



Queen Mary

University of London

“Intellectual Histories of American Foreign Policy” Workshop, 5-6 June 2014

This workshop will look at different ways of conceiving the intellectual and conceptual history of US foreign policy, encompassing academic scholars, policymakers, think tanks and beyond. The idea is to further the analysis of International Relations as political thought, by situating a variety of intellectual currents in the context of foreign policy concerns – both past and present. We also aim to go beyond the usual account of US foreign policy in terms of a synthesis of – or duel between – liberal idealism and realist materialism, and draw attention to the more nuanced and multifaceted set of concerns, concepts and rationalities of government that have marked the history of American foreign policy over the past two hundred years or so. The workshop will look at the work of intellectuals who have written both in support and critically about US foreign policy in various geographical and historical contexts.

Programme

Thursday 5 June

15:00-15:15: Convenors' Welcome

15:15- 18:00

- Michael Cox (LSE): “The Radical Intellectual Tradition in American Foreign Policy”
- Jeremi Suri (Texas at Austin): “The Strange Career of Nation-Building as a Concept in US Foreign Policy”

18:00: Wine Reception followed by dinner at the Morgan Arms

Friday 6 June

9:00: Coffee

9:15-13:00

- Tracy Strong: (San Diego/Southampton): "The Social and Political Construction of the Cold War, 1944-1947"
- Michael C. Williams (Ottawa) and Vibeke Schou Tjalve (Copenhagen): "The Two Faces of American Exceptionalism"
- David Milne: (East Anglia): "U.S. foreign policy and the rise of the social sciences to the 'crucible of circumstance'"

13:00 – 14:00: Lunch (provided on site)

14:00-17:00

- Duncan Bell (Cambridge): "The Racial Dreamworld of Andrew Carnegie"
- Brian Schmidt (Carleton): "Idealism Versus Realism: The National Interest Great Debate"
- Summary Discussion

17:00: Wine Reception

Location and Directions:

The event will take place in the Arts Two building, Room 3.16 of our main Mile End Campus in East London. The Campus is easily accessible by tube. Mile End tube station is both on the Central line (red) and the Hammersmith and City Line (Pink). Turn left when you come out of the station, you will see the campus once you pass Costa Coffee shop under the yellow bridge. Enter through the East Gate, which is located just after the canal on Mile End Road (5 minutes walk from the station: <http://www.qmul.ac.uk/about/howtofindus/mileend/index.html>)

The Arts Two Building is number 37 on this Campus Map:

<http://www.qmul.ac.uk/docs/about/26065.pdf>

The convenors and administrators are all based in the department of Politics and International Relations on the second floor of the Arts One Building (number 37 on the Campus map).

If you are coming from Heathrow, the fastest way to get into town is to take the Heathrow Express to Paddington and take the tube from there. You can either take the Hammersmith and City Line from Paddington, or take a five minutes walk to

Lancaster Gate on the Central Line if you know your way around Paddington. For those arriving at Gatwick, the Gatwick express takes you to Victoria Station. From there you can take the circle or district line to Bank station. From there, you get on the Central line to Mile End.

If you have any difficulty in finding the place, please contact Dr Jean-François Drolet on 07505648383.