
History Department

Professor Mary A. DeCredico
Chair

The Department of History's faculty continue to be active and engaged scholars. The academic year 2000-01 was especially noteworthy for the number of conference presentations, published articles and book reviews. Research topics ranged from the Dakota Indians and rodeos in late nineteenth century America, the activities of Catholic theologians in ninth century France, electoral politics in seventeenth century Virginia, to cafes and coffeehouses in France. In every instance, the research projects required detailed work in archives and libraries located around the world. Such activity underscores the seriousness with which the Department takes its role as "teacher-scholars."

Equally impressive was the midshipmen research civilian faculty members directed during the year. Independent study projects on the Irish Republic Army, eighteenth century warships and naval architecture, as well as at least a dozen History Honors papers that explored subjects as diverse as Unionists in western North Carolina, AIDS in Africa, and Wyatt Earp and the Old West also testified to the close working relationship of midshipmen and their professors.

In every way, it was an impressive year of scholarly endeavor.

Sponsored Research

The Formation of the English Nation, c. 650-939

Researcher: Professor Richard P. Abels

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

This project examined the growth of political stability and unity in England from the Age of Bede to the reign of King Aethelstan (924-939). It traces the gradual transformation of England from a patchwork of petty kingdoms and >peoples= into a unified, single kingdom. Focusing upon the political world of the Anglo-Saxons, especially upon the evolving relationships among commoners, nobles, churchmen, and kings, the theory and practice of kingship and rule evolved in response to ecclesiastical developments, foreign invasions and economic changes were explored. The investigation began with the political and social world of Bede and culminated in the establishment of a consolidated English kingdom in the first decades of the tenth century by the son and grandsons of Alfred the Great.

Research was also done on the iconographic representations of kingship in Anglo-Saxon manuscripts, coins, and art work as well as the role of peace-making with Vikings in creating a unified 'English' nation.

The Glory of the Lord According to Paschasius Radbertus (ca. 865)

Researcher: Associate Professor David F. Appleby

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

The subject of this project forms one part of a larger on-going study of the religious culture and Christian spirituality in the eighth-and ninth-century Frankish realm, the period of Charlemagne, his son, and his grandsons. The research focused on the spirituality of Paschasius Radbert (ca. 790-865), monk, headmaster and for a few years abbot of the Frankish monastery of Corbie. A biographer, exegete, teacher and theologian, Radbert is remembered as the greatest monastic author of the reign of Charles the Bald. Radbert believed that the more one obeys Christ's precepts and the more one emulates his example, the more one will share or have a share in Christ. In short, through obedience one achieves vision; moral practice is intrinsic to contem-

plative theory (beholding). The five specific subjects covered in this research are:

(1) Monastic humanism; (2) Radbert's way of describing Man's participation in God; (3) Radbert's understanding of the human body; (4) Radbert's understanding of the non-rational human faculties and emotions; (5) Radbert's approach to nature and secular culture.

Towards An Integrated Science of Information: Incorporating Human Systems

Researcher: Professor P. Robert Artigiani

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

Shannon's definition of "information" as a measure of reduced uncertainty can be extended to social systems by treating them as computational solutions to problems faced collectively by groups of human beings. Since it has become fashionable to reify the sort of moral information characteristic of social systems, this is a somewhat controversial hypothesis. However, analyzing traditional myths indicates that the value symbols they communicate direct action by individuals. Since what individuals do affects the status of social systems, value symbols effectively record reduced collective uncertainties. Social information may thus introduce a new observer-social system – but it does not presuppose that any physical attributes be assigned to information or that it be treated as an active agent. Equally interesting is the fact that when information is symbolically stored in Values, Ethics, and Morals (VEMs), societies are resolving Von Neumann's anomaly. VEMs encourage individuals to act predictably and replicate Social Roles, the improbably behaviors characterizing particular societies. Thus they are algorithms for replicating social systems, exemplifying how systems can write rules for copying themselves.

History of Moral Education at the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy in the 19th Century

Researchers: Associate Professor Lori L. Bogle, History Department
and Assistant Professor Aine Donovan, (Ethics Center)

Sponsor: Center for the Study of Professional Military Ethics

The inquiry opened with an overview of the prevailing models of moral education in 19th century America and then proceeded to investigate ways in which the service academies appropriated and distanced themselves from these theories. The method for inquiry consisted of three broad areas: (1) develop a "base-line" of ethics education at the academies by researching archived materials such as Academic Board minutes, course syllabi, course listings, library holdings, instructor biographies, faculty and student correspondence, and related materials. (2) Upon the establishment of a base-line of ethics education, investigation was conducted on the causes for curriculum change and the effect of those changes on the academy environment. Of critical importance in this second phase is the integration of social changes (such as the Civil War) into the moral education programs. (3) Finally, data was analyzed through a two-pronged lens of anecdotal accounts of the success of the program and - perhaps more objectively - through a systematic review of midshipmen and cadet honor code violations and retention rates.

Coffeehouses and Cafes

Researcher: Professor Thomas E. Brennan

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

This research focused on the emergence of the "public sphere" in the cafes of early modern Europe. The creation of cafes in the late seventeenth century, particularly in England and France, provided a unique forum in which polite society could mingle in a public but socially exclusive setting for the purpose of sociability and the exchange of ideas. In England, coffeehouses became the seedbed for newspapers, joint-stock and insurance companies, and political clubs. They contributed to the creation of a self-conscious civil society flourishing of political and journalistic activity at the end of the Old Regime.

