



Roosevelt  
Institute for  
American  
Studies

# **Seminar Series on Modern North American History**

**September 2024 – May 2025**

**Invitation**

**Joel Suarez**  
**17 February 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

## INFORMALIZING US IMMIGRATION HISTORY: DE-AGRARIANIZATION, DEINDUSTRIALIZATION, AND THE GLOBAL LABOR HISTORY OF THE VOLCKER SHOCK

**LECTURER** Joel Suarez

**DATE** Monday, 17 February 2025 at 17:00 to 18:30 CET

**LOCATION** Online



Click on this [link](#) to register

Joel Suarez is a historian of the late nineteenth and twentieth-century United States with interests in labor history, political economy, and the social history of ideas. He is currently completing his first book titled *The Labor of Liberty: Work and the Problem of Freedom in American History*. His writing can be found in scholarly and popular publications including *Critical Historical Studies*, *New Labor Forum*, *Dissent*, *Jacobin*, and *n+1*.

This lecture recasts the history of late twentieth century US immigration history by integrating it to the global history of informalization. Many US histories of post-1965 immigration are often framed narrowly through the lens of national partisan politics, legal history, public policy history, or histories of racial formation and resistance. This lecture, by contrast, focuses on the global economic, intellectual, and social history of the production of surplus populations in the late twentieth century. It does this by historicizing international debt crises, de-agrarianization, and de-industrialization, thus retelling the story of undocumented labor in the US in the three distinctive registers of political economy, conceptual history, and the social history of ideas.

*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 Across the Twentieth Century*



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