

MARCH 2021 | VOL. 6

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Inquiry @ Queen's

March 11th & March 12th, 2021

Inquiry@ Queen's is more than a conference; it is an approach to learning where the teacher and the learner reside in the same person. It is a natural extension of a university that prides itself on the quality of undergraduate education and its scholarship and research. The 15th annual I@Q conference will take place online to promote and showcase undergraduate research and creative work.

In a world of ubiquitous and competing information, the ability to pose critical questions and forge a path to answer them has never been more important. Students who engage in inquiry projects are better able to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information; develop discipline-specific research skills; persevere and make intellectual and personal gains; demonstrate greater problem-solving and research skills; and are more satisfied with their overall educational experience.

Please join us for the HIST 515 Panel on March 11th from 3:30-4:45PM by [registering here](#). You will learn about the individual research projects undertaken by History 515 students and have an opportunity to discuss the challenges and rewards of conducting undergraduate research.

HIST 515 PANEL

- HIST 515: Independent Study Project

This course provides an opportunity for history students to delve deeper into a research topic of personal interest to them in their final year of study.

Students work closely with a faculty supervisor whose specialization closely aligns with their research topic.

To learn more about HIST 515 please visit our website:
<https://www.queensu.ca/history/undergraduate/independent-research>



“Shut up and Dribble”: The Intersection of Race and Capitalism in the History of the NBA

By: Philippe Haddad

Supervised By: Dr. Martina Hardwick



This research paper seeks to explore the intersection of race, seen through the predominantly Black athletic body of the NBA, with the rise of the capitalist, consumer-oriented entertainment industry of professional sports throughout the late 20th and early 21st centuries. It will attempt to illustrate how racial identity and capitalism have reacted to one another to create one of the biggest – and one of the most complicated – entertainment entities in North America. To explore this issue, I will outline the social setting from which Black athletes grew to participate in spectator sports, touching on notable persons such as Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali, and Bill Russell. I will then examine the importance of broadcasted sports and race's role therein during the 20th century to contextualise capitalist practices in entertainment. I will conclude with an examination of capitalist practice as regulators for Black identity in the NBA by focusing on its direct and indirect attempts towards regulation. This will be done through an examination of Black athletes' participation in social justice movements as measures of regulation, using the 1992 Rodney King trial riots and the events of Summer 2020 as comparative case studies.

While this may appear to simply be an exploration of sports history, one should consider that sports are a primary form of entertainment in both North American and global popular culture. As such, this research project goes beyond an attempt to contribute to sports history, instead seeking to delve into the complementarity of social history, consumerism, and race.

The Indian Girl-Wife: Not Even a Woman, But Already a Wife

By: Prishni Seyone

Supervised By: Dr. Ishita Pande



The institution of child marriage throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century not only stripped Indian girls of their agency, but also frequently denied them their education. In 1884, Rukhmabai, a young Indian girl of just eleven-years-old, was married to Dadaji Bhikaji, a man eight years older. Although Rukhmabai was able to resist the forced marriage and eventually went on to become India's first female doctor, Rukhmabai's victory was generally an anomaly of the time and reflected a tenacity to attain greater education. Throughout her writings, Rukhmabai expresses deep sadness from being denied the opportunity for an adequate education, and identifies female education as one of the chief disproportionate impacts of child marriage for girls. This project will trace the evolution of child marriage negotiations from the 1891 Age of Consent Act to the 1929 Child Marriage Restraint Act, specifically addressing the way that related discussions allowed Indian women to establish the

importance of their adolescent years in their educational pursuit. By uncovering the voices of both child marriage victims and female reformers, we are able to garner an understanding of the changing Indian social landscape at the time and the way that Indian women negotiated their agency against the backdrop of globalization, the nationalist agenda, and caste, religious, and regional differences. This project will stress female adolescence as an evolving concept throughout twentieth century India, and will draw on the important relationship between education and female agency.

The Proposal of a Prince or Delegation of a Duke? Britain's Involvement in the Diplomatic Revolution of 1756

By: Trevor Dale

Supervised By: Dr. Andrew Jainchill



Out of concern for maintaining a 'balance of power' between states, the major European powers in the 18th century were continually shifting alliances with each other in what has been referred to as a "stately quadrille" (a quadrille being a dance characterized by a constant changing of partners). Most synonymous with this notion are the events of early 1756, a few months before the outbreak of the Seven Years War, where there was a dramatic reversal of alliances. It saw Austria and France put aside their centuries-old rivalry

in response to an equally unlikely alliance between Britain and Prussia. This 'diplomatic revolution', as it has since been known, is often attributed to the clever machinations of the Austrian Prince Kaunitz who sought to dislodge France from their previous alliance with Prussia to win an alliance with France for himself. However, my research project seeks to emphasize Britain's role in this affair, where I will illustrate that the Duke of Newcastle, despite being adamant on continuing the 'old system', nonetheless contributed significantly to actualizing this reversal. Throughout this project, I have faced many exciting challenges that have led me to a fuller understanding of what actually constitutes 'historical investigation'. I find this to be especially true with the experience of thoroughly examining and responding to the full historiography of a particular topic; something that was both a challenging but immensely rewarding experience.

NATIONALITY, AUTHENTICITY AND FOOD: A REVISITING ON THE HISTORY OF CHOP SUEY

By: Yizeng Wei

Supervised By: Dr. Emily Hill



In the early twentieth century, the authenticity of chop suey was challenged by mainstream American media, as journalists could not find evidence of the dish in China. This caused a decline in the availability of chop suey in the American restaurants.

However, chop suey was simultaneously recognized as a Chinese food by educated Chinese elites such as Liang Qichao, who raised no concerns about its authenticity. This article examines the difference between Chinese elites and the American media and discusses the relationships among food, authenticity and nationality. It argues that despite the different perceptions of Chinese elites and the American media, they both used a single standard to determine whether chop suey was “Chinese food” and failed to realize the close relationship between the Chinese community and American society. Both were influenced by a common perception of Chinese communities as isolated within American society and separate from other groups and close contact with China.

PREVIOUS HISTORY INQUIRY @ QUEEN'S PRESENTATIONS

2020

Presenter: Isobel Gibson

Title: "Renaissance Humanist
Reinterpretations of Eve; The Writings of
Christine De Pizan and Isotta Nogarolla"

Presenter: Katherine Clare Simon

Faculty Supporter: Dr. Lisa Pasolli

Title: "Not just somebody's mother":
University Campus Daycare Co-operatives
in Ontario and British Columbia, 1960s to
1970s"

2019

Presenter: Henry Y. Jeong

Faculty Supporters: Dr. Ana Siljak and
Dr. Vassili Schedrin

Title: "The Allegiance of Vladislav
Felitisianovich: The Jewishness of
Khodasevich's Nekropol understanding his
views towards Russian Emigre literature"