Seneca's Use of Greek Anecdotes

Researcher: Professor Phyllis Culham
Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

The investigator tried to locate sources for Seneca's anecdotes which feature Socrates and his students. The results were very unexpected. Only one story comes from a legitimately Platonic source. Otherwise, Seneca appears to have used the equivalent of Hellenistic crib sheets, or gouge, and he often distorts those sources. This strengthens the investigator's claim that Seneca had synthesized so much material that he cannot fairly be described as an adherent of any Greek school.

The Men, Women and Children of American Indian Rodeo Families In Montana and South Dakota, 1890-1999

Researcher: Assistant Professor Allison S. Fuss
Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

This project documented the involvement of northern Plains Indians in rodeos during the reservation era from 1890 to 1999. It demonstrates the process by which Native Americans transformed rodeo from a Hispanic transplant into an "Indian" activity, and by which rodeo eventually became a pan-Indian event.

The current project aimed at expanding the existing work in new directions of family and gender analysis. It concentrated on documenting the existence and persistence of identifiable "rodeo families" on the Crow and Northern Cheyenne reservations in Montana and on the Pine Ridge, Rosebud and Cheyenne River Sioux reservations in South Dakota. This investigation also examined the conferred community status of the American Indian men who participate in rodeos and the role of women and children in rodeos, as contestants, organizers and spectators.

The researcher has conducted oral interviews with American Indian rodeo participants and spectators in Montana and South Dakota. Other sources are the Bureau of Indian Affairs correspondence and subject files, special collections, local and reservation periodicals, photographs and Indian rodeo ephemera found at archives and historical societies throughout the Northern Great Plains.

The Transformation of American Political Culture: The Virginia Electoral System, 1760 to 1820

Researcher: Associate Professor John G. Kolp
Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

The project sought to analyze a large Paradox election database constructed the previous year, to examine local political communities, and to begin the exploration of women's political roles during the period.

There is a continuing debate among historians over the role played by the American Revolution in what has been called "the democratization of American society." Traditionally, scholars have viewed the Revolution as a conservative movement aimed only at preserving traditional English liberties. More recently, however, others have argued that the American Revolution produced very radical results and did indeed foster dramatic changes in the political and social system. These discussions have also stimulated a debate over the impact of the Revolution on elite white women and their intersection with the emerging republican political culture. Some scholars see a masculinization of the public sphere and more restricted roles for women while others argue for a more dynamic view of female roles and participation.

The Arctic Explorations of Rear Admiral George Wallace Melville

Research: Associate Professor William M. McBride

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

This project was a continuation of research into the American naval profession and the development of American naval engineering. This part of the project involved research into the career of Rear Admiral George W. Melville, specifically his significant and extensive service as a naval engineer during his voyages to the Arctic during the 1870-80s. This project involved a detailed review of Record Group 125, Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Navy) and Record Group 24, Deck Logs, U.S. Navy ships, both in the National Archives in Washington, DC. In Record Group 24, examination was made of the deck logs during Melville's service in USS WASHUSETT, USS TIGRESS, USS JEANETTE, and USS THETIS. Melville's Examining Board file in Record Group 125 provided a wealth of information on his professional evolution, service, and advancement.

Discovering the Signs: Social Images of the Deaf Community in Nineteenth Century France

Researcher: Professor Anne T. Quartararo

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

This research project is a historical study of the social and cultural forces that created the Deaf Community in nineteenth-century France. The research investigated the emergence of a Deaf identity from the period of the French Revolution (1789) to the era of the Great War (1914). Because this period was one of intense social, cultural, and political change, the researcher consulted a wide variety of sources to chronicle the development of the French Deaf community inside the national community of France. The materials for this historical analysis included documents from the French national archives, accounts by numerous deaf leaders, articles from a variety of deaf-run journals, and other published materials of the time by social critics.

The researcher reconstructed the beginning of the Deaf community during the revolutionary era as well as the formation of the Paris Deaf Institute. Links between the development of a medical perspective on deaf children to scientific ideas proposed by the Deaf Institute's physician, Jean-Marc-Gaspard Itard have been documented in the research. The second part of the study considered the formation of a Deaf identity in the mid-nineteenth century. A study of the various activities of the French Deaf, including their banquets and publications, suggested the way that the Deaf began to construct the "memory" of their past as a particular community. In addition, the researcher had the opportunity to begin studying the life of one important Deaf leader, Ferdinand Berthier, and his activities of the 1820s and 1830s. This study is developing Berthier's presence in the social and political context.

Accounts and Events: The Persian Gulf Records of the Dutch and British East India Companies, 1720-1750

Researcher: Associate Professor Ernest S. Tucker

Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

In this project, British and Dutch East India Company records from stations in the Persian Gulf for the period 1720-1750 were surveyed in order to study the attitudes of the officers and agents of these companies to the political and social upheavals that convulsed Iran at that time. They proved a useful check on the perspectives offered by indigenous historical sources, as well as a more sober counterpoint to the somewhat romanticized accounts of contemporary European travelers.

By uncovering the reactions of these businessmen to current events in the Persian Gulf, the researcher hoped to discern that region's role more precisely within the historical processes taking place in the rest of Iran and the Middle East during the first half of the eighteenth-century.

The records that have been located from both the British East India Company (1609-1873) and the Dutch East India Company (1650-1799) offered rich additions to the existing sources in Persian and Arabic.

The Power of the Gun: From People's War to High-Tech War In the People's Republic of China, 1949-1999

Researcher: Associate Professor Maochun Yu
Sponsor: Naval Academy Research Council (NARC)

This project investigated how the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) ideological intoxication and military romanticism of the Mao era gradually dissipated as a result of realizing the backwardness of China's military weaponry and defense technology in the course of numerous wars and conflicts. Emphasis was given to the conflict between the pro-technology faction of the PLA and the military politicians. Detailed analyses included the development of China's nuclear arsenal, strategic sea power, missile system and the training of professional officer corps.

