

# THE PRESENCE OF THE PAST



**BU HISTORY**  
DEPARTMENT  
NEWSLETTER

**DECEMBER**  
**2021**

# FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK

NINA SILBER, PROFESSOR AND CHAIR



Warm wishes to all the readers of the BU History Department newsletter as we come to the end of a busy Fall semester. We have returned to in-person teaching, a move welcomed by many faculty and students alike, as it has made possible the kind of fluid conversations and community-building that are so important for our pedagogical efforts. We recognize, of course, the serious obstacles we continue to face with the ongoing pandemic, but remain grateful for the rewards our teaching provides.

As this newsletter attests, we remain busy, too, with many other projects. Our faculty and graduate students have been able to return to libraries and archives, pursuing their dissertations and book projects. They've also been busy publishing articles; presenting lectures; and recording podcasts. History graduate students likewise are hard at work, honing their professional skills and building their community. And our undergraduates have themselves been organizing lecture series and publishing articles of their own. The Department is particularly excited about the two faculty searches that are currently underway: in Modern East Asia and African history. Finally, we are making plans for an exciting conference, to be held in March 2022, on "American Universities and the Legacies of Slavery and Settler Colonialism".

Amidst all this activity, we continue to miss, and mourn, our colleague Charles Capper, whose death this past July saddened the extended BU History community.

You can read more about the life and accomplishments of Professor Capper in the pages of this newsletter. And you can read in more detail about the publishing, teaching, lecturing, and apple-picking activities of faculty and students.

Best wishes to all for a restful winter break and a happy holiday season!

Nina Silber,  
Chair and Professor, BU History Department

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# CHARLES CAPPER, IN MEMORIAM



This past July, the BU community lost **Charles Capper**, Professor Emeritus of History at Boston University. Professor Capper was a beloved member of the History Department since 2001, and he retired in 2021. Much of his scholarly career was devoted to an investigation of American Transcendentalism and American Romanticism, resulting in writing and publishing his widely acclaimed two-volume biography of Margaret Fuller, founding and editing of *Modern Intellectual History*, and co-editing of the sourcebook *The American Intellectual Tradition*. Professor Capper's friend and colleague **David Hollinger** wrote an obituary which you can read [here](#), and a rich account of his career can be found in [this](#) tribute written after his retirement from BU.

In the tribute, several graduates and undergraduate students who he taught expressed their deep appreciation for him as an instructor. In particular, a previous Ph.D. student, and current associate professor at Bellhaven University, **Jonathan Koefoed**, wrote a few words that capture Professor Capper's inspirational talents:

**"The breadth and depth of his learning could not help but inspire any student who studied with him. One always left conversations or classes with Charlie inspired to think more deeply, to press forward in one's work, and with a deeper appreciation for the intellectual pleasure one could take in the life of the mind. What I will remember most was how he modeled how one could be both erudite and humane."**

**Arianne Chernock** along with PhD candidate Kathryn Lamontagne were [featured](#) in BU Today this past April where they discussed the legacy of Prince Philip and his recent passing. In May, Professor Chernock was interviewed on the podcast [The Last Best Hope?](#), for an episode titled “The Royal American Epsidoe.” The podcast is produced by Oxford University’s Rothermere American Institute and hosted by Professor Adam Smith. Along with these features, Chernock recently wrote [a piece](#) in WBUR: Why can’t we seem to get enough of Princess Diana?



**Ibram X. Kendi** (pictured above) was awarded the 2021 MacArthur Fellowship, informally known as the ‘Genius Grant,’ along with twenty-four others this past September. Over five year installments, the fellowship awards its recipients \$625,000 to be used by the discretion of the fellow. This momentous award honors exceptional creativity, outstanding talent, and future

potential in a myriad of fields including the arts, sciences, humanities, advocacy, and more. BU Today celebrates Kendi’s achievement in [an article](#) highlighting his “gift for communicating his antiracist works and ideas with diverse audiences, and promise for further benefiting society.”



