

December 17, 2019

Dear Press Representative,

The American Historical Association will convene [the world's largest annual gathering of historians](#) in New York City January 3-6, 2020, to explore all things historical – many with direct relevance to contemporary public policy and culture. The past year has highlighted the American public's deep interest in history and how it can inform public conversations. Journalists and other media professionals will find ample source material among the hundreds of hundreds of sessions, in the exhibit hall, or even overheard in the hallways.

The AHA annual meeting press policy is [available online](#). Please register for your complimentary press badge by [completing our online form](#). You may also contact the AHA's Deputy Director Dana Schaffer (dschaffer@historians.org) with any questions.

This year we are pleased to continue to include a group of late-breaking sessions, submitted and submitted in November in response to recent events. This collection of sessions will explore the relevance of historical thinking to public policy and culture related to current events. We [announced these sessions](#) in early December.

Founded in 1884 and chartered by Congress five years later, the AHA represents nearly 12,000 historians in universities, two- and four-year colleges, museums, historical organizations, libraries, archives, K-12 schools, government agencies, and the private sector. Our membership also includes independent historians, students, and countless people who, whatever their profession, possess an abiding interest in the past.

To find sessions related to your areas of reporting, please peruse the [conference program](#) or download our [Meeting App](#). You can also contact Dana Schaffer (dschaffer@historians.org) to discuss content of interest. If you would like to interview meeting participants or AHA officers, Dana Schaffer will try to make arrangements.

We are confident that you will find something of interest, and something worth reporting on, throughout the 4-day event. By visiting our meeting, you'll see from our members' breadth of interests that historians contribute valuable insights to nearly any contemporary discussion. We hope, if nothing else, to convince you that everything has a history.

Sincerely,



James Grossman
Executive Director

Press at the AHA Annual Meeting

Press Credentials

Representatives of local or national newspapers (including local student newspapers); reporters for wire services; TV and radio reporters, producers, and crews; and representatives of news-oriented web sites are eligible for gratis press registration. When signing in, members of the press should present an official press badge, a business card with their name and title and the name of their employer, or an original copy of a masthead with their name on it. Freelance journalists are welcome, but should provide a letter from an assignment editor or evidence that they have written two recent articles on a related topic.

Policy for Filming or Recording Sessions

The AHA does not allow audio or video recording of sessions or events without advance written permission from each participant on a session or event. Permission must be obtained prior to recording, not after the fact. Some panels may have elected, in advance, to not be recorded. These panelists and chairs should not be approached. See the attached list of sessions that may not be approached for permission to record.

For other sessions, journalists will need to obtain written approval from panel members using wording in the “**Permission to Record**” language below, modified as appropriate. Obtaining permission on site is strongly discouraged, and we recommend journalists obtain permission prior to the meeting. Written permission, which could consist of copies of e-mails agreeing to recording, must be submitted to the AHA headquarters at aha@historians.org before the annual meeting. The requesting journalist or organization bears responsibility to obtain recording approval and to provide confirmation in writing to the AHA headquarters.

AHA staff cannot release room numbers, hotel information, and/or cell phone numbers for participants in the meeting or officers of the American Historical Association. Journalists should therefore leave ample time to contact participants before the meeting.

Official meetings of the Association are open to attendance by the press. Normally, advance, written permission is required to record these events. Press should contact the executive director in writing (e-mail is acceptable) prior to the start of the annual meeting (Thursday, 12 noon). Onsite requests will be considered in a case-by-case basis.

In order to encourage open debate and allow members to speak as freely as possible, the AHA does not permit audio and/or video recording of its Business Meeting.

The AHA reserves the right to revoke registration of anyone who records sessions without appropriate permissions.

Approved by AHA Council June 2008, and amended June 2009 and October 2013.

Permission to Record

It is the policy of the American Historical Association that your presentation cannot be filmed or disseminated without your permission. If you are amenable to having your presentation recorded (audio and/or video), we ask that you indicate your approval in writing. This agreement is not

intended to restrict your exploitation of your intellectual property rights in the material presented in any way, but it does grant the AHA a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free right to record and distribute your presentation in electronic or other media formats for promotional and educational purposes.

