

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF KANSAS



New Books for Fall & Winter 2026



As the University Press of Kansas continues celebrating its 80th Anniversary, we proudly reflect on eight decades of publishing books that advance knowledge, preserve history, and serve readers in Kansas and beyond. Since 1946, UPK has remained committed to publishing award-winning works that spark conversation and deepen understanding across history, politics, culture, law, Indigenous studies, and regional topics.

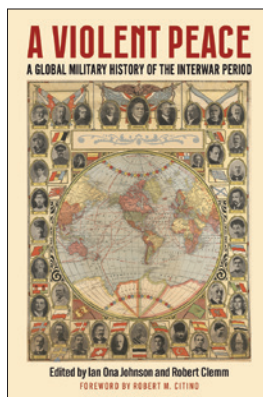
This Fall & Winter 2026 catalog highlights the strength and diversity of UPK's publishing, featuring timely scholarship, compelling regional stories, and thought-provoking nonfiction.

As America approaches its 250th anniversary, UPK is also launching special America 250 promotions to spotlight books exploring the nation's founding, evolution, challenges, and future. Through themed collections, we invite readers to discover new perspectives on the American story. Visit our website for weekly updates.

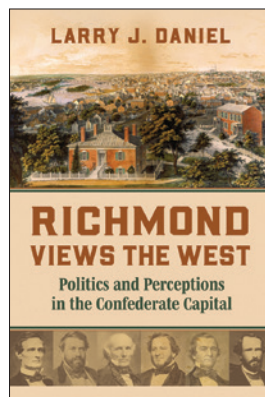
We hope you enjoy exploring this season's catalog and discovering the many stories, ideas, and voices that continue to shape our world.

Cover art: *Rematriation* (detail) by Chris Pappan.
See *Shokhi*, page 1.

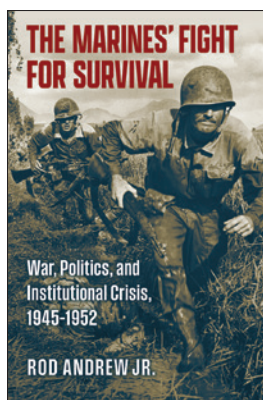
Recent Awards



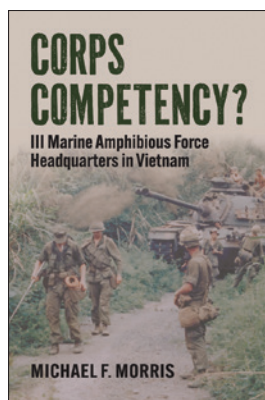
**Distinguished Book Award
for Best Edited Volume,
Society for Military History**



**Fletcher Pratt Award,
Civil War Round Table of
New York**



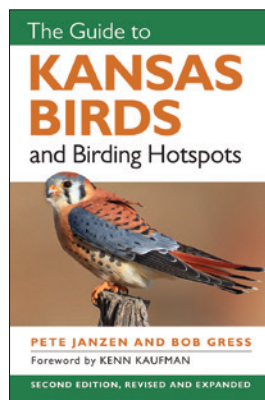
**General Wallace M.
Greene, Jr. Award,
Marine Corps Heritage
Foundation**



**General Wallace M.
Greene, Jr. Award,
Marine Corps Heritage
Foundation**



**Named a Kansas Notable
Book by the Kansas
Center for the Book**



**Named a Kansas Notable
Book by the Kansas
Center for the Book**

Shokhí

A Kanza Relative, a Monument, and Rematriation

Edited by c. huffman, Tai S. Edwards, and Jay T. Johnson

For almost a century, the city of Lawrence, Kansas, displayed a 28-ton red quartzite boulder as a memorial to the town's founders. However, this boulder, In'zhúje'waxóbe (EE(n)) ZHOO-jay wah-HO-bay), had a centuries-long relationship with Kanza people (Kaw Nation citizens). In this powerful collection of imagery, analysis, and reflection, Land is telling the story and the contributors explore narratives of place, how a Grandfather Rock became a monument, and how Kaw Nation citizens reunited with their relative, facilitating In'zhúje'waxóbe shokhíbe (return him home, to Kanza people/Land).

In *Shokhí*, scholars, poets, activists, and artists explore the organizing and collaboration that brought In'zhúje'waxóbe home to Kaw Nation-owned Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park in 2024. Indigenous and non-Indigenous contributors chronicle the winding path a group of people took to dismantle a monument, understand intersecting forgotten histories, rematriate a Grandfather Rock, and confront our ongoing colonial history.

c. huffman is a Kaw Nation Citizen with an MFA and an MDiv who sits at the intersection of privilege, dis/ability and Indigeneity; a place where poetry and theology dance. Her writing has appeared in *The Ending Hasn't Happened Yet*, a poetry anthology edited by Hannah Soyer.

Tai S. Edwards is professor of history and director of the Kansas Studies Institute at Johnson County Community College. She is the author of *Osage Women and Empire: Gender and Power* and co-editor of *Lyda Conley and the Fight to Preserve Huron Indian Cemetery*, also published by Kansas.

Jay T. Johnson is University Distinguished Professor of Geography at the University of Kansas and director of the Center for Indigenous Research, Science, and Technology. His work has appeared in *GeoHumanities*, *Geographical Research*, *Nature Sustainability*, *Sustainability Science*, and other publications.

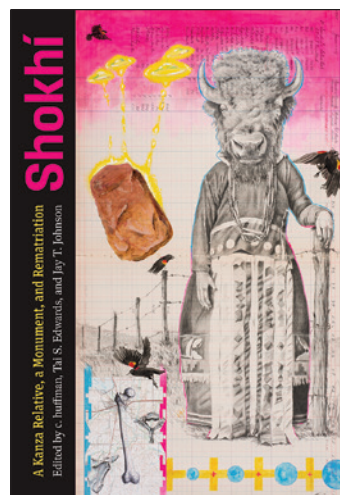
Lyda Conley Series on Trailblazing Indigenous Futures

AUGUST

504 pages, 198 color photographs, 5 maps, 7 x 10

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4199-4, \$34.99 (s)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4200-7, \$21.99

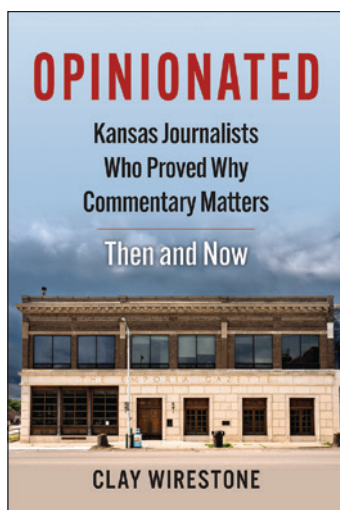


"For Indian Peoples, the goal of rematriation is to restore relationships. Here the restored relationship is with a Grandfather Rock, just as the call for Land Back is a cry for a restored relationship with Grandmother Earth. I would hope readers of this book would come to a renewed understanding of American Indian cultures and the Indian knowledge about the personhood of all relatives including In'zhúje'waxóbe. Reading this book, we can all celebrate with Kaw People his return to his relatives"

Tink Tinker (wazhazhe/Osage Nation),
Baldridge Professor Emeritus of
American Indian Studies

"Through multigenre text and art, *Shokhí* documents the return home of the Kanza Nation's Grandfather Rock. Oral history is interwoven with photographs, photographs interwoven with poetry, poetry interwoven with visual art. Compelling and comprehensive, *Shokhí* is a necessary read for all Kansans. Really, in its beautiful testament to the interdependent nature of human and non-(more-than)-human, it is a necessary read for everyone."

Hannah Soyer, author of *Dreams in Which I'm Almost Human: A Memoir*



“The journalistic heart of the nation comes from those closest to the people. *Opinionated* rises out of the past but speaks directly to the future at a time when it is most needed. This is America speaking.”

Bill Kurtis, author of *Whirlwind: My Life Reporting the News*

“It shouldn’t be surprising that a state forged by the Civil War would foster a tradition of provocative editorial voices. . . . Their ranks have sharply dwindled amid the news industry’s pressures today, but Clay Wirestone persuasively argues that the need for courageous commentary hasn’t diminished.”

Susan Page, Washington Bureau chief of *USA TODAY*, and author of *The Queen and Her Presidents: The Hidden Hand That Shaped History*, and a fourth-generation Kansan

“Fearless opinion journalism has long played a vital role in American democracy. Through spirited writing and engaging anecdotes, Clay Wirestone has done a masterful job in bringing to life the rich history of this craft, brilliantly illustrating why we must ensure its survival well into the future.”

Victor Pickard, author of *Democracy Without Journalism? Confronting the Misinformation Society*

Opinionated

Kansas Journalists Who Proved Why Commentary Matters—Then and Now

Clay Wirestone

William Allen White famously asked, “What’s the matter with Kansas?” But he was not the only local journalist raising important questions about the future of the Sunflower State and the nation—not by a long shot.

White lived during the golden age of print journalism, when local newspapers were at the center of their communities and opinion writers shaped the conversation of the day. *Opinionated* reminds us how truly significant these hometown journalists were, and why commentary was—and is—essential to any society that values the freedom of expression.

Clay Wirestone, award-winning opinion editor at *Kansas Reflector*, takes readers on a tour of Kansas journalism from the 1920s to the 1970s, introducing us to the people who shaped public discourse in the heartland, including:

- The indomitable Mamie Boyd of the small town of Mankato who was a working journalist into her nineties and the only woman to receive the William Allen White Foundation Award for Journalistic Merit.
- Lucile Bluford of Kansas City, who used *The Call* to press tirelessly for civil rights and whose application to the University of Missouri led to the closure of its journalism graduate school.
- Hollie T. Sims, who founded the long-running *The Negro Star* in Mississippi before moving to Wichita, fleeing racist hostility, and became a prominent journalist-activist.
- The affable Bill Meyer, who led the *Marion County Record* for decades before turning it over to his son. The paper was targeted by a police raid in 2023, sparking a national debate about freedom of the press.

With a quick wit and penetrating insight, Wirestone adds his own opinion pieces about the state of journalism today, how aspiring journalists can learn to write compelling commentary, and why local news outlets should be a crucial part of a diverse and democratic society. *Opinionated* is for anyone who understands the importance in knowing our shared history, for the journalists of today and tomorrow, and for anyone who believes in the power of free speech and a free press.

Clay Wirestone is opinion editor at *Kansas Reflector*, a native Kansan who attended the William Allen White School of Journalism at the University of Kansas, and a writer whose work has appeared in *PolitiFact*, *The Topeka Capital-Journal*, *Concord Monitor* (N.H.), and *Mental Floss*. He has been published by more than 200 outlets in 30 states.

SEPTEMBER

208 pages, 24 photographs, 6 x 9

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4305-9, \$29.99 (s)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4306-6, \$14.99

Architects of Authoritarianism

The Claremont Institute and the Making of the MAGA New Right

F. Darrell Munsell

From the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025 and the Federalist Society's decades-long campaign to shape the judiciary, private think tanks have long been the shadowy intellectual engine driving conservative politics. But the Claremont Institute remains the most consequential organization in shaping the MAGA agenda. Founded in southern California in 1979, Claremont's original mission was "to restore the principles of the American Founding to its rightful, preeminent authority" in American society. Now, historian Darrell Munsell uncovers how the Claremont Institute went from being a home for erudite political philosophers to serving as the base camp for the January 6 insurrection, Project 2025, and President Trump's authoritarian agenda.

