

Colloquium in U.S. History to 1788

HIST 726, Spring 2023

Mondays 1:20-3:20 p.m., Cobb 0024 (enter at the basement door)

Professor Kathleen DuVal

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Office hours W 1-3 p.m. & by appointment, Pauli Murray Hall (on map as “Hamilton Hall”), room 466

“History at its best ... is the most subversive discipline, inasmuch as it can tell us how things that we are likely to take for granted came to be.” (James Scott, *Against the Grain*)

Required Books

Ira Berlin, *Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of Slavery in North America* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1998)

Vincent Brown, *Tacky's Revolt: The Story of an Atlantic Slave War* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2020)

Katherine Carté, *Religion and the American Revolution: An Imperial History* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2021)

Elizabeth N. Ellis, *The Great Power of Small Nations: Indigenous Diplomacy in the Gulf South* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2022)

Robert A. Gross, *The Minutemen and Their World* (New York: Hill & Wang, 1976; ideally get the revised and expanded edition, 2022)

Jennifer L. Morgan, *Reckoning with Slavery: Gender, Kinship, and Capitalism in the Early Black Atlantic* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2021)

Sarah M. S. Pearsall, *Polygamy: An Early American History* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019)

Joshua L. Reid, *The Sea Is My Country: The Maritime World of the Makahs, an Indigenous Borderlands People* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015)

Alan Taylor, *American Colonies* (New York: Viking, 2001)

Michael Witgen, *An Infinity of Nations: How the Native New World Shaped Early North America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013)

Assignments

Reading: Please see the Weekly schedule below. Articles are available online through the UNC Library website. Book excerpts are in E-Reserves (access through Canvas).

Discussion Leading: At least once this semester, you will lead the class discussion. Please follow the instructions on Canvas.

Book Reviews: For Weeks 4 through 14 (except Weeks 6 and 10), write a 2- to 3-page (double-spaced) book review of the monograph—the asterisked common book. Email your review to me in pdf form Sunday night before class. I will grade the first few reviews. After that, we will have a system of peer review, and you will email your review to me and your partner. For those reviews, you will evaluate your partner's review and email comments to your partner and me by the Thursday following class. By April 24, choose your best peer-reviewed review and email a revised version of it to me to grade. Before writing your first one, please read this essay by Karin Wulf:

<https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2017/01/09/the-art-and-craft-of-review/>. For examples, see reviews in the *William and Mary Quarterly*.

Final Assignment: Devise a possible question for a qualifying exam. After vetting the question with me, time yourself for four hours as you write an answer under exam conditions. If you are not taking a qualifying exam in early American history, you may instead write two book reviews on outside books chosen in consultation with me. The final assignment is due April 24 by email.

Class Schedule

Week 1, January 9:

- Karin Wulf, "Vast Early America: Three Simple Words for a Complex Reality," *Uncommon Sense* (blog), February 6, 2019. <https://blog.oieahc.wm.edu/vast-early-america-three-simple-words/>
- Oscar Handlin, "The Significance of the Seventeenth Century," in *Seventeenth-Century America: Essays in Colonial History* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1959), E-Reserves
- Bernard Bailyn, introduction, *Voyagers to the West: A Passage in the Peopling of America on the Eve of the Revolution* (New York: Knopf, 1986), E-Reserves
- Eric Hinderaker and Rebecca Horn, "Territorial Crossings: Histories and Historiographies of the Early Americas," *William and Mary Quarterly* 67 (2010), 395-432
- Brian Connolly and Marisa Fuentes, "Introduction: From Archives of Slavery to Liberated Futures?," *History of the Present* 6 (2016), 105-116
- Alyssa Mt. Pleasant, Caroline Wigginton, and Kelly Wisecup, "Materials and Methods in Native American and Indigenous Studies: Completing the Turn," *William and Mary Quarterly* 75 (2018), 207-236
- Look at the list of past winners of the Lester J. Cappon Award for the best article in the *William and Mary Quarterly*, 1965-2016, at https://oieahc-cf.wm.edu/wmq/prizes_cappon.html
What changes do you notice over the decades?

