



Roosevelt
Institute for
American
Studies

Seminar Series on Modern North American History

September 2024 – May 2025

Invitation

Jeanine Quené
19 May 2025

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

THE (UN)CHANGING NATURE OF U.S. WOMEN'S CONSERVATISM IN THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY

LECTURER Jeanine Quené

DATE Monday, 19 May 2025 at 17:00 to 18:30 CEST

LOCATION Online

Click on this [link](#) to register



Jeanine Quené is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Roosevelt Institute for American Studies (RIAS) in Middelburg, the Netherlands. She earned her PhD in American History from the University of Cambridge in 2023, with research partially conducted at Yale University as a Fox Fellow. Her dissertation explored how conservative women in the early twentieth century used the concept of civilization to unify seemingly contradictory goals into a coherent sociopolitical vision. Her current research broadens this scope to examine the evolution of women's conservatism throughout the twentieth century, with particular attention to the central role of anti-egalitarian politics.

In the early 1920s, Alma White, a fundamentalist bishop from New Jersey, spoke out about the danger of the "modern woman," arguing that her "laxity in conduct and dress" caused widespread crime and corruption. Sixty years later, Phyllis Schlafly similarly criticized second-wave feminism, contending that by attempting to "think, act, talk and react" like men, women's liberationists incited societal disarray. Why did these women's rhetoric remain so consistent, despite the dramatic changes between their eras? This presentation traces the continuity and evolution of women's conservatism across the twentieth century, with a specific focus on the early decades. By examining conservative women's activism in the Progressive Era and beyond, it argues that, despite changing historical contexts, their worldview has consistently rested on anti-egalitarian politics embedded within a moral framework

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

Program

Monday, 23 September 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 CEST

- [Melani McAlister](#) (George Washington University), *Promises, Then the Storm: Notes on Memory, Protest, and the Israel-Gaza War*

Monday, 7 October 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 CEST

- [Jayita Sarkar](#) (University of Glasgow), *Global Southwests: Capital and Uranium in Africa and America*

Monday, 18 November 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 CET

- [James T. Sparrow](#) (University of Chicago), *The Archives of Self-Repression: Anticommunism, Internationalism, and the Case of Ralph Bunche*

Monday, 9 December 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 CET

- [Emma Day](#) (University College London), *Beyond Procreation: A New History of Reproductive Justice in the United States*

Monday, 27 January 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 CET

- [Evan McCormick](#) (Columbia University), *Remembering a Presidency: The Obama Presidency Oral History Project*

Monday, 17 February 2024, 17:00 – 18:30 CET

- [Joel Suarez](#) (Harvard University), *Towards a Global Labor History of the Volcker Shock: Mexico, Informality, and Undocumented Labor*

Monday, 24 March 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 CET

- [Evan Bonney](#) (Sciences Po-Paris), *Forestry and the Intermountain Experiment that Transformed Executive Power in the Age of Empire, 1897-1914*

Monday, 14 April 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 CEST

- [Gretchen Heefner](#) (Northeastern University), *'From the Red Desert to the Red Planet': Engineering the American Empire*

Monday, 19 May 2025, 17:00 – 18:30 CEST

- [Jeanine Quené](#) (Roosevelt Institute for American Studies), *The (Un)changing Nature of U.S. Women's Conservatism in the Long Twentieth Century*



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