History Department Welcomes New Faculty

11/18/2019

We are pleased to welcome three new instructors in the 2019-2020 academic year.

Logan Clendening

Logan is a Temporary Assistant Professor in Modern European History. He specializes in the politics of gender, race, religion, and secularism in modern and contemporary Germany. He is currently working on a manuscript—Swimming in Disputed Waters—on the history of swimming and nudism in Germany since c. 1900, which culminates in the recent 2013 federal court decision to end exemptions from school swimming lessons for Muslim students. His work has been supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, the German Historical Institute, and the Institute for Social Sciences. This year, Logan will be teaching courses on modern Western Civilization; World War I in a global context; World War II in Europe; and European history since 1945.

Deborah Luke Hirschi

Deborah studied late medieval and early modern European history at Boise State, Utah State (go Aggies!), and Georgetown University. Her thesis, entitled The Religious of Syon Abbey and the Dissolution of the Monasteries, looked at displaced monastics and their adaptation to a changing religious landscape in sixteenth-century England. She taught courses in Western Civilization and Early Modern European history at BSU and McDaniel College. She is currently teaching a course on the history of western Christianity and is interested in exploring the process of inculturation as Christianity in the middle ages and early modern eras adapted to new cultures while retaining its distinctiveness.

Daniel Webb

Daniel, an alum of USU’s History and Classics programs, is delighted to return to Old Main this year, after earning his PhD in History from Saint Louis University. Daniel is an Instructor of History specializing in imperial ideology and holy war during the High Middle Ages. He is currently revising a book manuscript entitled, “Dominus Mundi: Constructing Empire, Authority, and Crusade in the Holy Roman Empire and the Christian West, 1155-1250," which examines how the Hohenstaufen dynasty and its inner circle of advisors carefully incorporated new intellectual currents of Roman law, religious authority, popular literature, knightly prestige, and spiritually meritorious violence into the imperial persona. He was invited to contribute a chapter, “Emperor Henry VI and Rome: Cooperation and Conflict in the Imperial Coronation,” in a forthcoming volume focused on medieval Rome, entitled The Papacy, Rome, and Romanitas. Daniel teaches in-person and online World History and Western Civilization classes, as well as upper division courses on the Crusades.

The history department is also pleased to welcome back in the spring semester Hugh Davidson, who will teach Environmental History and Ahmet Izmirlioglu, who will teach Women in Islam and World History.