The institute's political activism began with its endorsement of Donald Trump for president in 2016, followed quickly by its entry into the cultural battles against Black Lives Matter, multiculturalism, critical race theory, and the use of diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in public universities, government agencies, and commercial enterprises. By the end of Trump's first term, Claremont believed that "wokeism" was an existential threat to the Founders' Constitution and was fighting to win the culture war at any cost—including attempting to reverse the results of the 2020 election.

In the wake of Trump's 2020 defeat, Claremont lurched further rightward toward populism, Christian nationalism, and illiberalism. Led by John Eastman, Charles Kesler, Thomas D. Klingenstein, and a new generation of young, conservative activists—some from the furthest fringes of the far-right—the Claremont Institute is shaping the movement of National Conservatism with its devotion to replacing constitutional democracy with an authoritarian system of government. Claremont joined forces with the Heritage Foundation and other groups to draft Project 2025, the now-infamous blueprint for the second Trump administration.

Munsell's revelatory history of the Claremont Institute pulls back the curtain on one of the most influential organizations in American politics and a driving force of the MAGA ascendancy. A must read for anyone seeking to understand the hidden forces behind Trump's agenda.

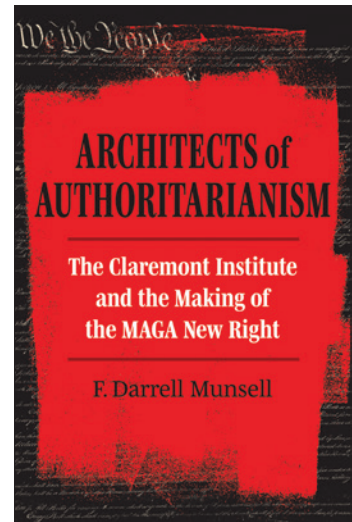
F. Darrell Munsell is professor emeritus of history at West Texas A&M. He is the author of several books, including *From Redstone to Ludlow: John Cleveland Osgood's Struggle against the United Mine Workers of America*. He has been involved in historic preservation work in Colorado and has written numerous articles on the history of Redstone and the Crystal River Valley.

OCTOBER

288 pages, 14 photographs, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4285-4, \$34.99 (t)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4286-1, \$14.99

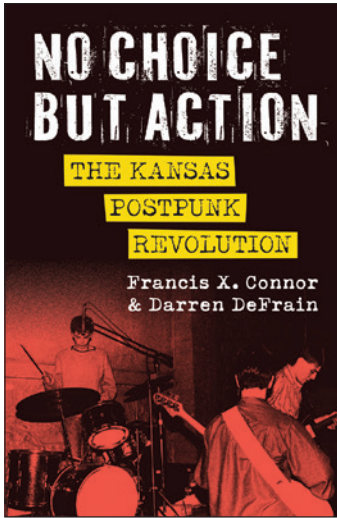


"F. Darrell Munsell has written a compelling account of both the Claremont Institute's transformation and the Institute's transformation of the American Right. From attacks on CRT and cries of 'Stop the Steal' to the dissolution of the administrative state and the dismantling of the liberal consensus, Munsell helps us understand the ideological commitments and ultimate aims of the MAGA New Right. For those wondering how the United States has slid so rapidly toward authoritarianism, *Architects of Authoritarianism* is mandatory reading."

Chelsea Ebin, author of *The Radical Mind: The Origins of Right-Wing Catholic and Protestant Coalition Building*

"In an eye-opening book, F. Darrell Munsell shows how Claremont radicalized and laundered the most influential figures and ideas in right-wing politics today. In doing so, they betrayed their founding principles and exposed darker impulses present in the Claremont mindset from the start."

Joshua Tait, American conservatism historian and author of the Substack *To Live Is to Maneuver*



“Francis Connor and Darren DeFrain have thoroughly researched and written a fantastic book about post-punk music in Kansas. They examine the history of zines and institutions like college radio. All to show that pop rebellion in the Midwest was intellectually engaged and smarter than we thought.”

Kevin Mattson, author of *We’re Not Here to Entertain: Punk Rock, Ronald Reagan, and the Real Culture War of 1980s America*

“‘Kansans have always been fiercely independent, somewhat rebellious, and difficult to categorize.’ *No Choice but Action: Kansas Postpunk Revolution* captures this essence. Learning about these postpunk bands, fans, and tastemakers from the Sunflower State during a transformative time is one of the quickest ways to understand the true *Ad Astra Per Aspera* spirit.”

Matt Beat, public educator and creator of the Mr. Beat YouTube channel

No Choice but Action

The Kansas Postpunk Revolution

Francis X. Connor and Darren DeFrain

When most people think postpunk, they picture London or Manchester—The Cure, PiL, Joy Division—or the coasts, from Minutemen in California to Bush Tetras in New York. But far from the major labels and media spotlights, a different kind of revolution was taking shape in the American heartland. *No Choice but Action* uncovers the wildly inventive, fiercely independent postpunk movement that erupted across Kansas between 1978 and 1994—and changed Midwestern music forever.

The Embarrassment. Get Smart!. The Moving Van Goghs. Micronotz. Truck Stop Love. These weren’t outliers. They were the beating heart of a vibrant, self-sustaining cultural ecosystem pulsing through Lawrence, Manhattan, Topeka, and Wichita. With no industry infrastructure to lean on, musicians built their own: basements turned into venues, cassette culture fueled DIY distribution, photocopied zines became lifelines, and word-of-mouth grew into a network strong enough to launch bands onto national stages.

With the fervor of lifelong insiders and the rigor of scholars, authors Fran Connor and Darren DeFrain take readers inside this scene with unparalleled access and insight. They capture the personalities, the makeshift platforms, the electrifying shows, and the pure creative urgency that kept the music alive long before email, social media, or streaming. Their chronicle is as kinetic and unpolished as the era itself.

More than a regional history, *No Choice but Action* argues for Kansas postpunk as a crucial, overlooked chapter in American independent music—one whose influence can still be felt in today’s DIY culture. Kansas wasn’t a footnote to postpunk. It was a force that helped define the possibilities of American independent music.

Postpunk didn’t just happen in the Midwest. It exploded there.

Francis X. Connor is associate professor of English at Wichita State University and Associate Editor for the *New Oxford Shakespeare*.

Darren DeFrain is director of the writing program at Wichita State University. He has published a novel, *The Salt Palace*, and a collection of short stories, *Inside & Out*.

SEPTEMBER

376 pages, 24 photographs, 6 x 9

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4302-8, \$29.99 (s)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4303-5, \$14.99

RUN

The Wilmot Collins Story—From Liberian Refugee to the First Black Mayor in Montana

Daniel Blake Smith

Run tells the inspiring story of Wilmot Collins, who fled the brutal and bloody Liberian Civil War in the early 1990s—where over 250,000 Liberians were killed, including two of Collins’s brothers—and managed to make it to Helena, Montana, one of the whitest places on the planet. Enduring and overcoming racism and xenophobia, he joined the Montana National Guard, became an active member of the Helena community, and in 2017 rose to become mayor of the capital city and the first Black mayor in Montana’s history.

Collins garnered a national reputation not only as a beloved Democratic politician in a ruby red state but also as a shining example of how being a racial and political outsider in a highly partisan society can be transformed into an effective and engaging form of political leadership.

Wilmot’s story highlights the tragic decision to abandon one’s homeland when it turns on its people. Collins came from a highly educated family and, when civil war erupted, he was fresh out of college working as a middle school teacher at Monrovia’s SOS Children’s Village School. He had recently found a great companion, Maddie Muna, whom he met after college graduation. They became fast friends and soon life partners in marriage. But they first had to negotiate forces threatening their very lives.

Through extensive interviews and his masterful command of storytelling, award-winning author and filmmaker Daniel Blake Smith tells how Wilmot and Maddie, through great perseverance, plenty of ingenuity, and inspiring displays of generosity, journeyed to the United States and have made their new home a better place for everyone. *Run* offers an emotional, inspiring, and deeply personal story of survival, racial injustice, political hope, and the challenges one family faced to realize the American dream.

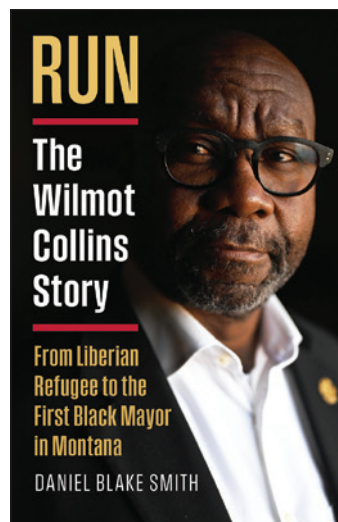
Daniel Blake Smith is the award-winning author of six books and a prize-winning filmmaker. Most recently, he is the writer and producer of the film *Mr. Wonderful*, adapted from his novel of the same name.

OCTOBER

168 pages, 13 photographs, 5½ x 8½

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4299-1 \$29.99 (t)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4300-4, \$14.99



“Over the years, I’ve watched Wilmot transform adversity into purpose. From his early days working multiple jobs to his eventual role as Helena’s mayor . . . his journey is nothing short of inspirational.”

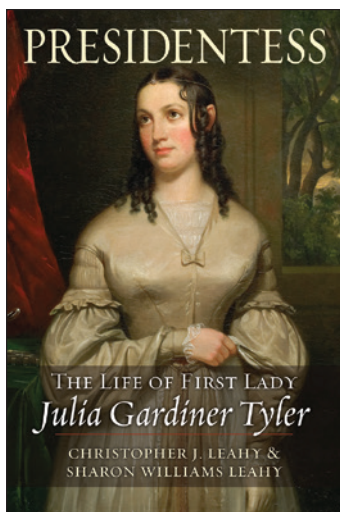
Pat Williams, US House of Representatives Congressman for Montana (1979–1997)

“Wilmot’s journey from seeking refuge from the Liberian Civil War to serving in public office in Helena is a powerful reminder of what is possible when people are afforded safety and a chance to belong. Today more than ever, we need reminders like this one.”

Krish O’Mara Vignarajah, President and CEO, Global Refuge

“The American Dream we all want to believe in is captured in Wilmot Collins’s story. It would not have been reached without individuals and communities supporting him and his family, yet there is so much more. Mayor Collins’s story is a lesson in personal perseverance, joy, commitment and unwavering optimism and idealism that things can always be better than they are today.”

Steve Bullock, Montana Governor (2013–2020)



Presidentess

The Life of First Lady Julia Gardiner Tyler

Christopher J. Leahy and Sharon Williams Leahy

Myths, rumors, and gossip have long circulated around First Lady Julia Gardiner Tyler. Commonly believed to be politically insignificant, most of our fascination with Tyler surrounds her reputation as a highly desired superficial flirt. This salacious mythos was based on her status in a politically influential New York family and the popular rumor that she posed for a sexually suggestive advertisement for a dry goods store in Manhattan.

