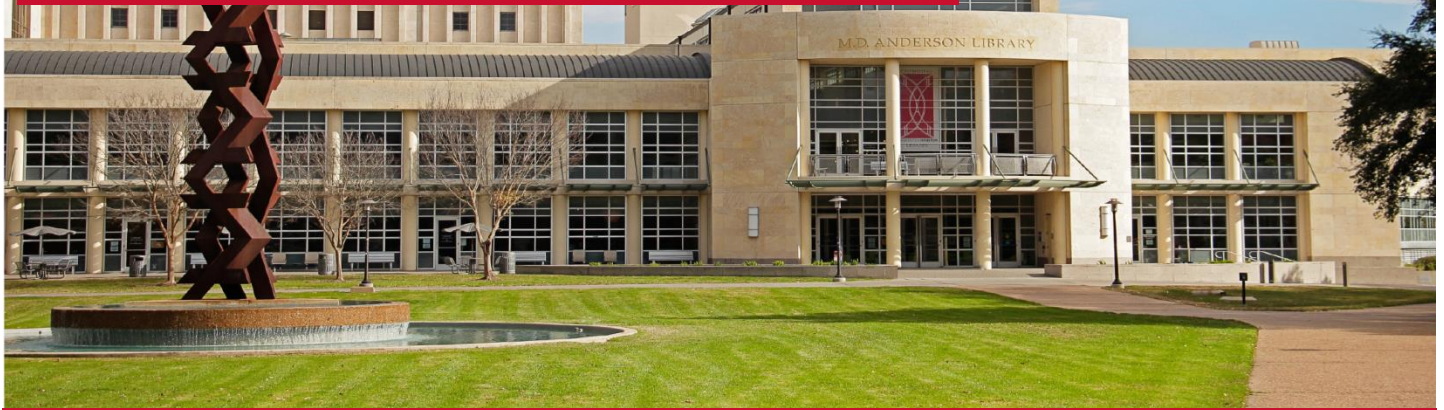


UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON | HISTORY



NEWSLETTER Issue 6 (September 2020)



Dr. Philip Howard, Chair

Hello,

I would like to welcome everyone back for the fall 2020 semester. I hope that this year will be better than last year. The numerous events and programs that we had scheduled after spring break 2020 to enhance the academic and social experiences of our students were postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nonetheless, this year we will try to continue to offer a series of special events for our undergraduate and graduate students virtually, using either the TEAMS or ZOOM platforms. Our faculty continues to contribute to their fields of study, publishing books and articles as well as by presenting their scholarship online at national and international conferences. This year we will schedule and sponsor lectures, and invite some of our esteemed colleagues from across the country and internationally to present their research remotely. This year, we will especially coordinate a couple of our guest lectures on social and racial justice with the College of Liberal Arts and Social Science's Ad hoc Committee on Social and Racial Justice.

To provide our students with a transformative education, while preparing them to participate in the global economy, it is noteworthy that we have identified 33 courses that will be offered under the University's Diversity Requirement. I would also like to report that our new Professional Studies Concentration within the major has been approved. We hope that it will assist in our endeavors to attract more students to our major.

The nine-hour concentration provides our history majors with the opportunity to focus their coursework on career areas such as energy and environment, law, medicine and health or public history (museums, archives and libraries, government and non-governmental organizations.) Our Director of the Undergraduate Program, Dr. Cihan Yuksel will continue to administer the undergraduate program with the help of the members of the Undergraduate Committee. Ms. Aarti Sharma, now in her second year as the Undergraduate Academic Adviser, will assist Professor Yuksel in the daily operations of the program. Together, they managed a program of four-hundred and thirty-nine majors, and helped eighty receive their degrees in the spring of 2020.

Drs. Richard Mizelle and Kelly Hopkins, continue to serve as the Director and the Associate Director of our top 100 Graduate Program. This year, the Graduate Program consists of forty-eight students. Five Ph.D. candidates completed their dissertations. Their topics ranged from the life of Kleopatra, a sociopolitical history of Food Stamps in the U.S., to African American and Jewish American Prisoners of War in WWII Europe, and the environmental history of Mexico City. The program also saw two M.A. students receive their degrees with distinction.

The faculty's recently published work continues to be acknowledged by their esteemed peers.

Dr. Horne's *Jazz and Justice: Racism and the Political Economy of Music* has received much praise from important scholars such as Robin D.G. Kelley and Cornell West. Dr. Gharala's *Taxing Blackness: Free Afromexican Tribute in Bourbon New Spain* is starting to get excellent reviews. Dr. Young's *Two Suns of the Southwest: Lyndon Johnson, Barry Goldwater, and the 1964 Battle between Liberalism and Conservatism*, and Dr. Milanesio's monograph entitled *¡Destape! Sex, Democracy and Freedom in Post-Dictatorial Argentina* have both been featured on the New Books Network. Meanwhile, Dr. Zarnow's *Battling Bella: The Protest Politics of Bella Abzug* has also received national acclaim from the New York Times for its contributions to American political history.



Dr. Sally Vaughn announced her retirement this past spring.

We had to say goodbye to a couple of our esteemed senior professors who retired last spring. After thirty-nine years at UH, Dr. Sally Vaughn announced her retirement this past spring.

The writer of four monographs and two co-edited volumes on Medieval British history, Dr. Vaughn also produced thirty-four journal articles. Not only did she contribute to the study of Medieval History with her scholarship, but she also trained 15 Ph.D. students and thirty-one M.A. candidates. The majority of her students have gone on to receive tenure and promotion at both public and private colleges. Her M.A. students have gained employment in libraries, museums and at community colleges.

Dr. Eric Walther also retired. He joined the department as an Assistant Professor of American history. As a scholar of the antebellum south and the Civil War, Eric Walther wrote three books starting with *The Fire-Eaters* (1992), *The Shattering of the Union* (2003), and *William Lowndes Yancy and the Coming of the Civil War* (2006). His most recent monograph explored modern American political History. In 2018, Dr. Walther published *Harvey Milk: The Face of Gay Rights Politics*. Dr. Kristin Wintersteen retired. She had joined the department as an Environmental historian of the Americas, especially Latin America and the Caribbean, in 2013.

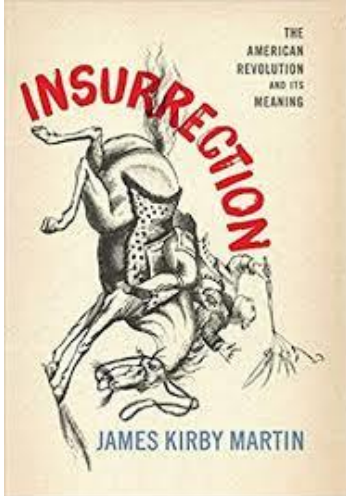
Finally, it is important to note the retirement of one of our outstanding staff members. Our Department Business Administrator, Ms. Donna Butler retires after twenty-one years of service in the History Department and thirty-one years overall at the University of Houston. During her tenure, Ms. Butler provided the department with various services. She started as our Undergraduate Adviser. She then served as the Assistant Business Administrator. As the Department Business Administrator for the last four years, Ms. Butler helped me enhance the resources and assets of the department.