**Eugenio Menegon**, received a Berenson Fellowship for the period January-June 2022 from the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, located at Villa I Tatti near Florence (pictured above). The fellowship is designed for scholars who explore “Italy in the World” and address the transnational dialogues between Italy and other cultures during the Renaissance. Menegon was also awarded the Digital Humanities Advancement Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The peer-reviewed grant is one of only twenty Digital Humanities Advancement grants awarded nationally by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

This past April Menegon also delivered two lectures. As part of the East Asian Studies Speaker Series at John Hopkins University, he gave a virtual lecture titled “The Matriarch, the Duchess, the Queen, and the Countess: Patronesses of the Catholic Mission in Early Modern Chinese-European Relations.” For a research group Lecture Series at Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main, Menegon delivered another talk on “Local Religion in Late Imperial China.”

**James McCann** led a seminar in the African Studies Center Walter Rodney seminar titled “Nature and the Supernatural: the Meaning(s) of Water in the Upper Nile 1620-2020.”

**Simon Payaslian** published a chapter entitled “*Free Armenia* (newspaper) – Herald of the Anti-Bolshevik Rebellion” (in Armenian) in [The First Republic of Armenia: 100th Anniversary](#).

He also published [an article](#) in BU Today discussing President Joe Biden’s affirmation of the Armenian Genocide on Armenian Remembrance Day on April 24th.

**Sarah Phillips** was one of several experts interviewed in June for [a piece](#) in BU’s *The Brink* publication titled “How the US Can Cut Carbon Emissions in Half by 2030, with or without Congress.”

**Ron Richardson** published [an article](#) in the June issue of *Transition* magazine, titled “The White Supremacist Collective Unconscious and the Authonomous Self.” *Transition* is published by Indiana University Press on behalf of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University.

**Andrew Robichaud** published [an article](#) in the *Journal of Urban History*, published by the Urban History Association. His piece is titled “Brighton Fair: The Life, Death, and Legacy of an Animal Suburb.”

**Jeffrey Rubin** was recognized for directing the Seeing and Not Seeing (SANS) seminar in [this](#) article posted on the BU College of Arts and Sciences, Center for Humanities website. SANS is a faculty and public lecture series that aims to bring together ideas of different disciplines.

**Bruce Schulman** wrote [an essay](#) that is featured in the June 2021 issue of *Reviews in American History*. Titled “Islands of Time, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Decade,” his writing examines the decade as a cultural touchstone. Dismissing the decade as artificial and distorting, he argues the concept’s peculiar history and distinctive contributions.

In September, Schulman also discussed the decade as a marker of historical time with Podcaster Mary Alice Yeskey, asking how and why did 20th Century Americans reckon time in decades and will they continue to do so? You can listen [here](#).

**Nina Silber** was awarded the Jon Westling Professorship in History this past June. Created through the philanthropic support of Trustee Emeritus Richard B. DeWolfe and other donors, the award honors former BU president and Professor of History Jon Westling. The professorship is awarded to an outstanding faculty member working in any field of history. [A post](#) on the History Department website recognizes her professional and intellectual accomplishments which led to her achievement of the award.

Also in June 2021, Professor Nina Silber ended her term as President of the Society of Civil War Historians. At the conclusion of her term she presided over the Society’s conference, for which she had organized two special panels. One was a conversation between former Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey and historian David Blight on “The Civil War in Poetry and History”. The other, for which Professor Silber was a commentator, focused on new trends in the field of “Women and Gender and the Civil War Era”. The online blog for the society published some of the presentations for that panel, in September 2021, which can be found [here](#).

# COURSE SPOTLIGHT

## BETTY ANDERSON ON HI 390, MECCA TO DUBAI: CITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### Amman

On crystal-clear morning around 2005, I flew from Beirut to Amman and as the plane neared Amman, I had a panoramic view of this sprawling city. The city appeared to comprise millions of similarly sized low-lying beige buildings broken up by the city's many mountains and valleys. A small number of tall buildings and structures stood in stark contrast. Situated near the northern border of the city, the Housing Bank (21 floors), with its distinctive tiered exterior and pyramid shape, marked a decision by bank leaders in the 1980s to move outside of the downtown core and deep into newly built-up neighborhoods in West Amman.

Speeding further to the south, hotels and towers ranging from 17 to 35 floors lay out a trajectory from east to west, extending the city from an early foundation on Jabal Amman and out into the rapidly developing land along the western border of the city. More buildings have been constructed since this flight, with banks, telecommunication companies and additional high-rise hotels filling in newly developed areas. In the largest of the developments, the Abdali public-private partnership opened in 2014 in the center of the city, initially touted by developers as Amman's New Downtown. Government buildings occupied most of the property before the development, with institutions such as the Mukhabarat (Intelligence), Foreign Ministry, and the Abdali transportation center housed there. A residential neighborhood, too, fell to the developers' plans.