The results of the project attempted to show how military necessity, weapons development and defense technology have slowly and profoundly changed the Communist ideology and doctrines. There has been a historic shift of military paradigm that bears global significance and direct relevance to the role of the U.S. military in the 21st century Asia and the Pacific. It illustrates how Communist China's romance with the military theory of the "People's War" developed itself into a dogmatic doctrine that stifled its own effectiveness until a strategic turnabout occurred in the last twenty years which has created the current craze for the PLA's newfound strategem of the "Modern High Tech War" (xiandai gao keji zhangzheng).

Independent Research

Gossip, Games and Gender: Unpacking a Late-Victorian House Visit

Researcher: Associate Professor Nancy W. Ellenberger

This project used a ten-day country house party hosted by Lord and Lady Elcho in January 1889 to illuminate features of aristocratic life that have not been seriously addressed by social historians of Victorian Britain. Although scholars have examined how elite socializing served to structure marriage options, control social mobility, and broker national politics, this functionalist approach ignored the ways that the dynamics of country house visiting also affected the subjectivities and gender relations that characterized the elite. Despite the particularity of this historic episode, the Elchos' party provided an opportunity to examine how private engagements, like public rituals, contained powerful meanings and signs for the men and women who participated in them. In particular, it illuminated gender roles and behaviors among an elite noted for the increasingly "masculine" nature of both public and private activities in the late-Victorian generation.

Born With Their Boots On: Native Traditions and Rodeo in the Northern Great Plains

Researcher: Assistant Professor Allison S. Fuss

This research has resulted in a manuscript that relies heavily on oral interviews and archival documents and photographs. The manuscript documents the involvement of northern Plains Indians in rodeos during the reservations era from approximately 1890 to 1996. It demonstrates the process by which Native Americans resisted the assimilation efforts of the federal government by restructuring rather than relinquishing their Indian identities. For many this meant becoming rodeo cowboys. Reservation rodeos provided opportunities for Plains Indian communities to gather; to wager; to give away horses, cattle and other such gifts; and to display their skills as equestrians. Ironically, northern Plains Indians used these contests, sanctioned by the bureau of Indian Affairs as activities of acculturation, to maintain connections within tribal groups and to create new inter-tribal affiliations.

Emergence of the Modern Navy, 1865-1915

Researcher: Professor Frederick S. Harrod

This research entails a broad ranging examination of the nature of change within the navy for this period. What were the sources of change? How did the changes actually take place? What new problems did new ideas pose? The research seeks to understand the navy as a complex and integral part of American society and not to account for the rise of the new navy merely by noting new doctrine or vessels. The work has progressed through an examination of a number of individual topics each of which is a relatively self-contained piece of research. During this past year the researcher concentrated on the nature of change during the decade of the 1890s with a particular attention to the ways in which the era measured naval status. In this decade the nation became increasingly insistent on comparing the United States Navy to those of foreign nations.

“Myne Owne Ground” Revisited: Gender, Property, and Entrepreneurship in Early British America

Researcher: Associate Professor John G. Kolp

Two decades ago in a short but important contribution to the history of race and slavery in early America, “Myne Owne Ground”: Race and Freedom on Virginia’s Eastern Shore, 1640-1676 (1980), T. H. Breen and Stephen Innes explored the lives of Anthony Johnson and a small group of free blacks who inhabited Virginia’s eastern shore in the middle decades of the 17th century. In a sparsely-populated region remote from both the imperial capital of London and the colonial capital of Jamestown, status in the community – freedom and non-freedom, independence and dependence - was determined far less by race or ethnicity than by economic standing, especially property ownership. Although this fluid, open, multi-ethnic society existed for just a few brief decades in a few isolated places, it offers suggestive clues about the varied and highly dynamic world of early America.

In the late 1650s, just as this free black community reached its zenith, a Mrs. Anne Toft arrived as a neighbor to these freedmen. Quickly connecting herself to Colonel Edmund Scarborough, a prominent and controversial entrepreneur, she soon became one of the wealthiest women in Virginia and perhaps one of the wealthiest in all of British America. She would eventually marry in the 1670s, slowly fade from the historical record, and end up the great-grandmother of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

This fluid, open, ill-defined society in which status, independence, and freedom of action society of the mid-17th century world would soon fade and the mature British colonial societies of the 18th century would become the prevalent societal structure.

Cold War and New World Order: America and the Powers, 1945-2000

Researcher: Professor Robert W. Love, Jr.

This research is a survey of the diplomacy and grand strategy of the major powers from the onset of the Second World War to the close of the first decade of the New World Order. Based on extensive archival research in the United States, Britain, and Russia, and hundreds of interviews, this study argues that the economic and generational losses suffered both during Stalin’s Great Terror and the Second World War were so pervasive and lasting that the Soviet Union never fully recovered despite Moscow’s postwar pretensions of great power status. Moreover, the Communist state, like Nazi Germany and its Axis partners, elevated leaders of staggeringly limited intellectual ability who were wholly incapable of coordinating foreign policy with military strategy and who blundered their way through the great dangers of the Cold War at the ultimate cost of their alliances, their domestic political arrangements, and even the Soviet nation itself.

Availing themselves of the international “commanding heights” achieved with the collapse of the Soviet Union, Western leaders used military forces embedded during the Cold War in a less surefooted attempt to create order from the detritus attending that struggle without striving to recover the coherence marking their earlier collaborations.