Although we have had eight of our most senior colleagues retire since 2016, we have been able to replace them with some extraordinary scholars such as Norah Gharala, Debbie Harwell, David McNally, and Josiah Rector, in addition to adding Tshepo Chéry to enhance the field of African history. Our future as a department of great scholars and excellent professors in the classroom remains bright.

We hope to see you soon.

On behalf of the faculty, I wish you all good health and safety. Please have a wonderful and productive academic year.

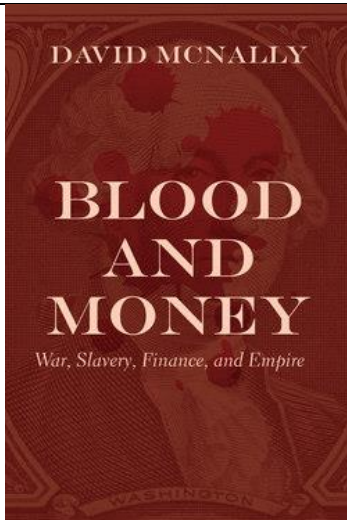
NEW BOOKS



James Kirby Martin, *Insurrection: The American Revolution and Its Meaning* (Westholme Publishing, 2019)

In *Insurrection: The American Revolution and Its Meaning*, award-winning historian James Kirby Martin discusses the causes, course, and consequences of the War for Independence. While interpretations of the Revolution and its short- and long-term meaning abound, Martin emphasizes that the insurrection against British monarchism led to more profound changes in human institutions and ideals than many of the Revolutionary leaders actually envisioned or wanted. Once unleashed, the genie of greater freedom and liberty for all could not be forced back into the bottle, no matter how much some persons would have desired.

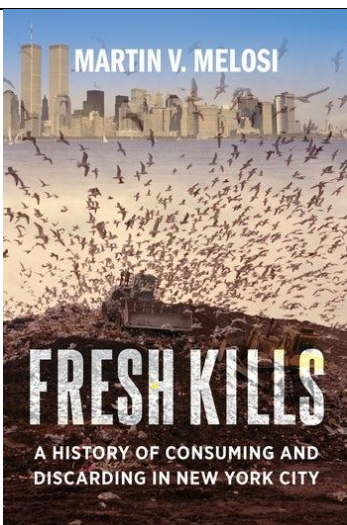
James Kirby Martin is Cullen Professor Emeritus of History.



David McNally, *Blood and Money: War Slavery Finance and Empire*, (Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2020)

In most accounts of the origins of money we are offered pleasant tales in which it arises to the mutual benefit of all parties as a result of barter. In this groundbreaking study David McNally reveals the true story of money's origins and development as one of violence and human bondage. Money's emergence and its transformation are shown to be intimately connected to the buying and selling of slaves and the waging of war. *Blood and Money* demonstrates the ways that money has "internalized" its violent origins, making clear that it has become a concentrated force of social power and domination. Where Adam Smith observed that monetary wealth represents "command over labor," this paradigm shifting book amends his view to define money as comprising the command over persons and their bodies.

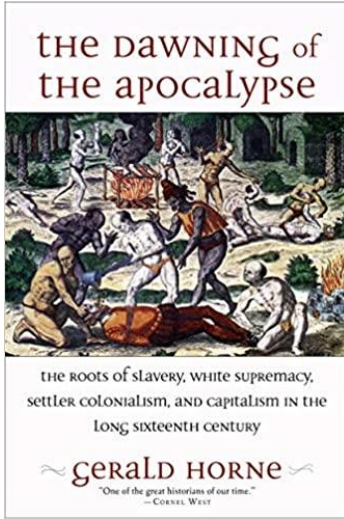
David McNally is the Cullen Distinguished Professor of History & Business.



Martin V. Melosi, *Fresh Kills: A History of Consuming and Discarding in New York City*, (Columbia University Press, 2020)

Fresh Kills—a monumental 2,200-acre site on Staten Island—was once the world's largest landfill. From 1948 to 2001, it was the main receptacle for New York City's refuse. After the 9/11 attacks, it reopened briefly to receive human remains and rubble from the destroyed Twin Towers, turning a notorious disposal site into a cemetery. Today, a mammoth reclamation project is transforming the landfill site, constructing an expansive park three times the size of Central Park.

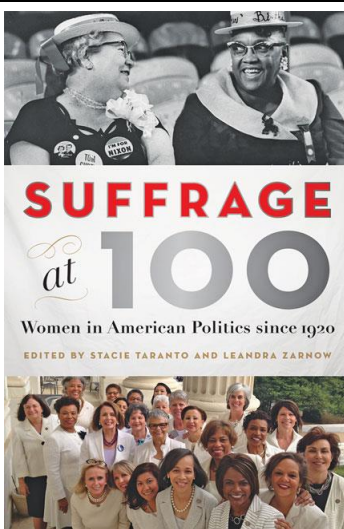
Martin V. Melosi is Cullen Professor Emeritus of History and founding director of the Center for Public History at the University of Houston.



Gerald Horne, *The Dawning of the Apocalypse: The Roots of Slavery, White Supremacy, Settler Colonialism, and Capitalism in the Long Sixteenth Century*, (Monthly Review Press, 2020).

During this prolonged century, Horne contends, “whiteness” morphed into “white supremacy,” and allowed England to co-opt not only religious minorities but also various nationalities throughout Europe, thus forging a muscular bloc that was needed to confront rambunctious Indigenes and Africans. In retelling the bloodthirsty story of the invasion of the Americas, Horne recounts how the fierce resistance by Africans and their Indigenous allies weakened Spain and enabled London to dispatch settlers to Virginia in 1607.

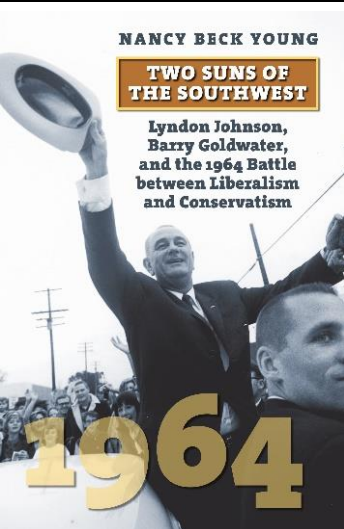
Gerald Horne holds the Moores Professorship of History & African American Studies.



Stacie Taranto and Leandra Zarnow, eds., *Suffrage at 100: Women in American Politics since 1930s*, (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2020).

In the 2018 midterm elections, 102 women were elected to the House and 14 to the Senate—a record for both bodies. And yet nearly a century after the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, the notion of congressional gender parity by 2020—a stated goal of the National Women's Political Caucus at the time of its founding in 1971—remains a distant ideal. In *Suffrage at 100*, Stacie Taranto and Leandra Zarnow bring together twenty-two scholars to take stock of women's engagement in electoral politics over the past one hundred years.

