the filming and kills potential stories. “Releasing” or dropping the charges makes law enforcement unaccountable to the judiciary. This creates a chilling effect on news gatherers and threatens the accountability role that journalism plays in a democratic society. This paper analyzes the ideas of qualified immunity, prior restraint, and censorship and how they have evolved to address the issue of filming police. In 1931 *Near v. Minnesota* established that the government cannot restrict the press. How has that decision been altered by new technologies, such as handheld recording devices? Case law from throughout the 21st century is used to answer this question. In addition, the paper delves into recent legislation in Arizona that gives police more ability to restrict filming rights.

**“A Study on the Enclave Economy of Chinese Immigrants in Tucson during 1880s-1940s”**

**Yuechen Pei**, History

Since about 1860s, Chinese people were recorded to have settled in Tucson. And today’s Chinese community has become an important part of the city of Tucson.

The paper will use the theory of ethnic economy to analyze the economic and social activities of Chinese immigrants, spatial distribution pattern, industry structure of their economy, and social governance in their enclave in Tucson from 1880s-1940s. Chinese economy exhibited obvious ethnic enclave characteristics during this period. The paper would explore how Chinese immigrants in Tucson engaged in their economic activities in spatial distribution, industry structure, financing methods and employment sources.

**Chair: Dr. Katie Hemphill**

## **2. Paradox of Power: Revolt, Religion, and Recognition in Middle Eastern and North African Communities**

*Room B254*

**“Leftist Influence on the Construction of the Palestinian Narrative: A Historical Analysis”**

**Baya Lamaiche**, Arabic & Middle Eastern and North African Studies

This research project focuses on the role that socialist and particularly Marxist ideologies and organizations played in the development of Palestinian expression and literature prior to and immediately after the 1948 Nakba. I identify the Arab literary Nahda (renaissance), the Palestine Communist Party (PKP) and its affiliated publication al-Ittihad, as well as the emergence of a new synthesized genre of Palestinian poetry in the post-Nakba period, as key phenomena that illustrate the trajectory of Palestinian literature between the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the early years of Israeli military administration in Palestine. Beginning with the 1930’s “Palestinian literary Nahda”, influenced largely by its antecedent Arab literary Nahda of the late nineteenth century, this project examines the emergence of a distinct Palestinian national consciousness as expressed through literary productions in Mandatory Palestine. I also provide a chronological analysis of the ways in which socialist organizations (i.e. the Palestine Communist Party) were involved in shaping the Palestinian narrative primarily through publications and poetry leading up to the Nakba in the 1940’s, as well as the role such publications played within Palestinian society at the time. In the wake of 1948, this research expounds upon the transformative nature of the Nakba not only for Palestinian social structure but cultural production and specifically literary production as well, highlighting the central role of the Israeli Communist Party in facilitating these developments in poetry and literature into the 1950’s. The endurance of Arabic as the primary language of popular publication in Palestine both prior to and after the Nakba, despite the importation of literary influences from Europe and Russia throughout this period, also is shown to demonstrate the cementation of the Palestinian “Arab” identity alongside modernist and socialist political beliefs. This research summarily underscores the ways in which socialist ideology became incorporated into Palestinian literature, setting the stage for the evolution of the Palestinian struggle during and after this period.

**“The Fight for Recognition: Arabic-speaking Anglicans and the Jerusalem Bishopric, 1947-1949”**

**Theo Moyses-Peck**, Arabic & Middle Eastern and North African Studies

While extensive research has been conducted on the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, little attention has been paid to its impact on Christian communities, specifically Protestant churches. Even in studies of Christian minorities in the Middle East, rarely is the work of the Anglican Church recognized, let alone the experiences of Arab Anglicans. This thesis seeks to fill this gap by exploring the challenges that Arab Anglicans of the Jerusalem Bishopric faced between 1947 and 1949. I argue that the Arabic-speaking congregations struggled to be recognized by the wider Anglican Church and Communion as the British Mandate period transitioned to the founding of the State of Israel. By conducting original archival research at the Middle East Centre at St. Antony’s College in Oxford, and Lambeth Palace Library in London, England, I bring to light the dramatic searching, discovery, and reshaping of Arab Anglican identity in Jerusalem during a time of profound transition.

**“The Maccabean Revolt: An Assessment of the Relationship Between Religion and History”**

**Caroline Simning**, Art History, History, & Religious Studies

The Maccabean Revolt is one of the most successful and well-known revolts against imperialism in the Hellenistic period, with its documentation being included in the Catholic canon and its presence continuing to

be felt in the Jewish festival of Hanukkah. Yet, despite the event's religious significance, in scholarly and historical analyses of it, its religious impact is often overshadowed by theories on the political relationships and causes that led to its outbreak.

This presentation will argue that a symbiotic relationship between the revolt and the Judaic religion existed, as the Judaic religion played an important part in influencing its outbreak and the revolt served as an inspiration for faith years after its unfolding. Relying on texts from the Hebrew Bible that sanctify the event and the Jewish population and later Roman interpretations that offer a look into imperial perspectives on Jewish resistance, I argue that the Maccabee brothers were, in part, inspired by religious writings and beliefs that preached against outside influences negatively impacting the Israelites' ability to adhere to the Torah. Furthermore, in its aftermath, the Maccabean Revolt served as a citation in religious texts as proof of Judea's strength and inspiration for further resistance against imperial rule.