The Mythologizing of Piracy In The West

Researcher: Assistant Professor Virginia W. Lunsford-Poe

This study explored Western perceptions of piracy from the seventeenth century until today. It investigated the transformation of the pirate's image from the age of European expansion, through the Enlightenment, Romanticism, the Victorian era, Modernism, and up to our current Post-Modern Age.

Las Fuerzas Armadas del Peru, 1930-2000

Researcher: Professor Daniel M. Masterson

This project is a revision of a manuscript published in 1991 on the Peruvian armed forces and it was recognized as the most comprehensive study of the Peruvian armed forces in any language.. It has now been translated and edited in Peru for publication in the near future. The revision examined the Peruvian armed forces corporate history as well as the related topic of civil-military relations in Peru during the period indicated in the title. This version also examined the period of Japanese-Peruvian president, Alberto Fujimori during his decade long period of "authoritarian democracy" and his manipulation of the armed forces and other critical institutions in Peruvian society.

Modern Peru

Researcher: Professor Daniel M. Masterson

This project is a review for the Library of Congress's Handbook of Latin American Studies which is the main bibliographical source for the best literature on Latin American Studies. The Handbook has been published since the 1930s and is recognized world-wide. The researcher has submitted one essay for inclusion in the immediately preceding volume. A review is being conducted of more than 500 books and periodicals from which will be selected approximately ninety for relatively short reviews in the upcoming volume. This work is especially helpful for many scholars in Latin American and Peruvian studies.

Who is at Risk: Promiscuity Paradigms and AIDS Narratives in Zimbabwe

Researcher: Associate Professor Samuel H. Nelson

This research examined the gap between knowledge of HIV/AIDS and the adoption of risk reducing behaviors in Zimbabwe. It argues that the association of HIV/AIDS with "promiscuity" and low moral character has promoted a lasting legacy of blame and denial, while simultaneously obscuring the real factors that put people at risk for viral contagion. The bulk of the material used in this study was obtained during fieldwork in Zimbabwe.

Encounters: Sources in World History, Vols. I & II

Researchers: Associate Professor Samuel H. Nelson
and Associate Professor J. Thomas Sanders

This project involved the creation of a World Civilization reader for McGraw-Hill. The reader is based on the theme of "encounter," both between and within cultures, beginning with the advent of recorded history to the present. It utilizes primary source documents from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas to promote student critical thinking skills as well as a better understanding of global historical dynamics.

Art and Politics: The American Presidential Election of 1948

Researcher: Professor David P. Peeler

In November 1948, Americans cast their first presidential ballots since the conclusion of World War II, and also their first ballots of what would be the decades-long Cold War. Republican Thomas Dewey felt confident of his victory (as did the Chicago Tribune – witnessed in its premature and famously erroneous headline, “Dewey Defeats Truman”), and Democratic incumbent Harry Truman, despite a vibrant public optimism, only became certain of victory when the last ballots were tallied.

In unprecedented numbers and roles, American visual artists were intensely involved with the election of 1948. But their support often went for the third party candidate, Henry Wallace of the Progressive Party. Some artists drafted planks for the national political platform, while others churned out the kind of campaign images which had theretofore been more the province of Madison Avenue than of the fine arts. Some even appeared on the ballot in the accompanying Congressional and local elections.

The current concentration this year has been on Ben Shahn. He actually designed a campaign poster for Wallace, and because of his efforts was later called before the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Leo Tolstoy’s *Hadji Murat* and War in the Caucasus

Researchers: Associate Professor Ernest S. Tucker and
Associate Professor J. Thomas Sanders

During the first half of the nineteenth century, Imam Shamil, a Muslim tribal leader in the northern Caucasus, successfully challenged the Russian occupation of his homeland for over twenty years by conducting guerilla war according to the principles of Jihad (Islamic holy war). He was the most successful opponent of Russian expansion in the Caucasus during the 19th century. He became a national hero to Muslim peoples across the Caucasus and Central Asia in their long confrontation with the Russian Empire.

Shamil developed a reputation in Russia not unlike that of sitting Bull as one of the few opponents who withstood, even if temporarily, the juggernaut of Russian military might. In the Muslim world, he became famous for administering his domains according to Islamic law and treating his followers with Islamic propriety. Although he was ultimately defeated by superior Russian technology and resources, Shamil’s memory thrives among Muslims in Chechnia whose 1993-1996 struggle with the Russians marked the most recent challenge there to Russian supremacy.

Pandora’s Keepers: The Atomic Scientists and Their Creation

Researcher: Associate Professor Brian VanDeMark

This project is a collective biography of the Manhattan Project scientists, emphasizing their motivations and reactions to the creation of the atomic bomb. Its purpose will be to show the atomic scientists as human beings and how they came to understand and grapple with what they created. Its central focus will be the range of reactions-of moral, ethical, and political sensibilities-that they expressed in response to the bomb.

Research Course Projects

The Social Significance of Japanese American Translators in the Pacific Theater

Researcher: Midshipman 2/C Philip Ujijie, USN

Advisers: Assistant Professor Lori L. Bogle and Professor Daniel M. Masterson

This project investigated the historical record of Japanese Americans who served the United States in many military capacities during World War Two. One such capacity was as language interpreters in the Pacific with the Military Intelligence service. By the end of the war, over five thousand Nisei (second generation) took up arms in the Pacific theater in this capacity. The language schools at Camp Savage, Minnesota were created to train Japanese Americans to speak the Japanese language. The specialized training from the language schools was focused on being able to read military messages and technical manuals. Cultural studies were a peripheral subject. Efforts will be made to analyze the motivations of the Japanese Americans that directly came into conflict. There will be differences, but any general trends will be noted. The main hypothesis is that Japanese culture was a large factor and patriotism was secondary. In other words, it is believed the cultural motivation to display loyalty and save face was more important than love of the United States. This notion was applied to the Japanese Americans in the Pacific theater as they were in direct conflict with the Japanese as opposed to the units in the European theater.