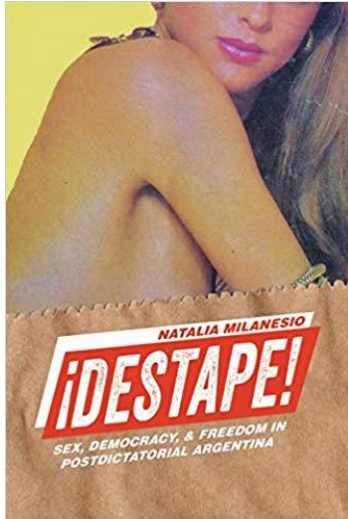
Leandra Zarnow is Associate Professor of American History.



Nancy Beck Young, *Two Suns of the Southwest: Lyndon Johnson, Barry Goldwater, and the 1964 Battle between Liberalism and Conservatism* (University of Kansas Press, 2019).

The 1964 presidential election, in Nancy Beck Young’s telling, was a contest between two men of the Southwest, each with a very different idea of what the Southwest was and what America should be. Barry Goldwater came to represent a nostalgic, idealized past, a preservation of traditional order, while Lyndon B. Johnson looked boldly and hopefully toward an expansive, liberal future of increased opportunity. Thus, as we see in *Two Suns of the Southwest*, the election was also a showdown between liberalism and conservatism, an election whose outcome would echo throughout the rest of the century.

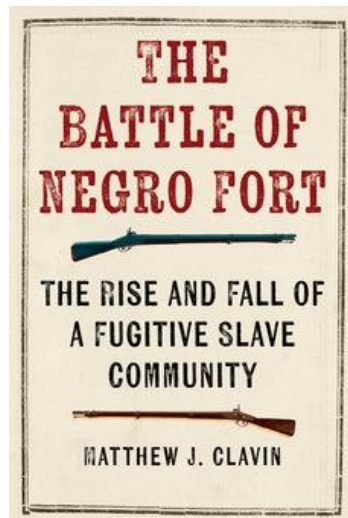
Nancy Beck Young is the John and Rebecca Moores Professorship of History.



Natalia Milanesio, *Destape: Sex, Democracy, and Freedom in Postdictatorial Argentina* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019).

With the return to democracy in 1983, Argentines experienced new freedoms, including sexual freedoms. The explosion of the availability and ubiquity of sexual material became known as the *destape*, and it uncovered sexuality in provocative ways. This was a mass-media phenomenon, but it went beyond this. It was, in effect, a deeper process of change in sexual ideologies and practices. By exploring the boom of sex therapy and sexology; the fight for the implementation of sex education in schools; the expansion of family planning services and of organizations dedicated to sexual health care; and the centrality of discussions on sexuality in feminist and gay organizations, Milanesio shows that the *destape* was a profound transformation of the way Argentines talked, understood, and experienced sexuality, a change in manners, morals, and personal freedoms.

Natalia Milanesio is Professor of History



Matthew J. Clavin, *The Battle of Negro Fort: The Rise and Fall of a Fugitive Slave Community* (NYU Press, 2019).

In the aftermath of the War of 1812, Major General Andrew Jackson ordered a joint United States army-navy expedition into Spanish Florida to destroy a free and independent community of fugitive slaves. The result was the Battle of Negro Fort, a brutal conflict among hundreds of American troops, Indian warriors, and black rebels that culminated in the death or re-enslavement of nearly all of the fort's inhabitants. By eliminating this refuge for fugitive slaves, the United States government closed an escape valve that African Americans had utilized for generations. At the same time, it intensified the subjugation of southern Native Americans, including the Creeks, Choctaws, and Seminoles.

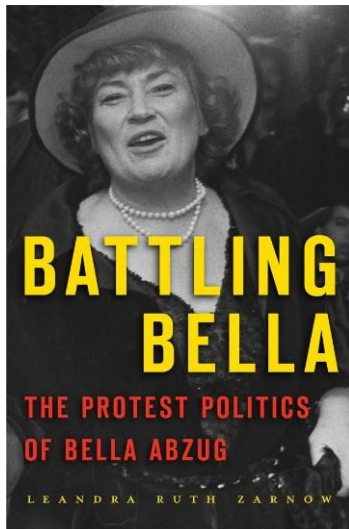
Matthew J. Clavin is Professor of History



Norah L. A. Gharala, *Taxing Blackness: Free Afromexican Tribute in Bourbon New Spain* (University of Alabama Press, 2019).

Taxing Blackness: Free Afromexican Tribute in Bourbon New Spain examines the experiences of Afromexicans and this tribute to explore the meanings of race, political loyalty, and legal privileges within the Spanish colonial regime. Norah L. A. Gharala focuses on both the mechanisms officials used to define the status of free people of African descent and the responses of free Afromexicans to these categories and strategies. This study spans the eighteenth century and focuses on a single institution to offer readers a closer look at the place of Afromexican individuals in Bourbon New Spain, which was the most profitable and populous colony of the Spanish Atlantic.

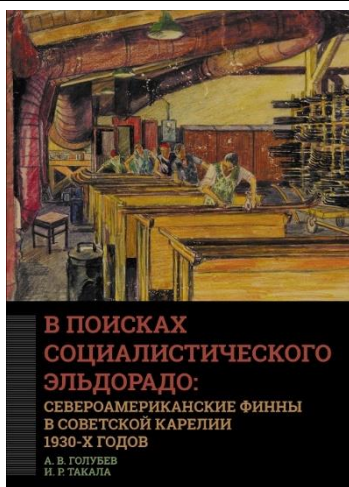
Norah L. A. Gharala is Assistant Professor of History



Leandra Ruth Zarnow, *Battling Bella: The Protest Politics of Bella Abzug* (Harvard University Press, 2019).

Before Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Elizabeth Warren, or Hillary Clinton, there was New York’s Bella Abzug. With a fiery rhetorical style forged in the 1960s antiwar movement, Abzug vigorously promoted gender parity, economic justice, and the need to “bring Congress back to the people.” The 1970 congressional election season saw Abzug, in her trademark broad-brimmed hats, campaigning on the slogan “This Woman’s Place Is in the House—the House of Representatives.” Having won her seat, she advanced the feminist agenda in ways big and small, from gaining full access for congresswomen to the House swimming pool to cofounding the National Women’s Political Caucus to putting the title “Ms.” into the political lexicon.

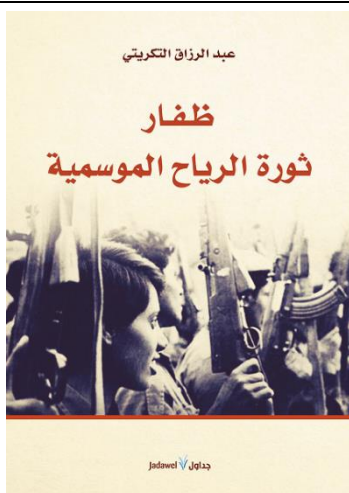
Leandra Zarnow is Associate Professor of American History.