**"Pious Pragmatism: Religion's Role in the "Modernization" of Egypt in the Early 20th Century"**

**Kelly Wetteland**, Political Science & Law

In the early 20th century, Egypt was undergoing significant economic and social changes. From the introduction of a domestic manufacturing sector and direct taxation, to the institution of a centralized command economy and massive educational reform, these seismic disruptions to daily life shook the Egyptian proletariat to the core. Inspired by European influences (specifically French), Muhammed Ali pasha ("The Modernizer") implemented these changes in order to encourage Egypt to cross the threshold between the old and new worlds. But the effects of these European practices stretched beyond the borders of Egypt itself. According to Phillip Naylor, "Egypt served as a transcultural conduit, this time mediating modernity from the West to the East." However, this transformation was not without its consequences. The aforementioned shifts caused friction between the religious and political sects of Egyptian society resulting in what contemporary historians define as "modernization." Therefore, this paper intends to analyze the tensions between the forces of modernization and the opposing forces of tradition manifesting as religion. Additionally, this research will seek to argue that religious preservation was a form of resistance to European modernization, especially regarding the removal of the Umma from their traditional roles in Egyptian society. Finally, the paper will conclude by exploring the intricacies of the aforementioned religion and questioning the role of women in Egyptian modernization and religious resistance.

**Chair: Andrew Wickersham**

### **3. Mercenaries, Mystics, and Masters in Renaissance and Early Modern Europe**

*Room B250*

**"Fighting Businessmen: The Social and Monetary Economy of Mercenaries in Northern Italy (1368-1559)"**

**Alexander Hukill**, History

In medieval and Renaissance Italy, warfare was primarily conducted by mercenaries called condottiere (from the root ""condotta"", for contract), and they represented a middle-ground between the production of defense by the state and by private entities. Condottiere were essentially self-employed private military contractors, or small business owners engaged in the production of defense.

The condottiere phenomenon was caused by the particular social and monetary economic modes of relationship in late Medieval and Renaissance Northern Italy, and represented a contracted and careful methodology of warfare as a means to advantage, and not war as a means to the annihilation of the enemy. This meant significantly lower risks to capital for both the victors and the defeated, which was the primary

intention, and result of, the widespread usage of condottiere. The usage of condottiere also allowed for the acquisition of reputation in an era where the Crusades had already ended and reputation was a powerful means to further enhance economic and political opportunities.

**“Leonardo Da Vinci's Usage of Anatomical Features in Relation to Historical Trends and Artistic Characterization”**

**Hannah Redman**, History & Pre-Med

Certain facial features often tell a story about a person, as well as the artist behind them. While the “ideal” shape and size for facial features has changed drastically throughout the generations, these facial features are often used to characterize subjects in artwork, bringing them to life right in front of the audience’s eyes. My goal in this presentation is to encapsulate discoveries pertaining to my 10-15 page research paper exploring the intersection of history, art, culture, and anatomy. More particularly, in studying the rich individuals constructed by Leonardo da Vinci, in relation to his incredibly diverse background and his anatomical studies, we see narratives derived from certain anatomically correct facial features. Leonardo’s depiction of the eyes, nose, mouth, jaw, and eyebrows, greatly informed the vivid characterization in his portraits. The softness or harshness of a subject’s jawline, the prominent bridge of a subject’s nose, among many other specific features, were all carefully designed by Da Vinci in order to create elaborate personalities through his subjects’ facial features that are evocative of Renaissance Italy.

**“From Hildegard to Herbal Remedies: The Role of Mysticism in Providing Agency to Individuals Seeking the Divine”**

**Carmen Roe**, Veterinary Science

Over a thousand years of male dominated religion has caused women and those outside the gender binary to seek transcendence outside of typical religious settings. Mysticism historically provided the freedom and agency to women in particular to search for the divine in an individual way that suited them best. Even though the Catholic Church sought to control mystics, and became the most prevalent faith for centuries, the roots of Mysticism hold strong in major faiths across the world and in younger generations today due to the individual connection to the divine.

**Chair: Dr. Beth Plummer**

#### **4. Connecting China and the West: Conflict and Collaboration in Art and Science during the Modern Era**

*Room B252*

**“Roses Across Borders: Tracing the Textual History and Cultural Exchange of Roses between Ming Dynasty China and 18th Century Europe”**

**Alexis Hsu**, Nursing & East Asian Studies

The roses we enjoy today are prized for their vibrant hues, captivating fragrance, abundant petals, robust health, and continual flowering. However, prior to the introduction of roses from China to the Western world in the 1700s, European varieties were characterized by a limited color palette and sporadic repeat blooming. Despite their shortages in fragrance and petal count, China roses (*Rosa chinensis*) played a pivotal role in the development of modern rose cultivars. Through extensive cultivation and breeding efforts in Europe and America, rose hybridizers pioneered an abundance of species categorized as Hybrid Chinas, Noisettes, Bourbons, Hybrid Perpetuals, Hybrid Teas, etc. These hybridization endeavors are documented in letters,

garden diaries, flower portraits, nursery catalogs, and trade records. While European horticulturists were captivated by roses, primary Chinese documents on the subject are relatively scarce compared to other botanical topics on the plum and peach. Although the 18th-century interactions between China and Europe serve as a focal point for many discussions on China roses, much remains unknown about the Chinese perspective. This paper delves into earlier texts from China during the Ming dynasty between the 16th and 17th centuries.

**“The History of Nurses in China”**

**Lauren Hsu**, Nursing & East Asian Studies

Today, nurses can be found in nearly every country. Nurses are known to be trained medical professionals, commonly women, who care for people in both hospital and home settings. They are responsible for a multitude of specialized and standardized responsibilities, from assistance with activities of daily living to highly technical skills such as placing central venous catheters. But before Florence Nightingale institutionalized nursing, there was no formal profession apart from physicians that cared for the sick. Often it was women with little training who took care of family members or others, in both the West and in China. In the 19th century, the rise of the nursing profession emerged from the spread of Western medicine and Nightingale’s nursing practices by missionaries. Nevertheless, Confucian values and Chinese cultural traditions still had a strong influence on the development of nursing, and it created challenges for nursing to be seen as a respectable profession. Nursing tasks were viewed as menial duties, and it was only after the arrival of missionary nurses that nursing gradually became accepted as a professional career. This project will explore how nursing came to be in China and how traditions have influenced its development in the past and today.