Unionism in Western North Carolina

Researcher: Midshipman 2/C David Teves, USN

Adviser: Professor Mary A. DeCredico

Southern Unionism remains a topic of great interest for Southern and Civil War historians. Many theories have been advanced to explain the phenomenon: low slaveholding counties, economic ties to the North, and dissatisfaction with planter rule. Yet, none of the prevailing explanations seems to explain the different character of North Carolina Unionism in the mountains. This thesis attempted to place Western North Carolina in the broader scholarship.

Cook, A Final Glance

Researcher: Midshipman 1/C Alapaki Gomes, USN

Adviser: Associate Professor Nancy W. Ellenberger

This independent study project explored the debates between Marshall Sahlins and Gananath Obeyesekere over the nature of contacts between the British expeditions of Captain James Cook and the Hawaiian islanders. Portions of Cook's journals and memoirs of officers attached to the voyages were read. A careful and detailed examination was then made of the thesis advanced by Marshall Sahlins that the Hawaiians took Cook to be their god Lono because he arrived during the festival dedicated to that deity, and that Cook's death became part of a ritual enactment of that god's fate. Sri Lankan anthropologist Obeyesekere launched a detailed rebuttal of Sahlins' assumptions, use of evidence, hypotheses, and conclusions, which resulted in a book length defense and counter-rebuttal by Sahlins himself. The researcher mastered this difficult, at times esoteric, controversy. The final paper presented and commented upon the debate by weaving the researcher's own knowledge of Hawaiian customs and religion into the literature that had been read.

The History of the IRA

Researcher: Midshipman 1/C Patrick Doyle, USN

Adviser: Associate Professor Nancy W. Ellenberger

The researcher read a combination of surveys, literary treatments, and monographs around the three distinct periods in the IRA's history: 1916-1923, 1923-1969, and 1969 to the present. Each book was summarized in a paper that reported on the types of sources used and the main conclusions or focus of the work. The final paper discussed the IRA's claims to being an

army, rather than a terrorist organization. In particular, he tried to uncover the ideological and psychological dimensions of IRA members who believe that they, not the majority will of the Irish electorates, represent the true good of the nation.

Legends in Their Own Times: Kit Carson and Wyatt Earp

Researcher: Midshipman 1/C David Selmo, USN

Adviser: Assistant Professor Allison S. Fuss

This project explored the interplay between myth and history in the American West. In particular, the researcher looked into the creation of myths surrounding the prototypical western male hero and the impact of these myths on U.S. Western history in the late nineteenth century. By delving into dime novels and newspapers, the researcher was able to analyze the ways that myth met and influenced reality. Two historic and mythic western icons, Kit Carson and Wyatt Earp, were chosen for investigation, focusing on their reactions as they encountered their own myths.

Comparative Historical and Hydrodynamic Analyses of Eighteenth-century Warship Design Using Artifacts from the Class of 1951 Ship Model Gallery and the Archives of the U.S. Naval Academy Museum

Researcher: Midshipman 1/C Ethan Haines, USN

Adviser: Associate Professor William M. McBride

This multi-year, interdisciplinary research project with the Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering Department (NAOE) intended to examine the hydrodynamic characteristics of comparable eighteenth-century warship designs based on period models and records held in the USNA Museum. There is some belief within naval architecture of a measurable decline in the hydrodynamic characteristics of British warships during the 1700s. By historically validating specific artifacts (models and plans), a valid comparative experimental program can be undertaken by NAOE students and faculty to fill a large gap in our historical understanding of the design of warships during the height of the Age of Sail. The researcher's work falls within the mainstream of the history of technology and the historical analysis of cultural effects on the design process. The researcher conducted research in the records of the USNA Museum and was an active participant in the hydrodynamic trials conducted in the laboratories of Rickover Hall. This project established a solid foundation for subsequent work by history majors in this project.

A Symbiotic Relationship: Socio-economic Conditions, Cultural Values, and HIV/AIDS in the South African Mining Industry

Researcher: Midshipman 1/C Trevor Prouty, USN

Adviser: Associate Professor Samuel H. Nelson

This project examined the AIDS epidemic in South Africa within the context of the mining industry. It demonstrated that high rates of HIV infection among miners is the consequence of both socio-economic factors and indigenous cultural values, which have reinforced each other in a striking and powerful manner.

The People's Liberation Army and Business Entrepreneurship

Researcher: Midshipman 1/C Phillip Sprincin, USN

Adviser: Associate Professor Maochun Yu

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) is a 2.5 million strong military force that is both formidable and tempted by the extraordinary economic boom in China in the last 20 years. Facing humiliating downgrading of national importance in the economic advancement, the PLA maintained a thinly veiled business enterprise empire that amounted to more than 20,000 business firms operated by the military inside and outside China.

The researcher in this project studied the scope of the PLA business empire, the impact of its massive involvement in commerce upon its fighting capability, and the ramification of the military-civilian leadership strife.

