



Footnotes

Department of History, University of Northwestern – St. Paul
Offering courses in History, Politics, Economics, and Geography

Fall 2022 Edition

Well Done!

Our department recently congratulated eight graduates for their successful completion of years of reading, writing, internships, and service. Their time at Northwestern has included joys and trials, and we are proud of their accomplishments. God has been faithful every day!

Our December 2021 grads are on the left: **Lauren Mattson**, **Kenedi Deutschman**, and **Matthew Biancardi**. May 2022 degree recipients are on the right: **Ellie Simpson**, **Amy Linden**, and **Ben Frese** (with Drs. Kelley and Miller in the back). Not pictured are **Stephanie Boehrs** and **Stephany Lopez**.



Student Government Leadership Continues

Our department has developed a long tradition of service in Northwestern Student Government. Participants represent the student body and classes to the university administration and advocate for helpful changes on campus. During the 2022-23 year this trend continues: three of the six newly elected senators major in History or Politics, History, and Economics: **Niek Frese**, **Isaac Pilon**, and **Jackson Thompson**. **Alejandro Najera-Wolcott** has been selected as business director after serving as senator for two years. Also, **Andrew Jantz** served as senator during the 2021-22 year.

Updates from Alumni

David Graske ('21) begins graduate study in history at Oxford University in fall 2022. **Micah Krahn** ('21) has enrolled in a graduate program in education at the University of St. Thomas.

Please write and share your updates with us—we are always glad to hear from you!

- Dr. Matt Miller, Department Chair, mlmiller@unwsp.edu



Internship Opportunities

We encourage students to earn credit toward their majors through a variety of internship opportunities—here are a few recent examples.

Ben Frese ('22) invested the Fall 2021 semester in Washington, D.C., interning for U.S. Senator Steve Daines through the American Studies Program (ASP). His duties included communicating with the senator's constituents and completing research projects related to legislation. ASP students arrive in D.C. in August and stay until Thanksgiving, living in residences provided for the program. Ben was joined by students from Christian institutions across the country, including Bethel University and Gordon College. Participants earn 16 credits, including a 9-credit internship. Ben enjoyed living close to the Smithsonian museums and the Capitol Building and meeting policymakers from across the country. He encourages all students to participate in the American Studies Program.

Diana Boyce also participated in ASP for the Fall 2021 semester. She completed an internship which used her writing and communication skills to support a Washington organization which advocates for religious freedom around the globe.

Kenedi Deutschman ('21) completed an internship with the Scott County Historical Society, after reading about this opportunity on the Minnesota Historical Society website. Her main project at the society was processing tape recordings of a county resident who shared about life in the 1920s and 30s. She also worked as a page in the Minnesota State Senate; she assisted with a variety of organizational and communication roles. She applied for this employment with the Handshake app provided by Northwestern's

Career Development office. In the near future Kenedi plans to complete graduate education at Oxford University in England. She encourages history students to carefully read all assignments in classes, respond creatively to writing projects, and take Dr. Kelley's class on the digital humanities!

Ellie Simpson ('22) served as an intern for the Minnesota State Senate with senators Zach Duckworth and Eric Pratt. Her duties involved attending committee meetings, collecting information, researching bills, and communicating with constituents. She learned about this opportunity from Dr. Miller, applied to the internship program, and was selected as an aide by Senator Duckworth. She enjoyed her experience in the Senate and commented that everybody was quite friendly. One of her most interesting experiences was observing Housing Committee debates on rent control, government regulation of rates for residential payments. She shares that the experience increased her interest in politics, and she plans to attend law school after graduation from Northwestern. Ellie encourages all department majors to actively seek out internships.

Amy Linden ('22) also interned in the Minnesota State Senate with Senator Michelle Benson. She attended planning gatherings, conducted research on potential legislation, and contributed to projects in the senator's district. Amy advises fellow students to make connections with those serving in your desired career due to the critical importance of networking.

Dr. Kelley Receives Promotion and New Assignment

Dr. Adina Kelley recently received promotion to Assistant Professor and appointment as Director of the Eagle Scholars Honors Program. *Congratulations Dr. Kelley!* As a specialist in American religious history, she is currently conducting research on a collection of letters submitted by Southern Baptist congregations for a competition to honor the “Most Outstanding Minister’s Wife.” This project reflects on the experiences of evangelical women in the US in the 1950s. Dr. Kelley also recently made a presentation for the annual meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, a national organization of professional historians.



Dr. Miller Reflects on Ukraine, Russia, and the US

This has been a challenging year observing the expanded invasion of Ukraine by the Russian government and military. Dr. Matt Miller has studied this region for many years and developed friendships on both sides of this border. After the February 2022 assaults he has made multiple UNW and church presentations on the background and results of this brutal and unjust war. In addition, he has continued his research on the area’s history: this year he published his latest article on US-Russian church connections for the journal *Messenger of the Russian State Humanities University: Political Science, History, International Relations*. He also serves as book review editor for the *East-West Church Report* and editorial board member for the *Journal of Russian-American Studies*.

Best Wishes to Dr. Loopstra

We extend our deep appreciation to Dr. Jonathan Loopstra, who recently accepted a new teaching position at Redeemer University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Loopstra, a Northwestern alumnus, served as professor with our department since 2016. We thank him for his many contributions as classroom instructor, advisor, department chair, scholar, and 2021 Constitution Day speaker.



We enjoyed a field trip to the Minnesota History Center on April 23, 2022. Dr. Kent Whitworth, director of the Minnesota Historical Society, welcomed us and shared about the work of the society and its contribution to developing an understanding of the state and its people.



“Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.” - Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV)

The department thanks teaching assistants Alejandro Najera-Wolcott and Carrena Falls for their assistance in creating this newsletter.