Alexey Golubev and Irina Takala, *V poiskakh sotsialisticheskogo Eldorado: Finskaia immigratsiia iz SShA i Kanady v SSSR v 1930-e gg.* [The Search for a Socialist El Dorado: Finnish Immigration to the USSR from the United States and Canada in the 1930s] (Nestor-Istoriia, 2019).

In the 1930s, more than six thousand Finns emigrated from the United States and Canada to Soviet Karelia, a region in the Soviet Union where Finnish Communist émigrés were building a society to implement their ideals of a just socialist society. This book is a Russian translation of the English-language monograph originally published by the Michigan State University Press in 2014, which was the first comprehensive account in English of this fascinating story based on a vast body of sources from archives and oral history interviews.

Alexey Golubev is Assistant Professor of History



Abdel Razzaq Takriti, *Zufar: Thawrat al-Riyah al-Mawsiymya* [Dhufar: The Monsoon Revolution] (Jadawel, 2019).

The book is based on an expanded and substantially revised translation of Professor Takriti’s widely acclaimed English-language volume *Monsoon Revolution: Republicans, Sultans, and Empires in Oman* (Oxford University Press, 2013; revised paperback edition 2016). Grounded in extensive archival and oral history research, the book offers a new model for studying Arab revolutions, globalizing the history of the Dhufar revolution in Oman (1965–76), which was the longest running major armed struggle in the history of the Arabian Peninsula, Britain’s last classic colonial war in the region, and one of the highlights of the Cold War in the Middle East.

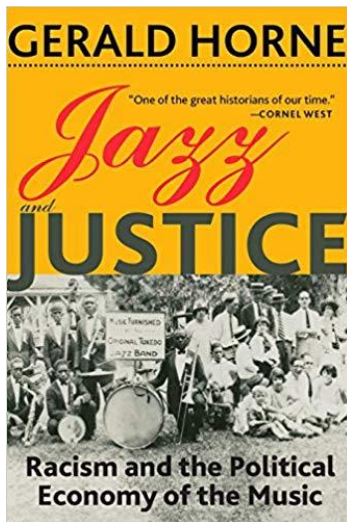
Abdel Razzaq Takriti is Associate Professor & Arab-American Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Arab History



Gerald Horne, *White Supremacy Confronted: U.S. Imperialism and Anti-Communism vs. the Liberation of Southern Africa from Rhodes to Mandela* (International Publishers Co, 2019).

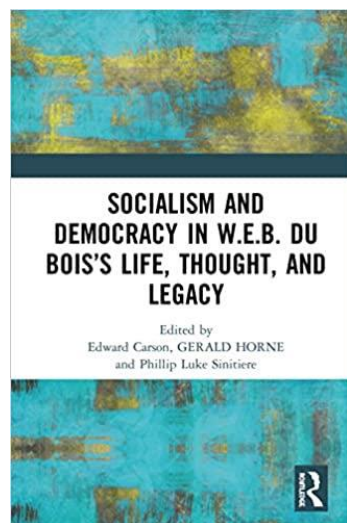
Based upon exhaustive research in all presidential libraries from Hoover to Clinton, the voluminous archives of the African National Congress [ANC] at Fort Hare University in South Africa, along with allied archives of the NAACP, the Ford and Rockefeller fortunes, etc., this is the most comprehensive account to date of the entangled histories of apartheid and Jim Crow that culminated in 1994 with the election of Nelson Mandela as president in Pretoria. The author traces in detail the close ties between e.g. Mandela, Robeson, and Du Bois and how their working in tandem with the socialist camp was the deciding factor in compelling the reluctant retreat of the comrades-in-arms: apartheid and Jim Crow.

Gerald Horne holds the Moores Professorship of History & African American Studies.



Gerald Horne, *Jazz and Justice: Racism and the Political Economy of the Music* (Monthly Review Press, 2019).

The music we call “jazz” arose in late nineteenth century North America—most likely in New Orleans—based on the musical traditions of Africans, newly freed from slavery. Grounded in the music known as the “blues,” which expressed the pain, sufferings, and hopes of Black folk then pulverized by Jim Crow, this new music entered the world via the instruments that had been abandoned by departing military bands after the Civil War. *Jazz and Justice* examines the economic, social, and political forces that shaped this music into a phenomenal US—and Black American—contribution to global arts and culture.



Gerald Horne, Co-Editor. *Socialism and Democracy in W.E.B. Du Bois' Life, Thought and Legacy*. (London: Routledge, 2020).

Commemorating the 150th anniversary of W. E. B. Du Bois’s birth, the chapters in this book reflect on the local, national, and international significance of his remarkable life and legacy in relation to his specific commitments to socialism and democracy. Written with contemporary conditions in mind, such as the current political period of economic inequality, the debilitating reality of exploitative economic conditions, an expansive and invasive surveillance state, the grotesque injustice of the prison industrial complex, the ongoing crisis of police violence and the militarization of law enforcement, and a White House unashamedly spewing white supremacist, nationalist rhetoric in word and deed, this book collectively ponders how Du Bois’s radicalism can shape and re-texture historical understanding and underscore a reflective urgency about the future.

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Alexey Golubev has been named a 2020–2021 fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, joining an impressive class whose work will span the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and arts. As the 2020–2021 Joy Foundation Fellow, Golubev will pursue an individual project in a community dedicated to exploration and inquiry. Titled *The Popularization of Doubt: Scientific Literacy and Alternative Forms of Knowledge in the Soviet Union after World War II*, the project examines the mass scientific literacy campaign in the USSR after World War II and its social and cultural effects, such as the emergence of new epistemic practices, forms of knowledge, and patterns of its communication, a new class of professional performers of knowledge, new audiences of the state propaganda of knowledge, and alternative forms of knowledge.



Dr. N. L. A. Gharala was selected for long-term residential fellowships at the John Carter Brown Library and the International Institute for Asian Studies for 2020-21. Gharala’s second book in progress, *“A Black Man from India”: Between Slavery and Freedom in the Early Modern Iberian World*, is a biographical project focused on a man from the Indian Ocean world who fought for his freedom in Mexico City. Aimed at readers interested in early processes of globalization, the book will explore the interpersonal and transregional entanglements that characterized slavery and servitude in Iberian empires. Gharala was a National Endowment for the Humanities and Library Associates fellow at the John Carter Brown Library, a prestigious research institution for Latin American history at Brown University. The second residential fellowship, focused on “Global Asia” at the International Institute for Asian Studies in Leiden, provides balance to the Latin Americanist foundations of Gharala’s research. Professor Gharala plans to be in residence

at this institute in the spring semester to ground the book, as a history of Mexico and the Indo-Pacific, in global scholarship.

