

Lafayette College History Department Newsletter 2018-19



What have we been up to?



In their senior year, students can explore a topic of interest and distinguish themselves by pursuing an honors thesis. This year, four students did just that and presented results of their ongoing investigations at the end of the Fall semester. This year's honors theses presentations, December 5, 2018:

Kamini Masood: 'Chaadar' and Chaardivari': Haseena Moin's Television Dramas and an Alternate Feminine Consciousness Under Zia's Regime - Advisor: Professor Rachel Goshgarian

Andrew Mange: Duelling and its Historical Decline in France and the United States, 1700-1900 - Advisor: Professor Paul Barclay

Nicole Harry: Soviet Diplomacy and Radio Free Europe in the 1970s - Advisor: Professor Rebekah Pite

Bradley Au: The Great 1920s Oahu Sugar Strike: Asian Immigration, Labor, and Memory – Advisor: Professor Jeremy Zallen

In the Fall, our department also did a lot outside of the classroom. Professor Goshgarian (with her FYS and History 115 class) and Professor Kanjwal (with her course on South Asia's Partition) travelled to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC to see the Armenia! exhibit as well as the Galleries for the Art of the Arab Lands, Turkey, Iran, Central Asia, and Later South Asia. Professor Lee brought his 105 class to the Steel Stacks in Bethlehem for his industrialization unit. Professor Barclay took his History 206 class to the Sigal Museum to meet local Civil War re-enactors, as well as to learn the tricks of the trade when it comes to museum and exhibit curation.

Both the Fall and Spring semesters have been very busy in terms of updating and reinvigorating the department and its connections with the rest of campus. A new Facebook page for alumni and Twitter and Instagram accounts for department information have been set up in order to keep people informed about the work we do. The study room on the 3rd floor of Ramer History House is now fully up and running for students to use 24/7. Outreach to students has increased, both through our three open house events, as well as our first annual department dinner.



Historian Nancy Gallman and Professor Zallen



Professor Pite's class in Skillman Special Collections

Alumni

Congratulations to our alumni who are making us proud! For updates:

<https://history.lafayette.edu/home/after-graduation/>

Anna Harris '14 is an analyst at one of the world's largest financial services firms. She is a candidate in the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) program in addition to working towards completion of a Certificate in Data Analytics. Anna double majored in History and Latin American & Caribbean Studies while at Lafayette, where she was fortunate to receive the academic influence and mentorship of History Professors Rebekah Pite and Rachel Goshgarian. Upon graduation, Anna pursued an internship in the Dominican Republic, wrapping up the studies she performed during her junior year abroad in Central America and Cuba. Subsequently, she fulfilled a year of AmeriCorps service in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The critical-thinking skills and interdisciplinary mindset that Anna perfected during her coursework in Lafayette's History Department paved the way towards these accomplishments and conditioned her to cultivate continuous learning in her professional life.

Jonathan Alerhand '07 is a senior research analyst for a private investment firm in New York that allocates capital to other funds. He found his history classes, particularly those taught by Professor Barclay on East Asia, to be particularly interesting and rewarding as part of his international affairs major. Jonathan's history classes taught him how to read rigorously, write succinctly, think critically, develop an analytical mindset and perform research. A history major may not seem appropriate for a finance professional, but Jonathan learned how to examine material thoroughly and recognize the need for using facts to support a contrarian truth-seeking mindset. He learned to be appreciative and understanding of different views which is necessary in a world where fund managers and investment analysts are required to come up with a bull case, bear case and base case scenario for each potential position.

Susan Grunewald '11 just finished a Ph.D. in History at Carnegie Mellon University. She defended her thesis on German prisoners of war in the Soviet Union in May. Recently, she has become increasingly involved in Digital Humanities and serves as a board member of SlavicDH, an affiliate of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies. Dr. Grunewald returned to campus in March 2019 to give a keynote address at the Phi Alpha Theta induction ceremony for the Lafayette Beta Xi chapter.



Alexander (Alec) Imel '12 is currently an attorney at a civil litigation law firm in Newark, NJ. After graduating from Lafayette magna cum laude with a double major in History and Philosophy, Alec received his J.D. from Columbia Law School. Getting a history degree from Lafayette was an influential part of preparing him for law school and a career as a lawyer. History helped hone many of the practical skills a lawyer (and law student) needs such as researching, reading voluminous materials, and writing clearly. One of his favorite courses was on Piracy in Early American History, which he further developed into a research project on piracy and America's legal development. Lafayette's history professors taught him how to understand and analyze a story, which Alec has found crucial to helping his clients achieve positive results in the courtroom. In his own words, Alec said, "I could not have gotten where I am without the advice and guidance of my history professors. Even today, they continue to support me as I progress in my career."