While the development holds several high-rise buildings, the most distinctive and easily spotted from locations around the city is the Amman Rotana Hotel (50 floors), standing at the western edge of the district. With its rounded column shape, floor-to-ceiling windows, and a video advertisement frequently playing along one side, it marks a clear departure from other building designs throughout the city. Bisecting the district is the Boulevard, a short walking street lined with expensive high-end cafés, restaurants, and international chains, and ending at the flying-saucer shaped Abdali Mall. These buildings represent the image branding the state has undertaken for Amman since the dawn of the 21st century. They symbolize an Amman that is open for investors interested in 5-star banking services, hospitality and IT expertise.

From the perspective of those actually living down below, however, these towers hold far less appeal. When asked to identify locations where they felt comfortable or uncomfortable in the city, the majority of the informants for my research project on today's Amman either ignored the Abdali Boulevard altogether or expressed strong aversion to it. One said of the development, "Abdali is out of context in its current location. You can cut and paste it in any other place." Another criticized how the neighborhood had changed, remembering that in the past, it "preserved that heritage and spirit, and you truly felt it was an extension of the city." In its new incarnation, it represents a rupture in Amman's built environment.



### Research

This description of a flight over Amman comes from a research project I have been directing for the last few years, in close collaboration with a colleague in the US and a set of researchers on the ground in Amman. We conducted focus groups and interviews with young people, 22-35, to uncover how they navigate the city, both literally and figuratively. In guided walking tours of neighborhoods, we collected the stories people tell about when their ancestors arrived in the city and how they developed it thereafter. These stories particularly resonate in Amman because it is a city of migrants and refugees; everybody has a story to tell about their ancestors forging a new life in one of its many neighborhoods. Our goal through these methodologies was to illustrate how the city's residents make sense of and find belonging in the city. All city residents map unique urban pathways and our research has sought ways to identify the many Ammans they have constructed.

In our interviews, we discovered how young people in the city alternatively embrace and push against the neoliberal reforms of the 21st century. In our walking tours, we commissioned neighborhood residents to walk the team through their neighborhoods while relating their personal histories in the area. Simultaneously, we photographed and recorded the built environment that framed their stories. All of the members of the research team then wrote up their observations of the walks. Not surprisingly, our observations diverged substantially from one to the other because we located different elements of the experience important. Our stories are now part of the collage of stories we collected from our informants about the different ways of making sense of the city.

### Course

HI 390 follows much the same trajectory by mixing together studies of the changing urban environments with stories of how people have historically lived and worked within them. The class covers several historical eras, from the rise of Islam in Mecca to the modern-day fantasia of Dubai. We (virtually) walk through each of the cities to see how they appear from street-level. We read stories of economic and social lives being lived in the cities over time. To show how many Bostons exist, a semester-long assignment involves students walking the neighborhoods of Boston and recording their own observations.



# HISTORY GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

HGSO has had a great time welcoming everyone back to campus this semester, and we have had so many great social gatherings and professional development opportunities this Fall! Writing workshops with Claire Affinito and Jack Arnold, two of our PhD students, have provided great opportunity for peer discussion and revision of academic papers, and will continue on into the Spring semester. Our “How-To TF” panel, with graduate student panelists Tyler Quebedeaux, Tom Sojka, Kacie Harris and Elizabeth Grumer, encouraged productive discussion of pedagogy, problem solving, and time management for both new and experienced TFs. We plan to organize both a “How-To Orals” panel and a syllabus workshop in the Spring semester, led by a combination of experienced graduate students and faculty members. First Friday study sessions provided a guided and focused environment for graduate students to complete work together and will continue on into the Spring. We worked alongside Title IX coordinator Carian Diaz to set up a meeting where students could discuss how to handle uncomfortable situations and inappropriate behaviors, whether in the classroom, among colleagues, or in interactions with faculty.

We have maintained the amazing resources established by our predecessors, including the lending library and communal google drive, which have helped to provide resources for graduate students new and old. If you have any resources you would like to contribute to either of these efforts, please continue to let us know!

