# Mark Your Calendar

**2026 Spring CENFAD Speaker Series Schedule.**

All lectures will be held in the Weigley Room, Gladfelter 914, at 4:30 pm

Thursday, January 29: **Aileen Teague**, Texas A&M University, author of *Policing on Drugs. The United States, Mexico, and the Origins of the Modern Drug War, 1969-2000*

Thursday, February 12: **Greg Grandin**, Yale University, author of *America, América: A New History of the New World*

Thursday, February 26: **Jonathan House**, Emeritus at US Army Command and General Staff College in Kansas and Gordon State College in Georgia, "War and Disorder Since 1989"

Thursday, March 19: **Tore Olsson**, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, "Red Dead's History: How a Video Game Can Help Us Understand America's Violent Past"

Thursday, April 16: **Sam Lebovic**, George Mason University, author of *State of Silence: The Espionage Act and the Rise of America's Secrecy Regime*

**March 13-14, 2026: 31st Annual James A. Barnes Graduate History Conference**

The 31st Annual James A. Barnes Graduate History Conference will take place on March 13–14, 2026, at Temple University's Center City Campus. Widely recognized as one of the largest and most respected graduate student history conferences in the region, the Barnes Conference welcomes proposals from graduate students across all fields of history. This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Rebecca Davis, professor of history at the University of Delaware and author of Fierce Desires: A New History of Sex and Sexuality in America. To learn more about what participants can expect from this year's conference, I spoke with **Carrilee Bryan**, the 2024-2025 president of the Barnes Club.

Both undergraduate and graduate participants can expect a welcoming and inclusive environment designed to help them practice their presentation and networking skills while engaging with innovative methodological approaches shared by visiting scholars and peers. The event, Bryan added, also welcomes parents, partners, and attendees from other disciplines, offering stimulating conversations, great food, and even official Barnes Club merchandise.

For graduate students attending a conference for the first time, Bryan encouraged them to look for departmental or organizational funding opportunities that

could help cover travel costs. She also offered practical advice for presenters: "be sure to bring a flash drive, charger for your device(s) and, clicker for your presentation, and HDMI cord to ensure your presentation runs smoothly".

When asked about preparation, Bryan emphasized the importance of following instructions and staying in touch with organizers: "Review the conference guidelines carefully to make sure you adhere to them, and don't be afraid to reach out if you have any questions or concerns," she advised, noting that follow-up emails can be extremely helpful for easing logistical stress and ensuring a smooth experience. Bryan also highlighted the broader value of participation: "Participating helps you to build communication skills, network, and learn from those around you. It also makes for a memorable conference experience!" she said.

Finally, she reminded us that abstracts of 250 words, outlining original research, projects, or panel proposals, along with a current C.V. should be submitted via the official submission form by Friday, January 16, 2026. Final papers are due on Friday, February 13, 2026, and should be 15 double-spaced pages, excluding endnotes. The registration fee for presenters is $50.

**April 3-4, 2026: Peace in the Age of Forever Wars**

On April 3-4, 2026, Temple University will host the symposium "Peace in the Age of Forever Wars" at the Center City campus. Organized as part of the *Challenging War* initiative, the event will bring together scholars from various disciplines to reflect on enduring questions of war and peace. The symposium is organized under the auspices of CENFAD. To learn more about the ideas and goals behind this project, I spoke with **Dr. Lee-Ann Chae** and **Dr. Petra Goedde**, the symposium's organizers. More information about the symposium and the Challenging War initiative can be found at challengingwar.com.

**Marcella Aline Toledo:** Hello Dr. Chae and Dr. Goedde, I really appreciate you taking the time to respond to these questions. Could you start by introducing yourselves and sharing a bit about your academic background and main areas of research?

**Dr. Lee-Ann Chae:** I'm an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Temple. I work in social and political philosophy, focusing on pacifism, nonviolent resistance, and just war theory. The central question I consider is: What would it take for us to live together without war and large-scale violence? I show how hope, trust, and solidarity help to orient