Now, in the first full biography of Julia Tyler, Christopher J. Leahy and Sharon Williams Leahy correct such longstanding misconceptions about President John Tyler's second wife and establish her reputation as an influential political force. *Presidentess* shows a presidential spouse who was more consequential than people realize and made a lasting contribution to the evolving role of first lady.

Leahy and Leahy present a compelling portrait of a determined woman who came to embrace her new Southern identity after marrying John Tyler, serving as a faithful defender of his views and values—including his decision to renounce the Union and join the Confederate government. In the aftermath of the Civil War, she orchestrated a public relations campaign to restore and protect her legacy as well as that of her late husband, the “traitor president.” In her later years, she successfully lobbied Congress for a pension and reclaimed her status as a former first lady.

Presidentess casts a new light on Julia Gardiner Tyler's life and legacy, including new revelations about the scandalous “Rose of Long Island” advertisement, an exploration of the dark side of New York City's print culture, and Tyler's essential role as an unwitting character in the presidential election of 1844. *Presidentess* gives a fully developed portrait of Julia Tyler, illuminating this controversial first lady and this pivotal turning point in American history.

Christopher J. Leahy is professor of history at Keuka College. He is the author of *President without a Party: The Life of John Tyler*.

Sharon Williams Leahy is an independent scholar with a master's degree in historic preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She is the author of several articles on first ladies, including Julia Gardiner Tyler and Mamie Eisenhower.

The East Wing in American Society

SEPTEMBER

408 pages, 18 photographs, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4267-0, \$44.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4268-7, \$44.99

“Charismatic and celebrated, strategic and shrewd, inspiring and exasperating—the woman who emerges from the pages of *Presidentess: The Life of First Lady Julia Gardiner Tyler* is a historical force to be reckoned with. Using extensive sources, coupled with incisive analysis, Christopher J. Leahy and Sharon Williams Leahy provide a fresh and necessary corrective to Julia Tyler's past treatment at the hands of historians. Her dramatic first lady years are only one chapter in a fascinating American's life.”

Catherine Allgor, PhD, President Emerita-Massachusetts Historical Society, and author of *A Perfect Union: Dolley Madison and the Creation of the American Nation*

“Christopher and Sharon Leahy's extensive research adds new dimensions to the story of Julia Gardiner Tyler. . . . Readers will discover that Julia Tyler was a complex, controversial—and influential—character in her own age and why her legacy remains so today.”

Susan Swain, series host for C-SPAN's *First Ladies: Influence and Image*

Democracy on the Edge

The Trump Elections and the Future of American Politics

John Kenneth White and Matthew R. Kerbel

Our recent elections have been anything but normal. In *Democracy on the Edge*, leading political scientists John Kenneth White and Matthew R. Kerbel unravel the elections of 2020, 2022, and 2024 to show how each represented a flashpoint in the reordering of political priorities and electoral coalitions. The consequences have the potential to redefine our politics and shape our democracy for years to come.

In unpacking recent electoral cycles and placing them in broader historical context, White and Kerbel show that both major parties face unique difficulties. After Barack Obama's election, Democrats believed they were on the cusp of securing a majority that heralded a new era of political realignment around their multiracial dominance. That majority has not yet materialized. Meanwhile, Donald Trump's hostile takeover of the Republican Party has transformed the GOP into a party completely beholden to him, embracing election denialism, conspiracy theories, and policies that are far out of step with the country beyond his base. The efforts of Republicans and Democrats are buffeted by dramatic and unpredictable cultural and economic shifts.

And underneath it all is a political system under unprecedented pressure. Our democracy faces its most severe test since the Civil War. The final denouement of this political saga has yet to be written, but Trump's election leaves us with the possibility of two unfamiliar outcomes—a brand of American authoritarianism or the establishment of a multicultural republic.

At the close of the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was asked by a bystander what kind of government the framers had wrought. Franklin's famous answer was, "A republic, if you can keep it." Keeping the republic will depend on the fallout from the last three unprecedented election cycles. Ultimately, our future is up to us.

John Kenneth White is emeritus professor of politics at The Catholic University of America. In addition to his regular column in *The Hill*, he is the author of many books, including *Grand Old Unraveling: The Republican Party, Donald Trump, and the Rise of Authoritarianism*, also from Kansas.

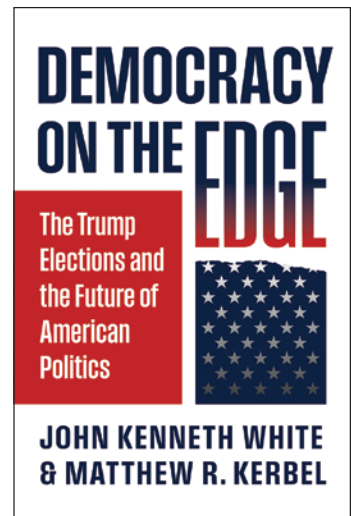
Matthew R. Kerbel is emeritus professor of political science at Villanova University. He is the author of the popular political Substack *Wolves and Sheep*. In addition to many other books, he is the coauthor, with John Kenneth White, of *American Political Parties: Why They Formed, How They Function, and Where They're Headed*, also from Kansas.

AUGUST

236 pages, 6 x 9

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4174-1, \$27.99 (s)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4175-8, \$21.99

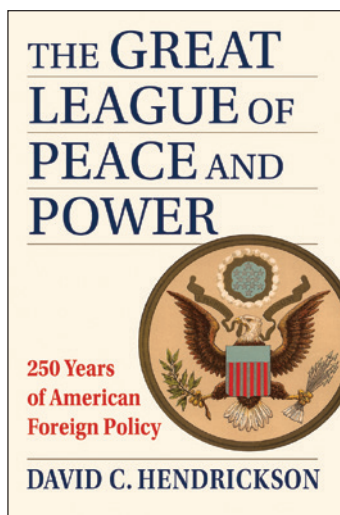


"*Democracy on the Edge* depicts a Fourth Republic in the making, a riveting, clear-eyed tale of a nation positioned at a momentous crossroads. The American people, White and Kerbel show persuasively, face a profound choice between the darkness of authoritarian rule and the light of multiracial democracy, an unprecedented chapter in the never-ending struggle to define who we are as a people."

Sidney M. Milkis, White Burkett Miller Professor, Department of Politics, University of Virginia, and coauthor of *Subverting the Republic: Donald J. Trump and the Perils of Presidentialism*

"White and Kerbel's chilling account should awaken all citizens concerned about the fate of the American experiment. The authors skillfully decipher the generational, cultural, racial, and gender cleavages that played a role in rendering the nation's political parties and its once formidable institutions incapable of rebuffing Trumpism."

Stephen F. Knott, author of *The Lost Soul of the American Presidency: The Decline Into Demagoguery and the Prospects for Renewal*



The Great League of Peace and Power

250 Years of American Foreign Policy

David C. Hendrickson

The Great League of Peace and Power provides a lucid history of American foreign policy and international affairs from the Declaration of Independence in 1776 to its 250th anniversary in 2026. In this concise overview, David C. Hendrickson explores the principal ideas, debates, and strategic challenges that continue to shape today's wars, alliances, and global commitments.

Hendrickson rejects the idea that America's traditional policy of independence was "isolationist," as it had internationalist elements from the beginning. The Founders wanted a new order in North America that would be the antitype of the European system of venomous rivalry among states. Twentieth-century leaders built a system of collective defense that, after the end of the Cold War, morphed into a universal empire, often with disastrous results.

At the heart of this story are fierce domestic debates over power and principle. Hendrickson brings to life the enduring ideas that have guided and divided Americans for generations: neutrality and intervention, diplomacy and war, restraint and dominance. From the early republic to the age of Trump, he shows how these arguments never disappeared but instead resurfaced whenever the nation faced crisis abroad.

Clear, authoritative, and deeply relevant, *The Great League of Peace and Power* speaks directly to today's readers who are questioning America's role on the global stage. Hendrickson ultimately argues that older American diplomatic traditions—grounded in peace, reciprocity, and limits on power—offer the best way forward in an era of global overstretch and rising needs at home.

As the United States reflects on its 250th anniversary, this timely book offers a bracing reassessment of America's past and a compelling lens for understanding its uncertain future.

American Political Thought

David C. Hendrickson is Emeritus Professor of Political Science at Colorado College where he taught until 2020. He is the author of numerous acclaimed works on American diplomacy and political thought, including *Peace Pact: The Lost World of the American Founding* and *Union, Nation, or Empire: The American Debate over International Relations, 1789–1941*, both from University Press of Kansas.

NOVEMBER

368 pages, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4346-2, \$37.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4347-9, \$37.99

"David Hendrickson, a distinguished historian of American foreign policy, sums up the wisdom gleaned during his long career, in what can only be termed a tour de force. Not only is *The Great League of Peace and Power* a model of erudition and shrewd judgment, it is beautifully written and punctures many academic and popular misconceptions about US relations with the world since 1776."

Walter McDougall, author of *The Tragedy of U.S. Foreign Policy: How America's Civil Religion Betrayed the National Interest*

"No one presently writing—I mean no one—can match David Hendrickson's grasp of the ambitions and contradictions that have shaped America's role in the world, both past and present."

Andrew Bacevich, Co-Founder, Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft, and author of *Diplomat in Khaki: Major General Frank Ross McCoy and American Foreign Policy, 1898–1949*

"With *The Great League of Peace and Power*, David Hendrickson makes another provocative and original contribution to the understanding of American history."

Michael Mandelbaum, author of *The American Way of Foreign Policy*

Nixon's War with Students

Campus Unrest in the Vietnam Era

J. Samuel Walker

College students frustrated with the state of American society and foreign policy under a Republican president, rising up in protest across the country. Sound familiar? With new sources and fresh perspective, esteemed historian J. Samuel Walker studies the campus crisis of the late 1960s and early 1970s under President Richard Nixon, during the protracted conflict in Vietnam and roiling racial tensions in the wake of the Civil Rights Movement.

Walker tells how Nixon's administration responded to the intense, and sometimes violent, unrest on college campuses across the United States, which became a prominent policy issue during the first four years of his presidency. A Gallup poll taken in May 1970 showed that campus unrest was rated as the "country's leading problem," outranking the war, other international questions, racial conflict, crime, and inflation. Nixon was so concerned that he created a presidential commission to study the problem, identify its origins, and recommend ways to restore calm to the nation's colleges that had erupted in disorder.

But Nixon was of two minds when it came to campus turmoil. On the one hand, he saw it as a problem that needed to be fixed because it threatened the ability of institutions of higher learning to educate their students and to sponsor vital research. On the other hand, it was an irresistible opportunity to take advantage of the popular outrage with student protests. He hoped that attacking dissidents would appeal to the "silent majority" and build a new political coalition that would support his reelection campaign and the fortunes of the Republican Party going forward. Opting for political gain, Nixon dismissed and privately denounced the findings of his own presidential commission before he had even read its report.

Drawing on many unused or little-known sources, *Nixon's War with Students* is the first book to examine campus disturbances as a national political issue—one that is as relevant and important today as it was then.

