



Roosevelt
Institute for
American
Studies

Seminar Series on Modern North American History

September 2023 – April 2024

Program

Invitation to Seminar

by Prof. Matthew Connelly

23 October 2023

The political developments, societal transformations, cultural shifts, foreign policy initiatives, national security concerns, and international relations that originated from the US have left an indelible mark on the North American continent and the global landscape.

This hybrid seminar series, organized by the RIAS and the Sciences Po Center for History (CHSP) in Paris, forms a platform to explore these diverse and interconnected themes.

This series, one of very few of its kind in Europe, intersects with various significant historiographical trends, continuing the move towards a more integrated view of US and North American history. It pays special attention to the inclusion of global, imperial, transnational, and interconnected histories to reframe our understanding of the United States' place in the world and the emerging focus on international environmental history and issues.

The platform, which meets once a month in a hybrid format (online and in person), encourages active participation from doctoral students and aims to serve as an open and inclusive forum for discussing some of the most innovative recent scholarship. It aspires to bring together historians of different backgrounds and in different stages of their career, foster a historiographical and interdisciplinary conversation, and critically consider the contemporary societal and political ramifications of the historical events under discussion.



Coordinators:

- **Dario Fazzi (Leiden University / RIAS)**
- **Gaetano Di Tommaso (RIAS)**
- **Mario Del Pero (Sciences Po-Paris, Centre d'histoire)**
- **Olivier Burtin (Université de Picardie Jules Verne)**

Invitation

AMERICA'S SECRECY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX: HISTORY AND THE FUTURE

LECTURER Professor Matthew Connelly

DATE Monday, 23 October 2023 at 18:00-19:30 CEST

LOCATION Online



Click on this [link](#) to register

Matthew Connelly is a professor of international and global history at Columbia University and has been co-director of its social science research center, the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, since 2016. Connelly is also director of the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk at the University of Cambridge and the principal investigator of History Lab, a project that uses data science to analyze state secrecy, with a focus on intelligence, surveillance, and weapons of mass destruction. Previously, from 2009-2013, Connelly directed the Hertog Global Strategy Initiative, a research program on the history and future of planetary threats, including nuclear war, pandemics, and climate change.

His publications include *A Diplomatic Revolution: Algeria's Fight for Independence and the Origins of the Post-Cold War Era* (Oxford University Press, 2002), which won five prizes, *Fatal Misconception: The Struggle to Control World Population* (Harvard University Press, 2008), an *Economist* and *Financial Times* book of the year, and *The Declassification Engine: What History Reveals about America's Top Secrets*, which was published in February 2023 by Random House.

In his talk, Matthew Connelly will share insights on the history and future of state secrecy in the U.S., presenting new research on how the dramatic decline in the availability of declassified documents has already had a measurable impact on the kind of research scholars are doing on US foreign relations.

To attend the lecture, [please register here](#).

Program

Monday, 25 September 2023, 17.00 – 18.30 CEST

- Kristin Hoganson (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), *Structures of Power: US Infrastructure Building in the Circum-Caribbean During the Bad Neighbor Era*

Monday, 23 October 2023, 18.00 – 19.30 CEST

- Matthew Connelly (Columbia University), *America's Secrecy Industrial Complex: History and the Future*

Monday, 20 November 2023, 17.00 – 18.30 CEST

- Andrew Preston (University of Cambridge), *From Planning to Strategy: New Deal Liberalism and the Invention of National Security*

Monday, 11 December 2023, 17.00 – 19.00 CET

- Rebecca Herman (UC Berkeley), *Cooperating with the Colossus: US Military Basing in World War II Latin America*

Monday, 29 January 2024, 17.00 – 18.30 CET

- Sean Vanatta (University of Glasgow), *A Treacherous Ocean of Money: Finance and Failure across the Interwar Atlantic, 1920-1935*

Monday, 26 February 2024, 17.00 – 18.30 CET

- Sarah Nelson (Leiden University), *Networking Empire: Communications, Decolonization, and American Power in the 20th Century*

Monday, 25 March 25, 2024, 17.00 – 18.30 CET

- Augusta Dell'Omo (Southern Methodist University), *Far Right Capitalism in the US and South Africa at the End of the Cold War*

Monday, 29 April 2024, 17.00 – 18.30 CEST

- Elsa Devienne (Northumbria University), *Rubbish Tactics? Oil Spills, Beach Clean-Ups, and the Making of Modern Environmentalism (1969-2023)*