We have deepened our relationships with each other as well as AMNESP in this post- LFA environment through several social events. HGSO sponsored an apple picking excursion at Honey Pot Hill orchards to great success, despite the rain! We hosted a joint bowling outing at Kings



Bowl with AMNESP at the end of Fall semester, and we hope to continue developing our partnership with their department in the Spring. We have hosted Cornwall’s gatherings for the first time in over a year following our First Friday homework clubs, to celebrate all that we have accomplished and get to know each other beyond the zoom screen.

- Keara Sebold

**Patrick Browne** published [a paper](#) in the March 2021 issue of the New England Quarterly titled, “This Most Atrocious Crusade against Personal Freedom’: Anti-abolitionist Violence in Boston on the Eve of Civil War.” The essay explores increasing organization among anti-abolitionists in Boston during the Secession Winter and the combination of mob violence and political tactics they employed in an attempt to silence abolitionists. This opposition did not fade away on its own, Patrick argues, but was actively shut down by abolitionists who knew how to navigate politics and public opinion.

**Joshua Castillo** was featured in an [RTNC \(Radio Television Nationale Congolaise\) Interview](#) regarding learning the four Congolese national languages: Ciluba, Swahili, Lingala, and Kikongo, and his research in the Congo.

**Jamie Grischkan** was awarded the [Samuel I. Golieb Fellowship in Legal History](#) at the New York University School of Law for the 2021-2022 academic year. According to the Law School, the Golieb Fellowship “was established in 1981 to provide young legal historians with research support and a forum to present their work.”

**Elizabeth Hameeteman** is a 2021 recipient of the [BU Women’s Guild Award](#). The awards “provide both aid and encouragement to in-

dividuals aged 30 and over who are enrolled in University graduate programs, with preference to women.”

Elizabeth also successfully defended her dissertation on November 29, 2021.

**Tom Sojka** has published [a piece](#) on Henry Green’s *Party Going* for the “Modernist Festivities” issue of The Modernist Review. He also published an essay on the most recent adaptation of Nancy Mitford’s *The Pursuit of Love in PubLab* (a channel of the *Los Angeles Review of Books*). Tom’s piece can be found [here](#) and The Pursuit of Love is streaming now on Amazon Prime.

**John Williams** has published [an article](#) in *The Washington Post’s* “Made by History.” The piece is titled “Americans want climate solutions. Why won’t our politicians deliver?”

**Chenguang Zhu** was selected as one of two runner-ups for the North American Conference on British Studies (NACBS) [2021 Dissertation Fellowship](#) for his project “The Silent Delegates in a Foreign Capital: Chinese Objects, Civilizational Hierarchy, and Cultural Diplomacy in the International Exhibitions and Museums in London, 1851-1912.” Zhu will use the travel grant to support archival research in London from October to February.

## ARTICLE PUBLISHED

Undergraduate **Shenger Zhou** (CAS ’22) published an article in the History News Network titled “Is History Ready to Judge the Trump Presidency?” The article was written by Zhou when he was a student in Professor Dave Shorten’s course HI 283: The Modern American Presidency in Fall 2020. The piece is available to read at [HNN’s website](#).

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# GRAD STUDENT PROFILE

## ELIZABETH HAMEETEMAN, HISTORY PHD



### What are your principal research interests?

All things water! I am specifically interested in efforts to understand, value, and manage water in the development era of the 1950s and 1960s, and how and why these took shape. My dissertation focuses on desalination—which is the process of turning sea water into water you can drink—and how people saw it as a new and innovative strategy to combat water scarcity and offset increasing water demands in the post-WWII period.

### What are some of the things you have done alongside the PhD?

Over three years ago, I started an online platform that showcases the environmental-related work and expertise of graduate students and early career scholars who identify as women, trans and non binary. Called [Environmental History Now](#), it was, and still is, a way for me to connect with like-minded allies and find a sense of community. I hope it serves as a multi-faceted snapshot of what environmental history is and can be, as experienced by this group of scholars working in and around the field at large. More than anything, I am grateful that contributors have entrusted EHN with their pieces, from their research to their personal musings—and for the incredible EHN team who has helped along the way, including my AMNESP (American and New England Studies Program) friend Aly Kreikemeier. I've also helped organize Flip the List, an effort to diversify and enrich the woefully inadequate list of environmental books on Wikipedia, and been involved with the Next Generation Action Team of the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) and Historians for Future.