**“Mulan and the History of its Reception”**

**Marisa Kurowski**, Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences & ASL

This presentation will cover a history of the reception of Mulan (1998) in China and by Asian Americans in the US, arguing that it varied due to social contexts of folklore, westernization, representation, and identity formation. Given the popularity of the folklore of Fa Mulan in China, audiences were believed to love the movie. While Asian Americans were concerned that if this movie flopped it was doubtful there would be another movie starring an Asian. However, the inconsistencies between the folk tale and the movie, allow us to think China’s reception might change. Despite Disney’s best efforts, China didn’t appreciate the movie, believing that Mulan was Americanized, feeling their identities were being exploited. In contrast, Asian Americans began feeling represented in the media. This movie led to an increase in Asian Americans being present in popular culture. However, the release of the 2020 live-action film was received poorly in the US and China. It is thought to have been received negatively due to the Asian Hate increase from the pandemic. Also, Mulan was being protested due to controversial filming locations. Despite the failure of the live-action Mulan, the 1998 Mulan brought change to the Asian American community.

**“The China Study: Three Decades of Transnational Research”**

**Christina Marikos**, Global Studies

The China Study, a popular diet book, later expanded into a plant-based diet and lifestyle brand, originally published in 2006 by Cornell University professor of nutritional science Dr Colin T Campbell, was the culmination of over thirty years of biomedical research beginning in 1973 in Mainland China. This research, which included some of the largest scale mortality, diet, and lifestyle surveying in the field at the time, represented one of the first and certainly the largest body of nutritional science work produced through collaboration with Chinese scientists in 1990 when the original monograph was published. From the initial

serendipitous meeting of Chinese principal researcher Dr Chen Junshi, and Dr Campbell at Cornell in 1981, to 2006, international research relationships were formed and maintained between relatively new Chinese medical science institutions and well established, older institutions Cornell University and the University of Oxford, which enabled a following resurvey published in monograph format in 2006. China, a newer member of the World Health Organization, was shifting its public health aims to serve its foreign policy goals; this large-scale collaborative project with established Western universities was a part of these broader aims. For the Cornell and Oxford researchers this project also proved to be an exciting opportunity due to the survey scale, and the genetic homogeneity of the Chinese population paired with the geographical variation of the country-- for American researchers specifically this opportunity also became more appealing due to the NIH promotion of and funding for biostatistical research. The China Study and the decades of collaborative research that lead to it, emerges as a distinctive case study in large scale international scientific cooperation and the multifaceted goals and methodologies of science diplomacy. Unfolding against the backdrop of dramatic changes in China's internal politics and foreign policy goals, this collaborative research project can be characterized as an example of mutual gain, both scientific and political, found through international research collaboration.

**Chair: Dr. Fabio Lanza**

**10:45-12:15 Panels 5-8**

**5. Cathartic Connections? Icons, Art, and Transformation Across Time and Space**

*Room B250*

“Iconoclasm throughout the Centuries: The Byzantine Empire”

**Monica Andrino**, Art History

This paper reflects my research focused on Iconoclasm throughout the centuries with an emphasis on the most traumatic case within the Byzantine Empire. As a survivor of the Roman Empire in the Eastern Mediterranean, the Byzantines survived until 1453 when the Ottomans conquered them. In my research, I explore the role of iconoclasm specifically in early medieval Byzantine history. The term iconoclasm comes from the Greek word Eikonoklastēs, the direct translation defined as the act of image breaking. Within my paper, I use the term iconoclasm to refer to the physical destruction of venerated images and the intention behind it. Iconoclasm perpetuated throughout the Byzantine Empire was heavily dependent on power and authority, both political and religious. The issue has always been who has the authority to control images. Today, we have our own modern empires, and with iconoclasm having its roots in power dynamics, remnants of the Byzantine experiences can be seen reflected in our contemporary political conditions. The reigns of Emperor Leo III and Constantine V set a precedent for how iconoclasts operated and the justifications behind them, both factors being as evident today as they have been for centuries.

“Impressionism, Photography, and Brain Science”

**Madi Rawls**, Undecided

This presentation, based on a research/critical analysis paper in progress, will examine the development of Impressionism as a response to photography in the 19th century by comparing paintings by Claude Monet and photographs by Gustave Le Gray, through the lens of Eric Kandel’s book Reductionism in Art and Brain Science.

According to Eric Kandel, “reductionism allows an artist to move from figuration to abstraction” (61). Claude Monet’s career is a prime example of Kandel’s argument. Monet’s gradual move towards abstraction was caused by the rise of photography in the 19th century. Developed throughout the 1830s and greatly improved by the heliograph and daguerreotype, published in 1839, photography was criticized as an art form from its inception. Many critics compared photography to painting and saw it as a shortcut. Some artists believed the birth of photography would be the death of painting (Britannica). However, quite the opposite occurred. In response to the realistic nature of photography, many painters leaned into Impressionism, including Monet. Comparing Monet’s works with photographs of Gustave Le Gray displays Monet’s use of light, line, color, and form which gradually moved him towards abstraction, pushing against the rise of photography.