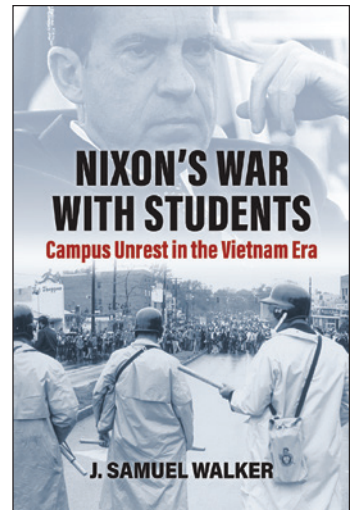
J. Samuel Walker is a professional historian who lives in the Washington, DC, area. He is the author of many books, including *The Day That Shook America: A Concise History of 9/11*, also from Kansas.

SEPTEMBER

224 pages, 8 photographs, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4196-3, \$39.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4197-0, \$39.99



"Did Richard Nixon write the playbook for the current regime's assault on higher education? J. Samuel Walker's lucid and balanced account of Nixon's response to the student unrest of the 1960s shows how a politically astute, if unprincipled, president took advantage of the campus troubles to further his own career and that of the Republican party. It is a must-read for anyone concerned about the fate of America's colleges and universities today."

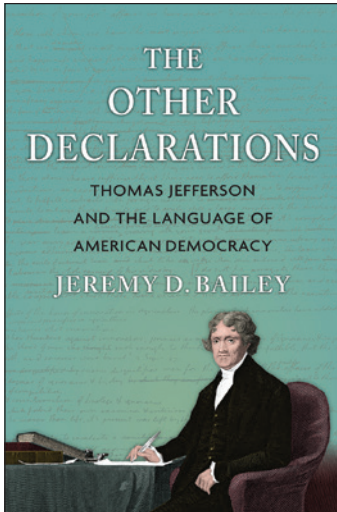
Ellen Schrecker, author of *The Lost Promise: American Universities in the 1960s*

"A thorough and thoughtful study of a subject—campus unrest—with sobering resonances today. Walker particularly excels at tracing the baleful impact of presidential leadership that furthered bitterness and division rather than understanding and reconciliation in a deeply divided America."

Brian VanDeMark, author of *Kent State: An American Tragedy*

"An eye-opening account of campus activism during the Vietnam era."

Luke A. Nichter, author of *The Year That Broke Politics: Collusion and Chaos in the Presidential Election of 1968*



“What does it mean to be a people? Americans traditionally look back to the Declaration of Independence to answer that question. We should also listen to what Thomas Jefferson had to say in the many Other Declarations Jeremy Bailey brings to our attention in his important and illuminating new book. . . . *The Other Declarations: Thomas Jefferson and the Language of American Democracy* is essential reading at yet another critical moment in our national history.”

Peter S. Onuf, Thomas Jefferson Foundation Professor of History, Emeritus, University of Virginia, coauthor of *Thomas Jefferson Survives: American Independence in His Time and Ours*

“Writing the Declaration of Independence was the main source of Thomas Jefferson’s eternal fame. But as Jeremy Bailey notes in this concise, brilliantly incisive book, Jefferson was the author of numerous other declarations that were meant to inform and educate Americans on a wide array of matters. There was, however, one issue where Jefferson manifestly failed: his public neglect of the issue of slavery, an omission that vexes his memory.”

Jack Rakove, William R. Coe Professor of History, Emeritus, Stanford University

The Other Declarations

Thomas Jefferson and the Language of American Democracy

Jeremy D. Bailey

Thomas Jefferson spent his life writing declarations. He believed that the written word could shape democracy, and he worked tirelessly to do so. Ironically, Jefferson’s authorship of the Declaration has stood in the way of our understanding of his many contributions to the practice of American democracy by way of his other declarations.

Renowned Jefferson scholar Jeremy D. Bailey shows how the founder wrestled with three fundamental and enduring problems in American democracy. The first is the freedom of the press and the problem of disinformation in electoral politics, or what Jefferson called “false opinions in league with false facts.” The second is the tension between the necessity of westward expansion and the desirability of some protection of the natural right of Native nations to own their lands. And the third is the question of slavery, and whether the United States could ever bring an end to the peculiar institution. These questions highlight timeless tension between the philosophical ideals and practical imperatives of democratic politics.

Jefferson was uniquely equipped, philosophically and politically, to address these difficulties, but our understanding of Jefferson, and of his successes and failures, is surprisingly incomplete. *The Other Declarations* gives us a fuller picture of one of our most consequential founders.

Jeremy D. Bailey is Professor of Humanities at the Hamilton School at the University of Florida and formerly held the Sanders Chair in Law and Liberty at the University of Oklahoma. Among many books, he is the author of *Thomas Jefferson and Executive Power* and *The Idea of Presidential Representation: An Intellectual and Political History*.

American Political Thought

SEPTEMBER

216 pages, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4282-3, \$39.99 (s)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4283-0, \$21.99

Napoleon's Long Shadow

How French Military Genius Shaped the American Civil War

Timothy B. Smith

For the generation that fought the American Civil War, the wars of the early nineteenth century were not distant history—they were a professional guide. Military education at West Point and elsewhere immersed American officers in the campaigns of Europe's great commanders, and none cast a longer shadow than the Corsican general Napoleon Bonaparte.

Despite decades of casual analogy, until now, no comprehensive study has ever examined how Napoleon's campaigns shaped Civil War operations on the battlefield. Through a series of clear, apples-to-apples comparisons, author Tim Smith places nine of Napoleon's campaigns alongside their closest Civil War counterparts. The result is a fresh interpretation of how the Civil War was fought. Smith argues that the war's early years were profoundly shaped by earlier models of warfare, while its final year marked a decisive break toward a more modern, industrial style of conflict.

By placing these campaigns side by side, *Napoleon's Long Shadow* not only clarifies how Civil War commanders operated, but also challenges long-held assumptions rooted more in legend than in reality.

Timothy B. Smith teaches history at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His many books on the Civil War include *Early Struggles for Vicksburg: The Mississippi Central Campaign and Chickasaw Bayou, October 25–December 31, 1862*; *Bayou Battles for Vicksburg: The Swamp and River Expeditions, January 1–April 30, 1863*; *The Union Assaults at Vicksburg: Grant Attacks Pemberton, May 17–22, 1863*; and *The Siege of Vicksburg: Climax of the Campaign to Open the Mississippi River, May 23–July 4, 1863*, all published by Kansas.

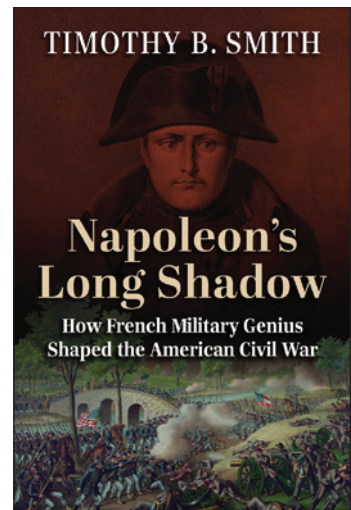
Modern War Studies

NOVEMBER

344 pages, 21 photographs, 18 maps, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4349-3, \$54.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4350-9, \$54.99

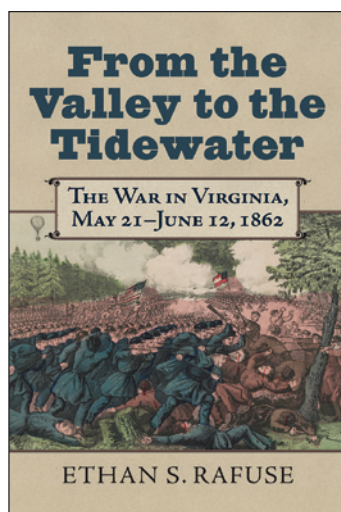


"Civil War–era officers often referred to Napoleon, who towered over the mid-nineteenth-century military landscape. Timothy B. Smith pairs battles from the Napoleonic wars and the Civil War to offer a compelling examination of how West Point–trained generals compared to the 'Little Corporal' in planning, execution, and outcomes. His conclusions should spark spirited and fruitful debate."

Gary W. Gallagher, John L. Nau III
Professor of History Emeritus,
University of Virginia

"Whether it be setting Shiloh side by side with Waterloo, or Chickamauga with Austerlitz, the similarities and contradictions Smith finds are eye-opening. Readers interested in the art of command will find much to ponder in this richly researched and elegantly written narrative. And many will be surprised—and some challenged—by Smith's conclusion as to who was the one true Napoleonic commander of the Civil War."

William C. Davis, Retired Professor of History at Virginia Tech, and editor of *Secret History of Confederate Diplomacy Abroad*



“Smartly written, deeply researched, and well-balanced in its analysis, *From the Valley to the Tidewater* offers the first serious study of military operations in Virginia during the crucial three-week period from late May to mid-June 1862. It reveals how those operations impacted Union and Confederate war planners and affected soldiers, sailors, and civilians caught in the war’s path. Rafuse’s marvelous study is indispensable for anyone interested in the Civil War in the Old Dominion.”

Jonathan A. Noyalas, Hugh & Virginia McCormick Chair in Civil War History at Shenandoah University, and author of *General Philip H. Sheridan: Life, War, and Memory*

“In this revealing study, Rafuse connects the dots of a complex, evolving military tableau and convincingly explains how hope for conciliation declined as the will to fight hardened during this crucial period. Deeply researched and clearly written, this book is a must for any student of the war in the east.”

Hampton Newsome, author of *Gettysburg’s Southern Front: Opportunity and Failure at Richmond*

From the Valley to the Tidewater

The War in Virginia, May 21–June 12, 1862

Ethan S. Rafuse

In this new volume, Ethan Rafuse continues his history of the Civil War in Virginia that began with *From the Mountains to the Bay: The War in Virginia, January–May 1862*, offering a comprehensive account that combines military narrative with an examination of how politicians and civilians grappled with the war on the home front.

By May 1862, the Union had achieved so much progress that it was possible to believe the hopes of those who thought the war could soon be brought to a triumphant end would be fulfilled. Yet by May 21 there were indications of challenging times ahead for the Union effort, as operational and logistical factors arrested the momentum of Union offensive efforts. This created opportunities for the Confederacy, whose efforts to exploit them produced significant engagements at Front Royal, Winchester, Hanover Court House, Fair Oaks, Cross Keys, and Port Republic.

Fully understanding the war in Virginia during this period requires paying attention to matters beyond the movements of armies. It was not just events on the battlefield that would determine whether the Union could win the war in Virginia before the year was out. Defeating Confederate armies and navies and restoring territory to the control of Union authorities was only the first of a two-part formula Union policymakers had devised. The other part was rooted in a belief that support for the Confederacy was shallow and could be undermined through a conciliation policy toward the Confederacy’s citizens.

As one phase in the war for Virginia ended, another began—one that would do much to answer the question of whether Union hopes for a military victory significant enough to heal the divided nation would be realized in 1862.

Ethan S. Rafuse is a professor of military history at the US Army Command and General Staff College. His books include *McClellan’s War: The Failure of Moderation in the Struggle for the Union*, *Robert E. Lee and the Fall of the Confederacy, 1863–1865*, and *From the Mountains to the Bay: The War in Virginia, January–May 1862* and *Guide to the Richmond-Petersburg Campaign*, both published by Kansas.

