



2008 Spring & Summer Events

- FEBRUARY:** Feb. 12 Talks commemorating 160th anniversary of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo
Feb. 13 Talk by Dr. Philip Barlow on religion and religious studies
- APRIL:** Apr. 4 Teaching the Latino/a Experience
Apr. 4 Talk by Sonia Nazario, author of *Enrique's Journey*
Apr. 24 Museum seminar, "Picturing Faith: Religious America"
- JUNE:** June 2-6, 9-13 PATHS summer program at American West Heritage Center

FEBRUARY

February 12 (Tuesday): public lecture

"Reconsidering the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo 160 Years Later"

Dr. Lawrence Culver, Dr. David Rich Lewis, and Dr. James Sanders

▷▷ **2:30-4:00 pm, Taggart Student Center East Ballroom, Utah State University** ◁◁

Three USU professors will examine the legacy of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, which concluded the U.S. War with Mexico in 1848. The speakers will discuss the treaty's effect on:

- the Mexicans who became U.S. citizens through annexation
- the people of Mexico and Latin America
- the Native Americans annexed into the U.S.

February 13 (Wednesday): public lecture

"Wish-Fulfillment, 'The Opium of the People,' and Terrorism: Is Religion Sick?"

Dr. Philip Barlow

Leonard J. Arrington Chair of Mormon History and Culture

▷▷ **3:00 p.m., The Performance Hall, Utah State University Campus** ◁◁

In the minds of many pivotal thinkers in Western civilization, religion does not fare well. Freud found it a comforting pathology, an illusion based on the human desire for meaning and solace amid the harsh realities of existence. Marx identified religion as the enemy of social progress, a drug to keep the deprived masses in a sweet stupor of ethereal, other-worldly hopes while the ruling classes enjoyed real wealth and power in the here and now. A cluster of recent, articulate, and popular books argue for an end to faith, insisting on the superiority of science and suggesting that terrorism is only the most flagrant of many ills that religion foists upon society--including conflict, mindless obedience, and the constriction of medical advances.

Dr. Barlow acknowledges the legitimacy of these concerns, but denies that they are sufficient to dismiss religion as such. His talk will examine why the academic study of religion is essential to the humanities.

*Dr. Barlow, immediate past president of the Mormon History Association, is an authority on American religious history. His books include *Mormons and the Bible: the Place of the Latter-day Saints in American Religion*. Dr. Barlow joins Dr. Charles Prebish, Redd Chair in Religious Studies, in the new Religious Studies program in the Department of History in the College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences.*

APRIL

April 4 (Friday afternoon): panel discussion

“Teaching the Latino/a Experience”

Local teachers and their students

▷▷ **3:30–5:00 p.m., Eccles Conference Center, USU Campus** ◁◁

Part of the 2008 Tanner Symposium, “Celebracion: Exploring Latino Contributions to U.S. Culture,”
Utah State University, April 2-4: tanner2008.usu.edu/schedule.htm

April 4 (Friday evening): PATHS-sponsored lecture

**“American Odysseys: Literary Explorations of Historic and Current Events
in the Multicultural Americas”**

Sonia Nazario, *Los Angeles Times*

PLUS readings by Cache Valley High School students

▷▷ **7 pm, Logan Tabernacle** ◁◁

Sonia Nazario is a projects reporter for the Los Angeles Times who won a Pulitzer Prize in 2003 (along with more than a dozen other awards) for her multi-part series, *Enrique's Journey*, about a young Honduran boy who risked his life to travel alone to the United States to find his mother; Nazario spent four months re-creating the boy's harrowing experience. She expanded the series into a 2006 book of the same name, which is being adapted as a television miniseries by HBO (the book is also being used in local high schools this year as part of the “American Odysseys” project). Nazario has also won a George Polk Award for Local Reporting and was a Pulitzer finalist in 1998. Her stories focus on controversial social issues like immigration, poverty, and drug addiction. Nazario joined the Times in 1993 after returning to school at the University of California, Berkeley--where she earned an MA in Latin American Studies--and a stint at the Wall Street Journal, where she worked as a reporter earlier in her career.

Part of the 2008 Tanner Symposium, “Celebracion: Exploring Latino Contributions to U.S. Culture,”
Utah State University, April 2-4: tanner2008.usu.edu/schedule.htm

April 24 (Thursday): PATHS-sponsored museum presentation

"Picturing Faith: Religious America in Government Photography 1935-1943"

Dr. Colleen McDannell, University of Utah

▷▷ **4-5:15 pm, Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art , 650 North 1100 East, Logan** ◁◁

“Picturing Faith” is a series of government-commissioned photographs about different religions and their place in American society during the Great Depression. The exhibit’s 45 photographs include works by Walker Evans, Dorthea Lang and Gordon Parks, showing religious life in the 1930s and 40s while also demonstrating how photographers presented religion to meet their own goals. Viewers will see how religious images were used in the political agenda of the New Deal, how people during this period experienced the divine in their lives, and how belief and ritual are visually represented. The project grew out of Dr. Colleen McDannell’s 1998 book, *Material Christianity*. She believes the exhibit “provides a glimpse into American religious history and shows how diverse our country is even in the 1930s and 40s.”

SUGGESTION: Come early to tour the exhibit before the lecture.

Exhibition website: www.materialreligion.org/exhibit/prospectus.html

JUNE

Summer program at the American West Heritage Center

Program 1: Seminars on American History, June 2-6, 2008

A **one-week program** of ten, two-hour presentations by faculty members from the Department of History, Utah State University, on a wide variety of subjects in American history. The 10 presentations will include:

- Prof. Timothy Wolters: Technology and American Expansionism
- Prof. Colleen O'Neill: Race, Labor and Land: Blacks & Indians in the Post-Civil War Era
- Prof. Lawrence Culver: Hurricane Katrina and the Unnatural History of Natural Disasters
- Prof. Lisa Gabbert: Children's Folklore
- Prof. Heath Mitton: Slavery in the New Republic

plus 5 additional presentations on a wide range of topics

Participants will receive university credit for their participation in this presentation of HIST 6880 (Pedagogy sessions held after lunch every day of the program.)

Check the PATHS website later in February for updates on the seminars: www.usu.edu/paths

Program 2: The Civil War & Reconstruction, June 2-6 & June 9-13

A **two-week course** on the history of the Civil War and Reconstruction presented by Prof. Daniel McInerney.

Participants will receive university credit for their participation in this presentation of HIST 3750 (Pedagogy sessions held after lunch during the *first week* of the course.)

Check the PATHS website later in January for updates on the course: www.usu.edu/paths

Details about participation in these programs will be available soon. Please check your email and/or the PATHS website: www.usu.edu/paths

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