1. Welcome and Introduction | 8:00-8:30 AM
Susan Matt (Weber State University) and Peter Stearns (George Mason University)

2. Theoretical Approaches | 8:30-10:15 AM
Session Chair: Susan Matt (Weber State University)
Chris Walsh (Boston University), “Principles as Against Theories – and What’s an Emotion, Anyway?”
Jeremy C. Young (Dixie State University), “From Effect to Cause: Reimagining Emotion and Experience”
Marja Jalava (Culture and Art Studies University, Finland), “Emotional Investments in Academic Historical Research”

3. Languages of Gender, Emotions, and Migration | 8:30-10:15 AM
Session Chair: Karen Lystra (California State University, Fullerton)
Linda Reeder (University of Missouri), “Languages of Love and Migration: An Introduction”
Marcelo Borges (Dickinson College), “What’s Love Got to do With It? Language of Transnational Affect in the Letters of Portuguese Migrants”
Sonia Cancian (Zayed University, U.A.E.), “Love and Loss at the Threshold of War and Migration for a Mother and Daughter in Postwar Italy and Canada”

4. Emotions History and Literature | 10:30-12:30 PM
Session Chair: Anthony Hoefer (George Mason University)
Sarah McNamer (Georgetown University), “Historicizing Affect Theory: Middle English Poetry and the Promise of Practical Criticism”
Bradley J. Irish (Arizona State University), “Similarity and Difference in the Literary Study of Emotion”
Riikka Rossi (University of Helsinki), “On the Poetics of Disgust in Naturalist Fiction”
Rebecca McNamera (Westmont College), “Teaching Literature and Emotions in the Undergraduate Classroom”

5. Expanding the Geography of Emotions History | 10:30-12:30 PM
Session Chair: Amir Minsky (New York University, Abu Dhabi)
Garry Sparks (George Mason University), “Books and/as Idols: Discourse of Affectivity in Early Colonial Missionary and Mesoamerican Writings”
Sonam Kachru (University of Virginia), “Thinking ‘With the Whole Body’: On the Transvaluation of Emotion in Medieval Buddhism in South Asia”
Jeffrey Fleisher (Rice University), “Affective/Emotional Communities on the Eastern African Swahili Coast, AD 1000-1500”
6. Emotions History in Classical Societies | 1:30-3:15 PM
Session Chair: Piroska Nagy (Université du Québec à Montréal)
David Konstan (New York University), “The Invention of Emotion”
Kate de Luna (Georgetown University), “Doing Early African Emotions History”
Mati Meyer (Open University of Israel), “Men’s Emotional Reception of Women’s Bodies in the Byzantine Illustrated Book”

7. Connections: International Polities | 1:30-3:15 PM
Greg Castillo (University of California, Berkeley), “Weaponized Cheerfulness: Architecture as Emotional Propaganda in Cold War Berlin”
Frank Costigliola (University of Connecticut), “The Emotional Origins of the Cold War”

8. Emotions and Modern Intellectual History | 3:30-5:50 PM
Session Chair: Sarah McNamer (Georgetown University)
Sophie Doucet (Université du Québec à Montréal), “The Empathic Way: Autobiographical Writings and the Historian’s Emotions”
Lone Kølle Martinsen (The Grundtvig Study Center, Denmark), “Contesting the Concept of Woman: Perspectives from Conceptual History and the History of Emotion”
Amir Minsky (New York University, Abu Dhabi), “What Does the History of Emotion Have to Do with Intellectual History? A German Case Study”
Anthony Dyer Hoefer (George Mason University), “The Uses and Abuses of Shame: Resolving Contradictions among Multidisciplinary Approaches”

9. Race, Class, and Emotions | 3:30-5:30 PM
Session Chair: Thomas Dodman (Columbia University)
Karen Lystra (California State University, Fullerton), “Working-class Americans Choose a Mate: Non-romantic Courtship and Tribal Intimacy”
Heather Andrea Williams (University of Pennsylvania), “Considering the Emotional Violence of Slavery”
Sara Hidalgo (Basque Country University), “History of Emotions: A Useful Theory for Working-class History”
Sebastian Schmidt (Rice University), “‘Well, we don’t like it, either’: Race, Riots, and Emotions in 1940s New York City”
10. Neuroscience and the History of Emotion | 8:00-9:15 AM
Session Chair: Peter Stearns (George Mason University)
Rob Boddice (McGill University), “The Impacts of Neuroscience”
Discussants: Abigail Marsh (Georgetown University) and William Reddy (Duke University)