Missed Opportunity: The U.S. in Indochina

Researcher: Midshipman 2/C John Pontrello, USN

Adviser: Associate Professor Maochun Yu

While a decisive player in Asia during a global war against the Japanese, the U.S. government demonstrated a remarkably shortsighted policy regarding wartime Indochina and an appalling absence of political vision for post WWII Indochina. Although the main U.S. policy in the region was the defeat of the Japanese, there were colonial and political issues within Indochina that were not addressed within this overall strategic plan. This lack of clear policy and vision created a power vacuum that culminated in the late summer and fall of 1945. This thesis explored the ambiguity in policy and vision through U.S. and Allied intelligence operations in Indochina during WWII and how this apathy of U.S. initiative resulted in a quagmire in which we would be trapped for years to come.

Publications

Journal (Refereed) Manuscripts

ELLENBERGER, Nancy W., Associate Professor, "Constructing George Wyndham: Narratives of Aristocratic Masculinity in Fin-de-Siecle England," *Journal of British Studies*, 39 (October 2000), pp. 487-517.

This article used methodologies from psychology, gender studies, and literary criticism to examine the inner world of an important politician and member of the aristocratic landed elite in the Edwardian period. It argues that George Wyndham's strengths and weaknesses as a politician, as well as some parts of his political ideology, are best understood in the context of his generation's shifting debates over manliness, debates which were expressed not just in gender but also in class terms. The Wyndham material casts light on the "catastrophic imagination" that characterized some members of Britain's aristocratic elite before the First World War, as this class attempted to adapt to an increasingly democratic society based on meritocracy and new forms of wealth and status.

ROBERTS, William R., Associate Professor, "Seapower Played a Crucial Role," in *Sea Power* 43, (July 2000), pp.57-59.

This 2,000-word article represents a synthesis drawn from recent secondary sources on the Korean War.

SANDERS, J. Thomas, Associate Professor, "The Checulin Affair or Politics and *Nauka* in the History Profession of Late Imperial Russia," *Jahrbuecher fuer Geschichte Osteuropas* Heft 1, 2001.

This article examines a strange academic brouhaha of the late nineteenth century in Russia. The controversy centered on a *Habilitationschrift* written on the subject of Catherine the Great's foreign policy. The work was written by a well-known and reasonably respected Russian historian whose work has been cited approvingly quite recently in American research on Russia. In this case, his methods were hasty and inaccurate, but the real cause of the attacks on him was his ultra-patriotic interpretation of Catherinian Foreign policy. The offshoot of his public and very contested dissertation defense was a brief, but intense, press war over the issue. The background to the controversy and the press coverage throw into relief a great deal about the place of *nauka*, or science, in the world view of the Russian history professoriate. The article concludes that the concepts, values, and methods of *nauka* as defined by the professoriate could be utilized by opponents of liberal historiography and that at least a portion of the professoriate, when faced with a choice of national service or pure *nauka*, would have chosen the former. Hence, there was a possibility of a *Gleichschaltung* or political purging of the professoriate, of Bolshevism *avant la lettre*.

Technical Reports, Book Reviews and Book Chapters

ABELS, Richard P., Professor, "Years Review of Work in History, 1997," for *Old English Newsletter*, May, 2001.

This is an extensive critical review of about a hundred books and articles on various aspects of Anglo-Saxon history published in 1996 and 1997.

ABELS, Richard P., Professor, book review of "Harold: The Last Anglo-Saxon King," by Ian Walker in *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies*, 75, no. 3 (July 2000), pp. 732-733.

APPLEBY, David F., Associate Professor, "Humanism, Christian," in William M. Johnston, ed., *Encyclopedia of Monasticism*, Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2000, Vol. 1, pp. 617-621.

Both in length and conceptual ambition, this article is more substantial than the first. The argument is that the conventionally accepted understanding of "humanism" (- an interest in the ancient pagan literary classics and an optimism about the human condition) is a question begging to be answered when applied to the culture of traditional Christian monasticism. That is, the notion of "humanism" that emerged from the Renaissance Italian *studia humanitatis* and from the sense of the dignity of Man common in 15th century humanist circles is not at all suited to the cultural horizon and orientation of monasticism. This is because the latter's emphasis was on secular studies not as an end in themselves but as the handmaid of spiritual development, and because in the monastic world-view Man's abasement and suffering were always as important as Man's nobility and capacity for perfection. Instead of the conventional understanding of the term, it is proposed to draw theological anthropology in its historical dimension to the center of our examination of Christian monastic humanism. This article illustrates what this would mean by sketching the outlines of a history of ideas of what it is to be a human being, as developed in eastern and western Christian monasticism.

APPLEBY, David F., Associate Professor, "Benedict of Aniane, St. c. 750-821," in William M. Johnson, ed., *Encyclopedia of Monasticism*, Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2000, Vol. 1, pp.127-128.

This short entry outlines the life and work of the Carolingian monastic reformer Benedict of Aniane. His main contribution to the history of monasticism was to champion the Rule of Saint Benedict and to collaborate with the Frankish monarchs in a series of church reform councils that in the long run made the Rule of Saint Benedict the norm in western monasteries from the ninth to the twelfth century.

ARTIGIANI, P. Robert, Professor, "The Emergence of Societal Information," in F. Geyer and J. van der Zouwen, eds., *Socio-cybernetics: Complexity, Autopoiesis and Observation of Social Systems*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

Models of complex systems are applied to societies to show how qualitative change takes place. In this case, the self-organization of social systems is shown to alter the specific attributes of human beings. Thus, contemporary scientific theories are used to show that what is essentially human is best understood historically.

BRENNAN, Thomas E., Professor, "Town and Country in France," in Stephen Epstein, ed., *Town and Country in Pre-Modern Europe*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001, pp. 250-271.

