

CENTER FOR AMERICAN POLITICAL STUDIES  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY



**DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS on the STUDY OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC**

The Center for American Political Studies offers **Dissertation Fellowships (Research OR Completion) on the Study of the American Republic** made possible by a generous challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities matched by generous Harvard University Alumni. Eligible applications must contain dissertation topics with a direct engagement with the history, principles, and politics of the American Republic. These fellowships are inclusive to students inside the field of political science as well as History, English and American Literature, Philosophy, American Civilization, Sociology, Economics, Anthropology, and others - whose presence would enrich the collective discussion of enduring political, historical and philosophical themes of the American Republic.

**STUDY OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC DISSERTATION RESEARCH FELLOWS, 2019-20**

**Jacob Anbinder** (History, G-4)

“Cities of Amber: Antigrowth Politics and the Making of Modern Liberalism, 1960-1996”

My project focuses on the complex political movement against urban growth that emerged in wealthy American cities in the late twentieth century and its role in redefining liberalism after the Great Society. This movement, which I call antigrowth politics, sought to limit suburban sprawl, urban high-rise construction, and gentrification in the name of community stability and neighborhood self-determination. The CAPS Dissertation Research Fellowship will enable me to move to a more comprehensive stage of my work by giving me the flexibility to conduct research in several cities in a relatively short period of time, thus allowing me to demonstrate the full scope of antigrowth politics and its national impact on liberalism.

**Kristin Oberiano** (History, G-4)

“Filipino Migration, Chamorro Indigeneity, and the Making of America's Pacific Empire, 1898-1997”

In order to understand the history of the American Republic, historians have to consider how the United States maintains and governs its own colonial territories located far beyond the continental United States. Thus, my dissertation explores the history of United States involvement in the Pacific and in particular the island territory of Guam. I ask how does the institution of the US military facilitate inequalities between Filipino immigrants and indigenous Chamorro peoples within the island throughout the 20th century. In doing so, I shed light on the ways that United States colonialism continues to exist and how peoples at the margins of the American Republic geographic and political fight inequities within the United States.

**Erica Sterling** (History, G-4)

“Strange Bedfellows: Race, Rights, and the Privatization of Education Reform, 1954 to 1993”

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My dissertation recovers the roots of privatization in the African American struggle for civil rights. I unite histories of race, philanthropy, and education law and policy to revise a contentious narrative of school choice and market-oriented education policies attributed to radical conservatives in the U.S. south. Instead, I recast it as a story of equally controversial yet lesser known public-private partnerships that emerged from bastions of liberalism Washington, D.C., Boston, Massachusetts, and Berkeley, California in the wake of *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954). I investigate how lawmakers and philanthropists partnered with Black communities to develop experimental schools outside of traditional public education.