Dr. Nancy Beck Young was awarded the *John and Rebecca Moores Professorship* and also the *2019 CLASS Distinguished Faculty Award*. “I’m pleased and humbled to be awarded this important professorship,” Beck Young said. “I look forward to using the professorship to advance my research agenda along three different paths: an exploration of John Nance Garner’s leadership on Capitol Hill from the Progressive Era through the New Deal, an analysis of how the idea of the first lady in American political culture has changed over time, and a study using Texas as the lens to understand changing American attitudes about the efficacy of government from the New Deal to the present. I am especially honored to be the first woman in the Department of History to hold this chair.”



Dr. David McNally holds the *Cullen Distinguished Professor of History & Business*, and his published monograph “Blood and Money: War Slavery Finance and Empire,” will soon be available on audio book. He also had numerous interviews and guest appearances, including interviews with the “Rising Up with Sonali,” broadcast on *Pacifica Radio; Free Speech TV*, August 6 2020 (KPFA and KPFK and affiliates); an interview on “Against the Grain” with Sasha Lilley, KPFA, June 17, 2020; an interview titled “A Virus in the Social Body,” with Allen Ruff, WORT.FM, Madison, WI, June 25, 2020. Aside from these public

appearances, Professor McNally also did a number of podcast interviews such as “Microbes and Macroeconomics,” sponsored by Haymarket Books, April 29, 2020; an interview on KTRH 740 AM, Houston, February 14, 2020 titled “Nearly Half of Americans Willing to Vote for a Socialist President”; and, finally, “The Global Economy and Recession on the Horizon,” Interview with Allen Ruff, “A Public Affair,” WORT radio 89.9 FM, Madison, WI, September 12, 2019.



Dr. Frank Holt is Professor of History. He was interviewed on *Houston Matters* (NPR) about his forthcoming book on the history and methodology of numismatics. His research was featured in President Khator’s Annual Fall Address on UH achievements. Professor Holt also oversaw the donation to Library Special Collections of a large research/teaching collection of historical coins and paper currency given to UH by Dr. Mathew Brzostowski. Dr. Holt is one of the world’s leading authorities on Alexander the Great, Hellenistic Asia, and new research methodologies such as Cognitive Numismatics. He has published seven books, two edited volumes, and over sixty articles

in journals such as *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* and *Ancient Macedonia*.

This year Dr. Natalia Milanesio won a number of awards for her book, *Destape: Sex, Democracy, and Freedom in Postdictatorial Argentina!*

Destape* received 2020 Best Book in the Humanities Prize by the *Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Southern Cone Section.

Destape* received the 2020 *Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies (RMCLAS) Judy Ewell Award for Best Publication on Women’s History.

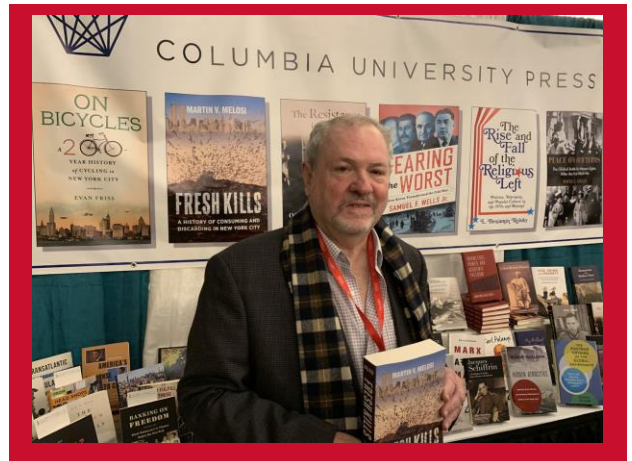


Destape* also received the 2020 *Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) Alfred B. Thomas Book Award Honorable Mention for the best book on a Latin American subject.

Dr. Mark Goldberg published a very popular article in *The Washington Post* on March 26, 2020 titled “Stop Calling Covid-19 a Foreign Virus.”

Dr. Martin Melosi is Cullen Professor Emeritus of History.

He was interviewed by the History Channel for a story on “When did Americans Start to recycle” and also for a story in the New York Times titled “Is it Time for Americans to Embrace the Bidet?” Professor Melosi will also be part of a virtual conference on October 6 with the Gotham Center for New York City History for an event titled “The ‘World’s Most Wasteful City’? New York and its Garbage. He will also participate in a series of Lectures at MIT for a course on “The History of Now: Plagues and Pandemics Edition,” which “exposes students to the study of history for its own sake and also for a deeper understanding of the present and the future. We explore current events in a historical perspective from the vantage point of a series of MIT and guest speakers discussing their research in the context of current national and global events.”



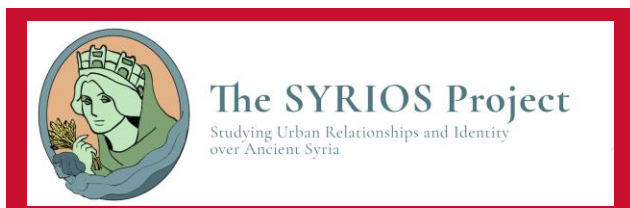
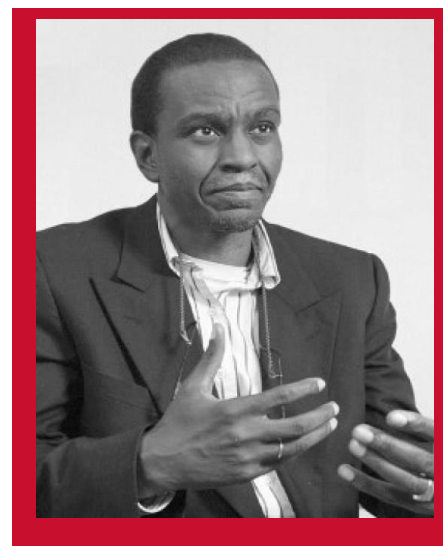
Dr. Leandra Zarnow’s book *Battling Bella* has received a number of reviews, including [New York Times](#) (Editor’s Choice), [Christian Science Monitor](#) (November Top Ten), [Lilith](#), [Los Angeles Review of Books](#), [St. Louis Jewish Light](#), [Gotham Center for New York City History](#), & [Publisher’s Weekly](#). Professor Zarnow also presented *Battling Bella* at the National Archives, and it was picked up by C-SPAN Book TV, located at the National Archives, U.S. Government, Washington, D.C., December 12, 2019 & C-SPAN *Book TV*. Interviews also followed with the *Smithsonian* magazine and numerous podcasts, including UCLA’s

“Then and Now” and “She’s History.” Zarnow’s Op-Eds were also featured in the *Washington Post* on 14 May 2020 entitled “‘Mrs. America’ Reminds Us That More Women in Politics Won’t Necessarily Mean More Liberal Policies” and also “Women’s Equality Day Is a Reminder That the Fight for Women’s Rights Didn’t End with the 19th Amendment,” which was appeared in *Time Magazine* on August 26, 2020.

