



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Meet the 2023-24 Graduate Cohort

The History Department has gathered together a great group of nine MA students this year: Alicia Callahan, Caleena Wyman, Mikaela Phillips, Danielle Hegarty, Naomi Whiting, Alex Muetze, Hunter Rodgers, Elliot Day and Bailey Strom. Although they are at different stages in their academic programs, they have formed a tight-knit cohort that shares ideas and looks out for one another. "The best thing about the program," says Naomi, "is the camaraderie of the cohort." Alicia agrees: "I really appreciate the open acceptance of each other's ideas. I immediately felt welcomed, and taken care of." The students also appreciate the personal mentoring they receive from the faculty, who "help us the whole way," in the words of Danielle. Hunter adds, "The faculty's support is informal and personal, looking for the best in every person."



Back row, left to right: Caleena Wyman, Danielle Hegarty, Bailey Strom, Elliot Day. Front row, left to right: Mikaela Phillips, Naomi Whiting, Alicia Callahan, Alex Muetze, Hunter Rodgers.

The research interests of the cohort are diverse, from the Korean diaspora in the USSR (Caleena) to vigilante violence in the American West (Bailey). Mikaela is writing a thesis on Russian women's participation in the Russian Enlightenment, because she wants to understand their influence on a movement and culture that generally excluded them from intellectual life. Alex is interested in Pacific Northwestern Cold War evacuation policy, as in the city of Portland, which took "fears of communism to a whole new level." Naomi is creating a museum exhibit of Russian elite women's costume, which she is sewing herself. "There is power in how we dress," she says. "Near the turn of the 20th century, Russia was undergoing cultural change that threatened the status of imperial society. Elite Russian women navigated this change through their clothing."

The graduate students offered lots of advice to those considering entering a graduate program in history. "Seek out opportunities for financial support and career experience," Caleena urges. Hunter encourages aspiring students to "Dive right in! You'll learn as you go," and Elliot concurs that "fear of failure" should not be an obstacle. "Don't be afraid to ask for help," adds Danielle. All of the cohort warn that graduate study in history requires lots of reading and writing, but that "your passion for your project" will carry you through, according to Alicia.

Most of the graduate students hope to teach their own history courses in the future, in middle school, high school, community college, or university. Mikaela, a self-described "writer at heart," wants to delve into research and publication at the doctoral level. Elliot hopes to challenge and push high school students by bringing them college-level issues to analyze. Alicia and Naomi aspire to careers in public history, in veteran support services and museum restoration and curation respectively. Alex shared that he was inspired by his grandfather, a high school shop teacher, "the happiest, nicest man." Similarly, Bailey credits his teachers in community college with his decision to pursue a graduate degree and teaching position. All of the students want to "give back" to the communities that afforded them a love of history. As for the Department's faculty and staff, we can't wait to see the amazing things they will achieve.



Dr. Easley's office, PSYC 456

History's New Digs

In September the Department settled into its new offices on the fourth floor of the Psychology Building on west campus. Despite its forbidding appearance on the outside, the offices are large and bright, with wide hallways and ample room for books and electronics. The Psychology Department has been warm and welcoming to us, despite the ruckus the move entailed. We miss L&L, but look forward to our new home in the North Academic Complex. In the meantime, please come visit us in PSYC!

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FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Dr. Chong Eun Ahn, with Dr. Volha Isakava in World Languages and Cultures and Mr. Steve Cook in the Office of International Studies and Programs, visited CWU's exchange institutions in Republic of Korea and Japan in December. She met with faculty and staff who were in charge of Wildcats studying abroad in these institutions, observed classes taught in English, Korean, and Japanese, and visited their libraries and archives. In March Dr. Ahn will present "Crisis' across Time: Questioning the 'Women's Problem' in Manchukuo's Korean Communities" as part of the panel "Low Birth and Aging Society in Korea and Japan: What Kind of 'Crisis?'" at the Association of Asian Studies 2024 Annual Conference in Seattle.

Ms. Lorelei Albrecht joined CWU as the new academic advisor for History and Art+Design.