“Leonard Bernstein and Social Activism”

**Ivanna Zuniga**, Biochemistry & Music Performance

"Leonard Bernstein is the highly prolific conductor, composer, and music educator, best known for his creation of West Side Story and the recent attention from the film Maestro (2023). Not only was Bernstein recognized with several awards, including seventeen Grammys, he was also heavily involved in public matters, such as social activism and philanthropy, Vietnam War opposition, support of AIDS/HIV research and patients, and advocacy for integrating the arts into standard education. Interest in Bernstein as an advocate is often overshadowed by his earlier life. Specifically relating to AIDS, he helped save thousands of dollars for the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), often leading a variety of events for this cause, including a benefit titled A Classic Evening for AIDS Research in December of 1986, and a concert called Serenade in December of 1987. He also focused on multiple causes at this time, even conducting Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony to honor the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, a year before his death.

This presentation focuses on this decade specifically through a look at documents from the Leonard Bernstein Collection at the Library of Congress, and closes with reflections on connections between Bernstein’s music and his activism."

**Chair: Dr. Susan Crane**

## **6. Swimming Pools, Runaways, Media, and Murder: Examining Discrimination in the United States**

*Room B252*

“The Leo Frank Case: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the Media”

**Madeline Boose**, History & Global Studies

In 1913, a night watchman discovered the murdered body of thirteen-year-old Atlanta girl Mary Phagan in the basement of a pencil factory where she worked. Suspicion quickly fell on the Jewish factory superintendent, Leo Frank. Frank’s trial began that same year. Among the primary witnesses against him was Jim Conley, a Black janitor from the factory who swore that Frank had involved him in the murder. Since Phagan was killed so young, the case quickly became a media sensation in the south and around the US. Newspapers portrayed both people differently, but all of them centered around the central themes of sexuality, religious affiliation, and emotional stability. This can be established by looking into three newspapers from different locations around the country, The Atlanta Constitution, The Brooklyn Daily Eagle, and The Chicago Defender, in which the interactions of race and culture are examined in a judicial setting. Overall, this case has had substantial historical significance in not only cultural relations but also the scope of the media and what it has influence in. The case can be used to demonstrate the ways in which all parties could be taken advantage of in their own ways, regardless of innocence or guilt.



**“Cherry Bomb’: The Role of Female Rage in Amplifying Feminism and Reproductive Rights”**

**Melissa Hamann**, Information Science & History

The 1970s were a pivotal moment in women’s liberation, an era in which the feminist movement gained momentum and furthered legal significance. This momentum was fueled by an undercurrent of rage that ran through American women as they broke free from traditional conceptions of gender. The Runaways, an edgy and rebellious rock band of teenage girls, represented this turning point as symbols of female empowerment and independence. Their aggressive, unapologetic attitude challenged social norms, allowing them to break free from traditional gender roles. Through an exploration of lyrics, performance, interviews, and cultural context, I will explore how The Runaways embodied women’s rage. In performance, in studio and in concert, The Runaways performed with energy and emotion that drew in audiences and pushed them away, causing male artists in the genre to write them off and elicited criticism from female journalists. These reactions are unsurprising and akin to the experience of being a teenage girl; being disparaged by men and looked down upon by women. I seek to provide perspective on the convergence of music and culture during a transformative period in women’s history, shedding light on the role of women’s rage in fueling 1970s feminism, as exemplified by The Runaways.

**“Oppressive Waters: Exclusion of White Women and African Americans in Recreational and Competitive Swimming”**

**Samantha Storey**, History

Bodies of water, for recreational and competitive use, have extensive histories of gender and racial discrimination. Beginning in the mid-1800s, public bath houses served as a means of maintaining cleanliness and combating rising disease. Interestingly, these facilities enforced gender separation not racial segregation. Over the following decades, bath houses would soon evolve into areas of recreation, be newly termed public pools, and allow men and women to swim together for the first time. Unknown to the African American population, however, this would forever alter their participation in the water. While water as a contested space might appear obvious, secondary literature has failed to provide extensive analysis or any true discussion of the white woman. My work will then argue that white women and African Americans experienced a strikingly similar level of discrimination in the water caused entirely by white male masculinity. It is additionally this masculinity that will prevent individuals from engaging in competitive swimming for decades to come. In order to accomplish this, I rely heavily on both African American and women's newspapers. Ultimately, this paper seeks to provide a comprehensive picture of the roles of swimming pools in America and their larger effects on diverse social groups.

**"Of Camptowns and Salons: Impacts of the Pacific Theatre on the Oversexualization of Asian Women Today"**

**Riley Williams**, Anthropology

In my research, I examine the military-sexual complex in the Pacific Theatre of WWII and use it to contextualize sexual stereotypes about and discrimination against (East) Asian women today. Major points I touch on include Korean camptowns, the American appropriation of the Japanese comfort stations, the 2021 Atlanta Spa shootings, and portrayals of women as either 'lotuses' or 'dragons' in American media.

**Chair: Dr. Michelle Berry**

## **7. Homeland and Hegemony: Accounts of Struggle, Identity, and Resilience in Central Eurasia**

*Room B254*

**"Cold War Weaponization of the 'Tatar Yoke'"**

**Jonathan Gentile**, History

The Mongol conquests of modern-day Russia in the 13th-century, and the subsequent two centuries of subjugation, have played a persistent role in Russian historiography ever since. This event has been cited as rationale for Russia's successes and its failures, for its backwardness and its ascendancy. Following the Russian Revolution, in which all matters of cultural and historiographical standards were being reevaluated, both Soviet and anti-Soviet thinkers alike returned to the "Tatar Yoke" to answer difficult questions about post-revolutionary society. This idea of "Mongol influence" in Russian political culture was wielded on both sides of the Iron Curtain, simultaneously being used to deride the Soviet Union and to unite it. This presentation will explore the ways in which the "Mongol conquests" as a concept changed during the Soviet period, looking especially to how depictions evolved in cinema, art, and other cultural artifacts. It will examine how the Tatar Yoke became the basis for diametrically opposed philosophical and political movements of the Cold War, and how these ideologies inadvertently had much in common after all.

