

Cambridge American History Seminar 2023-24

We are pleased to announce the schedule of seminars and events for the academic year 2023-24. Seminars will be held on **Mondays at 5:00pm in the William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College**, unless otherwise stated. Many of the seminars will be based on pre-circulated papers that will be made available a week 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 (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Jessica Marie Johnson, Associate Professor of History, Johns Hopkins University

Traversée: Gender, Commodification, and the Long Middle Passage

This paper will be pre-circulated

Commentator: Arianne Sedef Urus, University of Cambridge

16 October, (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Lewis Defrates, Assistant Professor in American History, and Research Associate, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge

Neutrality by Absence: The Selective Repatriation of Americans at the Beginning of the First World War

This paper will be pre-circulated

Commentator: TBC

23 October (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Joanna Cohen, Reader in American History, Queen Mary University

John McKenzie's Sympathy: Where and How to Feel Sorry in Nineteenth-Century America

This paper will be pre-circulated

Commentator: Julia Guarneri, University of Cambridge

30 October (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Stephanie Lewthwaite, Associate Professor in American History, University of Nottingham

Relational Memories: Latinx Art in New York City Since the 1970s

6 November (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Andrew Preston, Professor of American History, and Fellow of Clare College, University of Cambridge

A Bridge in Chicago: The New Deal and National Security

This paper will be pre-circulated

Commentator: TBC

13 November (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Jefferson Cowie, James G. Stahlman Professor of History, Vanderbilt University

Freedom's Dominion: A Saga of White Resistance to Federal Power

20 November (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Noam Maggor, Senior Lecturer in American History, Queen Mary University and Fellow of the Institute of Advanced Studies, Paris

Freights and Rates: Railroad Regulation as American Industrial Policy

This paper will be pre-circulated

Commentator: Robert Lee, University of Cambridge

27 November (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Desmond King, Andrew Mellon Professor of American Government and Fellow of Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Violence in American Politics: The Best Possible Accommodation?

Lent Term

22 January (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Elizabeth R. Varon, Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth Professor of American History, University of Oxford, and Langbourne M. Williams Professor of American History, University of Virginia

In Search of Clara Barton: The Politics of Humanitarianism in the Reconstruction Era

This paper will be pre-circulated

29 January (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Erik Mathisen, Senior Lecturer in US History, University of Kent

The Problem of Free Labor and the Origins of the Republican Party

This paper will be pre-circulated

5 February (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Erika Lee, Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions, University of Cambridge, and Bae Family Professor of History, Harvard University

Pitt Professor Inaugural Lecture:

Rethinking Monuments in an Age of Racial Reckonings in America

12 February (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Manfred Berg, Curt Engelhorn Chair in American History, University of Heidelberg

Gun Culture, Mass Shootings, and the Militia Movement: How the Right to Bear Arms Has Driven Polarization in the United States

This paper will be pre-circulated

19 February (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Arianne Sedef Urus, Assistant Professor of History and Fellow of Christ's College, University of Cambridge

Common Shores: Property and Resource Access in the Eighteenth-Century Newfoundland Cod Fisheries

This paper will be pre-circulated

26 February (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Susan-Mary Grant, Professor of American History, University of Newcastle

The Band Will Play and I'll be There to Hear It': Assumptions of Immortality in the US Civil War

This paper will be pre-circulated

4 March (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Erika Lee, Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions, University of Cambridge, and Bae Family Professor of History, Harvard University

Reclaiming Lost Histories of Asian America

11 March (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Daniel Widener, Associate Professor of History, University of California, San Diego

The Dream of a Common Language: Afterlives of U.S. Thirdworldism

This paper will be pre-circulated

Easter Term

29 April (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Stephen Hahn, Professor of History, New York University

Book Launch: *Illiberal America: A History*

6 May (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Lila O'Leary Chambers, Research Fellow, Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge

Liquid Capital: Alcohol and the Rise of Slavery in the British Atlantic, 1580-1737

This paper will be pre-circulated

13 May:

No Seminar due to events commemorating the 300th anniversary of the Regius Professorship in History at Cambridge

20 May (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Brenna W. Greer, Associate Professor of History, Wellesley College

Coloring Within the Lines: Picturing Black Men in Postwar Black Print Culture

This paper will be pre-circulated

30-31 May (William Mong Hall, Sidney Sussex College):

Conference to Honour Gary Gerstle upon his retirement as Paul Mellon Professor of American History

Organised by Nicholas Guyatt, University of Cambridge, and Andrew Preston, University of Cambridge

Details to Come