

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
HISTORY  
The University of Montana

May 2010



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Outgoing chair Richard Drake offers a charge to the graduating class of 2009

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Dr. Jody Pavilack energizes her students and scholarship with a zest for research and teaching

## History department newsletter reinstated to keep alumni informed

The Department of History at the University of Montana is proud to reintroduce this semiannual newsletter. Our aim is to inform graduates and current students of the activities and accomplishments of our faculty and students. And we have much to tell you. Each issue will include a profile of one of our faculty, updates on faculty publications, presentations, and honors, and news of our students' achievements. Our faculty rank among the best in the nation. We think others should see the evidence of what students here in Missoula encounter every day. To keep costs down, we are distributing this newsletter electronically. If you would like a paper copy, we'd be glad to send you one. Just contact us by email with your name and mailing address.



We plead not guilty to the charge of coming between you and your prosperity.

## Chairman's charge to the history majors in the graduating class of 2009: the history major and Jerry Cruncher's lament

Members of the graduating class of 2009, parents, relatives, and friends of the graduates, and distinguished colleagues, welcome. I have entitled this charge "The History Major and Jerry Cruncher's Lament." Jerry Cruncher is one of Dickens's most memorable minor characters. He appears in *A Tale of Two Cities*. By day he is a porter at a bank. By night he is a resurrection man, a grave robber who digs up bodies for profit.

His wife, a pious woman, censures her husband for his night job. It's ghoulish work that he's doing, she says, and by introducing their son, young Jerry, to the resurrection trade, he's turning the boy into a little ghoul. Jerry, Sr., replies to his wife: "Why are you always coming between me and my prosperity?" This is Jerry Cruncher's lament.

A question for today might be the following: Has the History Department come between you, the graduating History majors in

the class of 2009, and your prosperity?

Well, you might have chosen a more practical major. Job-related majors, however, carry with them certain vulnerabilities to which the discipline of history ever remains immune.

We have not trained you for a particular job that may disappear five years from now.

We have trained you in a particular intellectual discipline that traces its pedigree back 2500 years, to Thucydides, who in the introduction to *The Peloponnesian War* acknowledged that he had written a difficult book. It lacked the romantic element.

It would be enough for him, however, if the book were judged useful by those who want to understand past events, which at some time or other may be repeated in the future. Maybe we can learn something that way, he thought, and not repeat the more egregious stupidities

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By  
Richard Drake

and blunders of our forebears.

Historical research and teaching have had a privileged place in the intellectual life of Western peoples ever since. In his classic 1854 book, *The Idea of the University*, John Henry Newman identified the discipline of history as one of the indispensable fields of learning for university students. The purpose of the university is to help students make their way in the world, he wrote. What did the future Roman Catholic cardinal mean by that? He meant that the university is the place where students should stock their minds with the intellectual treasures of literature, philosophy, science, mathematics, languages, and history. The university is not the place for job training, in the narrow sense that this term has acquired in our time.

We your teachers share your parents' hope: We want you to be employed. We think that you will be, armed as you are with the research, analytical, and writing skills that the serious study of history requires. Whichever way the economy goes, we remain convinced that there will always be a need for men and women who can take an argument apart or put an argument together in the intellectually commanding manner that the great historians have imparted to us.

We plead not guilty to the charge of coming between you and your prosperity.

Even in strict economic terms, we trust you to make your way in the world. But we hope that in your time here you've learned that making your way in the world involves more than piling up the stuff of consumer society. Above all, it involves finding important work to do and learning how to do it well. We are bold enough up here to think that in such noble pursuits your lessons in the History Department will serve you well.

*Editor's note: Dr. Richard Drake will step down from chairing the department at the end of August 2010. On behalf of his colleagues and staff, we offer gratitude for sagacious counsel, determined leadership, and adept administration. Richard, in the words of your beloved Thucydides, "History is Philosophy teaching by examples." As such, you have instructed us how to live and think with more curious minds and agile intellects. Bravo.*

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# Uncommon energizer: Dr. Jody Pavilack

by

Tobin Miller Shearer

To listen to Dr. Jody Pavilack describe her research is to encounter energy, enthusiasm, and keen intellect. Her excitement gleams. No wonder students flock to her classes. Dr. Pavilack clearly loves her work.