Andrew J. B. Fagal '07 is an assistant editor for The Papers of Thomas Jefferson at Princeton University. After graduating from Lafayette College with a double major in Economics & Business and History, he received his Ph.D. in early American history at Binghamton University, State University of New York. At Lafayette, Andrew was a member of the mock trial team and the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. Lafayette's content-heavy curriculum and demanding coursework left him well prepared for graduate school and his eventual career as a professional historian. In addition to his published work in the Jefferson Papers, Andrew's academic writings have appeared in *Enterprise & Society*, *The New England Quarterly*, and *New York History*.

Tom Brinkerhoff '13 recently checked in. He is "currently working for Uncommon Schools teaching at North Star Academy in Newark, NJ. I designed and taught a Latin American history course for seniors and am currently teaching AP Seminar and AP Research. Last year, my AP Seminar course (100% students of color) earned a 100% pass rate on the AP exam—with 63% of the class earning a '5'. The students and I have been visiting the Special Collections departments at Rutgers (New Brunswick), Princeton, and NYU. I am loving these classes and working for social justice—helping these students truly change history through their work!" Go Tom!



Jacqueline Olich '92 contacted us to say that "my training as a historian informs everything I do--my work at RTI International, parenting, travel, social media--you name it. At Lafayette, I had the opportunity to learn from remarkable historians, notably Bob Weiner, Gillian Cell, Robert Rotberg, Andy Fix, Donald Miller, Richard Sharpless, Joan Neuberger, Charters Wynn, and Phil Swoboda. I traveled to Russia with Bob Weiner, Rex Ahene and Rado Pribic. I met both my husband (Andy Kennedy, '89) and Mikhail Gorbachev at Lafayette College. As an undergraduate, I also studied abroad at The University of Edinburgh."



If you are an alumnus of the Lafayette College History Department, then **we need your help!** We would love you to send us information on what you have been doing since graduation, in order to help and inspire our current students. We are trying to compile as much useful information about our graduates as possible, so please get in touch! Additionally, if you have any work experience or internship opportunities which you can offer to our current students then please let us know. We are currently trying to shift the history major to incorporate an extracurricular opportunity, so would love to be able to offer students opportunities that come straight from our very own alumni! Please email our Department Head, Paul Barclay, at historydept@lafayette.edu

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Lafayette



College History Department Alumni



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Phi Alpha Theta

This semester we inducted new members into our Beta Xi chapter of the National History Honors Society - Phi Alpha Theta. In order to be invited to the society, students must have taken at least three history courses at Lafayette and meet the national honors society's standard for GPA. Members are invited to Phi Alpha Theta workshops and field trips. Phi Alpha Theta also sponsors scholarships, conferences, and other opportunities for its members.

To kick off the induction ceremony for our new members, we hosted a lecture by alumnus **Susan Grunewald '11**. Grunewald just finished a Ph.D. in History at Carnegie Mellon University. She defended her thesis on German prisoners of war in the Soviet Union in May. Grunewald's lecture "Not One Step Back: Nazis, Gulags and Grad School" explored her process of researching German prisoners of war and their work in Soviet labor camps. Grunewald explained how her research was informed by the fact that these German prisoners of war remained imprisoned in Soviet war camps for 12 years after the end of World War II. Hence, Grunewald framed a lot of her research around questioning this. Grunewald discovered, through years of travelling, research and visits to soviet archives, that these prisoners represented the highly polarized politics of the Cold War. Grunewald explained that the prisoners were, eventually, released to a divided Germany – a completely different Germany to the one they left. According to Grunewald, the prisoners who went home to West Germany were received with excitement, whereas those who returned to East Germany were thought to be deserters or war criminals.

Grunewald's rigorous research also revealed that, during the 12 years following the war, the German prisoners of war were used by the Soviets to build products and infrastructure necessary to rebuild the USSR. Grunewald commented that, although it is difficult to explain exactly why, German products were well made and well respected. Grunewald's lecture was a fascinating insight into her research process as a Ph.D. candidate and into the interesting history of German prisoners of war within the Soviet Union.

Not One Step Back: Nazis, Gulags, and Grad School

Susan Grunewald

Wednesday, March 27, 2019
4:10 p.m.
Kirby Hall of Civil Rights Auditorium

Susan Grunewald will discuss her experiences researching German prisoners of war in the Soviet Union from 1941 to 1956. Her dissertation examines members of the former Nazi army who remained in Soviet forced labor camps for 11 years after the end of World War II. She will discuss the main arguments of her research, ultimately that the Soviet government mobilized them for postwar reconstruction, as well as the process of earning a graduate degree in history, researching in former Soviet archives, and GIS digital mapping.

Sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society

LAFAYETTE

Faculty

Department Head **Paul Barclay** gave several lectures this year in connection with his recently published book, *Outcasts of Empire: Japan's Rule on Taiwan's Savage Border, 1874-1945* (University of California Press). These included talks at the Ohio State University, University of Toronto, Yale University, University of Washington-Seattle and Georgetown University, and a panel organized around his book at the 2019 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado. Barclay will be conducting research in Tokyo this summer on a Richard King Mellon Fellowship.

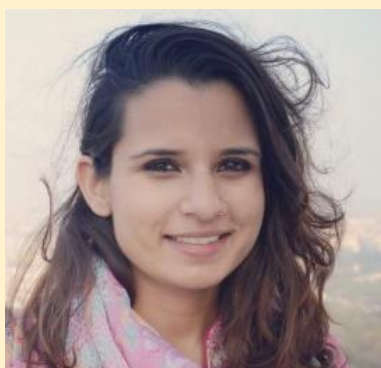


Rachel Goshgarian spent the summer of 2018 researching and writing in Venice, Italy. In Fall 2019, she was awarded a grant from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for her next research project: *Armeno-Turkish and the Space of Language in the Late Medieval and Early Modern Worlds: Manuscript Production and the Circulation of Ideas, Literature, and People*. She'll spend much of her sabbatical at the Center in Istanbul. She wrote "Team-teaching as Feminist Praxis at a Small Liberal Arts College," with Neha Vora, for the *Review of Middle East Studies*, and "Greater Armenia and the Medieval World," and "Armenian Global Connections in the Early Modern Period" for *Armenia!: Art, Religion and Trade in the Middle Ages*, among her many recent publications.



In February **DC Jackson** was a commentator for the Hagley Library Research Seminar in Wilmington, DE, speaking on "DuPont and the Limits of Corporate Environmentalism." His book review of Eric P Perramond, *Unsettled Waters: Rights, Law and Identity in the American West* follows on the heels of an advance contract for another book project, *Engineering in the Progressive Era: John R. Freeman, Hetch Hetchy, and San Francisco's Yosemite Water Supply* and his 2017 Sally Hacker Prize from the Society for the History of Technology for *Heavy Ground: William Mulholland and the St. Francis Dam Disaster* (Co-authored with Norris Hundley).

Hafsa Kanjwal was in Istanbul, Turkey at the Second Annual Conference on the Muslim Ummah the week of October 15th, 2018 where she spoke about the paradox of nationalism in Muslim South Asia.



Professor Kanjwal's article, "As India Beats its War Drums Over Pulwama, its Occupation Of Kashmir is Being Ignored," was published in the Washington Post in February. She also wrote "Protest Photography in Kashmir: Between Resistance and Resilience" for *Women's Studies Quarterly* (Fall/Winter 2018) and "Kashmiri Youth: Redefining the Movement for Self-Determination" in *Political Violence in South Asia*, edited by Ali Riaz, Fahmida Zaman and Zobaida Nasreen, among her other publications, presentations, and public appearances.



Christopher Lee contributed to the blog “Africa is a Country,” putting current U.S. politics into historical and global context, and wrote “Anti-Colonialism: Origins, Practices, and Historical Legacies” for *The Oxford Handbook of the Ends of Empire*, edited by Martin Thomas and Andrew Thompson. He also published “Addressing an Afro-Asian Public: Alex La Guma’s Report to the 25th Anniversary Conference of the Afro-Asian Writers Association in 1983” in *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*. This year, Professor Lee also edited a special issue of the journal *Radical History Review* entitled “The Global South: Histories, Politics, Maps.”

Rebekah Pite gave a presentation at the Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Barcelona, Spain in May 2018 called “A National Beverage? Yerba Mate and Historical Claim-Making in the Río de la Plata Region.” She presented her research at Dickinson College and the National University of Luján (Argentina). During a summer research trip to Argentina, she worked on a project on yerba mate and a new collection she is helping to build on South American visual culture for Skillman library. Professor Pite wrote “Mistress vs. Maid: Race, Class, Nation, and Boundaries Between Women in Argentine Fiction Since the Mid-Nineteenth Century” with Inés Dunstan, which appeared in the journal *Gender & History*.



Deborah Rosen has followed the publication of her Bancroft Prize winning *Border Law: The First Seminole War and American Nationhood* with two articles, “Slavery, Race, and Outlawry: The Concept of the Outlaw in Nineteenth-Century Abolitionist Rhetoric,” published in the Oxford University Press’s *American Journal of Legal History*, and “The Concept of Piracy in Nineteenth-Century American Abolitionist Rhetoric,” in *Slavery & Abolition: A Journal of Slave and Post-Slave Studies*.