**"The True Kazakh: The Dombra"**

**Daniela Gonzalez**, Russian, Linguistics, & Spanish

There are many routes in which nations go to seek identity: art, literature, architecture, politics, music, etc. As a relatively young nation in comparison to its many counterparts, created over the course of the Soviet period, Kazakhstan continually looks to its past traditions and customs to assert itself in the modern world. In its need to find identity, Kazakhstan, alongside other Central Asian nations, uses a combination of traditions and modern-day "amenities" to answer the question, "Who am I?" even years after its declaration of independence in 1991. One such way that Kazakhstan does that today is by retaining its roots in traditional music and folk instruments, such as the dombra. This project will substantiate this contention and delve into this topic through research about the dombra as a musical instrument, the dombra as a national instrument and "role model" of Kazakhstan, an analysis of Kazakhstan's national identity creation, and the inclusion of interviews from local Kazakh people.

**"Crisis in Crimea: Crimean Tatar National Identity at Odds"**

**Mason Maltbie**, Russian, Religious Studies, & Creative Writing

The presentation details the formation and development of Crimean Tatar civic- and ethno- national identities in terms of hegemonic narratives and identity related discourses in response to a series of problems or "crises" over the course of the group's history. Initially forming from three distinct regional groupings, the ethnogenesis of the Crimean Tatars resulted from a Tatarization of said groups within the Ottoman controlled Crimean Khanate. The Tatars of Crimea then consolidated their ethnic identity in response to collective traumas, difficulties, or crises, which put their group identity in tension with hegemonic forces and resulting in continual rupture and consolidation of identity discourses. The deportation of the Crimean Tatars under Soviet rule resulted in a strong identification with the "Vatan" or homeland and de-emphasization of ties to a particular pre-Tatarization group. The process of repatriation and developing Ukrainian civic nationalism caused Crimean Tatars to balance questions of civic and ethnic national identity and identify ways to participate in Ukrainian and Crimean politics while supporting Crimean Tatar interests and identity. Finally, the annexation of Crimea or the "new crisis" forced Crimean Tatars to consider economic and ideological interests as they balanced conflicting Russian and Ukrainian civil nationalism alongside growing ethnonational identities.

“There Are No Tanks, but Hang in There’: How Tank Design and Procurement in the Soviet Union Became a Clown Show”

**Tom Poulsen**, Russian

From the 1960s to the demise of the Soviet Union, three tank design bureaus would scheme, fight, and struggle to outmaneuver each other to become the ultimate source of Soviet Union tank design. This is a story of fierce rivalries, backroom deals, bureaucratic gambits, official and unofficial orders, dysfunctional leadership, and open defiance of the State. The incompetent Soviet tank procurement process combined with rogue design bureaus would undermine the system and change Soviet tank development forever.

**Chair: Dr. Albrecht Classen**

### **8. Transnational Movements and Perennial Perceptions: Identity Formation, Power Trends, and Politics in the Asia Pacific Region**

*Room B201*

“Unveiling the Kuril Islands Debate: Exploring Geopolitics, National Identity and Projection of Power”

**Shyla Barton**, East Asian Studies & Chinese

The Kuril Islands, also known as the Northern Territories, is a contested cluster of islands between Japan and Russia that are under debate as to which country owns them. The San Francisco Treaty of 1951 between the United States and Japan gave Japan authority over the islands of Japan, however, the Kuril Islands are not included in this treaty. The Treaty of Portsmouth of 1905, the treaty that ended the Japanese-Russo War, also does not give recognition of ownership of the Kuril Islands. Despite there being no evidence of ownership, they began to be disputed in the post-war period and this debate continues into the present. Based on lack of evidence, why does Japan and Russia both claim ownership of these islands? What deeper aspects are part of this debate and why has either country not been able to come to an agreement regarding the islands?

This paper will explore aspects of the debates surrounding the islands and the lack of ownership over them, including both treaties and the importance the islands present to both Japan and Russia by looking deeper into aspects of geopolitics, national identity, international law, treaty interpretation and projection of power by both nations.

“The Evolution of Fascism in Japan: An Analysis of Pre-Post War Japan”

**Micah Paul Sherman**, Japanese & Law

The evolution of fascism in Japan involved a transformation in political ideology and governance, especially during the pre and post-war periods. Before World War II, Japan experienced a rise in militarism and ultranationalism, leading to the embrace of fascist principles. The post-war era witnessed a significant shift due to demilitarization and democratic reforms, marking a departure from fascist tendencies. This complex evolution reflects Japan's political landscape and international dynamics during that time. The evolution of fascism in Japan can be summarized by examining the pre and post-war periods, tracing shifts in political ideologies, militarization, and societal changes. Although it may seem difficult to consider Japan at one point in time as a fascist entity without a charismatic leader like Italy and Germany my fascination with the concept of Fascism consumed me all semester. It is not talked about at all In our history yet Japanese culture is embedded in our media and society in anll corners of the globe. The evolution of fascism in Japan can be summarized by examining the pre and post-war periods, tracing shifts in political ideologies, militarization,

and societal changes. Pre-war Japan saw the rise of ultranationalism, militarization, and authoritarianism, culminating in the militaristic government's aggressive expansion. Post-war, Japan underwent significant political and social transformations, adopting democratic principles and renouncing militarism, leading to its modern political landscape. The image of Japan in our modern society is that of a peaceful and benevolent country whom exude peace and tranquility. Yet there is dark past that many individuals are oblivious of when it comes to the history of our society. Without painting the picture of a country full of racists individuals I preferred to show how their evolution as a culture, society and country required the elite to transform their archipelago into a competitive powerhouse amongst a growing western culture that only saw resources and weapons as a form of power. I hope my research can educate and shed light on our ever growing society as we develop and evolve in this modern society.