Modern War Studies

NOVEMBER

480 pages, 10 photographs, 15 maps, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4357-8, \$59.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4358-5, \$59.99

Conscription in the Twentieth Century

Coercion and Resistance in Global Perspective

Edited by Amy J. Rutenberg

Americans often view their military through the lens of confident exceptionalism—a belief that the challenges faced by other nations could never take root in the United States. Our history, we tell ourselves, proves it. Yet a closer look at how Americans have responded to military service reveals a far more complicated story: moments of internal rebellion, mass resistance to conscription, ethically fraught wars, and recurring gaps between the military and the society it serves. These realities call not for complacency, but for humility—and for serious engagement with the experiences of others.

Conscription in the Twentieth Century confronts one of the most fundamental questions in civil-military relations: Who serves? While often framed as a uniquely American debate, this question has shaped national identity, citizenship, social cohesion, and political legitimacy across the world and in different types of government. Drawing on a remarkable range of international case studies, this volume shows how conscription has unified societies and fractured them, strengthened democratic legitimacy and exposed its absence.

At a moment when democracies confront politicized militaries, recruiting crises, declining public trust, and widening civil-military divides, the lessons of this book are both timely and urgent. Essential reading for students of military history and civil-military relations, *Conscription in the Twentieth Century* will also speak directly to policy-makers, military professionals, and anyone grappling with the future of democratic defense.

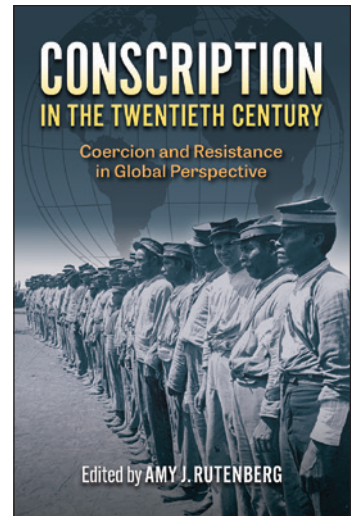
Amy J. Rutenberg is associate professor of history at Iowa State University, where she specializes in US history at the intersection of war, gender, activism, and civil-military relations. She is the author of *Rough Draft: Cold War Military Manpower Policy and the Origins of Vietnam-Era Draft Resistance*. Her work has appeared in *Cold War History*, *The New York Times*, and *The Atlantic*.

NOVEMBER

384 pages, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4353-0, \$59.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4354-7, \$59.99

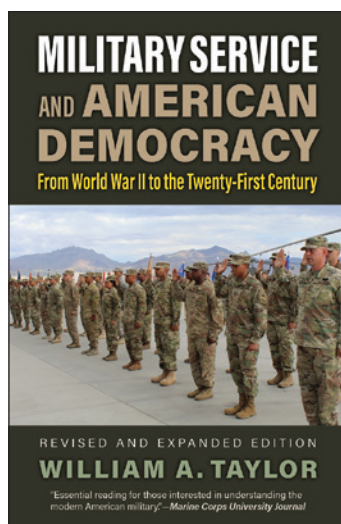


“Beautifully written, intellectually stimulating and increasingly relevant, *Conscription in the Twentieth Century* speaks to the perennial question of ‘Who serves?’ With chapters from contemporary and historical cases written by experts in their disciplines, the book connects conscription to vital issues of citizenship, state authority, politics, society and the armed forces’ effectiveness in wartime. I simply cannot wait to share this book with my colleagues and students.”

Risa Brooks, coeditor of *Creating Military Power: The Sources of Military Effectiveness*

“Amy Rutenberg has assembled the first historical analysis of conscription and resistance across different nations across the twentieth century. The range of these essays is remarkable, particularly for the global South, as is the attention to the varying contexts, paradoxes, and consequences of conscription, for armies, societies, and their politics. Framing by political scientists adds further value to the many nuanced perspectives.”

Samuel Watson, editor of *The Oxford Handbook of American Military History*



Praise for the First Edition

"Should be considered essential reading for those interested in understanding the modern American military. Any serious scholar of U.S. military history from 1900 forward should include this in their must-read list. Any student of African American or women's history would also find Taylor's analysis of the roles of both groups in military and civilian sectors insightful."

Marine Corps University Journal

"A well-researched and discerning examination of the historical context of current debates about the nature of military service and civil-military relations as a framework for larger discussions about service, citizenship, and democracy. William Taylor's principal achievement here is to have persuasively shown that the study of changes in American military service during and since World War II, often in the face of strong opposition, gives us reason to hope that the bond between citizen and soldier can one day be reforged."

Michigan War Studies Review

Military Service and American Democracy

From World War II to the Twenty-First Century

Revised and Expanded Edition

William A. Taylor

In *Military Service and American Democracy*, William A. Taylor traces the long and contentious evolution of how the United States has built and maintained its armed forces—from the first peacetime draft on the eve of World War II to beyond the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Spanning the selective service era (1940–1973) and the All-Volunteer Force (1973–present), he shows how varying societal debates and changing policies about who serves in the military and how have shaped both the armed forces and the nation for more than eighty-five years.

In this new edition, Taylor addresses both enduring military traditions and major changes driven by contemporary social and geopolitical forces, including recruitment and retention challenges, shifting public trust, the integration of women into combat roles, and expansion into cyber and space domains.

William A. Taylor is the Lee Drain Endowed University Professor and chair of the Department of Global Security Studies and Criminal Justice at Angelo State University. He is editor of the University Press of Kansas's *Studies in Civil-Military Relations* series.

Modern War Studies

NOVEMBER

320 pages, 25 photographs, 6 x 9

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4379-0, \$34.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4380-6, \$32.99

The Character of Freedom

The Scottish Enlightenment and American Slavery

Gideon Mailer

The concept of liberty—so important to the American founding—was significantly informed by Scottish Enlightenment philosophy, which was central to the Framers' religious and political education. This intellectual tradition offered potential support for antislavery ideology. Some Founders, however, were also enslavers whose practices of bondage were in conspicuous contradiction with these professed ideals. What is the actual relationship between the Scottish Enlightenment and racial slavery? Gideon Mailer answers this question in *The Character of Freedom*.

Mailer examines how enlightenment and evangelical religious ideas interacted with discussions of racial slavery in the Scottish Atlantic World from the 1740s through the 1840s. From Glasgow to Philadelphia, from Edinburgh to Princeton, and from Aberdeen to Virginia, Scottish-founded religious and educational bodies encompassed competing moral philosophical systems. Moral thinkers developed conceptions of liberty that reflected their institutional and theological commitments.

In Britain, colonial America, and the United States, white thinkers were required to grapple with—or simply evade—the contradiction between their theoretical definitions of liberty and the slaveholding interests in their realm. In those same contexts, however, black Presbyterians were likelier to use Scottish moral philosophy to espouse a more radical abolitionist approach, eventually influencing white theorists to adopt bolder agendas.

The Character of Freedom is an eye-opening look at the history of abolitionist ideas in the formative period of American political life. Spanning the Atlantic and exploring both white and black thinkers, Mailer's groundbreaking work is a major contribution to our understanding of early American political thought.

Gideon Mailer is professor of history at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He is the author of *John Witherspoon's American Revolution* and *Remembering Histories of Trauma: North American Genocide and the Holocaust in Public Memory*.

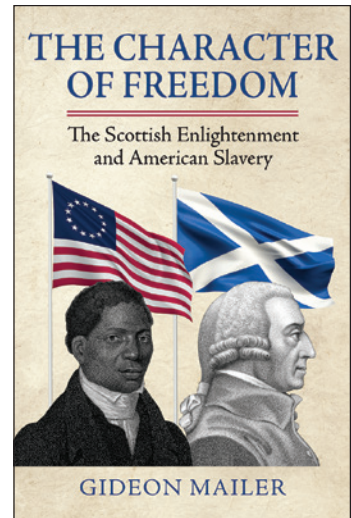
American Political Thought

JULY

416 pages, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4228-1, \$54.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4229-8, \$54.99

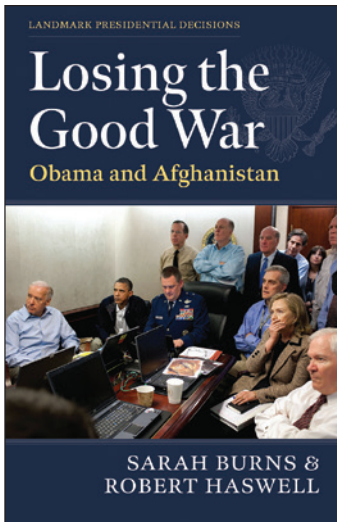


"The influence of eighteenth-century Scottish moral philosophers (Francis Hutcheson, Thomas Reid, Adam Smith, and others) on Americans is well known, and that they frequently theorized about slavery. No one, however, has done what Gideon Mailer brilliantly achieves in this book by examining connections between these philosophers (or those they influenced, many of them Presbyterians with evangelical convictions) and their stances on slavery . . . The book is comparative, intellectual, religious, and cultural history at its best."

Mark Noll, author of *America's Book: The Rise and Decline of a Bible Civilization, 1794–1911*

"Gideon Mailer takes up one of the biggest historical questions of our moment: Did the Enlightenment ultimately contribute to the rise of abolitionism or help justify chattel slavery in the New World? His original answer draws us deep into eighteenth-century Scottish thought and then shows us the mutability of ideas, especially in the hands of black Presbyterians whom Mailer effectively restores to intellectual history."

Sophia Rosenfeld, author of *The Age of Choice: A History of Freedom in Modern Life*



“This richly detailed study examines how President Barack Obama decided in 2009 to authorize a major increase of US troops in Afghanistan to defeat terrorist groups and support political stability and democracy. The nuanced analysis addresses endemic problems with achieving such far-reaching goals through evaluating the complexity of the war in Afghanistan across multiple presidencies. It explains how broad constraints from public opinion, particularly concerns about US national security, present fundamental challenges for presidents to reset expectations for military action.”

Meena Bose, Executive Dean for Public Policy and Public Service Programs, and Director, Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency, Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, Hofstra University

“For those wondering why Afghanistan became America’s longest war, *Losing the Good War* sheds light on how the pressures of domestic politics and national narratives can constrain even the most powerful leaders.”

Tizoc Chavez, author of *The Diplomatic Presidency: American Foreign Policy from FDR to George H. W. Bush*

Losing the Good War

Obama and Afghanistan

Sarah Burns and Robert Haswell

Barack Obama entered the White House in 2009 with a mandate to end the wars and occupations begun under George W. Bush. The American public and foreign policy-makers alike were ready to withdraw from these unpopular and unwieldy conflicts. While Obama fulfilled his campaign promises with the “bad war” in Iraq, the “good war” in Afghanistan followed a very different path.

Unlike his predecessor, Obama chose to prioritize South Asia as the focus of the United States military. Following a strategic review, Obama and his military advisors decided to replicate the Iraqi troop surge in Afghanistan, embarking on a labor-intensive counterinsurgency campaign. Unlike the Iraqi surge, however, Obama placed an eighteen-month limit on the increased troop deployment promising a withdrawal in the summer of 2011. Despite a revised strategy that emphasized training the Afghan forces, the Afghan units struggled to perform in a leadership role, remaining dependent on American airpower. These problems were compounded by the civilian side of the government that suffered from corruption and appeared illegitimate to much of the Afghan population.