This essay surveys the current state of our profession's understanding of the relationship between towns and rural society in France from 1500 to 1800. It considers a wide range of issues, including the social and administrative organization of towns and villages, the economy of towns and their hinterlands, the networks of commercial and urban systems, the development of proto-industrialization, the transformation of the town's relationship to the state, and much else. In discussing these topics, the author relied on extensive reading in the current historical literature on France, but Has also drawn on the insights he had gained from the work done on the wine trade and from research on the rural communities of Champagne.

DeCREDICO, Mary A., Professor, book review, A Higher Duty: Desertion Among Georgia Troops During the Civil War, by Mark A. Weitz, in *American Historical Review*.

DeCREDICO, Mary A., Professor, book review, American City, Southern Place: A Cultural History of Antebellum Richmond, by Gregg D. Kimball, in *Georgia Historical Quarterly*.

DeCREDICO, Mary A., Professor, book review of John Majewski's A House Dividing: Economic Development in Pennsylvania and Virginia Before the Civil War for *The Journal of American History*.

DeCREDICO, Mary A., Professor, book review, The Chessboard of War: Sherman and Hood in the Autumn Campaigns of 1864, by Anne J. Bailey, in *The Register*, Kentucky Historical Society.

KOLP, John G., Associate Professor, and Snyder, Terri L., "Women and the Political culture of Eighteenth-Century Virginia: Gender, Property Law, and Voting Rights," in The Many Legalities of Early America, edited by Christopher L. Tomlins and Bruce H. Mann (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2001).

This book chapter explores women's relationships to the political culture of eighteenth-century Virginia. While women were seemingly outsiders to political processes in the pre-Revolutionary America, these findings suggest that despite their legal disabilities women effected and influenced local political culture in measurable ways. By defining political participation broadly and including a range of phenomenon beyond actually voting or office-holding, the chapter explores various dimensions of women's political behavior in early Virginia. A discussion of the development of Virginia's franchise law demonstrates how political participation became legally linked to property rights as well as distinctions based on age, race, and gender. A description of women's electioneering activities highlights the advantages of their legal dependency. An investigation of contested elections in eighteenth-century Virginia shows the extent to which women's property aided in the enfranchisement of men. Finally, a detailed examination of Accomack County reveals the complex ways in which women's property contributed to male enfranchisement and voting. Political participation in some parts of eighteenth-century Virginia, this chapter suggests, was a "family" attribute, one formally exercised by adult male householders but promoted and materially supported by female members of the family.

LOVE, Jr., Robert W., Professor, New Interpretations In Naval History, (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2000).

Edited papers of the 11th Naval History Symposium.

LOVE, Jr., Robert W., Professor, book review, Allies and Adversaries: The Joint chiefs of Staff, the Grand Alliance, and U.S. Strategy in World War II, by Mark A. Stoler, in Review of Books, (June 2001).

LUNSFORD-POE, Virginia W., Assistant Professor, book review, Piracy in the Graeco-Roman World, by Philip de Souza, in American Neptune, 2001.

McBRIDE, William M., Associate Professor, book review, Monitor: The Story of the Legendary Civil War Ironclad and the Man Whose Invention changed the Course of History, by James Tertius De Kay and War, Technology, and Experience Aboard the USS Monitor, by David Mindell in *Technology and Culture*, 41(2000), pp. 838-41.

McBRIDE, William M., Associate Professor, book review, Wine-Dark, Blood Red Sea: Naval Warfare in the Aegean, 1941-1946 (Westport, Conn.: Praeger Publishers, 1999) in *Military History of the West*, 30 (Fall 2000), pp.192-93.

PEELER, David P., Professor, The Illuminating Mind in American Photography: Stieglitz, Strand, Weston, Adams. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2001

This book is an examination of the growth of American photography in the twentieth century. It explores the ideas and values of leading American photographers, and the ways in which they brought those ideas to fruition in their work. This will be the first book-length piece on Alfred Stieglitz, Paul Strand, Edward Weston and Ansel Adams as a school. My principal question is this: In what ways did these creative individuals seek to resolve the tension that arose from working in a medium with an almost worshipful attitude toward objectivity, while daily seeing the evidence in their own work that even the simplest fact cannot be presented without altering its "pure" objectivity?

ROBERTS, William R., Associate Professor, "Henry B. Wilson," Professional Military Education in the United States, ed. William E. Simmons (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2000), pp.353-54.

This 900-word essay on Admiral Henry B. Wilson focuses on his actions as Superintendent of the Naval Academy from July 1921 to February 1925. Information about Wilson was gleaned from official records of the Naval Academy together with letters, memoranda, newspaper clippings, and other documents in Wilson's scrapbooks on file in the Naval Academy museum.

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, paperback edition of: The Naval Institute Historical Atlas of the U.S. Navy, (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2000).

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, "Damn the Torpedoes! Full Speed Ahead! The Civil War," in The Navy, edited by W. J. Holland (Washington, DC: Naval Historical Foundation, 2000), pp. 44-59.

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, Entries on "Franklin Buchanan," "Patrick Ronayne Cleburne," and "Joseph Eggleston Johnston," all in Encyclopedia of the American Civil War, edited by David S. Heidler and Jeanne T. Heidler (Santa Barbara, Denver, and Oxford, ABC-CLIO, 2000), pp. 3002-3004, 455-457, and 1083-1085.

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, book review, Winfield Scott: The Quest for Military Glory, by Timothy D. Johnson, in The Journal of Southern History, (2000), pp. 410-11.

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, book review, Ellet's Brigade, The Strangest Outfit of All, by Chester G. Hearn, in Civil War Book Review (2000), pp. 12-13.