Sound and Electric

Journalists requiring electrical access, lighting, or use of the sound system are responsible for their own audio-visual costs and must order directly from the in-house vendor. Vendors may require a credit card to secure the order.

The AHA does not order microphones for all sessions. Journalists may not be able to patch in to house sound in certain meeting rooms. Journalists should not plug equipment into electrical outlets without the venue's permission. There is often a fee for electrical access. Journalists with further questions should contact the venue directly.

Sessions Denied Video & Audio Recording at the AHA Annual Meeting

In order to respect the wishes of panelists and presenters, the AHA does not allow audio or video recording of sessions or events without advance written permission from each participant on a session or event. Permission must be obtained prior to recording, not after the fact.

Some panels made their preferences clear at an early stage. Panelists chose to opt out of being recorded for a variety of reasons: Some are presenting research at an early and tentative stage, others wish to have a more casual, open, and free discussion than a taped session might allow. The sessions below have indicated that they do not wish to have audio or video recordings made of their sessions. Please do *not* ask panelists for permission to record. If you have questions, please contact Katie Kaefer at kkaefer@historians.org.

Sessions that cannot be recorded—no audio or video recording:

Session Number	Session Title
174	Crossing Imperial Boundaries in the Early Modern World, Part 1: Iberian Borderlands in the Americas and Beyond
224	Writing Indigenous Histories of Protest Beyond the Trail of Broken Treaties: The International Indigenous Activist Movement, 1974–80
ACHA 15	Writing about Women Religious: Archives Challenges and Opportunities
248	Rice and Power in the Pacific World
CLAH 50	Infrastructures of Privilege in Imperial Brazil
6	African Americans and Chinese Activists in World War II and the Cold War
186	Global Queer History: Themes, Methods, and Approaches
289	Policing and Criminalizing AIDS
109	A Practical Guide to Writing About Place
PAHA 6	Is There a History of Poland Beyond the Holocaust? (Roundtable)
181	John F. Richards Prize Discussion of Faiz Ahmed's Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires
118	Queer Preservations: LGBTQ Archives across New York
125	Islamic Histories, Part 1: Recollections of the Classical Age of Islam and Empire
NHC 2	Roundtable: Between Humanitarianism and Closure: International Refugee Policies since the Late 1970s
57	Historical Fact Formation and the Colonial Archive of indigenous descendants
216	Narrating the History of Sex and Reproduction in a Time of Conservative Backlash
95	Ideas and Methods for Teaching Global Indigenous Histories

AAH 3	Ancient Global History: New Approaches to the Hellenistic Age
43	Valuing the Humanities: Challenging Narratives of Career Diversity for Historians
PAHA 9	Popular Culture as a Powerhouse of Identity Building
57	The Postcolonized Historian and the Global South: Reflections on South Asia and Latin America
CEHS 5	Entangled History as Legal, International and Cultural History: Reflections on Methodology
249	A Roundtable on Diverse Careers inside the Academy
263	Black Migrations in the Luso-Hispanic World
ACHA 23	Catholics and Protestants in the 19th-Century United States
288	Rethinking Blackface: New Interpretations of America's Most Infamous Racial Caricature
275	Anticolonial Internationalism in the 20th Century: The Politics of Colonial Comparison
75	Pulling the Strings of Power: Courtiers in Medieval Iberia
110	Women Against War: 1950s Anti-Imperialist Organizing from the Korean War to the Cuban Revolution
250	The Interior Lives of Enslaved and Free People in Colonial Latin America
SIHS 2	Italy and the Military: New Perspectives
CEHS 4	Strangely Displaced: Labeling European Refugees in China from Japanese Occupation to the Cold War
16	Discourses of Reform and Remaking: Progressive Education and US Hegemony in the Pacific, 1887–1960
19648	Imagining the Nation in Revolutionary and Post-Revolutionary China
RSA	The New Diplomatic History in an Early Modern Global Perspective
113	Antislavery Sentiment in Colonial Spanish America
AHA 80, CLGBTH 6	Historicizing Heterosexualities in the United States
163	The Go-Betweens
49	Ethereal Communities of Resistance: Radio and Dictatorship in the Cold War Caribbean and Southern Cone