### Where do you see yourself working now you have received your PhD?

I would love to put my knowledge and skills into practice in today's world where access to water is not a given, where water shortages structure conflict and inequality, and where narratives of the past are important to understanding relations of power and access to resources. With that in mind, I envision myself finding a policy job at a non-profit/NGO focused on water (of course), but we'll see.

### Do you have any advice for those pursuing PhD or masters in History?

Chart your own course.

## ENGAGING WITH OP-EDS

Alumni **Katheryn Brownell** (CAS '11) led a series of workshops on historical op-ed writing on capus in September. Dr. Brownell, currently Associate Professor of History at Purdue, is the co-editor of "[Made By History](#)," the Washington Post section that brings historical perspectives to contemporary news stories. During her visit, Brownell spoke to graduate students and visited HI 467, a writing intensive seminar on "Postwar America" that explores various types of historical writing.

Inspired by Brownell, undergraduate senior **Catherine Devlin** wrote pitched, and published her own op-ed, on the forgotten opposition to the original space race of the 1960s and its legacies in the current moment of billionaires in outer space at HNN. You can find it [here](#).

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# UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

## UNDERGRADUATE HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The Undergraduate History Association brings together students from across the university who share a passion for history. Members give presentations and hold trivia nights on a weekly basis. This semester, the History Department sponsored UHA's "destruction and disruption" seminar series. On October 21, Professor Ben Siegel presented on "The End of Empires: From India to Afghanistan." On November 18, Professor Sarah Phillips led a discussion about "Floods, Hurricanes, and the Past and Future of New Orleans." The "destruction and disruption" series will culminate with UHA's annual conference highlighting the same theme on April 2, 2022. A Call for Papers from undergraduates has been sent out. Deadline for submissions is December 31. This year's UHA e-board officers are Sinan Bruce, Leah Schwartz, Saanya Kanwar, and James Brine.

## PHI ALPHA THETA

Phi Alpha Theta is a national history honors society whose members demonstrate excellence and dedication to studying history at the college level. The History Department sponsors BU's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, Delta Mu. Members of this student-run group gather several times per semester for history-themed events. This semester, members of the e-board wrote a new organization plan and a new mission statement. The organization introduced a new chair for professional development. The chair will direct the organization's efforts to develop professional skills including grant writing and conference participation. The e-board for 2021-2022 consists of Catherine Devlin, Priscilla Bright, Noah Kunkel-Smith, and Leah Schwartz.

- Professor David Shorten

# UNDERGRAD PROFILE

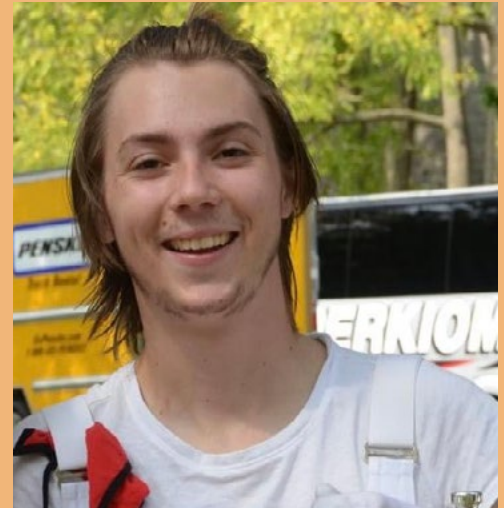
## LINCOLN ALEX MACVEAGH, CAS '22

### Where are you from?

I am from Thetford, Vermont: a small town of about 2,500 in eastern Vermont.

### What inspired you to become a History Major?

Prof. Arianne Chernock really helped me find history. I came into BU undecided, and freshman year I took a class with professor Chernock which really engaged me to an unprecedented extent. Since then, I have approached every academic problem I've encountered with a historians eye. History also provided me an escape during the pandemic, as the world shut down, I shut myself in the Middle Ages. Since then, history has been at the center of all my academic efforts, and in the future I want to work to make history more accessible to future students like me.



### If you could have dinner with any historical figure who would it be?

I would love to eat a meal with the Maghrebi intellectual Ibn Batutta. After travelling over 70,000 miles in his life, primarily by foot, ship, camel, horse, and elephant I am sure he would have some fascinating stories to tell!