Dr. Xiaoping Cong has been elected the president of the *Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China* (HSTCC) in August 2020 for a two-year term. The HSTCC is an American-based academic society, affiliated with AHA and AAS (Association for Asian Studies), but

its membership is from all over the world, including Northern America , Europe, Asia, to Africa. <http://hstconline.org/board-and-governance/>

Dr. Gerald Horne, Moores Professorship of History & African American Studies has published three monographs and co-edited one volume in the past year. He has also given numerous presentations, interviews, and presentations in the past few months, including with Utrice Leid on “Leid Stories,” [PRN.FM](#); Margaret Prescod, host of *Sojourner Truth Radio*; Katie Halper & Matt Taibbi of *Rolling Stone Magazine*; with Amy Goodman of *Democracy Now*; *France 24 TV*; With Jordan T. Camp and *The New Intellectuals*; the *1619 Project* Hosted by the *New York Times*; and The New Haven Free Public Library.



Dr. Kristina M. Neumann was awarded a development grant through the Digital Research Commons (DRC) at the University of Houston in support of her digital humanities exhibit, The SYRIOS Project: Studying Urban Relationships

and Identity over Ancient Syria. This work supported the creation of the first, fully digital catalog of c. 700 coins minted by the city of Antioch. Coin images were provided through partnerships with the American Numismatic Society, the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Münzkabinet: Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Princeton University, and Oxford’s Roman Provincial Coins Online. The whole collection is now publicly available through UH libraries as part of their pilot Omeka program.



For this year's Annual Ottoman Lecture, **Dr. Cihan Yuksel** invited Harvard Professor, Cemal Kafadar. Professor Kafadar is the Vehbi Koç Professor of Turkish Studies at the History Department at Harvard University, where he is also the Director of Graduate Studies and Acting Director at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES). He has written extensively on the social and cultural history of the Middle East and southeastern Europe in the late medieval/early modern era and he teaches courses on the Ottoman empire, urban space, popular culture as well as the history of cinema.



MESA's Undergraduate Education Award recognizes outstanding contributions of MESA members to Undergraduate Education through pedagogical materials and scholarship in ways that also help other educators "master the craft of teaching" to undergraduate students.

This year, the Committee received a number of excellent nominations and was deeply impressed by the inspirational teachers, who dedicate so much of their time and energy to make our rich and often controversial subject matter accessible and interesting to undergraduate students.

Dr. James Kirby Martin is Cullen Professor Emeritus of History.

Professor Martin did a national radio interview on *Sirius 145, Dave Nemo Network*, where he discussed the key military campaigns of the American Revolution. He also did a podcast about Revolutionary America, hosted by Michael Troy, and which was based on an essay written for the *10 Key Campaigns* volume. This podcast is available on YouTube. Professor Martin has also recently signed a contract for his first novel entitled *Surviving Dresden*, which is set for publication in 2021, with Robert Burris, screenwriter.



SELECT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Sarah Fishman, “Hide and Seek: The Politics of Playtime” *Historical Reflections/Réflexions historiques* 45, no. 2, (2019).

James Kirby Martin, “General John Burgoyne's Great Gamble: Ticonderoga to Saratoga,” in Edward Lengel, ed., *The 10 Key Campaigns of the American Revolution*, (Washington, D. C., Regnery Publishing, 2020), pp. 87-107.

Natalia Milanesio, “Sex and Democracy: The Meanings of the *Destape* in Postdictatorial Argentina,” *Hispanic American Historical Review* Vol. 99, No. 1, (February 2019)—**Recipient of the 2020 Western Association of Women Historians (WAWH) Judith Lee Prize that recognizes the best article in the field of History**

José Angel Hernández, “*El México Perdido y Anelado*: The Prose of Settler Colonialism Amidst the Diaspora,” In *Writing/Righting History: Twenty-Five Years of Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage*, Clara Lomas & Antonia Castañeda, Eds. (The University of Houston: Arte Público Press, 2020).

Frank Holt, “Macedonians, Seleucids, Bactrians, Greeks: Histrionics as History on the Hellenistic Fringe” in Roland Oetjen, ed., *New Perspectives in Seleucid History, Archaeology and Numismatics*, (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2020).

Frank Holt, “I, Eternal Bodyguard” in *Aramco World* 71.2 (March/April 2020)

Natalia Milanese, “Consumo y peronismo,” in *Atlas del Peronismo*, edited by Pablo Stancanelli (Buenos Aires: Capital Intelectual/Le Monde Diplomatique, 2019).

Mark Goldberg, “Contested Cultures: Native Dress in Spanish and Mexican Texas,” in *A Diverse History: Texas, the Lower South, and the Southwest before 1900, The David B. Warren Symposium*, Vol. 7, ed. Christine Waller Manca and Megan Smith (Houston: The Museum of Fine Arts, 2019), 114-131.

Abdel Razzaq Takriti, “Colonial Coups and the War on Popular Sovereignty.” *American Historical Review*, Vol. 124, Issue 3, (2019): 878–909.

Abdel Razzaq Takriti, “Afterword: *The Arab Left: From Rumbling Ocean to Revolutionary Gulf*, in Guirguis, Laure, ed. *The Arab Lefts: Histories and Legacies, 1950s-1970s*. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2020.

Alexey Golubev, *From Province to State and Back: Russian Northwest and Finland during the Revolutionary Years*, a special issue of *Ab Imperio*, no. 3 (2019).

The Inaugural Michael and Hoda Kardoush Lecture Series



The Arab-American Educational Foundation (AAEF) Chair in Modern Arab History and the Director of the Center for Arab Studies (CAS), **Dr. Abdel Razzaq Takriti**, proudly hosted the inaugural lecture of the Michael and Hoda Kardoush Lecture Series on November 20, 2019, at the Hilton University of Houston. The lecture, “Iraq Afterwards: Epistemic Violence and Poetic (In)Justice,” was delivered by esteemed Iraqi poet, novelist, and scholar, Dr. Sinan Antoon (New York University). Word of Dr. Antoon’s talk spread far and wide, drawing over 150 attendees from the University and the greater Arab community in Houston.

The event began with a cheese and wine reception in honor of both Michael and Hoda Kardoush and Dr. Antoon, followed by a moment of silence to honor the life of Issa B. Cook, a leading Palestinian-American community member and

significant benefactor to the Center for Arab Studies, who has endowed the Issa B. Cook Family Scholarship in modern Arab studies. Both the AAEF Chair and Dr. Hosam Aboul-Ela of the English department introduced Dr. Antoon, before the speaker swept the audience with a moving discussion on the long, arduous process of destroying Iraq from within and without in the buildup to the invasion of the country in 2003, drawing on the ongoing traumas and suffering occupation leaves behind. Dr. Antoon's lecture ended on a note of hope and inspiration through a discussion of the uprisings that swept across Iraq in 2019, linking this transformative moment to the long history of revolutionary tradition in the Arab world and greater Middle East.