After Obama withdrew troops, the Taliban began their resurgence in 2014. Around the same time the Islamic State emerged on the scene in Iraq and Syria, requiring new counterterrorism efforts that drained resources from Afghanistan and shifted the US focus back to the Middle East, leaving Afghanistan more vulnerable to local and international extremists. Peace talks with the Taliban broke down, and the war dragged on—becoming an unwinnable quagmire.

As part of the Landmark Presidential Decisions series, *Losing the Good War* analyzes how Obama’s campaign promises translated into policy, particularly the decision-making around the surge. Sarah Burns and Robert Haswell shine a light on this mishandled episode in US foreign policy.

Sarah Burns is associate professor of political science at Rochester Institute of Technology. She is the author of *The Politics of War Powers: The Theory and History of Presidential Unilateralism* (Kansas, 2019).

Robert Haswell holds a PhD from Carleton University (2026). His research interests include American foreign policy and United States military affairs.

Landmark Presidential Decisions

AUGUST

180 pages, 5½ x 8½

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4292-2, \$99.99 (x)

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4293-9 \$24.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4294-6, \$24.99

Jefferson's Landmark Deal

The Politics of the Louisiana Purchase

Lara M. Brown

Thomas Jefferson is one of the more inscrutable characters in American history. While he is best known for the Declaration of Independence and his conflicting legacy on race and slavery, his pursuit of the Louisiana Purchase was a crucial decision for the trajectory of the country and the development of the presidency. In this volume of the Landmark Presidential Decisions series Lara M. Brown casts Jefferson as a shrewd and calculating politician. Brown examines the historical and political circumstances that led to the Louisiana Purchase, in which Jefferson's inclination to pursue a strategy of misinformation and patient persuasion rather than engaging in a direct confrontation or a show of force with Napoleon helped to transform a series of accidents into a historic moment of luck.

In addition to exploring the international politics and domestic pressures that helped bring about this deal, Brown examines the larger theoretical issues related to the presidency itself. While Jefferson expressed concern about the constitutionality of the agreement and briefly considered passing a constitutional amendment, his decision to follow Madison's advice and move quickly on the purchase established the "national emergency" rationale upon which the "imperial presidency" was partly constructed. Moreover, Jefferson relied on American ministers to act as his representatives in executing the deal, underlining the importance of governance, communication, and the management of a burgeoning executive branch.

The Louisiana Purchase is essential to understanding territorial expansion, foreign policy in the early republic, and the perennial political dilemmas surrounding the ambiguity of Article II in the Constitution. Lara Brown expertly guides readers through one of the most consequential decisions in early American history.

Lara M. Brown currently serves as a senior policy advisor to the Center on Civility and Democracy at The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute. Previously, she held academic posts at the George Washington University and Villanova University. Among her scholarly publications, she is the author of *Amateur Hour: Presidential Character and the Question of Leadership*.

Landmark Presidential Decisions

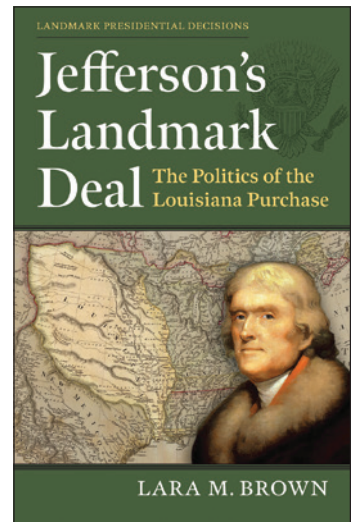
AUGUST

168 pages, 1 map, 5½ x 8½

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4240-3, \$99.99 (x)

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4241-0 \$27.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4242-7, \$27.99

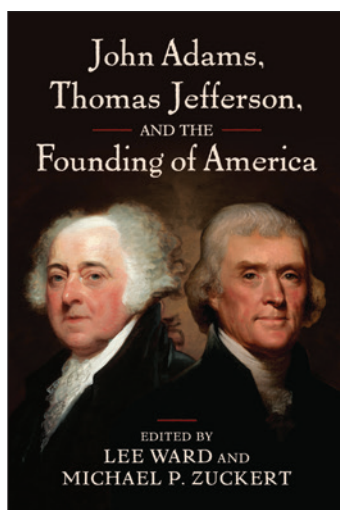


"At times I felt like I was reading the script of a movie or a multi-part Netflix political drama. That is a compliment! Other authors far too often portray Jefferson as a philosopher or a sanctimonious ideologue, when in fact, he was just another politician of his era. The Louisiana Purchase is commonly depicted as the result of a situation where Jefferson took advantage of the opportunity when America's interests aligned with France's, but the reality was much more fluid and complicated for both countries. Lara Brown does an excellent job at illuminating that state of affairs."

Donald A. Zinman, author of *The Heir Apparent Presidency* and *America's First Wartime Election: James Madison, DeWitt Clinton, and the War of 1812*

"This insightful analysis is a must-read for those interested in communication, policymaking, history, and political science, and is especially relevant to those interested in how the nation and its presidency have developed from Jefferson's time to now."

Mary E. Stuckey, author of *Remembering Jefferson: Who He Was, Who We Are*



“The decades-long rivalry and friendship between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson is as fascinating as it is instructive. This fine volume of essays, from an all-star cast of scholars, is a fitting way to mark the two hundredth anniversary of their famously well-timed deaths.”

Dennis C. Rasmussen, author of *The Constitution’s Penman: Gouverneur Morris and the Creation of America’s Basic Charter*

“The Adams-Jefferson story has been told many times, in historical scholarship and in American folklore. But that story is often told in a schematic and oversimplified way. *John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and the Founding of America* makes the Adams-Jefferson story fresh again. These essays invite the reader to think anew about the questions and problems that Adams and Jefferson faced, both individually and in dialogue with one another.”

James H. Read, author of *Sovereign of a Free People: Abraham Lincoln, Majority Rule, and Slavery*

John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and the Founding of America

Edited by Lee Ward and Michael P. Zuckert

John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died hours apart on July 4, 1826—exactly fifty years after they drafted the Declaration of Independence. Adams and Jefferson were undoubtedly two of the most important and consequential Founders. And yet, two hundred years after their passing, they remain the subject of intense discussion as Americans continue to assess their legacy in relation to the nation’s identity and future.

To mark the bicentennial of the passing of Adams and Jefferson—and the 250th anniversary of the United States of America—this volume brings together some of the most important scholars of the early republic to offer new and original insights into their lives and legacies. Thematic essays explore their presidencies, their disagreements about the meaning and value of democracy, and their views on education, religion, and science. Important and controversial topics, including the idea of natural aristocracy and the problem of slavery, are considered as well.

Beginning with an introduction by Gordon Wood, this masterful volume includes essays by Luke Mayville, Vincent Phillip Muñoz, Peter Onuf, Richard A. Ryerson, Darren Staloff, Brian Steele, George Thomas, Bradley Thompson, Lee Ward, and Jean Yarbrough. The book concludes with a three-act play about the Adams-Jefferson relationship coauthored by Michael Zuckert.

Lee Ward is professor of political science at Baylor University. He is the author of several books, including *John Locke and Modern Life* and *Recovering Classical Liberal Political Economy: Natural Rights and the Harmony of Interests*.

Michael P. Zuckert is Dreux Professor Emeritus at the University of Notre Dame and Clinical Professor at Arizona State University. He was the founding editor of the journal *American Political Thought*. He is the author of many books, including *A Nation So Conceived: Abraham Lincoln and the Paradox of Democratic Sovereignty*, also from Kansas.

American Political Thought

AUGUST

276 pages, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4270-0, \$99.99 (x)

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4271-7, \$39.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4272-4, \$39.99

The White Ribbon Army Reconsidered

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union After 150 Years

Edited by Adam Chamberlain, Janet Olson, and Alixandra B. Yanus

Originating as a series of local temperance crusades in 1873, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) coalesced in November 1874 and soon became the largest women's political organization in the United States. As champions of social reform, members identified themselves by the white ribbon bows they pinned to their dresses, a symbol of purity and commitment to the temperance cause, inspiring the nickname "the White Ribbon Army."

Following President Frances Willard's command to "Do Everything," the WCTU developed a wide sphere of influence in social reform circles. The WCTU's global agenda included other reforms related to women's traditional role as the center of the home and family, including suffrage, prison reform, and education. In the twentieth century, its message and methods inspired and mobilized not only white evangelical Protestant women but also those from other Christian denominations, racial and ethnic minorities, and their husbands and children who joined auxiliary organizations.

But what was once a powerful, organized global force has become an amorphous and contradictory caricature. The WCTU has been portrayed as socialist and ultra-conservative, ineffectual and powerful, inclusive and divisive. Its long-term legacy as an influential women's network has been left underexamined, and there is a need for a reevaluation of the organization.

Marking the WCTU's 150th anniversary, *The White Ribbon Army Reconsidered* brings together scholars from women's and public history, political science, rhetoric, and religious studies. Its twelve essays explore the WCTU's broad impact on politics, society, and culture, acknowledging the WCTU's complexities and contradictions to provide a fresh reassessment of this once-powerful organization and to inspire further research.

Adam Chamberlain is professor of political science at Coastal Carolina University.

Janet Olson is the former archivist at the Frances Willard House Museum and WCTU Archives in Evanston, IL.

Alixandra B. Yanus is professor of political science at High Point University and the former Daniel German Visiting Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Appalachian State University.

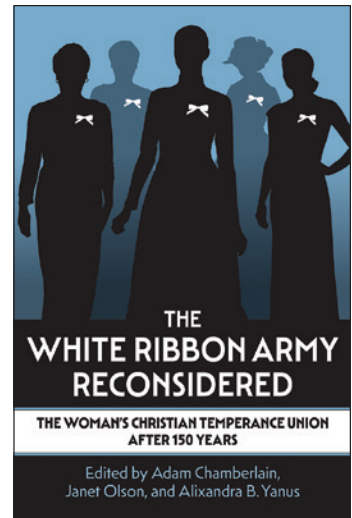
AUGUST

340 pages, 7 photographs, 6 x 9

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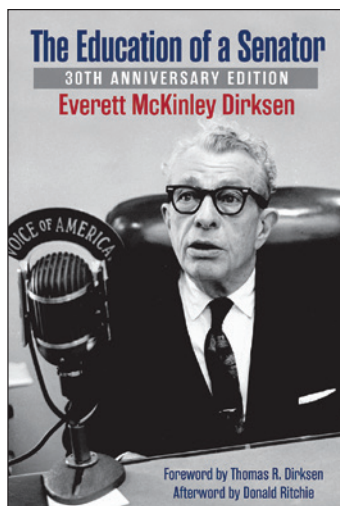


"The Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) was unquestionably the most important women's organization in American history. . . . *The White Ribbon Army Reconsidered* is a profound and much-needed historical investigation, that will provide a valuable scholarly touchstone for students of American and transnational history, sociology, gender studies, race and ethnic politics for generations to come."

Mark Schrad, author of *Smashing the Liquor Machine: A Global History of Prohibition*

"This collection is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand how faith-infused women's activism simultaneously advanced reform, revealed deep tensions, and transformed public life across national and international contexts."

