



Harvard University  
Department of History

## SENIOR THESIS CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 9 & 10, 2023

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**DAY 1: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9**  
**10-11:30 AM**

**Panel 1: Organization's Effects: Belonging and Transformation at Home and Abroad**

*Moderator: Prof. Elizabeth Coben*

Location: Robinson Hall Conference Room

- Cara Chang:** "Organizing the Union Teacher: Examining Race Within the Boston Teachers Union, circa 1963–1983"
- Dekyi Tsotsong:** "Persecuted in their Motherland: The History and Politics of the 2008 Uprising in Tibet and its Effect on the Diaspora"
- Walter Goldberg:** "Brownstone Frontier: Pioneers, Homesteaders, and the Growth Machine in the Battle for Pre-Gentrification Brooklyn"

**1-3 PM**

**Panel 2: Knowledge Creation: Educational Institutions and Political Change**

*Moderator: Prof. Ann Blair*

Location: Robinson Hall Conference Room

- Tobias Benn:** "Scholars in the Nation's Service: The Rise and Fall of Academic Engagement with Strategic Intelligence"
- Aldo Aragon:** "A Twentieth-Century Intellectual History of the Polynesian Question, 1916–1976"
- Grace Coolidge:** "Unveiling Harvard: Navigating Change and Student Activism in the Campaign Against the Vietnam War (1968–1970)"
- Henry Haimo:** "Rewriting History: Education, Publishing, and Mass Media in Ghana, 1945–1966"

**3-5 PM**

**Panel 3: Science as Historical Subject, Science as Historical Method**

*Moderator: Prof. Michael McCormick*

Location: Robinson Hall Conference Room

- Anna Farronay:** "State of Aesthetics: Pathologized Prosthetics during the Argentine Great Depression (1998–2002)"
- Sophia Charles:** "Ice Cores, Tree Rings, and Early Slavs: Climate and Migration in Sixth- to Ninth-Century Central Europe"
- Mira-Rose Kingsbury Lee:** "The Forgotten Microbes and Their Environmental Agency: Pasteur's Turn to Pathogens and Microbiology's Long Winter"

**Charlotte Nickerson:** “The Licit Drug Trade: Regulating Secret Remedies in the Early Modern Western Mediterranean”

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**DAY 2: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10**  
**10:30 AM–12 PM**

**Panel 4: Interests Abroad: Domestic Priorities in a Global Context**

*Moderator: Prof. Arunabh Ghosh*

Location: Robinson Hall Conference Room

**Duncan Edwards:** “Power, Prejudice, and Politics: Human Rights Concerns and Cold War Geopolitics with South Africa During the JFK Administration”

**William Goldsmith:** “The Greatest Decision in [US] History:” George Marshall & Postwar Public Discourse Surrounding the European Recovery Program”

**Gabrielle Pesantez:** “Preserving the Imperial Family: Queen Elizabeth II’s Early Guardianship Over the Commonwealth of Nations”

**10 AM–12 PM**

**Panel 5: Economic and Spatial Histories of the Modern U.S.**

*Moderator: Prof. Lisa McGirr*

Location: Robinson Hall, Basement Seminar Room

**Cooper Wolff:** “From Boom to Bust: Unraveling the Real Estate Bubble of the Roaring Twenties and Its Impact on the Great Depression Housing Crisis”

**Augustus Richards:** “Selling Glyphosate: The Evolution of Pesticide Marketing in the Twentieth Century”

**Madison Barkate:** “Prime Time: Why, How, and How Much NFL Players Were Paid”

**Zing Gee:** “From the Tavern to the Biergarten: German Immigration’s Impact on Drinking Spaces and Culture in Nineteenth-Century America”

**~ LUNCH ~**

**1–3 PM**

**Panel 6: Power and Control? Twentieth-Century Military Histories**

*Moderator: Prof. Derek Penslar*

Location: Robinson Hall Conference Room

**Ruby Huang:** “The New Harvard Man: The Department of Military and Naval Science and Tactics at Harvard”

**Brendan Kiely:** “The Harvard Volunteers of World War I, 1914–1917”

**Oscar Berry:** “Drowning in the Embers of Defeat: The Strategic Mentality of Loss, Fear, and Ambition in the Power Struggle for French Collaboration in 1941”

**Collin Bergstrom:** “The U.S. Atomic Monopoly: Attitudes and Arguments for an International Approach to the Issue of Atomic Weapons”

**Panel 7: Libel and Lacunae: Narratives of U.S. History**

*Moderator: Prof. Jane Kamensky*

Location: Robinson Hall, Basement Seminar Room

**Meimei Xu:** “Largely Unknown, Not Forgotten: The Lives of Enslaved Individuals Connected to Boston’s King’s Chapel in the Eighteenth Century”

**Andrew DeGennaro:** “A Complicated Legacy: Yellowstone National Park & the Displacement of Indigenous Peoples”

**Marbella Marlo:** “A Provocative Press: Libel and Sensationalism in New York City Newspapers, 1880–1920”

**Emmy Cho:** “Walt Whitman: Man of Letters”

**3–5 PM**

**Panel 8: Studies in Solidarity: The Impacts of Organization**

*Moderator: Prof. Rosie Bsbeer*

Location: Robinson Hall Conference Room

**Simon J. Levien:** “Rogue Foot Soldiers of Civil Rights: How SNCC Recruited White Northerners, 1959–1965”

**Madison Stein:** “Reinforcing Revolutions: The Dhofar Rebellion and Global Solidarity Networks, 1965–76”

**William Marsh:** “Rust-Belt Resentment Gone Rogue: Concepts of Citizenship and the Ideological Underpinnings of Michigan's Far-Right Militia Movements, 1968–2012”

**Justin Hu:** “Studying with Césaire: Caribbean Counter-Pedagogies in Martinique during the French Third Republic”

**3–4:30 PM**

**Panel 9: Rebuilding Communities after Change**

*Moderator: TBA*

Location: Robinson Hall, Basement Seminar Room

**Matylda Urbaniak:** “To *kaszëbska stolëca*: The Creation of a Kashubian Identity in Reclaimed Poland, 1945–1957”

**Julia Tellides:** “Reform and Resistance: The Jewish Community and Greek Government in Interwar Thessaloniki”

**Ryan Goldfarb:** *TBA*

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**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATORY RECEPTION**

**HONORING THIS YEAR'S COHORT OF THESIS WRITERS!**

**ROBINSON HALL GREAT SPACE  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, AT 5PM**