Cambridge American History Seminar 2017-2018

We are pleased to announce the schedule of seminars and events for the academic year 2017/18. Seminars will be held on Mondays at 5:00 PM in the Knox Shaw Room, Sidney Sussex College, unless otherwise indicated. Several of the seminars will be based on pre-circulated papers that will be made available two weeks prior to the seminar date.

All inquiries should be directed to Jonathan Goodwin, jmg216@cam.ac.uk, 01223 335317.

We look forward to seeing you once term begins.

Gary Gerstle

Michaelmas Term

9 October:

Gareth Davies, Associate Professor of American History and Fellow of St Anne’s College, University of Oxford

*How Black Suffering Became Visible: The Racial Politics of Gulf Hurricanes Since 1945*

Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper

Commentator: Ira Katznelson, University of Cambridge and Columbia University

16 October:

Max Edling, Reader in Early American History, King’s College, London

*Peace Pact and Nation: The U.S. Constitution as a Federal Treaty*

Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper

Commentator: Nicholas Guyatt, University of Cambridge
21 October (Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge), 8:55am to 7:00pm:

Historians of the Twentieth Century United States (HOTCUS) Post-Graduate Conference: *Contesting Power: Rights, Justice, and Dissent in America and Beyond*

Keynote lecture by Kerry Pimblott, Lecturer in International History, University of Manchester

For further details see the website: [http://hotcus.org.uk/2017-postgraduate-conference/](http://hotcus.org.uk/2017-postgraduate-conference/)

Or contact the conference organiser, Katherine Ballantyne: (hotcuspostgrads@gmail.com)

23 October:

**Mae Ngai**, Lung Family Professor of Asian American Studies and Professor of History, Columbia University

*The Chinese Question in the Transvaal and the Racial Politics of Empire 1905-1910*

Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper

(This will be a joint seminar with World History)

Commentator: Saul Dubow, University of Cambridge

6 November:

**Glenda Gilmore**, Peter V & C Vann Woodward Professor of History, Yale University

*‘The Mystery That Is Left Out of History:’ Romare Bearden’s Art and the Search for an African American Past*
13 November (British Academy, London), 9:00am–8:00pm:

**British Academy Symposium: The United States and World War One: Exploring Political, Economic and Cultural Entanglements**

Gary Gerstle is the symposium co-organiser. CAHS participants are encouraged to attend.

This symposium will be held at the British Academy, 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AH

For further details please visit the website: http://www.britac.ac.uk/events/united-states-america-and-world-war-one-exploring-political-economic-and-cultural

20 November:

**Carl Nightingale**, Professor of Transnational Studies and American Studies, University of Buffalo

*From a Global History of Divided Cities to a Global Urban History*

27 November:

**Julia Guarneri**, Lecturer in American History and Fellow of Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge

**Book Launch**: *Newsprint Metropolis: City Papers and the Making of Modern Americans* (University of Chicago Press, 2017)

**Lent Term**

22 January:

**Jonathan Levy**, Professor of History, Fundamentals and the College, University of Chicago

*Instability and Inequality: American after the Volcker Shock of 1990*
Thursday 25 January (Queen's Building Lecture Theatre, Emmanuel College), 5:00pm:

Ira Katznelson, 2017-18 Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions, University of Cambridge, and Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History, Columbia University

Pitt Professor Inaugural Lecture:
‘As God Rules the Universe’: Tocquevillian Reflections on the People and the State in Early America

(This will be a joint event with Political Thought and Intellectual History)

There will be a wine reception after the lecture in the Old Library, Emmanuel College

29 January:

Elliott West, Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth Professor of American History, University of Oxford, and Distinguished Professor of History, University of Arkansas

Coincidence and Empire: The United States and the Pacific

5 February:

Emma Hart, Senior Lecturer in History, St Andrews University

Remaking the Public Good in the American Marketplace during the Early Republic

Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper

12 February:

Molly Geidel, Lecturer in American Cultural History, University of Manchester

Mid-Century Liberalism and the Development Film

Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper
19 February:

Rhys Jones, Junior Research Fellow, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge

*Temporal Claustrophobia at the Continental Congress, 1774-1776*

26 February:

Jennifer Luff, Associate Professor of Modern American History, University of Durham

*Secrets, Lies, and the ‘Special Relationship’ in the Early Cold War*

Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper

5 March:

Alex Goodall, Senior Lecturer in History, University College London

*The US Marine Empire in the Caribbean and Central America, c.1870-1920*

12 March:

Beverly Gage, Professor of History and American Studies, and Brady-Johnson Professor of Grand Strategy, Yale University

*G-Man: J. Edgar Hoover and the American Century*

Easter Term

30 April:

Lizabeth Cohen, Howard Mumford Jones Professor of American Studies, Harvard University

*Biography as History: How Far Can a Life Take You?*

7 May:

Nathan D.B. Connolly, Herbert Baxter Adams Associate Professor of History, John Hopkins University

*What’s Yours is Mine: Family and Property in an Age of Landgrabbing*
14 May:

Ira Katznelson, 2017-18 Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions, University of Cambridge, and Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History, Columbia University

Fear and Democracy: Responding to Carl Schmidt

21 May:

American History Graduate Student Conference

Details to come

Summer Event

13-14 July:

Work and Politics in the Twenty-First Century

International Conference at the University of Cambridge

Details to come