Joshua Sanborn is on sabbatical in Jena, Germany, working on his next book. His recent publications include: “When the Front Came Home: The Great Retreat of 1915 and the Transformation of Russian Society,” in Christopher Read, Peter Waldron, and Adele Lindenmeyr eds., *Russia’s Home Front in War and Revolution, 1914-1922* (Bloomington: Slavica) and “The Apotheosis of the Unknown Soldier: Officers, Soldiers, and the Writing of the Great War in Russia,” in Richard Bessel and Dorothee Wierling eds., *Inside World War One? The First World War and its Witnesses* (Oxford).



Robert Weiner will finally retire from full-time teaching, after fifty wonderful years of service to the department, and to Lafayette, as Hillel Director and Jewish Chaplain. He was recently interviewed twice by WDIY, the local NPR station, for a class session on the Origins of World War II, and filmed by a CPAN crew (to be aired next year). A crowd of two-hundred well-wishers attended Professor Weiner’s retirement party in the Marlo Room of Farinon Center on May 5, 2019, which included speeches by President Alison Byerly and several academicians, and songs belted out in the golden tones of our beloved cantor and teacher of modern European history.

Jeremy Zallen gave a presentation on “Lucifer Matches and the Global Violence of Phosphorus: Mass-Produced Bones, Child Labor, Toxic Bodies, and the Radical Democratization of Fire, 1830-1860,” at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies Seminar of the University of Pennsylvania in May, 2018, where he also completed Barra Sabbatical fellowship. His book *American Lucifers: The Dark History of Artificial Light, 1750–1865* (University of North Carolina Press) will hit the bookstores this fall.



It is with great pleasure that we announce that Caroline Séquin will be joining our department and we are proud to welcome her to Lafayette! Dr. Séquin defended her dissertation at the University of Chicago in April. Her specialty is Modern European History. This fall, she will teach “Race and Migration in Modern Europe” and “History of the Modern World” in Ramer History House. Her research and teaching interests include Modern France and the Francophone World, Histories of Gender and Sexuality, Migration and Mobility, Race and Racism, and Global and Transnational History.

May 8, 2019 Honors and Awards Banquet Clay Ketcham Room, Marquis Hall

Congratulations to our sixteen graduating history majors from the class of 2019!!!

Khadijah Akeem, Tabassum “Tabs” Alam, Roland “Brad” Au, Hannah Chambers, Jacob Coburn, Margaret “Sophie” Deignan, Lilian Gill, Kayla Guerin, Nicole Harry, Amelia Heisler, Annelise Kinney, Josh Kramer, Andrew Mange, Kamini Masood, Simon Rybansky, and Reed Sawyer.

Gabrielle “Gabby” Tropp ‘20 was awarded the Colonel Wilson B. Powell ‘32 Award for the best history seminar paper of 2018. Her winning paper was titled “Conflictive Coexistence: Religious Symbols in Conflict Art.” **Kamini Masood** took the Class of 1910 Prize, which is awarded by the History dept. for the best all-around performance in history over the course of an undergraduate career. Congratulations Gabby and Kamini!!!

The history department would also like to acknowledge that **Nicole Harry** presented the poster SOVIET DIPLOMACY AND RADIO FREE EUROPE at the National Council of Undergraduate Research Conference at Kennesaw State University, in April 2019, and that **Gwendolyn “Gwen” Ellis** and **Ruhao “Amy” Wen** presented posters at the EXCEL Scholars poster exhibitions on campus this year.

The department also takes it hats off to **Simon Rybansky, Stefano Mancini, Kamini Masood, Megan Deacon, and Andrew Mange** for performing admirably on the Modern Europe search committee.

We also thank **Megan Deacon** for taking on the task of being our first outreach coordinator and event planner!!

The award for Best Thesis of 2019 goes to **Kamini Masood** for “Alternate Worlds within the ‘Chaadar’ and Chaardivari’: Haseena Moin, General Zia ul Haq, and the Course of Pakistani History,” advised by Rachel Goshgarian.

Honorable mentions go to:

Roland “Brad” Au for “Americans All: Race, Labor, and Citizenship in Hawaii,” advised by Jeremy Zallen;

Nicole Harry for “Soviet Diplomacy and Radio Free Europe,” advised by Rebekah Pite;

Andrew Mange for “The Duel as Conflict Resolution: The Evolution of a Social Ritual, 1777-1914,” advised by Paul Barclay.

Please continue to use the study lounge on the 3rd floor of Ramer History House. History majors and minors have 24/7 access.

We will happily take suggestions for any field trips that may interest students. If you are a member of any clubs or societies that would be willing to co-sponsor a trip, please let us know by emailing historydept@lafayette.edu

We would like to start running regular reading groups where students can discuss various books and publications of their own choosing. Please let us know if this idea interests you!

Declared History majors, please take a look at our new Extracurricular Handbook! This will give you valuable information for finding internships, scholarship programs and volunteering opportunities.