Andrew Olden

Andrew Olden’s work focuses on the Pruitt-Igoe housing project in St. Louis, which was demolished in the mid-1970s. The 33-building facility was often plagued with a reputation for crime, poverty, and disrepair. Less attention was given to tenant organizations and their attempts to better living conditions in the sprawling housing complex.

Pruitt-Igoe residents actively worked to organize clean-up drives, building patrols, and events for children when local and national housing officials failed to provide adequate resources. When the state and local government made it difficult for tenants to access hospitals, a community group partnered with area physicians to bring health clinics to the facility. After the lone neighborhood supermarket charged higher prices in the store adjacent Pruitt-Igoe, tenants rallied to find other means of securing affordable goods.

The St. Louis Housing Authority obtained funds in the mid-1960s to rectify the initial shortcomings in the project’s design, but these attempts came too late. After rents continued to rise and little change in management practices occurred, Pruitt-Igoe residents threatened a rent strike. By the summer, Pruitt-Igoe tenants joined the collective bargaining effort and withheld their rents in solidarity with other tenant involvement with the management and set a maximum rent charge for public housing at 25 percent of one’s income. Through a combined effort with housing activist Jean King, Missouri Congressman William Clay, and Massachusetts Senator Edward Brooke, the rent ceiling became the Brooke Amendment, which nationally regulated public housing tenants’ rental payments.

Though the housing complex did physically decay and conditions worsened, many living in Pruitt-Igoe worked to navigate around their marginalization to better their living environment. Through continued research and an extensive oral history project, Olden aims to bring tenant’s experiences to the forefront of Pruitt-Igoe and public housing scholarship.

Mike Olson

Mike Olson, a graduate student in history, is researching Claude M. Lightfoot, leader and spokesman for the Communist Party USA in Chicago. Lightfoot spent his life organizing fellow African Americans against evictions of families during the Great Depression, police abuse of the African-American community in Chicago, and housing segregation in Chicago. Lightfoot was successfully prosecuted by the Federal government on charges of conspiracy to overthrow the government, but unlike many others similarly pursued, he was not forced into exile or driven out of the CPUSA, and successfully appealed his conviction.

Peace studies supports research attuned to creating social justice and sustainability in local and global environments.
New Course on Authoritarianism & Democracy

By Clarice Lo, Program Director

In fall 2018, the MU Peace Studies Program launched a new course on authoritarianism in the United States. Professor Emeritus John Galliher served as the director of the MU Peace Studies Program from 1995 to 2011. During his directorship, peace studies became an established and respected presence at the University of Missouri. Galliher’s approach to peace studies was to study how changes in the law could peacefully move the United States in a more just and humane direction. Galliher was, above all, a scholar, publishing books and articles that examined law and society and criminology from a unique critical perspective. He published many books on sociologists and other academics, such as Edwin Sutherland, Laud Humphreys, Almond, Lindesmith, and others. He was a winner of the Kemper Fellowship and taught the required cross-cultural journalism class at the J-School. His approach of the Frankfurt School continued to be applicable to contemporary popular culture phenomena.

Each faculty member teaching the course on authoritarianism, including Professors Emeritus Ted Keditsch and Michael Ugarte, used a variety of techniques and pedagogies in teaching. Lecturing about major themes, small group and class discussions of assigned readings, videos seen in class, and documents handed out in class. Ugarte, professor of Spanish and a winner of the Kemper Fellowship, writes, “I’ve been to virtually every class, I’ve participated in the group discussions and offered some impressions and questions. To me it’s inspiring to see my colleagues at work in the classroom. We rarely get to see our fellow teachers in this capacity. I have learned a great deal not only about the material they’ve covered, but also about teaching methods and how to get your students involved in discussion.”

Each faculty member teaching the course on authoritarianism, including Professors Emeritus Ted Keditsch and Michael Ugarte, used a variety of techniques and pedagogies in teaching. Lecturing about major themes, small group and class discussions of assigned readings, videos seen in class, and documents handed out in class. Ugarte, professor of Spanish and a winner of the Kemper Fellowship, writes, “I’ve been to virtually every class, I’ve participated in the group discussions and offered some impressions and questions. To me it’s inspiring to see my colleagues at work in the classroom. We rarely get to see our fellow teachers in this capacity. I have learned a great deal not only about the material they’ve covered, but also about teaching methods and how to get your students involved in discussion.”

Assistant Professor Amalia Danche-Gerbingo organized and led lively small group discussions about race and surveillance.
Dahr Jamail Reports on State of the Planet

Dahr Jamail, a staff reporter for Truthout, gave a public lecture, “Update on the State of the Planet: How Then Shall We Live?” on Feb. 12, 2018. He is the author of The End of Ice, based on his eyewitness reporting about Earth’s sixth mass extinction event. During his visit, he also spoke to a geography class about climate change. Jamail has also been an investigative journalist for the wars in the Middle East and spoke to a sociology me-
dia and culture class about his experiences. He is the author of The Wild to Resist: Soldiers Who Refuse to Fight in Iraq and Afghanistan and Beyond the Green Zone: Dis-
patches from an Unembellished Journalist in Occupied Iraq. He co-wrote Mass Destruction of Iraq: Why It Is Happen-
ing and Who Is Responsible. Jamail has won the Martha Gellhorn Award for Investigative Journalism, among other awards.