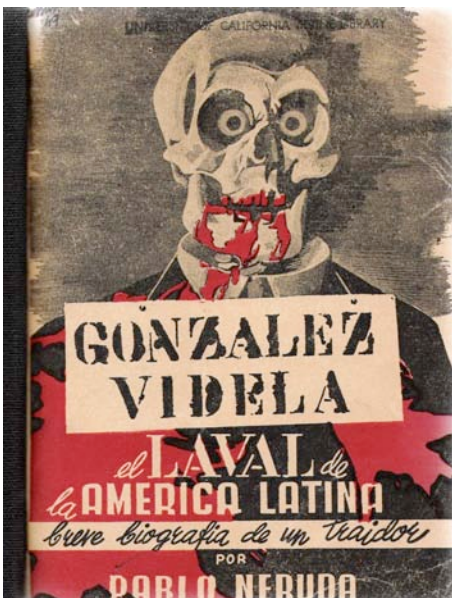
At the University of Montana since 2004, Dr. Pavilack completed her doctoral degree at Duke University in 2003. Her dissertation, "Black Gold in the Red Zone," examined the Chilean coal-mining region between 1935 and 1952 by weaving together human ecology, culture, and politics. In addition to providing a window into the relationship of coal miners to employers during an era of national industrialization policies, she explored how the Popular Front alliance between the Communist Party and progressive bourgeois parties played out at the local level, not just in the halls of government.

During the last several years, Dr. Pavilack has transformed her dissertation into her new book, *Mining for the Nation: The Politics of Chile's Coal Communities from the Popular Front to the Cold War*, due out from Pennsylvania State Press this fall. In her book she notes that, at the national level, the Popular Front political project did not result in the promised radical reforms. Period observers and subsequent historians have decried the period as a time of sell-outs, compromises, and disillusionment on the left. At the local level, however, Dr. Pavilack found evidence of a dramatic sea change in union and municipal government leadership. In 1935, Communist Party members held no such offices. By 1947, Communist Party members not only held seats in the mining, railroad, and fishermen's unions but had also ousted right-wing parties from local governance. During the same

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"Pablo Neruda lambastes his former ally Chilean President Gonzalez Videla." Cover of a clandestine 1949 pamphlet by Pablo Neruda. Artist unknown.



period, Popular Front administrators expanded the Chilean Labor Department and implemented an interventionist policy that resulted in more robust workers' rights and improved negotiating position. Although she is careful not to disregard the limitations of reformism in the Popular Front period, she highlights ways that workers gained access to decision-making forums at all levels and claimed new roles as players in the nation.

The final chapters of Dr. Pavilack's forthcoming book focus on the brutal end of center-left coalition governments at the start of the Cold War. Though President González Videla gained national office with the support of the Community Party in 1946, he would shortly kick Communists out of every office that they held and would then put down a legal coal miners' strike by occupying the region with air force, army and navy squadrons. Although President González Videla was responding to a degree to U.S. State Department pressure, his decision to relocate entire families from the coal region by putting them on cattle cars demonstrates a deeper anti-Communist backlash at the local level than previously realized. The vigorous social democracy that had emerged out of Popular Front policies was, in the end, unacceptable to the ruling centrist political elite.

With barely a breath, Dr.

Pavilack completes her description of her past research and jumps eagerly to summarize her new book. Tentatively entitled, *Globalizing the New Deal: Transnational Links between U.S. and Latin American Progressives, 1932-1954*, this new project began with Dr. Pavilack's discovery of documents about U.S. Vice-President Henry Wallace's 1943 trip through Latin America, when he was euphorically received by workers and progressive activists of all political hues, including the Chilean coal miners. Extending her research beyond Chile, Pavilack's new project will address multiple public and private ways that different progressive actors and projects in the U.S. and in various Latin American republics interacted with each other during the tumultuous, yet heady and hopeful, decades leading up to the Cold War, focusing in particular on visionaries who sought ways to sustain the WWII US/USSR alliance by combining the best of Soviet socio-economic justice with the West's political freedoms. Dr. Pavilack was recently awarded funding from the University Grant Program to conduct archival research on this new project.