Dr. Jason Dormady is serving as Interim Director of Latino/Latin American Studies during Winter and Spring Quarters. He is making revisions on a book manuscript and is preparing to present at a conference in March. In fall quarter he hosted a session for students and alumni on how to apply for graduate school and what to expect from the profession of being a historian.

Dr. Roxanne Easley continues to chair the History Department. She is researching the "Russomania" in London in the 1880s through the works and experiences of the sisters-in-law Olive and Constance Garnett. Both women, one a writer and educator and the other a translator, were deeply influenced by Russian radical emigres in England and visits to Russia.

Dr. Josue Estrada collaborated with two other Chicana historians to write a curriculum for middle and high school students. The curriculum was created for Washington Ethnic Studies Now (WAESN). The organization engages with anti-racist educators to center the history and experiences of communities of color. The Washington State Latinx History Unit has ten lessons and is now available for educators to access through the WAESN website. Dr. Estrada's expert research report, written for the Soto v. Hobbs case, contributed to a court ruling to redraw the legislative district, including the Yakima Valley, because the current map diluted Latinos' voting strength. The judge found ample evidence from his report that a long history of racial discrimination had lingering effects on Latinos' ability to participate in the electoral process.

Dr. Lacy Ferrell presented a paper in November at the African Studies Association conference in San Francisco called "Learning to Labor?: Education and Children's Work in Colonial Ghana." She is revising the paper for the Rocky Mountain African History Workshop at the BYU Salt Lake City Center this April before submitting it for publication.

Dr. Daniel Herman was nominated for the Western History Association's 2023 Michael Malone Award for best article on Western political history for his "Searching the Shadows: Thoughts on the West's Political History." He continues his work on "Cowboy Progressives: How Inner West Reformers Changed America, 1890-1988," under contract with Harvard University Press. Dr. Herman argues that inner West Congressional delegations did not ally with the South in opposition to Progressive Era reform efforts. On

(Dr. Daniel Herman continued)

the contrary, Inner West Congressional delegations played key and often decisive roles in passing a wide range of pro-consumer, pro-farmer, pro-labor measures. The inner West turned overwhelmingly conservative in the Reagan years not because of "cowboy individualism" or a "legacy of conquest," but rather because of suburbanization and prosperity.

Dr. Melissa Jordine has a book review of *Fire and Steel: The End of World War Two in the West* by Peter Caddick-Adams forthcoming in *Central European Review* this summer and a research trip to D.C., where she will visit Archives II, College Park, Maryland and the Holocaust Memorial Museum Research Center. These visits are in conjunction with an article project on logistics and supply in North Africa during World War II.

Dr. Jason Knirck continues to serve as the Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities. He published *Democracy and Dissent in the Irish Free State: Opposition, Decolonisation, and Majority Rights* with Manchester University Press in February 2023. The book discusses the development of democracy in the Irish Free State in the 1920s, in which there was little agreement about what Irish democracy would look like, what the role of parties would be in the state, and how to reconcile the single nationalist movement that created the revolution with the reality of post-revolutionary party politics. Dr. Knirck is now working on a book that traces the visions of modernity shared by activists in the apparently backwards postcolonial country of the Irish Free State.

Dr. Marilyn Levine served as a panelist at the Teaching Division Sponsored Roundtable, "The Joys and Challenges of Teaching Biography" at the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association in San Francisco, CA, January 4-7. She presented "Multiple Approaches to Teaching Biography."

Ms. Kristy Magdlin designed the new look and logo of the History newsletter, and our graduate student bulletin board. She organized our winter advising meet and greet event, and is updating our alumni list (keep in touch!).

Dr. Amin Mansouri published "Casket of Light, Padlocked with Light: Sayyid Ḥaydar Āmulī, Ahl al-Bayt, and Shi'i Philosophical Esotericism" in *Shii Studies Review* 7, no. 1-2 (2023): 1-33, and "Review of Jihad: What Everyone Needs to Know, by Asma Afsaruddin." *Reading Religion* (American Academy of Religion).

Dr. Stephen Moore, presented "A 'Citadel of Power': Canada in Congressional Discourse, 1939-1941" in Washington, D.C. at the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States Conference in November 2024. This was part of his larger article-length study that explores the place of Canada in the U.S. isolationist-interventionist debate in the years leading up to the Second World War.

