Columbia History Department
Summer Research Fellowship 2023 Opportunities

The deadline to apply is Monday, March 27th at 5:00 PM (local time)

Please note: Students can apply for both projects but can only be hired for one.

Position/Faculty member:  Prof. Stephanie McCurry (sm4041@columbia.edu)

Timeframe:  Flexible with a deadline of Aug 31, 2023

Project description:

The project contributes to Prof. McCurry’s new book on Reconstruction, specifically the chapter titled “Money and Debt”. This chapter focuses on the radically changed post-Civil War fiscal environment for southern cotton planters and sharecroppers looking to borrow money from (mostly) northern lenders.

The RA will conduct work in secondary and primary sources. Sources include published histories of big NYC banking families, legislation passed by southern legislatures to protect debtors, newspaper accounts of foreclosures and bankruptcy sales, and archival collections that include information on merchant-planters’ pattern of lending to black sharecroppers to finance the annual crop.

How to apply:

Interested students should apply though the Google Form below.

https://forms.gle/ZSuch7HFPQQdGUxLA

Position/Faculty members:  Prof. Camille Robcis (car2129@columbia.edu)

Timeframe:  June and July, 2023

Project description:

Prof. Robcis will be working on her new book tentatively titled: “The Gender Panic: An Intellectual History of Anti-Genderism” in which aims to make sense of the protests against the so-called “theory of gender” throughout the world since the 1990s. The project locates the origins of this “gender panic” in various global conferences touching on sexuality organized by the United Nations (in Rio, Cairo, and Beijing). The book then examines in detail the Vatican’s
involvement in the promotion and dissemination of this notion of a “gender agenda” and map how this concept eventually travelled to conservative evangelical circles. The book closes with present context in Europe and the United States to study how this term “gender” went from describing first abortion, then gay rights, and finally trans rights.

The RA help explore the recent context of these “gender debates” especially around trans rights assist with research pertaining to the Vatican’s history since the 1960s/1970s. The RA will be asked to come up with articles and take notes.

How to apply:

Interested students should apply though the Google Form below.

https://forms.gle/usL1deGZkUX4rSoY8

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