The energy evident in this description of her research extends to teaching. Known for her passionate lectures and innovative instruction, Dr. Pavilack engages her students in the study of Latin American history through creative

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writing prompts, lively exposition, and frequent discussion. In one class, she has implemented a weekly writing assignment to encourage students to engage with class material. She notes that when she includes this kind of assignment, "the classroom

demeanor changes. You don't walk in the room and see a bunch of students reading newspapers."

Upper-division classes pose a particular challenge. Since she cannot require Spanish of her students, finding ways to engage students with primary

sources has been difficult. One way that Dr. Pavilack has met this challenge was to design a 400-level course on the Politics of Memory in Latin America, in which students read published translations of memoirs, testimonies, and oral interviews of the victims of human rights violations, together with translations of Truth and Reconciliation Reports and court documents. Dr. Pavilack is also designing a new course, in conjunction with her new research project, that will look at U.S.-Latin American political, social, and cultural relations in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In this class, her students will be able to examine U.S. national archive sources written in English. Never one to sit still, Dr. Pavilack has also begun to develop Latin American environmental history as one of her teaching fields in order to respond to expressed student interest at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The excitement that came through in an hour's interview was not an exception. A visit to her class revealed that same intensity. As Dr. Pavilack continues in her writing and research, her teaching and advising, she invites her readers and students to consider a history unexamined and a past misunderstood. She does so each day with an uncommon energy that bolsters those who study and research with her.

## Graduate Student News

### Awards, honors and prizes

Fredrickson, Leif. Awarded a Susan Koch Library Research Scholarship by the Mansfield Library, University of Montana, for "Good in the Woods: Consumerism, Marketing, and the State in the Rise of a New Wilderness Ethic" (2009).

Hall, Jonathan. Awarded the 2009 Ridge Research Award from the Institute of Medicine and Humanities, University of Montana.

LaPier, Rosalyn. Graduate Fellowship, The Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies, The Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, 2009-2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. Travel Grant, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., Fall 2009. For travel and research at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

Robinson, John. Selected as the University of Montana's delegate to the National Consortium of American Indian Studies inaugural summer seminar at the Newberry Library in Chicago, entitled "Representations of American Indians from Colonialism to Sovereignty," July 2009.

### Presentations

Bailey, Shawn. "'A Rich Man's Playground': Homesteaders, Novelists, and Competing Visions of Glacier National Park," presented at the Kiiipipooistooyii History Conference, Piegan Institute, Browning, Montana, August 21, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_. "'Holler Stop to the Dam Builders': The Glacier View Dam Project and the American Environmental Movement," presented at the American Society of Environmental History Conference, Portland, Oregon, March 13, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. "'We're Not Obstructionists to Progress': The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Hydroelectric

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Development in Western Montana, and the Third Road of the Glacier View Dam," presented at the Phi Alpha Theta Northwest Regional Conference, Fairmont Hot Springs, Montana, April 16, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. "‘All in the Game’: Homesteaders, Tourists, and Class Conflict during the Early Years of Glacier National Park," presented at History & Memory: Glacier National Park's Centennial Year Symposium, Kalispell, Montana, April 24, 2010.

LaPier, Rosalyn. "'Star Boy' and Other Fungi's," Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, Great Falls, MT, August 15, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Invisible Reality," The Newberry Library Fellows' Seminar, Chicago, IL, Oct. 5, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Piegan Voices: Searching for Piegan Voices and Reinterpreting Piegan History," Montana History Conference, Great Falls, MT, October 16, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_. Ixmiquilpan, Mexico, Guest Lecturer, Universidad Tecnológica del Valle del Mezquital, North American Mobility Project Grant, "The North American Indigenous Community: Building Outreach and Understanding." Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, January 4-8, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. Colima, Mexico, Guest Lecturer, Universidad de Colima, North American Mobility Project Grant, "The North American Indigenous Community: Building Outreach and Understanding." Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, January 11-13, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. "National Policies on Native American Languages," University of Montana, Lecture for International Communications class, April 7, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Blackfeet Medicinal Plants," Montana Natural History Center, Missoula, MT, April 14, 2010.