Prof. Ken Munsell continues to moderate our popular Facebook page. Check it out and subscribe! <https://www.facebook.com/CWUHistoryDepartment/>

STUDENT NEWS



Natalie Hammill (left) and Caleena Wyman (right) present at the Lunar New Year Celebration.

Year of the Dragon

The Lunar New Year dinner and festival held on Feb 13th at Holmes Dining Hall celebrated the Year of the Dragon. The Asian Studies Program, directed by our own Dr. Chong Eun Ahn, the Korean Culture Club, and CWU Dining Services hosted the event. Various units on campus, including the Department of World Languages and Cultures, the Japanese Student Association, and the Office of International Studies and Programs also contributed to the event by volunteering and/or performing on stage.

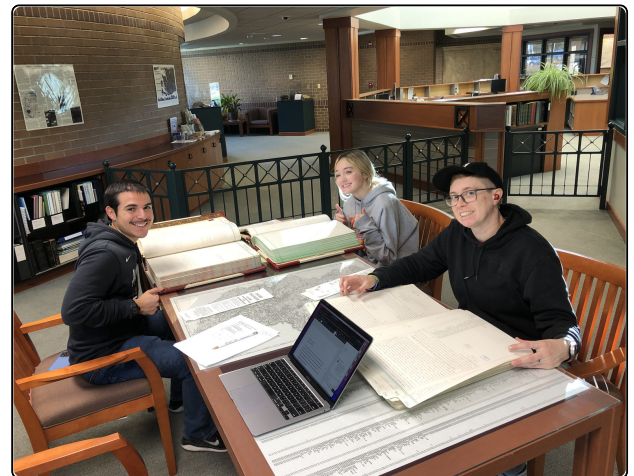
Lunar New Year's origins can be traced back to ancient agrarian societies in Asia. One of the earliest records dates to the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046 BCE). Oracle bone inscriptions offer evidence that the lunisolar calendar had already been adopted by that time. In 104 BCE Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty in China approved a calendrical reform that fixed the beginning of the year on the day of the first new moon, or the second new moon after the winter solstice. It has become the most important festive holiday for Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and Taiwanese communities around the world. However, paying attention to the event's historicity and diversity, History Club leaders Natalie Hamill and Caleena Wyman presented how Lunar New Year, while heavily influenced by China and Chinese diasporas, is not exclusively the "Chinese New Year". They shared two unique cultures, peoples of the Ryukyu Islands and the Nisga'a Nation, who celebrate the Lunar New Year with their own traditions. They demonstrated that history can help to identify both change and continuity in the celebration of the lunar calendar.

The Racial Restrictive Covenants Project of Washington

Before the Fair Housing Act of 1968, real estate developers or owners could record racial restrictive covenants with county officials to bar non-white persons from buying or occupying a designated property. The racial covenants were legally binding agreements. From the 1910s to the 1960s, covenants along with redlining were used to restrict the property rights of Black, Asian, Latina/o/x, and Indigenous peoples. While neighborhoods with racial restrictive covenants were preferred by banks, mortgage lenders, and the Federal Housing Authority, redlined areas received a "hazardous" rating. They helped to create segregated cities across the nation, and effectively barred communities of color from owning homes. The present-day's low homeownership rates for communities of color directly correlate with these laws. According to the U.S. Census (2022), in Washington, 69% of whites are homeowners, but less than 34% of blacks and only 47% of Latinos own a home. Acknowledging the harm racial covenants had in Washington, the state legislature passed the Covenants Homeownership Act in 2023. The act provides a no-interest down-payment assistance program to victims of racial covenants and their descendants to purchase their first homes.