Ashley Boggan, General Secretary, General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church, author of *Nevertheless: Methodist Women and Women's Rights* and *Wesleyan Vile-tality: Reclaiming the Heart of Methodist Identity*



The Education of a Senator

30th Anniversary Edition

Everett McKinley Dirksen

Everett McKinley Dirksen was elected to the US House of Representatives in 1932 and served as the US Senate Minority Leader from 1959–1969, and he is best known for his role as the nation's top Republican leader who facilitated the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against Southern Democrat intransigence. During his time in Congress, he captivated his colleagues and audiences everywhere with his rhetoric and his voice, and his legislative prowess earned him a reputation for being the “Uncrowned King of the Senate.”

Years after Dirksen died unexpectedly in 1969, the Dirksen Congressional Center discovered a rough manuscript of the autobiography that the Senator had been crafting, which describes in his own voice and vivid recollection the major moments of his life that ultimately shaped the person who won the “impossible” race for US Senate in 1950 against its Majority Leader Scott Lucas.

The Education of a Senator is a must-read for anyone drawn to the personal stories behind public figures, offering a deeper appreciation for the compelling blend of Dirksen's everyday humanity and remarkable leadership. Originally published in 1996, this 30th anniversary edition includes a new introduction from Everett Dirksen's nephew, Tom Dirksen, and an afterword from Senate Historian Emeritus Donald Ritchie. It also includes dozens of photos from Dirksen's personal papers that add a new level of detail about his life. In the context of current events that are dramatically shaping the story of our country, *The Education of a Senator* is a remarkable testament to an individual who left an indelible impression on Congress.

The Dirksen Congressional Center is pleased to introduce a new generation of readers, public servants, and future historians to Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen with the publication of this new edition.

Everett McKinley Dirksen is remembered as a prominent and effective congressional leader. As Senate Minority Leader (1959–1969), he became well-known for his indispensable role in successfully negotiating and gathering the support of his colleagues to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Upon his death in 1969, his family and former staff collaborated with the Pekin community to establish the Everett McKinley Dirksen Congressional Leadership Research Center and advance the public's understanding of the US Congress.

Congressional Leaders

SEPTEMBER

316 pages, 45 photographs, 6 x 9

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4360-8, \$29.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4361-5, \$29.99

“If only more politicians could reflect on their political education with the candor and humor that Everett Dirksen does in this rare memoir from one of the truly great national leaders of the twentieth century.”

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“In the foreword, Howard Baker writes ‘Virtually every idea [Dirksen] held, he held tentatively.’ To learn how a person with that approach can emerge as a giant on the national scene, and play a key role in the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, is fascinating.”

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“Dirksen provides a case study in the making of an effective political leader. General readers in Illinois and elsewhere will enjoy his charming anecdotes, vivid character sketches, and a folksy wisdom.”

Patrick J. Maney, Professor of History, Tulane University

Unexceptional Conquests

1898 and the Construction of America's Imperial Identity

Edited by Paul T. McCartney

The War of 1898—also known as the Spanish-American War—was a pivotal moment in American history, in which the United States initiated an ostensibly humanitarian war against Spain in April yet emerged eight months later with a colonial empire over the people it claimed to rescue. This was immediately followed by the Philippine-American War, an ugly conflict in which the United States brutally suppressed Filipino nationalists who resisted American colonization. While historians have recognized the colonial ambitions of the United States throughout its early history, the events of 1898 highlighted, in stark clarity, the tension between the nation's exceptionalist claims to moral superiority and its highly unexceptional ambitions for imperial domination.

Unexceptional Conquests gathers some of the foremost scholars of the Gilded Age and American empire to examine American identity around 1898. Its chapters collectively argue that empire has figured more prominently in the construction of American national identity than many accounts acknowledge. As Americans grappled with the imperatives arising from their post-1898 colonial ambitions, they found themselves developing new legal and policy frameworks that challenged some inherited constructs, such as those concerning the proper scale of government or the value of self-government, while reinforcing others, such as those regarding gender, racial, and religious hierarchies. American beliefs and practices needed to bend to accommodate its new imperial status, given the unprecedented decision to acquire territories and peoples who were intended never to become states and citizens.

The contributors to this volume elucidate the cultural and intellectual origins and outcomes of these events. Without ignoring or downplaying the role of economic motivations for American conduct, this volume highlights the patterns of thought that both influence and are influenced by empire. Includes contributions by Sam Erman, Julian Go, Susan K. Harris, Fabian Hilfrich, Kristin L. Hoganson, Bonnie M. Miller, Julie Novkov, Louis A. Pérez, Bartholomew H. Sparrow, and Lanny Thompson.

Paul T. McCartney is professor of political science at Towson University. He is the author of *Power and Progress: American National Identity, the War of 1898, and the Rise of American Imperialism*.

OCTOBER

382 pages, 6 x 9

Paperback ISBN 978-0-7006-4296-0, \$39.99 (x)

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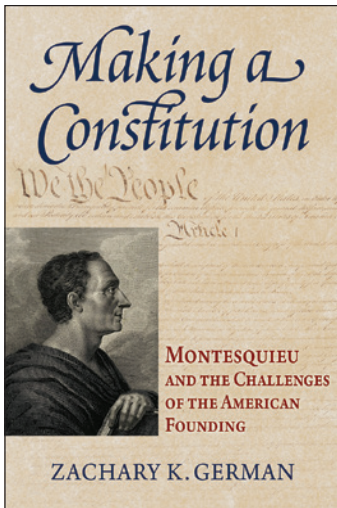


“Unexceptional Conquests sheds new light on the United States’ emergence as a global empire. Deploying analytical approaches from multiple disciplines, it reveals the rhetorical contortions and structural inequalities integral to building that empire. Collectively, its incisive chapters now represent the single best entry point to 1898 and its ongoing aftermaths.”

Oli Charbonneau, author of *Civilizational Imperatives: Americans, Moros, and the Colonial World*

“Finally, thanks to Paul T. McCartney, we have a compendium showcasing the most groundbreaking contemporary scholarship on the Spanish-American War and its complex origins, consequences, meanings, and legacies. Essays ranging topically from historiography, Christian nationalism, and gender and racial politics to media culture, labor protest, and constitutional jurisprudence, among other subjects, offer a rich mosaic of interdisciplinary research on the United States’ turn to ‘saltwater empire’ in the 1898 era. The result is an exceptionally illuminating guide to the making of a surprisingly unexceptional imperial nation.”

Justin F. Jackson, author of *The Work of Empire: War, Occupation, and the Making of American Colonialism in Cuba and the Philippines*



Making a Constitution

Montesquieu and the Challenges of the American Founding

Zachary K. German

Few thinkers loom larger over the American founding than Montesquieu. The framers repeatedly invoked his authority while drafting, debating, and ratifying the Constitution—yet the true depth and complexity of his influence has never been fully explained. In *Making a Constitution*, Zachary K. German offers the most definitive account to date, revealing how Montesquieu's political philosophy shaped not just familiar concepts like separation of powers but the very logic of American constitutional design.

German argues that Montesquieu's central insight—the need to tailor laws and institutions to a people's distinctive “spirit”—was foundational to how the framers understood the possibilities and limits of republican government. Drawing on Montesquieu's spirit-oriented approach, German reframes the core problems of constitutionalism: how to reconcile liberty with republican rule, how to divide power vertically between levels of government, and how to separate power horizontally among institutions. He then shows how Federalists and Anti-Federalists alike, all steeped in Montesquieu's thought, reached sharply different conclusions about how best to preserve liberty within the particular character and circumstances of the American people.

As the “spirit” of the American people has changed in profound ways since the founding, so too has our understanding of the Constitution. German reminds us that Montesquieu's insights remain perennially relevant. At a moment of renewed controversy over constitutional meaning, this book offers a vital framework for rethinking the enduring challenges of American constitutionalism.

Zachary K. German is assistant professor in the Institute of American Civics at the Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

American Political Thought

NOVEMBER

280 pages, 6 x 9

Hardcover ISBN 978-0-7006-4325-7, \$54.99 (x)

Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-4326-4, \$54.99

“This book is both timely and timeless. When examining the current struggles in the American constitutional order, German's work offers a well-reasoned justification for turning towards Montesquieu, the Federalists, and the Anti-Federalists for answers. Bringing Montesquieu into a dialogue with the founders provides a unique lens on the controversies of the time that continue to have important lessons for today's politics.”

Sarah Burns, author of *The Politics of War Powers: The Theory and History of Presidential Unilateralism*

“Montesquieu and the American Founders is a familiar topic among founding scholars, largely because of their common concern with separation of powers and the argument about small republics. But German has a different and highly welcome take on the subject. He takes off from the French thinker's concern with ‘mores’ and in doing so reveals new dimensions of the founders' thinking.”

Michael Zuckert, author of *A Nation So Conceived: Abraham Lincoln and the Paradox of Democratic Sovereignty*

Read My Lips

George H. W. Bush and the 1990 Budget Agreement

John J. Pitney, Jr.

“Read my lips: no new taxes.” With that electrifying pledge at the 1988 Republican National Convention, George H. W. Bush sealed his nomination and unified a party. The promise became one of the most famous—and most consequential—lines in modern American political history. When President Bush broke it two years later, the fallout didn’t just derail a presidency; it permanently transformed Republican thinking about taxes, deficits, and political survival.

In 1990, facing a ballooning deficit, binding budget law, and the high-stakes final phase of the Cold War, Bush made a fateful decision to accept a budget deal that included tax increases. The reaction was swift and brutal. Conservatives erupted in anger. Headlines screamed betrayal. Party unity collapsed. Though the agreement ultimately helped balance the federal budget, Bush paid a steep political price and lost his bid for reelection in 1992.

Drawing on rare firsthand experience and rigorous historical analysis, John J. Pitney, Jr.—who worked inside the Republican National Committee during the crisis—reveals what really happened behind closed doors. He shows why Bush believed he had no viable alternative, how Democrats forced the issue, and why defense cuts were a nonstarter at a pivotal moment in global politics. Most importantly, Pitney traces how Republicans turned the 1990 budget deal into a cautionary myth: the belief that any tax compromise guarantees political ruin.

That lesson, embraced as doctrine, has shaped Republican fiscal strategy for decades. It has fueled resistance to deficit reduction, constrained budget negotiations, and helped drive today’s federal debt. By revisiting the moment when the party’s modern tax orthodoxy was forged, this book offers essential insight into the roots of contemporary budget battles.

Authoritative and deeply revealing, this is the definitive account of how one broken promise changed American politics and why its consequences are still with us.

John J. Pitney, Jr. is Roy P. Crocker Professor of American Politics at Claremont McKenna College. He is the author of many books, including *After Reagan: Bush, Dukakis, and the 1988 Election*, also from Kansas.

