The Center for Historical Research brings together faculty, students, and the general public to examine the historical foundation and development of critical issues of global importance. The Center offers residential fellowships for senior and junior faculty, as well as those completing dissertations. We also invite members of the academic community and independent scholars to make presentations at our seminars.

Family, Kinship and Households: New Perspectives

The OSU Center for Historical Research is featuring a two-year program (2015-2017) devoted to a broad exploration of the theme, “Family, Kinship and Households.” The program offers a series of seminars and lectures by leading scholars from the United States and abroad, as well as workshops designed to explore theoretical and methodological issues in the field. In conjunction with this program the CHR will host residential fellows.

New approaches to the study of families, kinship and households have emerged over the past couple of decades. The history of the family has been revitalized by scholars interested in the history of race, gender and sexuality, documenting some of the ways in which the family across time and place has been a site of dynamic change laden with cultural meaning. Simultaneously, the incorporation of age and generation as analytical categories in historical scholarship has spurred new studies of the dynamics of social and cultural change, and the operations of power in families and households. Recent interest in the history of children and childhood has also drawn renewed attention to families and households, and to the ways in which kinship has been produced and reproduced across time and place. Finally, the “material turn” in history and the resurgence of economic history has brought renewed attention to the complex relationship among domestic spaces, family structures, and changing economic conditions. The CHR program is designed to bring these separate, and often distinct, new fields of inquiry into conversation with each other and examine the contours of what might be called a New Family History.

FELLOWSHIPS and the CHR SEMINAR: We invite fellowship applications for the 2016-2017 academic year from scholars whose research encompasses the theme of “Family, Kinship and Households.” Application information for fellowships can be found on our website, http://chr.osu.edu/. You may also contact the Program Chair, Birgitte Soland (soland.1@osu.edu). Applications are due by January 31, 2016. The Ohio State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. We welcome applications from the United States and abroad, and from all disciplines.