**“The South Korean Democratization Movement in the Shadow of the 1988 Summer Olympics”**

**Lindsay Wilmarth**, East Asian Studies & Information Science

In the year 1988, South Korea became the second Asian country to host the Olympics, which had not been hosted in Asia since 1964. Only a short forty-three years after the end of Japanese occupation and thirty-five years post-Korean War, these summer games were a massive step for the burgeoning nation. However, in the shadow of the five rings was a nation at a turning point. The world’s eyes focused on South Korea that summer, with few knowing that a year prior, thousands of Korean people took to the streets of Seoul, Gwangju, and more for the right to elect their leaders, some even losing their lives for the cause. Few knowing that less than a year prior, the host nation had elected a leader democratically for the first time. In this project, the 1988 Olympics will be scrutinized as a public policy ploy for the Chun Doo-hwan regime, a catalyst for the compressed modernization of South Korea, and a pivotal moment in the democratization of a new nation, through the idea of a mixed Structural-Voluntarist view presented by Thomas Kern and Thomas Laux (2017) describing the structural as protest movements and the voluntarist as the negotiated transition of power.

**Chair: Dr. Albert Welter**

**12:30-1:30 Lunch**

**1:30-3:00 Panels 9-12**

**9. From Tournaments to Trials: Immersive “Maker Projects” on Medieval Europe**

*Room B254*

**“Art to Armor: Creating a Playable Medieval Tournament Game”**

**Aurora Levy**, Anthropology, Art History, & History

I created a choose-your-own-adventure style playable Twine game based on medieval European tournaments. I researched medieval weaponry and armor, the history of tournaments, gastronomy, art including manuscripts and paintings, and games like dice, cards, board games. In the game, the player competes in a tournament and buys armor, jousts an opponent, feasts, tries to win the hand of a fair maiden, and hunts. This interactive game is decorated with colorful, bright imagery and uses both interactive choices and dice rolls to proceed to the next step. My intensive research of contemporary medieval sources both written and iconographical lended a basis for a creative and fun game, bringing the past into the present and allowing modern people to enjoy history in a way they haven’t before.

**"The Icarus Effect: The Trials of Joan of Arc"**

**Megan McPherson**, History

My research and presentation will focus on Joan of Arc concentration on her trials for heresy and execution. Joan of Arc was essential to the French during the Hundred Years' War. Joan of Arc was extremely religious and felt she was driven to fight for France by God. Joan never wavered in her claim that divine voices were guiding her. However, only after she began losing in battle did the "voices" become problematic and ultimately got her killed. My focus will be to discover why she went from being essential to being charged with heresy and killed in only three years. I will be creating a two act play to discuss her history and to answer if the charges were politically driven, the trial lawful, and if being female added to the motive for her execution. The sources will be used to answer these questions. In addition, they will be used to set the background and shape the characters, motivations, and challenges within the play. Excerpts from Joan's letters and the trial transcripts will be used to create the dialogue for her and the arguments from the secondary sources will be the dialogue for the "voices" that Joan heard.

**"Reconstructing a Tudor Gown"**

**Bridget Phipps**, History

For this project I intend to recreate a Tudor period gown. My plan is to use historically accurate fabrics wherever possible; I would like to avoid synthetics completely. I do intend to use modern sewing methods when I can, including for sewing and embroidery, though I will need to employ hand stitching techniques here and there. I chose this project for several reasons, the first being that this is a period of history that has constantly fascinated me. I love the clothing, architecture, political machinations, and art of the period. In addition to that, I have been wanting to make a gown from this period for years, and this project is providing me with the motivation and deadline that I needed to finally start it. The scope of this project is vast, and it is going to take nearly all my free time to complete it, but I'm looking forward to watching it come together, and I have parts of it already started. The shift is cut out and waiting to be sewn, the farthingale and petticoat are nearing completion, and I taught myself tablet weaving over the summer, and have already started using that to make the garters.

**"Gurney at the Tourney"**

**Makenna Schouten**, Biochemistry, Physiology & Medical Sciences

'Gurney at the Tourney' is an interactive story-style video game set in Europe in the Middle Ages, specifically in the late 1300's. In the game, players attend the events of a medieval tournament as an emergency healthcare professional and must treat the various injuries and ailments that may occur throughout the course of the events. Some background dialogue and primary source imagery is provided for each selected event of the tournament to aid readers in visualizing the dangerous nature of the games. Events range from intense jousting matches to foot combat, culminating in a celebratory feast. The player is given two treatment options, one modern standard practice and one that most likely would have occurred in the time and region of the game's setting. In order to advance to the next event, players must choose the medieval treatment. Both modern and medieval medical practices have descriptions of their effectiveness, and comparisons provided. The game is ultimately complete once players reach the feast and can celebrate a hard day's work. As an emergency medical technician myself, I think it is important to draw parallels between the origins and evolution of medicine throughout time. The game emphasizes to readers that modern practices are not too far off from the discoveries of the past, despite 700 years of innovation separating them. The foundations of medicine began long ago, and 'Gurney at the Tourney' makes that truth evident for those who partake in it.