Week 2: No Class, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Week 3, January 23:

- Common book: Taylor, *American Colonies* (2001)
- Sign up for one article:
- David S. Jones, "Virgin Soils Revisited," *WMQ* 60 (2003), 703-742
- Tai Edwards and Paul Kelton, "Germs, Genocides, and America's Indigenous Peoples," *Journal of American History* 107 (2020), 52-76
- Neal Salisbury, "The Indians' Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans," *William and Mary Quarterly* 53 (1996), 435-458
- James Merrell, "The Indians' New World: The Catawba Experience," *WMQ* 41 (1984), 537-565
- Juliana Barr, "Geographies of Power: Mapping Indian Borders in the 'Borderlands' of the Early Southwest," *WMQ* 68 (2011), 5-46
- Daniel K. Richter, "Mid-Atlantic Colonies, R.I.P.," *Pennsylvania History* 82 (2015), 260-281

Week 4, January 30:

- Common book: Morgan, *Reckoning with Slavery**
- Sign up for one article:
- Sasha Turner, "The Nameless and the Forgotten: Maternal Grief, Sacred Protection, and the Archive of Slavery," *Slavery & Abolition* 38 (2017), 232-250
- Alexander X. Byrd, "Eboe, Country, Nation, and Gustavus Vassa's 'Interesting Narrative,'" *WMQ* 63 (2006), 123-148
- Jenny Shaw, "In the Name of the Mother: The Story of Susannah Mingo, A Woman of Color in the Early English Atlantic," *WMQ* 77 (2020), 177-210
- Shauna J. Sweeney, "Market Marronage: Fugitive Women and the Internal Marketing System in Jamaica, 1781-1834," *WMQ* 76 (2019), 197-222

Suggested Event, February 3: José Manuel Moreno Vega, Triangle Early American History Seminar (pre-circulated paper—ask Prof. DuVal for a copy), UNC, place and time TBA

Week 5, February 6:

Common book: Pearsall, *Polygamy* (2019)*

Sign up for one article:

- Jennifer Manion, "Historic Heteroessentialism and Other Orderings in Early America," *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 34 (2009), 981-1003
- Cornelia Hughes Dayton, "Taking the Trade: Abortion and Gender Relations in an Eighteenth-Century New England Village," *WMQ* 48 (1991), 19-49
- Kathleen Brown, "'Changed ... into the Fashion of Man': The Politics of Sexual Difference in a Seventeenth-Century Anglo-American Settlement," *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 60 (1995), 171-193
- Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, "Wheels, Looms, and the Gender Division of Labor in Eighteenth-Century New England," *WMQ* 55 (1998), 3-38
- Susan Klepp, "Revolutionary Bodies: Women and the Fertility Transition in the Mid-Atlantic Region, 1760-1820," *Journal of American History* 85 (1998), 910-45
- Clare A. Lyons, "Mapping an Atlantic Sexual Culture: Homoeroticism in Eighteenth-Century Philadelphia," *WMQ* 60 (2003), 119-154
- Deborah Rosen, "Women and Property across Colonial America: A Comparison of Legal Systems in New Mexico and New York," *WMQ* 60 (2003), 355-382
- Nora Doyle, "'The Highest Pleasure of Which Woman's Nature Is Capable': Breast-Feeding and the Sentimental Maternal Ideal in America, 1750-1860," *Journal of American History* 97 (2011), 958-973

Week 6: No class, UNC Wellness Day

Week 7, February 20:

Common book: Brown, *Tacky's Revolt* (2020)*

Sign up for one article:

- David Armitage, "Three Concepts of Atlantic History," in *The British Atlantic World, 1500-1800*, ed. Armitage and Michael J. Braddick (2002), E-Reserves
- Kathryn M. de Luna, "Sounding the African Atlantic," *WMQ* 78 (2021), 581-616
- Randy Sparks, "Two Princes of Calabar: An Atlantic Odyssey from Slavery to Freedom," *WMQ* 59 (2002), 555-584
- Chris Evans, "The Plantation Hoe: The Rise and Fall of an Atlantic Commodity, 1650-1850" *WMQ* 69 (2012), 71-100

Suggested Event, February 22: Vincent Brown, Genna Rae McNeil Lecture, UNC, place and time TBA

Week 8, February 27:

