



Roosevelt
Institute for
American
Studies

Seminar Series on Modern North American History

September 2024 – May 2025

Invitation

Jayita Sarkar
7 October 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

GLOBAL SOUTHWESTS: CAPITAL AND URANIUM IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST AND SOUTHWEST AFRICA

LECTURER Jayita Sarkar

DATE Monday, 7 October 2024 from 17:00 to 18:30 CEST

LOCATION Hybrid (in-person at Sciences Po Paris or online)

Click on this [link](#) to register



Jayita Sarkar is Professor of Global History of Inequalities at the University of Glasgow's School of Social and Political Sciences in Scotland, UK. Her first book, *Ploughshares and Swords. India's Nuclear Program in the Global Cold War* (Cornell University Press, 2022), was awarded the 2024 Bernard S. Cohn Book Prize and 2023 Honorable Mention for Global Development Studies Book Award. She is currently completing, *Atomic Capitalism. A Global History* (under contract with Princeton University Press, America in the World series), a 100-year history of nuclear sites, from mining to energy to weapons-testing, retold through histories of capitalism, empire, and decolonization.

In her lecture, Professor Sarkar will trace the interconnected networks of transimperial capital and labor dispossession in Southwestern United States and Southwest Africa or Namibia through the materiality of uranium. Jesse C. Johnson served for decades as the head of the US Atomic Energy Commission's raw materials division in Grand Junction, Colorado, developing global networks through the Combined Development Agency. Focusing on Johnson's networks in Southern Africa, his consulting services for General Atomic, and the transnational capital that developed Rössing in South Africa-controlled Namibia, this article foregrounds the long reach of transimperial capitalist forces in spaces untouched by the promises of formal decolonization.

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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