### What are you focusing on in your Honors Seminar?

I am focusing on American evangelicalism around the turn of the 21st century. Specifically, my research question is: how did evangelical writing consider or reconsider the place of Islam within their cosmology after 9/11? To answer this question, I am conducting a comprehensive analysis of two evangelical periodicals' coverage of Islam throughout the Bush years, looking for patterns or trends in their coverage. I hope that this research will provide insight into modern American interreligious interactions and policy decisions.

## SOPHIA YAKUMITHIS

Undergraduate senior **Sophia Yakumithis** conducted research through UROP with Dr. Charles Dellheim (CAS History) on a project titled "Holland's Golden Age in the Modern American Museum." She used the opportunity to "get up close and personal with Rembrandt etchings" and "survey the country's most esteemed Dutch painting collections, revealing how different 20th century approaches to American art collecting and dealing shaped the demand for Golden Age works." View [this](#) poster to learn more about her research.

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# NEW FACES AT THE DEPARTMENT

## STAFF HIRE: MOLLY GERMAN, CFA '21



### **What is your role here at the BU Department of History?**

As of November, I am the department's new Senior Program Coordinator! I oversee undergraduate student records and course scheduling. I also maintain the department website, social media platforms, newsletter publications, and department events, including convocation.

### **What did you study when you were a student at BU?**

I graduated from the College of Fine Arts with a major in Painting and minors in Art History and Psychology.

### **What inspired you to work here?**

I deeply appreciate the liberal arts environment offered at BU. As someone with several academic interests, I was able to study

a wide variety of courses from Painting Techniques and Contemporary Art History, to Statistics and Biological Anthropology. Of course, my appreciation extends to the History Department community. History provides the foundation for any area of research or future endeavor, and I am honored to coordinate education for its students. Not to mention, I am truly inspired by the successful faculty who are constantly churning out research publications and earning awards and grants that allow them to expand their intellectual achievements.

### **If you could have dinner with any historical figure, who would it be?**

I would love to have dinner with the sculptor Eva Hesse, a proto-feminist and prominent inspiration of the minimalist movement who made an artistic name for herself despite living to only 34. I am in awe of her ability to transform "everyday" materials and appreciate that which is artistically unpredictable.

## **FACULTY HIRES: MODERN EAST ASIAN AND AFRICAN HISTORY**

The History Department was thrilled to receive a large number of excellent applications for the two positions. The selection for modern East Asian history includes a search committee of Benjamin Siegel, Alexis Peri, and Bruce Schulman of the History Department as well as Alice Tseng of the History of Art and Architecture Department and Yoon Sun Yang of World Languages & Literatures. Candidates for this position visited the campus in December. The position in African History is being considered by the team of John Thornton, Phil Haberkern, Linda Heywood, James McCann, and Fallou Ngom. The Department is arranging for the finalists for this position to come to campus early in the Spring Semester. We look forward to welcoming new colleagues next year.

# MUGAR LIBRARY NEWS

BY DONALD ALTSCHILLER, HISTORY BIBLIOGRAPHER

As you know, the BU Libraries provide access to a large number of electronic resources, currently totaling more than 544 databases. Among this number are 122 databases that cover some aspect of history. The most popular history electronic resources are frequently consulted: America: History and Life, AM Explorer, JSTOR and Project Muse among others. Library users also have access to a much larger number of historical resources but they are often not that well-known.

I've selected only a few of our multifarious history-related databases to provide an overview of the eclectic historical resources currently available at the BU Libraries.

For a more comprehensive list, please look at the following [library page](#).

## **AIR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY INDEX TO MILITARY PERIODICALS** [\[X\]](#)

An index that includes over 80 journals with a focus on military and aeronautical publications. Included are articles, interviews, book reviews as well as speeches by high-ranking officials in the Department of Defense and Air Force.

## **AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY HISTORICAL PERIODICALS** [\[X\]](#)

Digitized images of American magazines published between 1684 and 1912. Covers history of slavery, literature, women's and religious issues, politics, culture, the arts and foreign language journals published in the U.S.

## **AMERICAN JEWISH NEWSPAPERS** [\[X\]](#)

American Jewish Newspapers provides scanned, searchable articles from four 19th and 20th century newspapers, including The Jewish Advocate (Boston).

## **AMERICAN NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY** [\[X\]](#)

Biographical dictionary of notable deceased American men and women from all eras of American history, includes illustrations and links to other web resources.

