

# Is Hegemony Dead?

**The Eighth Annual Graduate Conference  
Hosted by the Future Professoriate Program of Syracuse University,  
Department of History  
Friday, April 29th, 2016**

The Future Professoriate Program of the Department of History at Syracuse University will hold its eighth annual interdisciplinary Graduate Conference on Friday, April 29th, 2016. We are delighted to invite proposals from graduate students of all disciplines on topics related to the conference's theme:

## Is Hegemony Dead?

Graduate students throughout the northeast region are welcome to submit proposals for either panels or individual papers. The conference theme should be interpreted broadly. Possible topics may relate to the impact of local, regional, and global exercises of power, cultural conflict, political economy, social issues, identity, and the mechanics underlying the pursuit of cultural and political hegemony.

Our keynote speaker will be T.J. Jackson Lears, Board of Governors Distinguished Professor of History at Rutgers University and the editor of *Raritan*. He is the author of *No Place of Grace: Antimodernism and the Transformation of American Culture, 1880–1920* and, most recently, *Rebirth of a Nation: The Making of Modern America, 1877–1920*, among other notable works. For the keynote address, Professor Lears will be revisiting his valuable article, “The Concept of Cultural Hegemony: Problems and Possibilities,” thirty years after its publication.

Some of the questions and themes the conference hopes to explore will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- To what extent does hegemony remain a viable analytical framework for scholarly analysis? What are the limits of its explanatory power? Is it worth re-working or should we abandon it as a limiting category of analysis?
- How can non-Marxist and non-Gramscian scholars make use of hegemony? How do scholars in the humanities and social sciences account for cultural, economic, and political dominance? Does the analysis have to be Marxist or Gramscian in nature?
- Is hegemony a source of stability or conflict?

- At what scale is hegemony most appropriately applicable? The local? National? International? Does it function differently depending on the scale of analysis?
- How are hegemonies formed? How do they collapse?
- What distinguishes *hegemony* from *domination*?
- Does the concept of hegemony negate the possibility of human agency? How is consent maintained and how is it challenged? Is there such a thing as *consent* within a hegemonic system?
- What roles do individuals, institutions, and ideas play in the formation of or challenges to the status quo? Are there broader factors at play?
- How does hegemony vary along lines of class, race, gender, and sexual orientation? Does it?

Each proposal should include a maximum 300-word abstract along with a C.V. for each panelist. For panel proposals, please also submit a 200-word panel abstract. Deadline for proposals is **Sunday, January 10th, 2016**. Please submit all materials to [suhistoryfpp@gmail.com](mailto:suhistoryfpp@gmail.com). Applicants will be notified by early February whether the abstract has been accepted.

Participants will be responsible for their own travel and meal expenses, but some refreshments will be provided. A reception will be held for all participants after the conference.

Queries may also be sent to: [suhistoryfpp@gmail.com](mailto:suhistoryfpp@gmail.com). More information can be found at <http://historyfpp.syr.edu>.