In 2021, the State Legislature approved a project to find and map racial restrictive covenants across Washington. The Racial Restrictive Covenants Project of Washington was established under the direction of Dr. James N. Gregory, University of Washington, in collaboration with Eastern Washington University. In 2022, our own Dr. Josué Q. Estrada was invited to join the project, charged with uncovering racial restrictive covenants in Benton, Grant, and Klickitat Counties. Dr. Estrada's team includes two CWU history students, Alex Cordon and Andres Galvez Preciado, and Ulysis Cruz-Antonio, a former CWU history graduate student and current adjunct History faculty member. Undergraduate CWU students who are part of Dr. Estrada's courses have volunteered numerous hours to the project. Unlike some digitized county records, Dr. Estrada's term assignment required reading every page of the property deed volumes from the 1920s to the 1960s. The property records are located at the Central Washington State Archives in Ellensburg, Washington. As of today, in Benton, Grant, and Klickitat Counties, the CWU research team has found over 160 properties that contain a racial restrictive covenant, drawn from 260 volumes. By the end of the academic year, the team hopes to complete Klickitat County.

On a side note, the project has discovered at least four properties in Kittitas County, including one in the City of Ellensburg. In 1939, B.F. Reed and his wife, Harriet B. Reed, sold their property to Eric T. and Catherine Moe. The warranty deed included thirteen covenants, including one that read, "No race or nationality other than white or Caucasian shall use or occupy any building on any lot, except that this covenant shall not prevent occupancy by domestic servants of a different race or nationality employed by an owner or tenant."



Alex Cordon (left), Jillian Rinehardt (middle), and Amanda Russert (right) reading Klickitat deeds at the Central Washington State Archives in Ellensburg, Washington.



ALUMNI NEWS

Dr. Michael Allen ('74) published *Mississippi River Valley: The Course of American Civilization* with Iowa State University Press.

Ulysis Antonio Cruz ('23) and **John Streepy** ('92, '99) are teaching history for the department at CWU Sammamish.

Jordan Bergstrom ('12, '15) and **Cassie Crisman** (Carroll) ('18, '20) have been advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. in History at Washington State University.

Dr. Randall Dills ('99, '01) published a poetry collection, *The Universe at the Point of Contraction*, with FutureCycle Press in February 2023.

Jenny Findsen ('21) is serving as a Chambers Judicial Assistant with the Alaska Court System.

Dr. W.D. Frank ('05) will publish his latest book, *Under Mountain Shadows: Kay Kershaw, Lesbian Eco-Warrior of the Pacific Northwest* with McFarland Books in 2024.

Dr. Rebecca Hastings ('09, '13) received her MLIS from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and an internship at Yale University Archives in 2023. Currently she is a history instructor at Grays Harbor College.

Dr. William (Billy) Holly ('07, '11) received a PhD in History from Arizona State University Tempe in December 2023. His dissertation is titled, "For the Benefit of the Mountain: Tourism, Community, and Indigenous Sacred Land in Flagstaff, Arizona, 1969-1978." He currently teaches at Northland Pioneer College in Holbrook, Arizona.

Rachel Jackson ('12) has been elevated to the priesthood to serve at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Richland, WA.

Henry Jennings ('19, '21) is a Long Range Planner with Snohomish County, Washington.

Albert Miller ('04, '08) is a Land Use Planner for the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments.

Valerie Paschen ('18) received a master's degree in Special Education from the University of New Mexico in December 2023.

Luke Pearsons ('17, '19) at Eisenhower High School in Yakima, **Thomas Hull** ('22) at Davis High School in Yakima, and **Holly Fleshman** ('19, '21) at Cle Elum-Roslyn High School, along with former faculty member **Dr. Jalynn Padilla** at West Valley High School, will be teaching College in the High School for CWU.

Dr. Alyson Roy ('06), professor at the University of Idaho, will publish *Empire of Images: Visualizing the Conquered in the Roman Republic* with De Gruyter Oldenbourg in April 2024.

Kaelen Sauriol ('18, '22) is serving as Marketing Manager for University Relations at Central Washington University.

STUDENT NEWS continued

Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club

The Pacific Northwest Regional Theta Conference will be hosted by Eastern Washington University on April 12-13, to showcase presentations by undergraduate and graduate students with faculty discussants. Students will present work from their upper-division history classes and graduate research. Central will be represented by nine students attending, eight undergraduates and one graduate student: Leo Hunt, Mae Myklegard, Georgia Buie, Dylan Hollingsworth, Emily Kissel, Abigail Lince, Mikaela Phillips, Kennedy Shook, and Stephen Hoberg.