Landmark Presidential Decisions

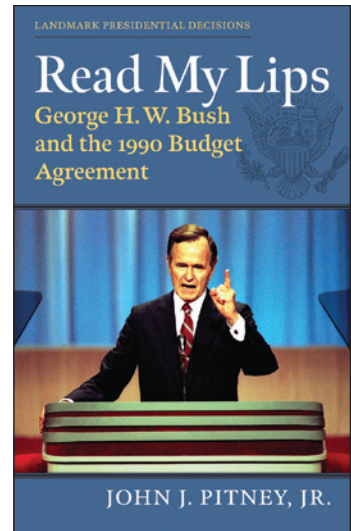
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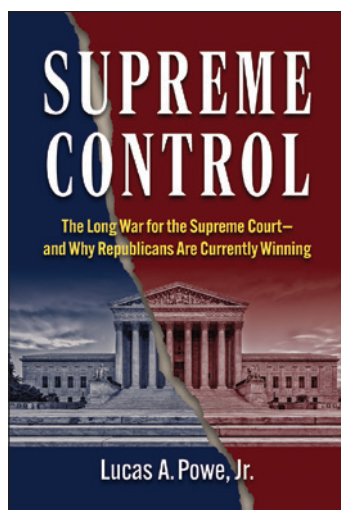


“If anyone is looking for the moment when the modern conservative movement was born, look no further than the moment when George H. W. Bush reversed his ‘read my lips’ campaign promise, agreed to a significant tax hike, and was vocally attacked not only by the opposition party, but by Republicans who felt a deep sense of betrayal. John Pitney brings the memory of a player in this drama, as well as the skill of a scholar, to his graceful telling of this important story. It should be read by anyone who needs to know why today’s politics are as personal, as vicious, and as polarized as they have become.”

John Robert Greene, author of *The Presidency of George H. W. Bush*

“*Read My Lips* sheds light not only on the far-reaching political and economic consequences of Bush’s fateful reversal but also the lessons they offer with the benefit of hindsight.”

Mark K. Updegrove, Chairman and CEO of the LBJ Foundation and author of *The Last Republicans: Inside the Extraordinary Relationship Between George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush*



“This is a magnificent, sweeping history of the Supreme Court and constitutional law from its earliest moments through today. In a very clear and accessible way, Professor Powe has written a book that will inform and entertain both experts and those with little background in constitutional law.”

Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley School of Law

“Lucas A. Powe, Jr. is one of our nation’s most distinguished Supreme Court historians, as his writing has indelibly shaped how we understand broad swaths of the American constitutional landscape. In *Supreme Control*, Powe brilliantly excavates and illuminates one of the most important—and yet one of the most underexplored—topics in our constitutional order. . . . All Americans interested in the modern Supreme Court—and how we arrived at this improbable moment—will need to reckon with Powe’s engaging, provocative, and persuasive account.”

Justin Driver, author of *Washington Post* Notable Book of the Year and *The New York Times Book Review* Editors’ Choice *The Schoolhouse Gate: Public Education, the Supreme Court, and the Battle for the American Mind*

Supreme Control

The Long War for the Supreme Court—and Why Republicans Are Currently Winning

Lucas A. Powe, Jr.

In *Supreme Control*, leading Supreme Court scholar Lucas A. Powe, Jr. explains how the United States arrived at the Republican-dominated Roberts Court that is transforming constitutional law and reshaping everyday American life. What once seemed unthinkable—a Court willing to overturn long-settled precedent to advance a single political vision—has become reality.

Powe argues that today’s Court fulfills a decades-long Republican project: the creation of a reliably conservative Supreme Court. Built through a carefully orchestrated strategy culminating in the judicial appointments made during Donald Trump’s presidency, the Roberts Court represents an unprecedented concentration of power within one political coalition. Placing these developments in historical context, Powe shows how the current Court is only the latest in a long battle for partisan dominance of American law.

The struggle to control the Supreme Court, Powe demonstrates, is as old as the Republic itself. From Washington, Adams, and Jefferson to Lincoln, Grant, and FDR, presidents have sought a Court that would secure their constitutional priorities. After a string of controversial liberal rulings in the 1960s and 1970s by the Warren Court, conservatives launched a sustained, long-term effort to reverse that legacy. That campaign advanced unevenly for decades until it finally succeeded in the twenty-first century with Donald Trump’s first term.

Today, the consequences are unmistakable. The Court’s recent decisions on abortion, gun rights, religion, affirmative action, and executive power have thrust it into the center of American political life, with sweeping implications for democracy, governance, and individual rights.

As Americans continue to grapple with the Court’s immense authority, *Supreme Control* provides the clearest explanation yet of how we reached this critical moment in history and what it means for the nation’s future.

Lucas A. Powe, Jr. is the Anne Green Regents Chair in Law and professor of government at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law. He is the author of numerous books, including *The Supreme Court and the American Elite, 1789–2020* (Kansas, 2022).

Constitutional Thinking

NOVEMBER

328 pages, 6 x 9

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John Robert Greene is retired Professor Emeritus of History and Humanities at Cazenovia College. Among his other books are *The Presidency of Gerald R. Ford*, *The Presidency of George W. Bush*, and *The Limits of Power: The Nixon and Ford Administrations*.

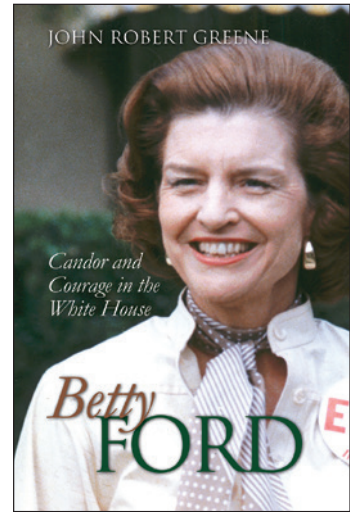
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Sara L. Sale is professor of political science at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and author of *The Shaping of Containment: Harry S. Truman, the National Security Council, and the Cold War*.

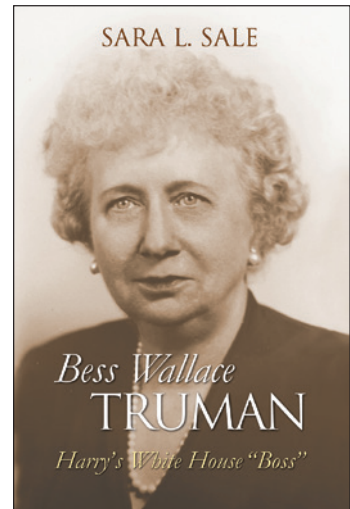
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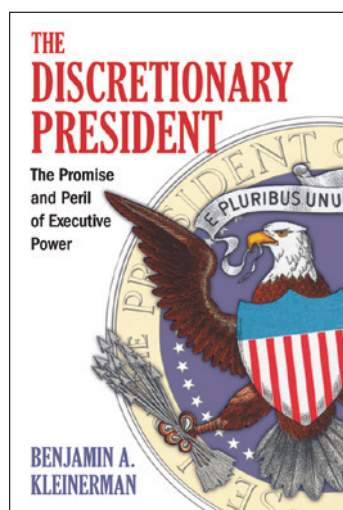
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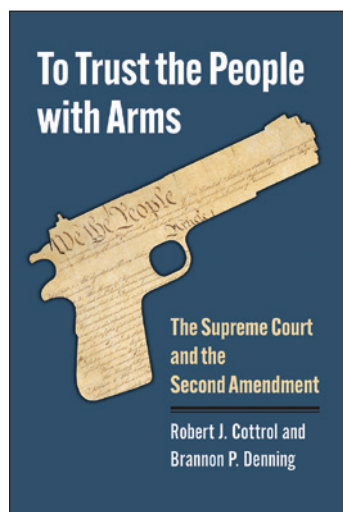
Benjamin A. Kleinerman is assistant professor of constitutional democracy at Michigan State University.

OCTOBER

338 pages, 6 x 9

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Robert J. Cottrol is Harold Paul Green Research Professor of Law and professor of history and sociology at George Washington University. He is the author of *The Long, Lingering Shadow: Slavery, Race, and Law in the American Hemisphere* and coauthor of *Brown v. Board of Education: Caste, Culture, and the Constitution*.

Brannon P. Denning is Starnes Professor of Law at Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. He is the author of *The Glannon Guide to Constitutional Law: Powers and Liberties* and the coauthor of *American Constitutional Law: Powers and Liberties* and *Guns and the Law: Cases, Problems, and Explanation*.

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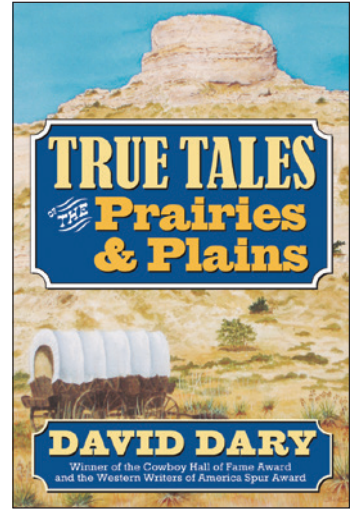
David Dary is winner of the Cowboy Hall of Fame Wrangler Award, two Western Writers of America Spur Awards, the Westerners International Best Nonfiction book Award, and the Owen Wister Award for lifetime achievement from the Western Writers of America. He is the author of fourteen previous books, including *Cowboy Culture*, *The Santa Fe Trail: Its History, Legends and Lore*, and *The Oregon Trail: An American Saga*.

AUGUST

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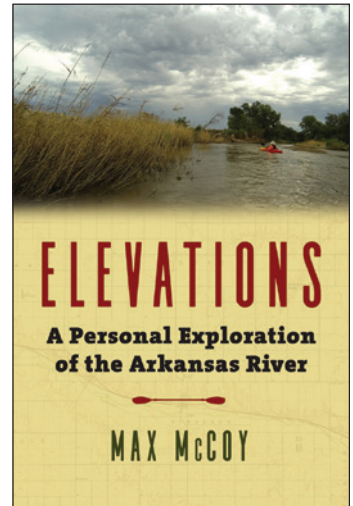
Max McCoy is an award-winning author and journalist. A regular Sunday columnist for the *Kansas Reflector*, he recently earned first-place awards from the National Society of Newspaper Columnists and the Kansas Press Association. He is also a three-time Spur Award winner and a multiple recipient of the Kansas Notable Book Award.

SEPTEMBER

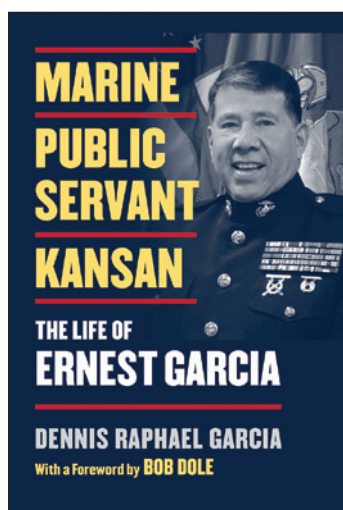
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BIOGRAPHY | KANSAS | LATINX STUDIES



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Dennis Raphael Garcia, cousin of Ernest, is a retired attorney and teacher and the author of *Las Madres: Latinas in the Heartland Who Led Their Family to Success*. Formerly a Kansan, he now lives in California.

OCTOBER

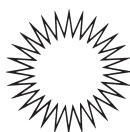
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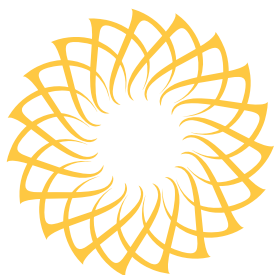
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