## **BERG FASHION LIBRARY** [\[X\]](#)

The Berg Fashion Library includes the Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion, an e-book collection, and an image database. This database covers all regions of the world with content from pre-history to the present.

## **BLACK ABOLITIONIST PAPERS [\[X\]](#)**

This collection searches a unique set of primary sources from African Americans actively involved in the movement to end slavery in the United States between 1830 and 1865. The content includes letters, speeches, editorials, articles, sermons, and essays from libraries and archives in England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, and the United States.

## **BRITISH HISTORY ONLINE [\[X\]](#)**

Includes primary and secondary sources on the history of Britain and Ireland, with a primary focus on the period between 1300 and 1800.

## **EIGHTEENTH COLLECTIONS ONLINE [\[X\]](#)**

A comprehensive digital collection that aims to include every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom, along with thousands of important works from the Americas, between 1701 and 1800. Consists of books, pamphlets, broadsides, ephemera.

## **HISTORYMAKERS [\[X\]](#)**

HistoryMakers is a collection of video oral history interviews with historically significant African Americans including some BU graduates and faculty members. Transcripts are included with each interview

## **INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL BIBLIOGRAPHY [\[X\]](#)**

IMB (International Medieval Bibliography) indexes articles in journals, Festschriften, conference proceedings, and collected essays, covering all aspects of medieval studies within the period 450 to 1500 for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Date coverage: 1967 - present.

## **LGBTQ+ SOURCE [\[X\]](#)**

This database provides full-text coverage for the most important literature regarding lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. Offering a variety of scholarly, popular and regional resources, it includes journals, books, magazines and more. It also includes a specialized LGBTQ+ thesaurus containing thousands of terms.

## **NORTH AMERICAN IMMIGRANT LETTERS, DIARIES AND ORAL HISTORIES [\[X\]](#)**

Letters, diaries, pamphlets, autobiographies, and oral histories; much material was unpublished. Date coverage: 1840-, focusing heavily on the period from 1890 to 1920.

## **SLAVERY, THE SLAVE TRADE, AND LAW AND ORDER IN THE 19TH CENTURY [\[X\]](#)**

This site documents the international and domestic traffic in slaves in Britain's New World colonies and the United States, providing important primary source material on the business aspect of the slave trade. In addition to records on the slave trade; also includes a series of letters received by the Attorney General on law and order in nineteenth century America. These letters cover the slave trade, general slavery matters including runaway slaves and rights of slaves, and other legal issues. collection, and an image database. This database covers all regions of the world with content from pre-history to the present.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SLAVERY AND COLONIALISM CONFERENCE

On **March 17-18, 2022**, the History Department, in conjunction with the African American Studies Program, will be hosting a conference on **“American Universities and the Legacies of Slavery and Settler Colonialism.”** The conference will feature several scholars who have done foundational work in this field including Martha Jones; Noliwe Rooks; Davarian Baldwin; Tony Bogues; Christine DeLuca; and Leslie Harris. Craig Steven Wilder, Barton L. Weller Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the author of *Ebony & Ivy: Race, Slavery, and the Troubled History of America’s University*, will deliver the keynote address. The various panels at the conference will feature the work of junior scholars, from institutions across the country, who have been studying such topics as universities and the appropriation of indigenous lands; universities and the formulation of racist ideas; and universities and anti-racist pedagogy.

This conference has been generously funded through the “Emerging Scholars” program and the “Great Topics” program, two initiatives of BU’s Diversity and Inclusion office. **Look for more information about the conference schedule, location, and registration in the new year.**

## SPRING 2022 MOVIE NIGHT

Kick off the start of Spring semester at our next History Department Movie Night! Like with last year’s viewing of *Jojo Rabbit*, a discussion hosted by a member of the History Department faculty will follow the film. This event is open to anyone at BU! **Details about time and location will come soon, and will be announced on our website and socials.**

## KEEP IN TOUCH!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL [HISTORY@BU.EDU](mailto:HISTORY@BU.EDU) TO SHARE RESEARCH, EVENTS, PUBLICATIONS, OR OTHER MILESTONES. CONSIDER FILLING OUT A [GRADUATE STUDENT, UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT, OR ALUMNI](#) PROFILE FORM TO GET FEATURED ON OUR WEBSITE OR IN THE NEWSLETTER!