### Publications

Gordon, Greg. "Economic Phoenix: How A. B. Hammond Used the Depression of 1893 and a Pair of Defunct Oregon Railroads to Build a Lumber Empire." *Oregon Historical Quarterly* (2009).

\_\_\_\_\_. "Review of *Sawdust in the Western Woods* by Lionel Youst." *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, no. Winter (2010).

LaPier, Rosalyn, "From the Natural to the Supernatural: Discovering the Piegan People's World View," *Montana Naturalist*, Fall 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Blackfeet Botanist: Annie Mad Plume Wall," *Kelseyia: Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society*, Summer 2009.

Masters student  
David Nichols  
at work  
on the  
history hall



# Faculty News

## Awards, honors and prizes

Eglin, John. Awarded short-term fellowship at the Clark Library for summer 2010.

Flores, Dan. Awarded for "Bringing Home All the Pretty Horses: The Horse Trade and the Early American West, 1785-1825":

The Ray Allen Billington 2009 Article Prize from the Western History Association in October 2009.

The Friends Choice Award, 2009, from Friends of the Montana Historical Society, in June 2009.

A Finalist Prize in Best Western Short Nonfiction, 2009, from Western Writers of America, in July 2009.

Lauren, Paul Gordon.

Selected as 1 out of 5,000 American professors by The Teaching Company to create and teach one of their Great Courses on DVD and CD. His course is entitled "The Rights of Man: Great Thinkers and Great Movements."

\_. Commissioned by the U.S. Department of State to write a special article entitled "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Launching and Sustaining a Revolution" on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

\_. "A Human Rights Lens on U.S. History: Human Rights at Home and Human

Rights Abroad," in Cynthia Soohoo, et al. (eds.), *Bringing Human Rights Home: A History of Human Rights in the United States* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009), pp. 7-39. Received the annual book award from the U.S. Human Rights Network.

\_. "History of Human Rights," in David Forsythe (ed.), *Oxford Encyclopedia of Human Rights* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), pp. 394-407. This particular entry is cross-listed more than any other entry in the 5-volume set. Received the Dartmouth Medal of the American Library Association for the best reference publication of 2009.

Lockridge, Ken. Honored at a commemorative session at the AHA: "The New Social History Turns Forty" along with John Demos (Yale), Michael Zuckerman (Penn) and Philip Greven (Rutgers). Included a brief presentation synthesizing the evolution of social history since their first books appeared together in 1970 and testimonies from an audience of 80-100 who described the many contributions of the new social history.

Pavilack, Jody. Awarded \$3,000 by the University Research Grant Program to conduct archival research this summer on her new book project, *Globalizing*

*the New Deal: Transnational Links between U.S. and Latin American Progressives, 1932-1954.*

Shearer, Tobin. Awarded \$3,300 by the University Research Grant Program to conduct archival research on his new book project, *An Innocent Exchange: Rural Hosting Programs and the Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1975.*

Volk, Kyle. Awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2010-11, by the American Antiquarian Society (AAS).

\_. Awarded a William Nelson Cromwell Fellowship, 2009-10, by the American Society for Legal History (ASLH).

## Presentations

Emmons, David. 12th annual O'Malley lecture at Glucksman Ireland House, home of the Irish Studies program at NYU.

Upcoming, Nov. 18, 2010 (with subsequent publication in the journal *Ruadharc* (rye-arc for those who might care).

\_. "A Case of Mistaken Identity: Myth and Reality in Montana and Western History," University of Montana, Community Lecture series lectures, March 17, 2009.

\_. "'Big Trouble': An Historical Analysis of Scott Fife's Idaho Project," Missoula Art Museum, February 17, 2010.

