



Roosevelt
Institute for
American
Studies

Seminar Series on Modern North American History

September 2024 – May 2025

Invitation

Melani McAlister
23 September 2024

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

PROMISES, THEN THE STORM: NOTES ON MEMORY, PROTEST, AND THE ISRAEL-GAZA WAR

LECTURER Melani McAlister

DATE Monday, 23 September 2024 from 17:00 to 18:30 CEST

LOCATION Online

Click on this [link](#) to register



Melani McAlister is Professor of American Studies and International Affairs at George Washington University. She is a scholar specializing in the "global visions" produced by and for Americans, studying how cultural and political history intersect and the influence of religion and culture on US 'interests' globally. Her expertise includes nationalism, transnationalism, cultural theory, and media history. McAlister's notable works include *The Kingdom of God Has No Borders, A Global History of American Evangelicals* (OUP, 2018) and *Epic Encounters: Culture, Media, and U.S. Interests in the Middle East since 1945* (University of California Press, 2001). She is also co-editor of volume 4 of the Cambridge History of America and the World.

Professor McAlister's extensive publications span prestigious journals such as the *Journal of American History* and *Diplomatic History*. She has also contributed to *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*. McAlister has been a fellow at several institutions and is involved with the American Council of Learned Societies and the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations.

In her presentation, McAlister will discuss her latest book, *Promises, Then the Storm: Notes on Memory, Protest, and the Israel-Gaza War* (MACK Press, 2024), where she offers a series of meditations, both personal and analytical, on the war in Gaza as it unfolded in its early months, writing about the Hamas attack on Israel, the unfolding violence in Gaza, and the US role in the conflict. Encompassing the earliest political promises, made and broken, that laid the ground for the Israel–Palestine conflict, subsequent wars and attempts at peace, through to the flashpoint campus protests of 2024, this text serves as a primer to the history of the region and its unique place in global consciousness.

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)

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 Across the Twentieth Century*



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