Sessions of Interest

Plenaries

[The Anthropocene](#)

Friday, January 3, 2020: 8:00 PM-9:30 PM

Featuring AHA president John R. McNeill (Georgetown University), Zoe Todd (Carleton University), Kate Brown (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Prasanna Parthasarathi (Boston College), Mark Williams (University of Leicester), and Julia Adeney Thomas (University of Notre Dame).

[An Oxford-Style Debate: “Resolved: Fascism is Back”](#)

Saturday, January 4, 2020: 8:30 PM-9:30 PM

This plenary session will be an Oxford-style debate in which four leading historians of fascism—each expert in a different country or region of the world—will ask whether the lens of fascism is the right one with which to understand today's global political developments.

Featuring David Greenberg (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey), Timothy Snyder (Yale University), Ruth Ben-Ghiat (New York University), Federico Finchelstein (New School for Social Research), and Claudia Koonz (Duke University).

[Late Breaking Plenary](#)

Sunday, January 5, 2020: 8:30–9:30 p.m.

This plenary session will offer a historical perspective on a major issue in national governance to be determined in the weeks preceding the AHA annual meeting, pending breaking events. At this writing, possible themes for this session might be separation of powers; issues relating to federal records (creation, preservation, and access); or impeachment.

Other Sessions of Interest

[World History for the 21st Century: Redesigning the College History Introductory Curriculum](#)

Monday, January 6, 2020: 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

[Historians and Presidential Misconduct](#)

Sunday, January 5, 2020: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

[The Slave Societies Digital Archive: Preserving African and Indigenous History in the Americas](#)

Sunday, January 5, 2020: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM

[Humanities PhDs beyond the Academy: The Employer Perspective](#)

Friday, January 3, 2020: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM

[The Nazi Legacy in the Trump Era: Research, Pedagogy, and Public Engagement](#)
Friday, January 3, 2020: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM

[Valuing the Humanities: Challenging Narratives of Career Diversity for Historians](#)
Friday, January 3, 2020: 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

[Ideas and Methods for Teaching Global Indigenous Histories](#)
Saturday, January 4, 2020: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

[Roundtable: Brexit and Embers of Empire](#)
Friday, January 3, 2020: 1:30 PM-3:00 PM

[Situating the Environment in World History Courses](#)
Sunday, January 5, 2020: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

[From Studying the Past to Influencing the Future: Historians and Public Policy](#)
Saturday, January 4, 2020: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

[Populism and the Limits of Liberalism in Recent American History](#)
Saturday, January 4, 2020: 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

2020 Late Breaking Session Lineup

[Late Breaking: The Border Crisis in Historical Perspective](#)
Friday, January 3, 2020: 1:30–3:00 p.m.

[Late Breaking: The Trump Administration's Public Charge Rule Change](#)
Saturday, January 4, 2020: 8:30–10:00 a.m.

[Late Breaking: Land Use and Climate Change—Historical Perspectives from Seven Continents](#)
Sunday, January 5, 2020: 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

[Late Breaking: Mass Protests in Historical Perspective—Hong Kong, Ecuador, Lebanon, Chile](#)
Sunday, January 5, 2020: 1:30–3:00 p.m.

[Late Breaking Plenary](#)
Sunday, January 5, 2020: 8:30–9:30 p.m.

[Late Breaking: Understanding the Conflict in Yemen Through History](#)
Monday, January 6, 2020: 9:00–10:30 a.m.

[Late Breaking: Hong Kong's Current Protests in Historical and Global Perspective](#)
Monday, January 6, 2020: 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.