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- \_\_\_ . "A History in Need of Revisions: Another Look at the Anaconda Company," Bringing the U to You, Great Falls, MT, March 4, 2010.
- Flores, Dan. NEH-sponsored Summer Institute for Faculty in Environmental History, University of Arizona-Tucson, June 2009.
- \_\_\_ . Hall Symposium Lecture, University of Kansas-Lawrence, November 2009.
- \_\_\_ . Sparks Lecture for the School of Advanced Research, Santa Fe, NM, January 2010.
- \_\_\_ . Public lecture at the Centennial Anniversary celebration of the creation of Glacier National Park, Kalispell, MT, April 2010.
- Jabour, Anya. "Gone With the Wind: Changes in Courtship in the Civil War South," October 23, 2009, Weiriding the War Symposium, Watson-Brown Foundation/ University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.
- \_\_\_ . "An Activist Academic: Sophonisba Preston Breckinridge," Women's History Month Lecture, Women's and Gender Studies Program, University of Montana, March 2, 2010.
- \_\_\_ . Commentator, "Readers and Reading in the American South," November 6, 2009, Annual Meeting, Southern Historical Association, Louisville, Kentucky.
- Lauren, Paul. Invited to deliver lectures at universities in the United States, Europe, and Asia. Served as an official observer at the Human Rights Council meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, and the European Court of Human Rights convening in Strasbourg, France.
- Lockridge, Ken. Elected to the Society of American Historians at Columbia University, whose membership includes American historians of note and also embraces Jim Lehrer, Margaret Atwood, and George Will.
- \_\_\_ . "Overcoming Nauseau" selected for *Essays in Colonial America* (see below). Dr. Lockridge is the only historian represented by three separate pieces, and the only scholar chosen for separate publications forty years apart in this volume. This piece is also the first to have been granted illustrations.
- Pavilack, Jody. "Environmental History in Chile and the Rio de la Plata Countries: State of the Field and New Directions," chair and presenter, AHA, San Diego, January 2010.
- Shearer, Tobin. "Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries," Martin Luther King, Jr., day lecture at Trinity Christian College, Chicago, IL, February 15, 2010
- \_\_\_ . "The Trails We Trod from *Uncle Tom's Cabin*," February 23, 2010, in University of Montana Alumni Association's Community Lecture series.
- Volk, Kyle. "The Minority Rights Revolution in Antebellum America," OAH Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., April 8, 2010.

### **Publications**

- Emmons, David. *Beyond the American Pale: The Irish in the West, 1845-1910*. Trade ed. Norman: OK University Press, 2010.
- Flores, Dan, "Bringing Home All the Pretty Horses: The Horse Trade and the Early American West, 1785-1825," *Magazine of Western History*, Summer 2009.
- \_\_\_ . *Caprock Canyonlands: Journeys into the Heart of the Southern Plains*. 20th anniversary edition with Foreword by Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Annie Proulx and Afterword by environmental historian Thomas Dunlap ed. College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press, 2010.
- \_\_\_ . *Visions of the Big Sky: Painting and Photographing the Northern Rocky Mountain West*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2010.
- Greene, Robert. *Bodies Like Bright Stars: Saints and Relics in Orthodox Russia*. DeKalb, IL: N. Illinois University Press, 2009.
- Jabour, Anya. *Scarlett's Sisters: Young Women in the Old South*. Paperback

(continued)

- 2009 ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2007.
- . "Female Families: Same-Sex Love in the Victorian South." In *Family Values in the Old South*, edited by Anya Jabour and Craig Thompson Friend, 86-108. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 2010.
- Jabour, Anya, and Craig Thompson Friend. "Introduction." In *Family Values in the Old South*, edited by Anya Jabour and Craig Thompson Friend. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 2010.
- Lauren, Paul. *Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Challenges of Our Time*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006. Japanese translation, 2010.
- . *The Evolution of International Human Rights: Visions Seen*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006. Chinese translation, 2010.
- Lockridge, Ken. "Overcoming Nauseau." In *Essays in Colonial America: Essays in Political and Social History*, edited by Stanley Katz, John Murrin and Douglas Greenberg. New York: Routledge, 2010.
- Mayer, Michael S. *Presidential Profiles: The Eisenhower Years*. New York: Facts on File, 2010.
- Volk, Kyle. "The Perils of 'Pure Democracy': Minority Rights, Liquor Politics, and Popular Sovereignty in Antebellum America." *Journal of the Early Republic* 29 (2009): 641-79.