11. Connections: Psychoanalysis and Psychological Constructivism | 8:00-9:15 AM
Session Chair: Susan Matt (Weber State University)
Rhodri Hayward (Queen Mary, University of London), “Messy Feelings and the Magic of Tidying Up”
Daphne Rozenblatt (Max Planck Institute for Human Development), “Conceptualizing the Bear: Psychological Constructivism and the History of Emotions”

12. Medieval Emotions | 9:30-11:15 AM
Session Chair: David Konstan (New York University)
Lauren Mancia (Brooklyn College, City University of New York), “Emotional Reform in the Benedictine Monastery of the Eleventh Century (And the Periodization of ‘Medieval’ and ‘Renaissance’)”
Piroska Nagy (Université du Québec à Montréal), “Religious Emotions and Eleventh-Century Church Reform at the Heart of Social Change of Europe”
Anne-Gaëlle Weber (Université du Québec à Montréal), “Kinship and Emotions in the Hagiography of Carolingian Missionaries (8th-9th c.)”
Xavier Biron Oullet (Université du Québec à Montréal), “Experimenting with Jesus Crist’s Sentiments Outside Monasteries: Peter of John Olivi and Vernacular Religious Culture in the Late Thirteenth Century”

13. Emotions in Modern Asia | 9:30-11:15 AM
Session Chair: Sonam Kachru (University of Virginia)
Jean Tsui (City University of New York), “Affective Betrayal of Translated Political Modernity: Music, Emotion and Frantic Laughter in Late Qing China (1894-1911)”
Amalya Layla Ashman (Seoul National University), “A Missing Link? Connecting the History of Emotions and Trauma via the Post-Jungian Cultural Complex”
Ayyaz Gull (University of Punjab), “Problems of Sources in Doing Emotions History of Muslim Communities in Colonial Punjab, 1849-1947”
14. Connections: Military History | 11:30 AM-1:15 PM

Session Chair: Greg Castillo (University of California, Berkeley)

Christopher Hamner (George Mason University), “Some Battle Fears Change, Some Don’t: The Evolving Understanding of Fear in Combat in the American Military”

Janet Lee (Oregon State University), “Visual Geographies/Emotional Topographies: Coping with the Terrors of First World War Aerial Combat”

Rachel Engl (Lehigh University), “The Real American Revolution: The Intangible World of Emotions within the Continental Army”

15. Looking for Love: Romantic Love in Historical Perspective | 11:30 AM-1:15 PM

Session Chair: Susan Lanzoni (Harvard University)

Alicia Simmonds (University of Technology Sydney), “Courting Romance: Love and Law in Breach of Promise of Marriage Cases”

Sarah Pinto (Deakin University), “Romantic Love in Circulation: Birth, Death, and Marriage Notices as Source”

Hsu-Ming Teo (Macquarie University), “Love and the Romance Novel”

Katie Barclay (The University of Adelaide), “Thinking Romantically in the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Community”

LUNCH | 1:15-2:15 PM

16. Themes in Early Modern/Modern Emotions History | 2:15-4:15 PM

Session Chair: Suzanne Keen (Washington and Lee University)


Jeremy DeWaal (Free University of Berlin), “Emotional Archeologies of Ritual Tradition: A Method of Longue Duree Studies through the Example of Carnival”

Sarah Meacham (Virginia Commonwealth University), “’A Happy Cheerfulness in Their Countenances’: Portraits and the Art of Smiling in Eighteenth-Century America”

17. Themes in Modern Emotions History | 2:15-4:15 PM

Session Chair: Nicolle Eustace (New York University)

Susan Lanzoni (Harvard University), “The Emergence of Empathy in the Modern Social Sciences”

Thomas W. Dodman (Columbia University), “Emotions in Social Theories of Modernity”


Susan Eckelmann Berghel (University of Tennessee Chattanooga), “This Letter Comes Straight from My Heart’: Youth, Emotional Citizenship, and 1960s US Politics”

Martin Bowen-Silva (New York University, Abu Dhabi), “Emotions and the Transformation of the Public Sphere in Chile, 1756-1812”

18. Conclusion: Looking Forward | 4:15-5:00 PM

Susan Matt (Weber State University) and Peter Stearns (George Mason University)