**Chair: Dr. Paul Milliman**

## **10. Inter-American Affairs: Unpacking the Impact of US Policy on the People of Latin America**

*Room B201*

**“Human Rights and Democratization: United States Foreign Policy Toward Nicaragua in 1978-1983”**

**Nicholas Garcia**, Environmental Science & History

This paper examines United States foreign policy as directed toward Nicaragua, specifically what differences and what similarities in such policy exist between the later Carter administration and the early Reagan administration. This research is a short study into the considerations of human rights which motivated foreign policy between the two presidencies. How did these motivations alter the creation of policy toward Nicaragua and what resulted from such policy? The motivations of pursuing the advancement of human rights were in direct conflict with the need to maintain American influence over Central America and deny the spread of Soviet and Cuban influence into the region. The desire to reassert American influence over strategically important Nicaragua after the success of the communist Sandinista rebellion in 1979 assured the policy of the United States would become increasingly hostile toward that nation.

**“Complicity and Authorization: The Role of the U.S. Government in the Assassination Attempts of Fidel Castro”**

**Jazlyn Madrid Sanchez**, History

This research paper is on the topic of political assassination attempts; particularly the eight documented assassination attempts on Fidel Castro that occurred between 1960 and 1965. Rather than going into depth on the assassination attempts themselves however, this research paper analyzes the role of U.S. government officials in the authorization of these assassination attempts. While there exists no known direct evidence of authorizations, other evidence points at the complicity and knowledge of government officials in the CIA’s plots against Castro. This research paper analyzes both the Eisenhower and JFK administrations, and their complicity in the authorization of assassination plots against Castro, including the roles of the former presidents and other government officials such as former CIA directors. This paper includes the use of multiple primary sources including mostly declassified documents on political assassinations that detail the plots and include testimonies from government officials. Ultimately, this research paper seeks to establish the level of complicity on behalf of U.S. officials in the assassination plots against Castro as well as some of the reasonings behind these extreme actions, and argues that officials such as the former presidents themselves were, at the very least, aware of these attempts.

**“The How, What, and Why We Document History Matters”**

**Kaitlyn Stanbary**, History & Adolescents, Community, and Education

The how, what, and why we document history, matters. During my time working for a Historical Society as an intern, I was tasked with a research project that would tell the history of gentrification that occurred in a Mexican-American neighborhood from 1863 to present day. I was put under the impression that my research was a call to action for residents in the area to put an end to historical events of injustice repeating itself. However, after sending in my unfiltered relay of the stories that were shared from the local residents and the historical events that I researched, I realized that my purpose was invalidated. After reviewing the final edits of the paper I submitted to the publishing body of the Historical Society, I realized the story had been sanitized. My question is, can history still be portrayed in the same way if it is neutralized? The presentation will not only be on the historical research I conducted, but also the impact it had on my perspective of history

itself. I wish to leave the audience with their own self-reflective thoughts on history. Does what we document, why we document, and how we document history, matter?

**"Selling Opposition: The United States' Public and Private Reasons for Opposing Fidel Castro"**

**Belen Urreiztieta**, History

In opposing Fidel Castro's Cuba, the United States has capitalized on the American public's Cold War era fears surrounding containment theory, anti-communist sentiments as a whole, and even the Soviet Union. These government pursuits, I argue, served to "sell" opposition to Fidel Castro to the public by appealing to these fears and the idea that it is the duty of the public to adopt opposition, lest they allow their country's sphere of influence to fall to communism, and perhaps Soviet control. However, not included in such a sales pitch is the deeply unsavory economic motivations that were behind the United States' more "private" opposition to Fidel Castro's Cuba, chiefly his nationalization of American properties of great value. Additionally, I argue that the United States participated in hypocrisy as it relates to the rhetoric of non-intervention it used to "sell" opposition, as I reveal plans were well underway to undermine Cuban sovereignty. In sum, the United States knew their economic motivations for opposition would not appeal to the American people, and therefore used popular Cold War sentiments to their advantage. I have made my arguments through the analysis of presidential speeches, primary print sources, scholarly secondary sources, and declassified documents.

**Chair: Angela Corsa**

## **11. Empire in Flux: War, Politics, Policy, and Memory in the United States from the Civil War to the First Gulf War**

*Room B250*

**"Borah Victorious: Putting the "L" in the League of Nation"**

**Daisy O'Sullivan**, Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law & History

On March 19, 1920, following a year and a half of debate on the subject, the United States Senate rejected, for the fourth time, the Treaty of Versailles and the Covenant of the League of Nations. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge is typically credited with leading the campaign against the League as he was the Republican Majority Leader and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Lodge certainly did contribute greatly to the failure of President Woodrow Wilson's efforts to get the Treaty of Versailles ratified and join the League with the reservations he attached to the treaty and the fight he put up against passing it unqualified, but the credit cannot be solely reserved for to the Senator from Massachusetts. The actions of Senator William Edgar Borah of Idaho, leader of the group known as the "Irreconcilables," from 1918-1920 were indispensable in the fight to defeat the treaty. Where Lodge failed to get the treaty with his reservations ratified, Borah got exactly what he desired—the defeat of what he referred to as "the haunting dream of noble minds," "gathered scum of the nations organized into a conglomerate international police force," and "a league to promote war." He did so not by just winning a prolonged battle in the Senate, but by extending his efforts to convincing the American people that joining the League was not in their best interests. Borah had a plethora of reasons to oppose the U.S. joining the League of Nations and he masterfully balanced his efforts during the Senatorial debate on the treaty between actions taken within the halls of Congress and to communicate with the general public. Through an examination of the Senator's public speeches, propaganda created during the League debates, private correspondence, and other primary sources, this project will demonstrate that Senator Borah was the true winner in this fight and that his contributions to this part of history are often understated with respect to his contemporaries.

