

Four Authors in Search of a Thesis

Actually, that's four Loyola seniors writing history honors theses. Each year a select group of history majors experiences the excitement and challenge of serious historical research and writing under the direction of a faculty advisor. **Catriona Miller**, **Emma Cogan**, **Anne Russell**, and **David Angelatos** are all in the second semester of thesis work. Catriona, working with Dr. Keith Schoppa, is examining the impact of the Khmer Rouge repression on family life in Cambodia from 1975 to 1979. Her most exciting sources are the personal accounts of Cambodian refugees. Emma, working with Dr. Matthew Mulcahy, is analyzing the experience of Scottish physicians in the eighteenth-century British Caribbean, focusing in particular on the life and writings of James Grainger. Anne, working with Dr. Chuck Cheape and Dr. Thomas Pegram, is exploring the circumstances under which the Fenian Brotherhood, an Irish-American nationalistic body, carried out several armed incursions into Canada that were tolerated, if not encouraged, by President Andrew Johnson's administration. Canadian records, border newspapers, and the diplomatic correspondence between perturbed Canadians and evasive Americans make up some of her best sources. David, working with Dr. Bill Donovan, is disentangling the many motives behind American drug policy in Colombia. Several foreign-policy objectives, going far beyond a desire to cut the drug supply to the US, are at work in Columbia. State papers, academic white papers, and press accounts are among his sources.

History Alumni! We Want to Hear from You

Tell us about your jobs, your graduate school experiences, your nostalgia for seminar papers and academic prose. We would like to include updates on Loyola history graduates as a regular feature in the Newsletter. So let us know where you have gone, what you have done, and how you are getting along in life outside the half-timbered bubble of the Humanities building. Contact anyone of us via email and we can pass on the information.

*SEE THE SNAKE, SIGN THE
PLEDGE, JOIN PHI ALPHA
THETA*

*Phi Alpha Theta, the national
history honor society, will be
holding its annual induction
ceremony in April (featuring the
cold-blooded creature
mentioned in the headline).*

*That in itself is a sight to
behold, but membership in Phi
Alpha Theta at Loyola also puts
you in contact with like-minded
history students and affirms
your strong performance in
history courses.*

*Membership in PAT is not
restricted to history majors or
minors. Requirements for
membership include completion
of 12 credits of history (four
courses), a 3.1 history GPA and
overall 3.0 GPA. Please obtain
a transcript from Records and
submit it to Professor Edwards
(HU 308) along with your cell
number. Professor **Jane
Edwards** is accepting new
applicants through March 31st.
Then you feel the spirit of
history and eat Indian food.*

Local Notables

Several Loyola history students are on the path of achievement or notable service. In addition to her history honors thesis, **Emma Cogan** is a Fulbright finalist (she also unlocks the department office in the morning). **David Angelatos** and **Anne Russell** (yup—thesis writers) have been invited to join the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa society, whose Epsilon of Maryland chapter includes three history department faculty: Professors Hughes, Cheape, and Pegram. Junior **Jonathan Berman** was the Loyola nominee for the Truman scholarship. Congratulations to all.

Doing Full-Time at Loyola University Maryland

OK, it's not the big house, but there is still a lot of work that goes into teaching a full slate of courses at Loyola. Two colleagues, Dr. **Chris Gardner** and Dr. **Angelika Hoelger**, are teaching both HS 101 and upper division courses with us this year. Dr. Gardner is a Hopkins Ph.D. specializing in the history of medieval France, particularly the city of Toulouse. His upper division course draws on his expertise in medieval urban history. He will be teaching a course on the early Middle Ages next fall. Dr. Hoelger is also a Hopkins Ph.D. She is a specialist in modern German history, especially the popular culture of Berlin during the “long” nineteenth century. Dr. Hoelger is teaching Nazi Germany and the Holocaust this semester and hopefully next fall as well. In addition, the department is pleased to welcome two other recruits from our Charles Street neighbor, both specializing in early modern France: **Claire Cage** and **Khalid Kurji**. Both are teaching sections of HS 101 this spring.

TV Guide: History Edition (aka “My Other Cousin Vinnie”)

In a medium dominated by Professor **Kelly DeVries**, other Loyola history professors have reported brushes with the culture of the small screen. **Steve Hughes** experienced the full glamour of celebrity (albeit in a Friday time-slot) by assisting Marisa Tomei explore her family heritage on the NBC show, “Who Do You Think You Are?” One of the starlet’s Italian forebears ran afoul of the local culture’s code of honor and revenge; Professor Hughes translated documents and appeared on camera to explain the bloody context. Working within a system far removed from the threadbare conditions of normal academic research, Professor Hughes was whisked from Leuven to Italy courtesy of NBC’s deep pockets and was filmed in the splendid surroundings favored by the glitterati. Now he can be forever linked in tinseltown trivia with Joe Pesci as a Marisa Tomei costar. **Tom Pegram** had an off-camera role in the PBS program “History Detectives.” He provided background and commentary on a Ku Klux Klan novelty record to be featured on the program. While Hughes enjoyed the sumptuousness of commercial television and the beauty of Italy, Pegram couldn’t fit a late-night flight via Atlanta to snowy Indianapolis between his classes and so had to pass on a filmed interview for the show. History majors should remember to choose their specialties carefully; you, too, may end up invited to visit a Midwestern alley instead of a Renaissance palace.