As part of the 3 million dollars gifted from the Arab community to the University of Houston to support the creation of the Center for Arab Studies, the Kardoush family made a generous donation in the amount of \$250,000 toward establishing a dynamic lecture series, which will strive to host the most prominent academic, cultural, and literary figures in and of the Arab world.

The inaugural Michael and Hoda Kardoush was followed by many other successful events hosted and sponsored by the AAEF Chair and the Center for Arab Studies throughout the academic year. The AAEF Chair commenced a series of events last year by co-hosting a cheese & wine discussion with Michelle Hartman (McGill University) titled "Jordan Black / June in Jerusalem: Poetry, Black-Arab Solidarity and the Politics of Language," (UH campus, October 7, 2019). Dr. Takriti also hosted renowned historian and Emeritus Professor Avi Shlaim (Oxford University) to deliver a lecture titled "The Iraqi Jewish Experience: A Personal Narrative," which drew a massive turnout of around 200 attendees (UH campus, October 15, 2019), and invited Dr. Sana Tannoury Karam (Lebanese American University) to discuss the Lebanese uprisings in a powerful talk titled "A Lebanese October Revolution: Reclaiming Public Spaces, Rejecting Patriarchy, and Demanding Social Justice" (November 19, 2020).

Though the Center had a prepared a dynamic lineup for the Spring semester, the global pandemic meant that the Center was only able to co-host Cemal Kafadar (Harvard University) for Dr. Cihan Yüksel's Annual Lecture in Ottoman History, where he delivered a talk titled, "Vampire Trouble is More Serious than the Mighty Plague: A Comparative Look at the History of Evil and Mischief, Inspired by Evliya Çelebi (1611—ca. 1684)" (February 28, 2020).

Resilient Houston: Documenting Hurricane Harvey culminates in website and Fall issue of *Houston History*

The Center for Public History’s Resilient Houston: Documenting Hurricane Harvey project began in 2018 to record the storm’s human experience through oral histories. Graduate and undergraduate students in history courses taught by Dr. Mark Goldberg, Dr. Debbie Harwell, and Dr. Todd Romero conducted over ninety oral histories with storm survivors, responders, and volunteers. Harwell’s classes created a website (<https://uh.edu/class/documenting-hurricane-harvey/>) that features video and audio clips, transcriptions, and a map of the various interviews, and also began identifying themes and converting those interviews into articles for a special issue of *Houston History* magazine. The project has received multiple grants, including one from the Provost’s Office Cougar Initiative to Engage (CITE) that supported four undergraduates and one graduate student to work with Dr. Harwell and Dr. Romero to edit and finalize the articles, pair them with photos, and make design recommendations. CPH also received a grant from the Summerlee Foundation to pay for the design and production of this special issue on Hurricane Harvey to show support for our student training, research, and reporting.

Major Gift to support “100 Years of Stories” of UH excellence and Houston pride

The Center for Public History, in collaboration with Houston Public Media and UH Libraries, is the recipient of a major gift from Carey C. Shuart to support the Carey C. Shuart 100 Years of Stories Project. Over the next three years, CPH student and faculty researchers will uncover, preserve, and share the untold stories that illuminate the University of Houston’s impact on the city over the past century, as we ramp up to the University’s centennial celebration. Focusing on the thematic areas of inclusion and diversity, innovation, and health expertise, this project will create opportunities for graduate and undergraduate History students to gain meaningful, hands-on public history experience. The project will include deeply researched articles in *Houston History* magazine, oral histories with University and civic leaders, and public facing features on Houston Public Media and events like pop up exhibitions.

Public History Student News

Public history students continue to thrive in their graduate work. Congratulations to our recent graduates who pursued the public history track and minor field. We wish them well as they start their professional careers:

- Laura Bernal, M.A. Thesis Track (Perales)
- Bryan Salazar, M.A. Non-Thesis Track (Perales)
- Jennifer Southerland, M.A. Non-Thesis Track (Young)
- Emiliano Orozco, M.A. Public History Minor Field (Ramos)

Caitlyn Jones, now a second-year MA public history student (Young) was awarded a highly prestigious and nationally competitive summer internship at the Smithsonian in Summer 2020. Caitlyn worked in Editorial Services, and completed her internship remotely due to COVID-19 closures.

We welcome four new public history MA students to the program this fall: Jovan Slaughter, Kathryn McGranahan, Nicole Brumback, and Stephen Been. They all join our program with substantial public history experience and even more impressive ambitions for their careers.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Alex LaRotta (Ph.D., Mark Goldberg and Monica Perales) defended his dissertation, “Young, Gifted, and Brown: The History of San Antonio’s West Side Sound,” in the summer of 2019. He is now on a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University.

Tara Sewell-Lasater (PhD, Frank Holt) received university funding to deliver a paper at an international Egyptology conference in Cairo, and to complete research in Paris and London for her dissertation on Ptolemaic queens, which she defended with Distinction in April 2020.

Mallory Neil (PhD, Karl Ittmann) completed her doctoral dissertation May 2019 and is currently Assistant Director of Career Development at Wesleyan College.

Anna-Marie Anderson (PhD, Nancy Beck Young) successfully defended her dissertation this March 2020. She is currently Assistant Professor of History at North Central Texas College.



Alberto Wilson III (PhD, Monica Perales) was awarded The IU-PLR/UIC Mellon Fellows Program Fellowship presented by the Inter-University Program for Latino Research, or IUPLR, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Each fellow will receive a yearly stipend of \$25,000, a faculty mentor in Latino studies, monthly teleconferences with other fellows and opportunities to present their research. Alberto is a PhD candidate in the History Department at the University of Houston. His dissertation, “Pan American Cities: Sunbelt Development and Mexican Community Formation in El Paso and Ciudad Juárez, 1945-1994,” ex-

amines the identities, encounters, and solidarities that emerged after the Second World War in those cities. Specifically, it tells the story of how juarenses and El Pasoans, Anglos and racial minorities, Mexicans and Mexican Americans made use of shared space and turned bifurcation into exploit, enjoyment, and entropy. This research has received support from the Fulbright García-Robles Fellowship, where Alberto returned to his hometowns of Ciudad Juárez and El Paso and conducted archival research and oral history fieldwork on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Gary Girod's (PhD, Sarah Fishman) public history project *The French History Podcast* (<http://thefrenchhistorypodcast.com/>) has expanded rapidly since its inception in January. UH's own Sarah Fishman has hosted guest episodes, as well as UC Berkeley's Ethan Katz, San Francisco State University's Catherine Kudlick, and Portland State University's Annabelle Dolidon and Joseph Bohling. In addition, UH graduate students Darah Vann Orr, Tara Sewell-Lasater and Quentin Adams have each delivered episodes on their specialties. With hours of history, the podcast has grown into a large and highly entertaining public history project.

Timothy Quevillon (PhD, Mark Goldberg and Leandra Zarnow) defended his dissertation “From Palestine to Howard Beach and Houston: Meir Kahane, Moshe Cahana, and the Anti-Colonialism of American Civil Rights Struggles.”