“Civil War Commanders' Correspondence: Debunking the Lost Cause Narrative Through Voices from the Battlefield”

**Jared Jewell**, English & History

Following the American Civil War, former Confederate leaders and academics pushed the idea of the Lost Cause into the spotlight, calling the history of the war into question even today. With a focus on the Lost Cause claim that Southern surrender came from humanitarian magnanimity over military necessity, this study will draw conclusions about the shifts of morale and advantage during the war by the end had a direct correlation to the defeats the Confederacy suffered—including a mounting, cumulative effect that foretold an ultimate defeat. Through an analysis of personal writings, reports, dispatches, and memoirs of prominent Civil War generals such as Jubal Early, John Bell Hood, William Tecumseh Sherman, and Ulysses Grant, as well as supplementary secondary resources, the eventuality and certainty of Confederate defeat will be shown and this study will evince how the first tenet of the Lost Cause, that they could've fought on at further cost of blood, was poorly founded.

“The First Gulf War and US Foreign Policy”

**Thomas Logan**, History & Law

Operation Desert Storm often lives in the shadow of the 2003 invasion of Iraq, however, it still bears real and serious consequences on our world today. In the minds of many Americans, the liberation of Kuwait is seen as a massive success in protecting freedom and a multinational effort to curtail an oppressive regime. However, the United States' involvement in the first Gulf war does not fit this narrative. In its first real test following the weakening of the Soviet Union, the US deliberately condoned war in Kuwait in order to show both the Middle East and larger international economy that it was now the sole world superpower.

**Chair: Dr. Adam Donaldson**

## **12. Indigenous Histories: Transformation, Oppression, and Resistance in the US and Beyond**

*Room B252*

“When the River Runs Green: The Intersection Between Tribal Sovereignty, Economy, and Environmental Stewardship”

**Alyssa Wood**, Business Administration, History, & Southwest Studies

Driving through Phoenix, one cannot help but notice the massive casino buildings and corresponding highway signs that protrude from the desert landscape. Yet, these visible landmarks represent a much larger story—one of urban encroachment, natural resource loss, and poverty, but also one of legal resistance, economic development, and resilience. Arizona's central valley tribes, especially the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation (FMYN) and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC), have battled with the Arizona state government throughout the turn of the twenty-first century to establish tribal gaming. As a result of their efforts, all 22 of Arizona's federally recognized tribes financially benefit from casino profits. In this way, the Valley's Native tribes have been able to successfully adapt settler systems to work for the benefit of their own communities, reestablish economies that had been disrupted from settler's natural resource encroachment, and strengthen tribal sovereignty. However, this method is not entirely unproblematic and often runs the risk of solidifying these same systems. In the case of the tribal entertainment industry, the use of western-style, water-intense enterprises increases the strain on already scarce water resources which have been compounded by climate change and poor resource management. Therefore, an interdisciplinary analysis of



the situation that understands both the economic and political importance of tribal entertainment enterprises as well as the potential environmental harm is a must in order to ensure responsible decision-making. Furthermore, evolving settler systems away from a contradictory relationship between environmental preservation and economic development towards an indigenous-led system of co-existence may be part of the answer for ensuring the long-lasting success of Arizona and all of its inhabitants.

“Similarities Of Cultural Erasure Between The Ainu And Native Americans”

**Tyler Mascarenas**, East Asian Studies & Creative Writing

My presentation will be based on a research paper I wrote that analyzes the similar ways that both the Ainu people of Japan and the Native American populations experienced forced assimilation by colonial powers. Looking at methods such as language subjugation, intentional use of disease, and legal action to force a people to change, I draw connections to identify a pattern in the colonial historical oppression of native populations. Both peoples experienced similar attempts at suppression of their culture through nearly identical methods despite gapping many years and a great distance between the two events. These comparisons also allow for a chance to understand how a group or people could be destroyed, not by just direct force and conquest, but also by the intentional ruining of lifestyle. This identification and understanding can then in turn allow people to change their perceptions of people, particularly those of the northern island of Japan, understanding it not as another part of Japanese history, but rather its own land with its own people.

“Coordination in Tohono O'odham: A Diachronic and Synchronic Perspective”

**Enrico Higginbotham**, Philosophy & Linguistics

Tohono O'odham, a Southern Uto-Atzecan language spoken in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico, employs different coordination strategies depending on the syntactic features of the coordinated elements. The diachronic origins of these strategies lie in the Proto Uto-Atzecan switch reference system. The synchronic descendants of Proto Uto-Atzecan switch reference complementizers may also surface in Tohono O'odham wh- questions and formulaic narrative discourse. Finding numerous cognates throughout the language family in similar syntactic environments (e.g., O'ob No'ok) is also possible. However, other typological characteristics of Tohono O'odham (e.g., auxiliary-second word order) closely interact with these elements in the left periphery of the clause. Drawing from corpus sources (e.g., Zepeda (1983), Mathiot (1973)) and previous literature on functional elements in Tohono O'odham (e.g., Hale (1983), Hale (2002)), this work aims to analyze the available diachronic evidence of Tohono O'odham coordination within a Minimalist framework, as well as the synchronic status of switch reference complementizers. Thus, it will present a clearer picture of Tohono O'odham's left periphery, permitting, in turn, more precise research questions in the future. It will also present new challenges to our understanding of the extended projection of the Tohono O'odham verb, opening the door to a cartography of O'odham functional elements.

**Chair: Dr. Katherine Morrissey**

**3:00-3:15 Symposium Close**

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