

2026 UNDERGRADUATE HISTORY CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026
IDEASPACE, HELMKE LIBRARY

- 8:00-8:30 AM **Breakfast** (coffee, pastries)
- 8:30-8:35 AM **Welcome and Opening Remarks** (Dr. Richard Weiner, History Department Chair)
- 8:35-9:35 AM **Panel 1: Tricks of the Trade: European Empires–Creation and Aftermath**
Ryan Bentz (History/Political Science), “The Transformation of Violence in Colonial Kenya”
Breehonie Felger (History/Anthropology), “Manufacturing the ‘Exotic’: Invented Tradition and Imperial Rule in Bosnia-Herzegovina”
Jaythen Haywood (History/Political Science), “Barriers to Unity: Congolese Efforts to Create a Revolutionary National Identity”
Caleb Geimer (History/Secondary Education), “Brazzá, Journalism, and the Empire of Spectacle”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. Rick Weiner (History)
- 9:45-10:45 AM **Panel 2: Culture, Identity, and the Power of Narratives**
Dominic Mattei (History/Secondary Education), “Hypocrisy, Reinforcement, and Nationalism: An Examination of Western European Sumptuary Laws in the Late Middle Ages 1200-1500 A.D.”
Jude Hoeffel (History/Secondary Education), “Representations of the German Tiger Tank in Popular Culture”
Kyle Sims (English), “Rhetorical Techniques of 19th-Century Mexican Travelogues: Development of National Identity Through Self-Description and Comparison”
Tien Price (History/English), “The Roman Toga: Material Status”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. Suzanne LaVere (History)
- 11:00-11:50 AM **Panel 3: Activist Politics in the 20th Century: Perceptions and Realities**
Lara Alfadhli (Political Science), “Fidel Castro and Daniel Ortega: Revolutionary Beginnings and Diverging Paths”
Cullen Carroll (History), “Would Jesus be A Scab? An Intersection of the Rise of Evangelicals and the Decline of Unions during the 1960s”
Zeb Freidt (History/Secondary Education), “How Poland Achieved Democratic Elections”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. David Schuster (History)
- 12:00-1:00 PM **Panel 4: Race and Gender in the Modern Era**
Katy Gilbert (History/ Secondary Education), “The Complicity of European Women in the Holocaust”
Veronica Johnson (History/Sociology), “Alloys of Empire: Analyzing the Experience of Mixed-Race (Métis) Children in Indochina”
Justin Pegan (History/Secondary Education), “Pink Pyramid: Homosexuality and Iconography from the Holocaust and Beyond”
Nate Wilcox (History), “Two Worlds: Black Patriots of the American Revolution”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. Kathryn Angelica (History)
- 1:00PM-2:00 PM **LUNCH** (pre-registration required)