Common book: Berlin, *Many Thousands Gone* (1998)*

- Peter Wood, introduction, *Black Majority: Negroes in Colonial South Carolina from 1670 through the Stono Rebellion* (New York: Norton, 1974), E-Reserves
- Jane Landers, "Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose: A Free Black Town in Spanish Colonial Florida," *American Historical Review* 95 (1990), 9-30
- Stephanie E. Smallwood, "African Guardians, European Slave Ships, and the Changing Dynamics of Power in the Early Modern Atlantic," *WMQ* 64 (2007), 679-716
- Christopher Cameron, "The Puritan Origins of Black Abolitionism in Massachusetts," *Historical Journal of Massachusetts* 39 (2011), 79-107
- Warren E. Milteer, Jr., "Life in a Great Dismal Swamp Community: Free People of Color in Pre-Civil War Gates County, North Carolina," *North Carolina Historical Review* 91 (2014), 144-170

Week 9, March 6:

Common book: Witgen, *Infinity of Nations* (2013)*

Sign up for one article:

Wayne Lee, "The Military Revolution of Native America: Firearms, Fortifications, and Politics," in *Empires and Indigenes: Intercultural Alliance, Imperial Expansion, and Warfare in the Early Modern World* (New York: NYU Press, 2011), 49-80, E-Reserves

Daniel K. Richter, "Tsenacomoco and the Atlantic World: Stories of Goods and Power," orig. pub. 2007; reprinted in *Trade, Land, Power: The Struggle for Eastern North America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013), E-Reserves

Brett Rushforth, "'A Little Flesh We Offer You': The Origins of Indian Slavery in New France," *WMQ* 60 (2003), 777-808

Lisa Brooks, "Awikhiganwôgan ta pildowi ôjmowôgan: Mapping a New History," *WMQ* 75 (2018), 259-294

Nancy Shoemaker, "How Indians Got to be Red," *American Historical Review* 102 (1997), 625-644

Pekka Hämmäläinen, "The Rise and Fall of Plains Indian Horse Cultures," *Journal of American History* 90 (2003), 833-862

Week 10: No class, Spring Break**Week 11, March 20:**

Common book: Ellis, *Great Power of Small Nations* (2022)*

Sign up for one article:

Daniel H. Usner, "The Frontier Exchange Economy of the Lower Mississippi Valley in the Eighteenth Century," *WMQ* 44 (1987), 165-192

Juliana Barr, "From Captives to Slaves: Commodifying Indian Women in the Borderlands," *Journal of American History* 92 (2005), 19-46

Joshua Piker, "Lying Together: The Imperial Implications of Cross-Cultural Untruths," *American Historical Review* 116 (2011), 964-986

Christian Ayne Crouch, "The Black City: African and Indian Exchanges in Pontiac's Detroit," *Early American Studies* 14 (2016), 284-318

Sophie White, "'A baser commerce': Retailing, Class, and Gender in French Colonial New Orleans," *WMQ* 63 (2006), 517-550

David A. Chang, "The Good Written Word of Life: The Native Hawaiian Appropriation of Textuality," *WMQ* 75 (2018), 237-258

Garrett Wright, "To the Other Side of the Sun: Indigenous Diplomacy and Power in the Mid-Continent," *Kansas History* 41 (2018), 196-209

Suggested Event, March 24: Carolyn Eastman, Triangle Early American History Seminar (pre-circulated paper—ask Prof. DuVal for a copy), place and time TBA

Week 12, March 27:

Common book: Reid, *The Sea Is My Country* (2015)*

Sign up for one article:

Paul W. Mapp, "Atlantic History from Imperial, Continental, and Pacific Perspectives," *WMQ* 63 (2006), 713-724

David A. Chang, "Borderlands in a World at Sea: Concow Indians, Native Hawaiians, and South Chinese in Indigenous, Global, and National Spaces," *Journal of American History* 98 (2011), 384-403

Rosemarie Zagari, "The Significance of the 'Global Turn' for the Early American Republic: Globalization in the Age of Nation-Building," *Journal of the Early Republic* 31 (2011), 1-37
Seth Rockman, "The Contours of Class in the Early Republic City," *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas* 1 (2004), 91-107

Week 13, April 3:

Common book and articles: Gross, *Minutemen and Their World* (1976; 2022)*

Sarah Knott, "Narrating the Age of Revolution," *WMQ* 73 (2016), 3-36

Jane Kamensky, "Two Cheers for the Nation: An American Revolution for the Revolting United States," *Reviews in American History* 47 (2019), 308-318

Sign up for one of these articles:

Ira D. Gruber, "British Strategy: The Theory and Practice of Eighteenth-Century Warfare," in *Reconsiderations on the Revolutionary War*, ed. Don Higginbotham (1978), E-Reserves

