



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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University of Saint Joseph History Professor Selected to Participate in Unique American History Seminar



WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) is pleased to announce that **Jennifer Cote, Ph.D., assistant professor of History**, is one of a select group of faculty members nationwide chosen by the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to participate in a special American history seminar on the Gilded Age—the long period from the end of the Civil War to roughly the turn of the 20th century.

A resident of West Hartford, Dr. Jennifer Cote earned her Ph.D. from Boston College and a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College. She has been a faculty member at the University of Saint Joseph since 2008.

“Dr. Cote possesses a tremendous passion for History and her enthusiasm is most evident when she’s teaching in the classroom with her students,” said Wayne Steely, Ph.D., dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Saint Joseph. “Being selected as a participant in this seminar is an honor and I am confident that Dr. Cote’s scholarship and research will make her a significant contributor.”

From a pool of 55 faculty members nominated, CIC and the Gilder Lehrman Institute selected 27 faculty members to participate in “The Gilded Age,” a week-long seminar that will take place July 14–19, 2013, at Stanford University in Stanford, Calif. In lectures and discussion groups, participants will exchange ideas with seminar director Richard White, a Pulitzer Prize finalist historian specializing in the history of the American West, environmental history, and Native American history. He is the Margaret Byrne Professor of American History at Stanford University, a faculty co-director of the Bill Lane Center for the American West, and former president of the Organization of American Historians.

The Gilded Age has moved from being an embarrassing backwater of American history to one of the most fruitful sources of new scholarship. Encompassing the so-called Greater Reconstruction in the West and the South, mass immigration, industrialization, violent class conflict, transformative new technologies, and explosive growth, the era created the foundation for the modern United States. The Gilded Age was one of staggering corruption but also of real reform. The seminar will examine the era in its own right and explore the larger pedagogical problem of how to teach an era of the past that has so many parallels to contemporary times.

“Strengthening the teaching of American history at colleges and universities is of critical importance. The number of institutions that nominated faculty members who are active as scholars and teachers of this subject is most impressive,” said CIC President Richard Ekman. “We believe that Dr. Cote will play a strong role in the seminar.”

For more information, visit the CIC website at www.cic.edu/AmericanHistory.

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The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) is an association of 645 nonprofit independent colleges and universities and more than 90 higher education organizations that has worked since 1956 to support college and university leadership, advance institutional excellence, and enhance public understanding of private higher education’s contributions to society. CIC is the major national organization that focuses on providing services to leaders of independent colleges and universities as well as conferences, seminars, and other programs that help institutions to improve the quality of education, administrative and financial performance, and institutional visibility. CIC also provides support to state fundraising associations that organize programs and generate contributions for private colleges and universities. The Council is headquartered at One Dupont Circle in Washington, DC.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute was established in 1994 to promote the study and the love of American history. The Institute organizes seminars and enrichment programs for teachers; supports and produces publications and traveling exhibitions; sponsors lectures by eminent historians; develops electronic resources; creates history high schools and extracurricular history programs; and founds research centers at universities and libraries.

The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

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