The History Club has a slate of new officers: President Dakota Alanis; Vice President Caleena Wyman; Treasurer Charles Patton; Secretary Kylee Riding; and Representative Quinn Denny. The History Club hosted two Fireside Chats in fall quarter on the topics of "Radium Quackery" and "Operation Paul Bunyan." The Club also hosted a presentation by Dr. Amin Mansouri, called "Dr. Mansouri's Demon Survival Guide," on demons in Islamic folklore. The students arranged hands-on history activities, including creating historical paper dolls and working with the WWII-era Enigma decoding machine, and organized two profitable book sales so far this year. In addition to organizing student travel to the Phi Alpha Theta Conference, they hope to visit the Flight Museum in Tukwila this spring.

Other Student Activities

Graduate students Mikaela Philips and Caleena Wyman will attend the 25th Annual CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Association Conference (Boulder, Colorado), Feb 24-23. Graduate students Mikaela Phillips, Danielle Hegarty, Alicia Callahan, and Caleena Wyman will attend the Western Association of Women Historians Conference in Portland, OR, April 18-20. Alicia Callahan will visit Normandy in France, on a trip conducted by the nonprofit Best Defense Foundation, founded by Donnie and Kathryn Edwards. The program begins in Atlanta, Georgia, where there will be an introductory dinner at the Delta Flight Museum with veterans. In Normandy, there will be a week filled with historical visits, meet and greets, and a trip to the local school.

Kevin Cassidy completed his master's in fall 2023 with a thesis using digital history to illuminate networks among revolutionaries and loyalists in the American Revolution. The thesis title is "Generational Leadership in the American Revolution and Early Republic, 1763-1800."

**HISTORY STUDENTS, PAST AND PRESENT, AND FRIENDS
OF HISTORY: WHAT ARE YOU UP TO THESE DAYS? WE'D
LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! HISTORY@CWU.EDU**

SPRING COURSE OFFERINGS



UPPER AND LOWER-DIVISION

HIST 101: WORLD HISTORY TO 1500 | DR. MOHAMMAD AMIN MANSOURI | M-F | 12:00-12:50 PM

HIST 101: WORLD HISTORY TO 1500 | DR. CHONG EUN AHN | ONLINE

HIST 102: WORLD HISTORY 1500-1815 | DR. JASON DORMADY | ONLINE

HIST 103: WORLD HISTORY SINCE 1815 | DR. MELISSA JORDINE | M-F | 9:00-9:50 AM

HIST 103: WORLD HISTORY SINCE 1815 | DR. MARILYN LEVINE | M-F | 11:00-11:50 AM

HIST 143: US HISTORY TO 1865 | PROF. KEN MUNSELL | M-F | 1:00-1:50PM

HIST 144: US HISTORY SINCE 1865 | DR. JOSUÉ ESTRADA | M-F | 10:00-10:50 AM

HIST 302: HISTORICAL METHODS | DR. MARILYN LEVINE | T/TH | 2:00-4:05 PM

HIST 314: MILITARY HISTORY OF US | DR. MELISSA JORDINE | M-F | 12:00-12:50 PM

HIST 334: HISTORY OF GENDER & SEXUALITY | DR. LACY FERRELL | M-F | 10:00-10:50 AM

HIST 383: EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION | DR. CHONG EUN AHN | M-F | 11:00-11:50 AM

HIST 443/543: WEST IN AMERICAN HISTORY | DR. DANIEL HERMAN | M-F | 11:00-11:50 AM

HIST 448/548: HISTORY OF LATINXS IN THE PACNW | DR. JOSUÉ ESTRADA | M-F | 12:00-12:50 PM

HIST 464/564: HISTORY OF ISLAMIC SCIENCE | DR. MOHAMMAD AMIN MANSOURI | M-F | 1:00-1:50 PM

HIST 469/569: RUSSIAN AND SOVIET WOMEN | DR. ROXANNE EASLEY | M-F | 9:00-9:50AM

HIST 481: SENIOR THESIS | DR. LACY FERRELL | M/W/F | 2:00-3:40 PM

HIST 512: GRAD READING SEMINAR | DR. CHONG EUN AHN | TBD

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