## Undergraduate News

### Awards, Honors, and Prizes

- Ainsworth, Tori. Awarded an Edward Earl Bennett Memorial Scholarship by the History Department, \$1,000.
- Allen, Nicole. Awarded a Harold E. Blinn Scholarship by the History Department, \$900.
- Blackman, Kayla. Awarded a Helen J. Olson Scholarship by the History Department, amount to be determined.
- Duncan, Jane. Awarded a Susan Koch Library Research Scholarship by the Mansfield Library, University of Montana, for "Playing with the Atom: Portrayal of Atomic Technologies to the Children of the 1940s-1950s" (2010). Advised by Professor Kyle Volk.
- Norton, Athena. Awarded a Robert O. Lindsay Scholarship by the History Department, \$1,400.
- O'Reilly, Erin. Awarded an Edward Earl Bennett Memorial Scholarship by the History Department, \$1,000.
- Ramos, Adriana. Awarded a Carman Skari Memorial Scholarship by the History Department, \$400.
- Rostad, Samuel. Honored by the History Department and the Mortar Board Society as the Outstanding History Department Student.
- Siron, Eli. Awarded a Jules A. Karlin Scholarship by the History Department, \$800.
- Zimmer, Victoria. Awarded a Jules A. Karlin Endowment by the History Department, \$4,500.

### Presentations

- At the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, University of Montana, April 15-17, 2010:*
- Carey, Kristin. "The Rehabilitation of Former Child Soldiers in Africa: What Makes for a Successful Program?"
- Coleman, Robert. "The IWW and Northwest Montana's WWI Timber Strikes."
- Duncan, Jane. "Playing with the Atom: Portrayal of Atomic Technologies to the Children of the 1940s-1950s."
- Dusek, Andrew. "Crisis in Kosovo: The Ethical Dilemma of Humanitarian Intervention."
- Everson, Micah. "Swine From the Herd of Epicurus."

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# Alumni News Requested

In addition to reporting on faculty and students, we would like to hear from History Department alumni. Send us news about your publications, honors, awards and employment. Updates can be sent to:  
tobin.shearer@umontana.edu.

- Jaskiel, Lily. "John Coltrane: The Intersection of American Jazz and Radical Politics."  
Kieser, Joshua. "Mothers Of A Race, Mothers of a Movement: UNIA Women's Struggle For Empowerment."  
McDonald, Mike. "Intensified Animosity Between the Anaconda Copper Mining Company and the Industrial Workers of the World: The 1917 Lynching of Union Organizer Frank Little."  
Rostad, Samuel. "Propaganda of the Martyrs: English Catholic Martyrologies and their Protestant Audience."  
Stephens, Samantha. "Inevitable Iran: The Use of Coercive Diplomacy in Confronting Iran's Nuclear Enrichment Program."

Professor Mike Mayer lectures in Urey Underground Lecture Hall during the American history survey

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**Students take notes as Professor Robert Greene lectures in UM's Music Hall**

## Graduating Masters and Doctoral Students

Five masters and three doctoral students will graduate this spring. We salute them all for completing a demanding program. Please join us in extending congratulations to the following students:

### MA

Leif Fredrickson, advised by Dan Flores, "Still Blue: An Environmental History of Flathead Lake."

David Keightley, advised by Michael Mayer, "A New Life in Montana: The Laotian Hmong -- their History, Culture, and American Journey."

Erica Stukel Probst, advised by Michael Mayer, "Joseph Dixon and the Bull Moose Campaign of 1912."

Ian Smith, advised by Dan Flores, "From Subsistence to Dependence: The Legacy of Reclamation and Allotment on Quechan Indian Lands, 1700-1940."

Melissa Thomasma, advised by Dan Flores, "The Lawmen Faced the Outlaws, No Badge Upon A Breast: Historical Memory and the Legacy of Henry Plummer and the Montana Vigilantes."

### PHD

Greg Gordon, advised by Dan Flores, "'Money Does Grow on Trees: A. B. Hammond and the Age of the Timber Baron."

Rodolfo Villarreal-Rios, advised by Michael Mayer, "Independent Internationalism in Practice: The United States and Mexico Relations from 1919 to 1929."

Nicholas Vrooman, advised by Dan Flores, "Infinity Nation: The Métis in North American History."

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