I Thought Sabbatical Meant That You Had Sundays Off

Sabbatical leaves for research have influenced the history department line-up for this year and next year. Returning from leave in the fall will be Professors **Jack Breihan**, **Angela Leonard**, and **Sara Scalenghe**, and **Joseph Walsh** from Classics (cross-listed in history). Continuing on leave for academic year 2012-13 are Professors **Kelly DeVries** and **Bill Donovan**. Going on sabbatical research leave for both semesters next year will be Professor **Elizabeth Schmidt**. Professor **Tom Pegram** will be on research leave for fall 2012, but will return in the spring. Meanwhile, Professor **Steve Hughes** will be leading “la vida Leuven” for another year as resident director of the study abroad program in Belgium. Got it?

Print Culture

Loyola historians have once again been active in scholarship and publishing. Three new books, tracked in earlier newsletters, appeared in print during the fall of 2011. **Kelly DeVries** with Robert Douglas Smith published *Rhodes Besieged: A New History* (The

History Press). **Keith Schoppa** published *In a Sea of Bitterness: Refugees during the Sino-Japanese War* (Harvard University Press). **Tom Pegrum** published *One Hundred Percent American: The Rebirth and Decline of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s* (Ivan R. Dee). Several other Loyola historians have books in progress. Loyola history faculty have also published articles and given scholarly talks across the globe. **Elizabeth Schmidt** published “Trade Unions and Nationalism in French Guinea, 1945-1958,” in Craig Phelan, ed., *Trade Unions in West Africa: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives* (Peter Lang). Dr. Schmidt may have missed springtime in Paris, but she spent January at the Sorbonne, participating in a roundtable discussion on “Women and Gender in Colonial Context” and serving on the conference’s “Scientific Committee.” **Sara Scalenghe** will have an article appearing in the American Historical Association’s *Perspectives* this spring. It is entitled, “Teaching the History of Women and Gender in the Middle East: Challenges and Opportunities.” Dr. Scalenghe also took an opportunity and jetted out to Santa Monica in mid-February to deliver an invited lecture at UCLA. The talk, “What Is the History of Disability in the Middle East, and Why Does It Matter?” was sponsored by UCLA’s Center for Near Eastern Studies. (This also sounds much better than Indiana in February). Professor **Matthew Mulcahy** braved the treacherous traffic patterns of northern Virginia to give a talk on Port Royal, Jamaica, to graduate students studying early America at George Mason University. **Fr. Charles Borges** journeyed to Bremen, Germany to speak on “The Varied Use of Indian Languages by Catholic Missionaries to Penetrate Indian Life and Culture from the 16th Centuries Onwards” at the 7th International Conference on “Missionary Linguistics.” He also served a second year on the Fulbright National Screening Committee for South Asia. At Loyola, he spoke to students on Indian culture and world religions. **Jack Breihan** will appear before the tony Center Club to speak on “Myths about the War of 1812.” He also braved the weather and water to lead an alumni tour of early Jesuit sites in southern Maryland. Jack will also participate on a graduate thesis committee at Columbia University’s Historic Preservation program.

Summer in the City

The department will offer three courses this summer. **Professor Jane Edwards** will teach **HS 101 – “Europe and the World since 1500.”** **Professor Jack Breihan** will teach **HS 349 – “Baltimore: Its History and Architecture”** in the first summer session. Finally, **Professor Joseph Walsh** is teaching **HS 334 – “Roman Private Life”** in the second summer session. Check the catalog for details. Short of joining the Marine Corps, there is no more intense but rewarding experience than compressing a fourteen-week course into a six-week summer session. You’ll read, you’ll sweat, and you’ll come out with three credits toward graduation. No running required.

History majors may note that Professors **Elizabeth Schmidt** and **Bill Donovan** will be on leave during academic year 2012-2013; Professor **Keith Schoppa** will be on leave in spring 2013 and the fall semester 2013. Have no fear: the department is arranging to offer courses in African and Latin American history next year. Keith Schoppa will also offer his popular courses next fall and in the spring of 2014. **Fr. Charles Borges** will teach his courses on South Asia both semesters. Finally, Professor **Sara Scalenghe** will be back from leave and teaching Middle Eastern history courses, including a new seminar, HS 481 “The History of Disability in Comparative Perspective,” a topic drawn from her current scholarly research. This new seminar will examine the determination of who is “able” or “disabled,” “normal” or “abnormal” in both non-western and western societies across time. Topics will include deafness, madness, blindness, eugenics programs, and the disability rights movement. Seminar participants will explore how historical constructions of citizenship, power, and ethics have influenced definitions of disability and attitudes toward the disabled. A Loyola alumnus and member of the bar, **Matt Hill**, will teach a new course on law in American history this fall. Look for HS 347 “Our Rights: A History of Civil and Human Rights Law in America.”

Oh, the Humanities

Chances are that *Lysistrata*, the wickedly satirical comedy by Aristophanes, has gotten your attention this semester. Not bad for a play written over 2,400 years ago but still able to delight and challenge readers today. The power of texts in the Humanities to speak to our common condition is a major emphasis of Loyola’s annual Humanities Symposium. Professor **Katherine Brennan** is the director of the Symposium and the major organizer and advocate for Symposium-related events around campus. Please note the upcoming student-faculty colloquia and the March 15 keynote address by Professor Jeffrey Henderson, whose saucy translation is being used in courses this semester.

SAVE THE DATE

*The Annual History
Department Picnic is scheduled
for Monday, April 30th from
5:00-6:30 P.M. on the Quad.*

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The History Department is now on Facebook.

“Like” us to get information on classes, events, and people that. You don’t even need to respect us or to be our friend – just “like” us.