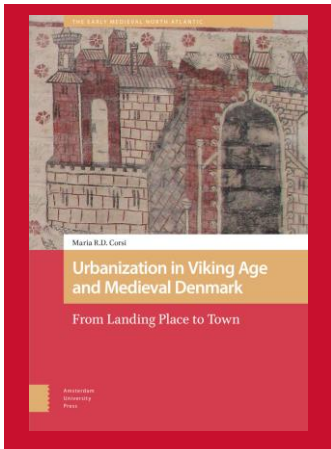
Derek Ide (PhD student, Abdel Razzaq Takriti) recently published an article in *Al-Adab*, one of Lebanon's most established political and literary journals. "Al-Fuhud wa Filastin:

al-Ummumiyya al-Sawda' wal-Thawra al-Falastiniyya" (Trans: "The Panthers and Palestine: Black Internationalism and the Palestinian Revolution"), documents the intersection between Black internationalist engagement with Palestine in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The essay explores two case studies of committed advocates of the Palestinian Revolution: Robert F. Williams and the League of Revolutionary Black Workers in Detroit. Derek's article was widely received in the Arab world and has generated several responses by key Palestinian figures who lived and participated in this struggle.

Fadi Kafety (PhD student, Abdel Razzaq Takriti) has been appointed to serve as the founding Assistant Director of the newly established Center for Arab Studies. Fadi will assist in launching and developing the Center, which aims to generate academic programs, lecture series and workshops, cultural performances, scholarships, research, as well as creating strategies that bridge academic learning to the larger Arab community in Houston. Through these initiatives, Fadi hopes to make our department a national hub for the study of modern Arab history.

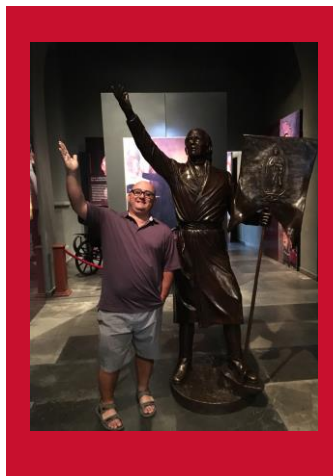
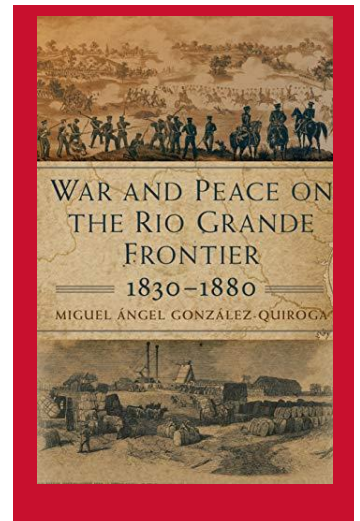
Derek Ide, Fadi Kafety, and Patrick Higgins (all PhD students, Abdel Razzaq Takriti) were accepted to present "Black September in Jordan: Fifty Years On," at the upcoming 2020 Middle East Studies Association (MESA) conference—the most prestigious association in the field. This panel, which is organized by Fadi, revisits this crucially consequential episode in the history of the Palestinian Revolution, using previously unexplored and excluded narratives to provide new methodological approaches to the study of Black September. This panel will also include Samar Saeed (PhD student, Georgetown University), as well as Professor Maha Nassar (University of Arizona). Together, these presentations draw on transnational and history from below approaches to center political, social, and solidarity movements in line with recent trends in Palestinian scholarship.

ALUMNI NEWS



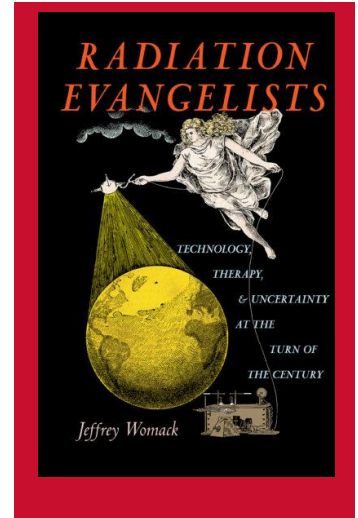
Dr. Maria Dahlstrøm Corsi, (PhD 2014) from the Department of History at The University of Houston, for her new book, "Urbanization in Viking Age and Medieval Denmark, from Landing Sites to Towns," published August 1, 2020, by the University of Amsterdam Press. Dr. Corsi is currently Archivist for the Massad Family Research Center at the University of Houston. Her research specializes in urbanization and the social and economic history of Viking and medieval Denmark.

Professor Miguel Angel González Quiroga did his Undergraduate Degree in the Department of History and also took Graduate Courses with Prof. John Mason Hart before returning to Mexico to teach at *La Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León*. Recently he published "War and Peace on the Rio Grande Frontier, 1830-1880," which is the inaugural volume of University of Oklahoma Press's "New Directions in Tejano History series." Professor González Quiroga is currently teaching History courses at The University of Texas at San Antonio and writing a monograph on the influence of the Mexican Revolution of 1910 in San Antonio, Texas.



Congratulations to **Dr. Alberto Rodriguez** (PhD 2011) on being granted tenure at Texas A&M University-Kingsville in the Department of History. Alberto Rodriguez is Associate Professor of History & Managing Editor of 'The Journal of South Texas History'; Co-editor of "New Directions in Tejano History Series" University of Oklahoma Press, and Coordinator of Publications for the Institute for Architectural Engineering at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. His upcoming projects include "Urban Borderlands: Anglos, Mexicans, and African Americans in South Texas 1929-1964" and "Rancho La Union: A Transnational History of the Borderlands are a comparative multiethnic analysis of the Lower Rio Grande Valley," focusing on race relations in American and Borderland society with a specialty in Mexican American and African American encounters.

Dr. Jeffrey Carlton Womack received his PhD in History in December 2016. His monograph *Radiation Evangelists: Technology, Therapy, and Uncertainty at the Turn of the Century* was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in 2020. Other publications include “Pipe Dreams for Powering Paradise: Solar Power Satellites and the Energy Crisis,” in “American Energy Policy in the 1970s, edited by Robert Lifset and “Nuclear Weapons, Dystopian Deserts, and Science Fiction Cinema,” *Vulcan: The International*,” *Journal of the Social History of Military Technology 1*, No. 1 (2013): 70-85.



UNDERGRADUATE NEWS & AWARDS

Two History undergrads received the recognition of 2020 Outstanding Senior Thesis from the Honors College.

Laila Abbasi, *Propaganda in literature: A study of the Encomium Emmae Reginae and the writings of Robert of Torigni as propaganda for Emma of Normandy and the Empress Matilda* (mentor Dr. Sally Vaughn)

Manuel Martinez Alvarenga, *Finding home in the Sunbelt: A study of Salvadoran activism in Houston 1980-1999* (mentor Dr. Mark Goldberg). Manuel also entered the Indiana University History Department's PhD Program this fall.