SYMONDS, Craig L. Professor, book review, Sounding the Shallows: A Confederate Companion of the Maryland Campaign of 1862, by Joseph L. Harsh, in The Journal of Southern History (2000).

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, book review, War, Technology and Experience Abroad the USS Monitor, by David A. Mindell, in War and Technology (2000-2001).

SYMONDS, Craig L., Professor, book review, This Astounding Close: The Road to Bennett Place, by Mark Bradley, in the Indiana Magazine of History (2001), pp. 86-87.

TUCKER, Ernest S., Associate Professor, book review, Qaidu and The Rise of the Independent Mongol State in Central Asia, by Michael Biran, in International Journal of Middle East Studies, 32:2(May, 2000).

TUCKER, Ernest S., Associate Professor, book review, Napoleon and Persia: Franco-Persian Relations Under the First Empire, by Iradj Amini, in Iranian Studies 32:4 (Fall, 1999, distributed in April 2001), pp.583-585.

YU, Maochun, Associate Professor, book review, Secret War in Shanghai by Bernard Wasserstein, in American Historical Review, 2000, pp. 1275-1276.

Conference Proceedings

QUARTARARO, Anne T., Professor, "Treating Illness in the Nineteenth-Century: The Work of Doctors Itard and Blanchet and the Medicalization of the French Deaf Population," in the *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*, Volume 27, 2001.

This article examines briefly the roles and ideas of Dr. Jean-Marc-Gaspard Itard and Dr. Alexandre Blanchet who pursued a new medical outlook inside the Paris Deaf Institute which involved greater attention to a cure for deafness. Both men would serve as chief medical officers at the school, Itard in the first decades of the nineteenth-century and Blanchet some twenty-five years later. Each man was convinced that he could achieve a "cure" for deafness, based on his scientific investigations. The pursuit of a cure differed radically from the viewpoint of many deaf people in this period who were developing their own special community based on social gatherings and shared cultural identity through signed language. The researcher argues that Itard and Blanchet were not really concerned about the perspective of students at the Institute or deaf people in the larger French society. They were, however, convinced that their investigations into deafness would allow medicine to help deaf children become more like hearing people. In this way, both doctors set a course for the medicalization of this minority population for the nineteenth century. With almost two hundred years of historical perspective, we now know that the work of each of these doctors at the Paris Deaf Institute would eventually pose a series of questions about modern medicine and deafness. Problems concerning appropriate treatment for deaf children and how physicians should regard the cultural identity of the deaf community continue to be widely debated in Europe and America to this very day.

Presentations

ABELS, Richard P., Professor, "Anglo-Saxon Peacemaking with Vikings," War and Peace: 69th Anglo-American Conference, University of London, England, 5-7 July 2000.

ABELS, Richard P., Professor, "What does Ingeld have to do with Jerusalem? The Franks Casket and the Acculturation of Anglo-Saxon Christianity," International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 3-6 May, 2001.

APPLEBY, David F., Associate Professor, "The Intoxicating Cup: Participation in *communio* of Grace as the New Ground for Human Experience," United States Naval Academy History Department Works in Progress Seminar, U.S. Naval Academy, 23 November 2000.

ARTIGIANI, P. Robert, Professor, "Science, Hope and History," Ilya Prigogine Center for Statistical Mechanics, University of Texas at Austin, 23 November 2000.

BOGLE, Lori L., Assistant Professor, "Ethics and West Point in the Late Nineteenth Century," Military Education Symposium, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario, 22 March 2001.

DeCREDICO, Mary A., Professor, "Stratagems and Wiles: American Civil War Women as Spies and Soldiers," St. Johns College, Annapolis, MD, February 2001.

DeCREDICO, Mary A., Professor, "'People are Almost in a State of Despair': War Comes to Richmond," Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY, November 2000.

ELLENBERGER, Nancy W., Associate Professor, "Gossip, Games, and Gender: Unpacking a Late-Victorian Country House Visit," Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting, New York City, 20 March 2001.

McBRIDE, William M., Associate Professor, "Technological Change and the Navy," opening address at the centennial celebration of Program 13A (Naval Construction and Ocean Engineering) at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 19 April 2001.

NELSON, Samuel H., Associate Professor, "Who is at Risk? Promiscuity Paradigms and AIDS Narratives in Zimbabwe," The American Historical Association, Boston, Massachusetts, 5 January 2001.

QUARTARARO, Anne T., Professor, "The Life and Times of Ferdinand Berthier: A Historical Analysis," Fourth International Conference on Deaf History, Washington, DC, 27-30 June 2000.

QUARTARARO, Anne T., Professor, "Writing Minority History in French History: Creating a Deaf Community in Early Nineteenth-Century France," Western Society for French History, Los Angeles, California, 8-11 November 2000.

SANDERS, J. Thomas, Associate Professor, "New Problems in Russian Intellectual History," Annual Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Denver, Colorado, November 2000.

TUCKER, Ernest S., Associate Professor, "The Ottoman Red Crescent: Crossing to Modernity," Georgetown University, Washington, DC, April 2001.

YU, Maochun, Associate Professor, "China and the Second World War in Asia," The Cantingy Conference sponsored by the Robert McCormick Foundation and the First Division Museum, Chicago, July 2000.

YU, Maochun, Associate Professor, "The Training of Historians in the U.S. and the Scholarship on the History of Sino-U.S. Relations," Nankai University, Tianjin, China, November 2000.

YU, Maochun, Associate Professor, "The Chinese-American Relationship: Past and Present - A Historical Analysis," Nanjing-Hopkins Center for Chinese-American Studies, Nanjing University, China, December 2000.