T. H. Breen, "An Empire of Goods: The Anglicization of Colonial America, 1690-1776," *Journal of British Studies* 25 (1986), 467-499

Gregory Evans Dowd, "The French King Wakes Up in Detroit: 'Pontiac's War' in Rumor and History," *Ethnohistory* 37 (1990), 254-278

Elizabeth A. Fenn, "Biological Warfare in Eighteenth-Century North America: Beyond Jeffrey Amherst," *Journal of American History* 86 (2000), 1552-1580

Warren R. Hofstra, "'The Extension of His Majesties Dominions': The Virginia Backcountry and the Reconfiguration of Imperial Frontiers," *Journal of American History* 84 (1998), 1281-1312

Nicole Eustace, "The Sentimental Paradox: Humanity and Violence on the Pennsylvania Frontier," *WMQ* 65 (2008), 29-64

John Shy, "Looking Backward, Looking Forward: War and Society in Revolutionary America," in *War and Society in the American Revolution*, ed. John Resch and Walter Sargent (2006), E-Reserves

Wayne E. Lee, "Restraint and Retaliation: The North Carolina Militias and the Backcountry War of 1780-1782," in *War and Society in the American Revolution*, ed. John Resch and Walter Sargent (2006), E-Reserves

Ricardo A. Herrera, "'The zealous activity of Capt. Lee': Light-Horse Harry Lee and Petite Guerre," *Journal of Military History* 79 (2015), 9-36

Mary Beth Norton, "The Seventh Tea Ship," *WMQ* 73 (2016), 681-710

Week 14, April 10:

Common book: Carté, *Religion and the American Revolution* (2021)*

Sign up for one article:

Perry Miller, "Declension in A Bible Commonwealth," in *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society* 51 (1941) [look for in Jan. 1942], 37-94

Jon Butler, "Enthusiasm Described and Decried: The Great Awakening as Interpretative Fiction," *Journal of American History* 69 (September 1982), 305-325

Annette Laing, "'Heathens and Infidels'? African Christianization and Anglicanism in the South Carolina Low Country, 1700-1750," *Religion and American Culture* 12 (2002), 197-228

Jane T. Merritt, "Dreaming of the Savior's Blood: Moravians and the Indian Great Awakening in Pennsylvania," *WMQ* 54 (1997), 723-746

David J. Silverman, "Indians, Missionaries, and Religious Translation: Creating Wampanoag Christianity in Seventeenth-Century Martha's Vineyard," *WMQ* 62 (2005), 141-174

Catherine A. Brekus, "Contested Words: History, America, Religion," *WMQ* 75 (2018), 3-36

Annette Gordon-Reed, "'Take Care of Me When Dead': Jefferson Legacies," *Journal of the Early Republic* 40 (2020)

Suggested Event, April 14: Philip Stern, Triangle Early American History Seminar (pre-circulated paper—ask Prof. DuVal for a copy), place and time TBA

Week 15, April 17:

Review historiographic articles from Week 1

Week 16: No class. Submit revised Book Review and Final Assignment as pdfs by email to Prof. DuVal.

Honor Code: Students are expected to be familiar with and observe the Honor Code:

<http://catalog.unc.edu/policies-procedures/honor-code/>

Land Acknowledgement: Chapel Hill has always been populated by Indigenous peoples. Long before the university existed, there were teachers, students, elders, and youth inhabiting the spaces we enjoy today, trading knowledge with one another. UNC currently occupies the traditional homelands of the Enos, Occaneechis, Shakoris and Sissipahaws. Today, North Carolina is home to eight Native nations—the Coharie Tribe, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, the Meherrin Indian Tribe, the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, the Sappony, and the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe—as well as many Native communities and organizations.

Accessibility Resources: UNC-Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications resulting in barriers to fully accessing University courses, programs and activities. See the ARS website for contact and registration information at <https://ars.unc.edu> or email ars@unc.edu. Feel free to contact Professor DuVal with any accessibility needs within this class.

Counseling and Psychological Services: CAPS is strongly committed to addressing the mental health needs of a diverse student body through timely access to consultation and connection to clinically appropriate services, whether for short or long-term needs. Please visit the CAPS website <https://caps.unc.edu/> for help.

Further Resources: Any student who experiences discrimination, harassment, relationship violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, or stalking is encouraged to seek resources on campus or in the community. To file a report or see available resources, please go to <https://safe.unc.edu/>.

This syllabus is subject to change at the professor's discretion.