Postdoctoral Peace Research

Bharat Rout was the inaugural Mehr–Galliher Postdoctoral Fel-
low 2017–18 with the Peace Studies Program at MU. He was fund-
ed by the Fulbright–Nehru Fellow-
ship Program of India, and he writes about his recent work:
“I’m happy to inform you that I’m currently working on a 122-
page ethnographic study on Adi-
vasi (tribal) education in remote and inaccessible tribal areas of Odisha and Jharkhand. This took more than three months of field-
work time in these areas, including engaging with key administrative stakeholders at district and sub-dis-

stakeholders at district and sub-district levels.

“At the dinner honoring Dahr Jamail, Daria Briggs and Steve Starr, faculty in peace studies, discuss their re-
search and work on environmental issues.

Peace Perspectives Lecture

Understanding North Korea & the United States

Bruce Cumings, the Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor in History at the University of Chicago, delivered the Peace Per-
spectives Lecture, “Assessing Ameri-
can Diplomacy with North Korea” on Oct. 23, 2018. He is one of the world’s leading experts on Korea and America’s role in the Far East and is the author of six books, including the two-volume The Origins of the Korean War: Korea’s Place in the Sun: A Mod-
ern History, Dominion from Sea to Sea, and North Korea: Another Coun-
try. He has won several prestigious awards for his books and has received fellowships from the MacArthur Foun-
dation, Ford, NEH, and the Center for Advanced Study at Stanford.

Cumings’ lecture led the audience to a deeper understanding of the colli-
sions, past and present, between the two Koreas and the United States.

In addition to his public lecture, Cumings gave a guest lecture to Assis-
tant Professor Bryce Reeder’s class Political Science 1400, International Relations, and spent an afternoon vis-
iting and having discussions at MU’s East Asian Affairs Center, hosted by center Director Sang S. Kim.

Above: As part of his field research, Rout studied a community mobilization ini-
tiative focusing on adolescent girls and women in Kalahandi District of Odisha.

At left: Bharat Rout, second from left, interacts with a group of out-of-school tribal children in Raigad Maharashtra while working for NIAS, Bengaluru.
Focus on English Church Leader Charles Kingsley

By Ted Koditschek

Charles Kingsley was a 19th-century British clergyman, writer, and reformer who is widely regarded as a leading prototype for the move-
ment that came to be known as Muscular Christianity. As such, he is often presented as a classic em-
bodyment of the transition from mid-19th-century liberalism to the racist, militaristic, and imperialist attitudes that became increasingly popular in the later decades of the 19th century. Yet, a closer examina-
tion of Kingsley’s life and work reveals a much more compli-
cated figure—a man whose turn toward militarism and imperial-
ism ran in parallel with a contin-
ued commitment to progressive reformism, and whose mascu-
inism was always tempered by the expression of more femi-
nine aspects of his temperament and personality. In this project, Katelyn Ball, BA ’14, MA ’16, has been collaborating with me to try to make sense of Kingsley’s life and work. We are particularly focused on the ways in which he was able to effect a unique rhetorical fusion of sci-
ence with religion and of reac-
tion with reformism. Our en-
gagement with the agenda of the Peace Studies Program lies pri-
marily in exploring the instabili-
ties of an ostensible turn to con-
servatism that actually harbored the potential for both reaction-
ary and progressive trends.

Over the past year, the grant from Peace Studies has enabled us to do several things: We prepared a paper for the Midwest Victo-
rian Studies Conference in March 2018, titled “Cleanliness is Next to Godliness: Charles Kingsley and Victorian Sanitary Reform,” which we are currently expanding into an article that we will soon submit to a major scholarly journal. These funds have enabled Ball to travel to London over the summer to con-
duct research in Kingsley’s private correspondence. Much of this ma-
terial has never been fully mined, and it is providing the basis for a sec-
ond article that we are begin-
ning to prepare, tentatively titled “The Separate Spheres of Charles Kingsley: Masculinity, Sexual-
ity, and the Fusion of the Spiritual with the Material in Victorian So-
cial Thought.” Assuming that time and money lasts, we may move our studies forward chronologically to explore the ways in which Kings-
ley’s legacy was understood (and distorted) in the next generation, as his work was appropriated for more overtly chaunostic ends.

Current Research

*A note from Michael Ugarte, Professor Emeritus of Spanish*

With the support of the Peace Studies Research Program, I was able to spend time in Spain doing research for an article whose lengthy preliminary draft I just finished. It’s on the life, writing, and activism of my uncle Artemio Precioso Ugarte. He was a prominent member of the Spanish Communist Party in the 30s and 40s, went into exile in the Soviet Union after the Spanish Civil War, had a falling out with the party and the USSR, and returned to Spain to become one of Greenpeace-España’s founding members—from red as a young man to green as a senior citizen.

My uncle and his Greenpeace comrades worked hard demanding the restoration of Portmán with the help of the Autonomous Community of Murcia. The bay had been totally devastated by the dumping of mining waste into a vast body of water affecting not only the marine life but also those who had relied on fishing as a livelihood. These demands were successful, although there is still much to do. That was in the ’80s. For more, see [www.playaparaiso.org/portman.htm](http://www.playaparaiso.org/portman.htm).

Professor Emeritus Michael Ugarte in the town of Alcaraz, Albacete Province (La Mancha), where his uncle Artemio Precioso Ugarte grew up.