

FREEDOM OF SPEECH, 1550–1850  
7–8 April 2017  
Ohio University, Athens, OH  
George Washington Forum on American Ideas, Politics & Institutions  
Baker Center 205 (Multicultural Center)

FRIDAY, 7 APRIL 2017

**Conference Welcome (8:45–9:00 AM)**

**Session I (9:00–10:30 AM)**

Debora Shuger (UCLA), *Déjà vu All Over Again: The Price of Fake News in Early Modern England*  
Peter Lake (Vanderbilt), *Libel and the Politics of Publicity*

**Session II (10:45 AM–12:15 PM)**

Karl Gunther (University of Miami), *Pearls before Swine*  
Chloé Bakalar (Princeton), *Everyday Virtue: The Role of Censorship in John Milton's Theory of Free Speech*

**Session III (2:00–3:30 PM)**

David Como (Stanford), *The Origins of the Concept of Freedom of the Press*  
Max Skjönsberg (LSE), *David Hume's 'Of the Liberty of the Press' in its Original Context*

**Session IV (3:45–5:15 PM)**

Ann Thomson (European University Institute), *Defending the Truth*  
Anton Matytsin (Kenyon), *To Ban or Not to Ban: Censorship, Refutation and Free Expression in the French Enlightenment*

SATURDAY, 8 APRIL 2017

**Session V (9:30–10:30 AM)**

David Womersley (Oxford), *The Resistance to Free Speech in Swift and Johnson*

**Session VI (10:45 AM–12:15 PM)**

Drew Starling (Penn), *Malesherbes and the Case for a Free Religious Press in Eighteenth-Century France*  
Tim Lehmann (Ohio), *Montesquieu's Accounts of Free Speech*

**Session VII (2:00–3:30 PM)**

Patrick Peel (Montana), *The Argument for Freedom of Speech and Press During the Ratification of the US Constitution, 1787–1788*  
Glaucio Schettini (Fordham), *In Search of a New Order: Freedom of Speech, Revolutionary Rhetoric and Republican Government in Italy, 1796–1799*

**Session VIII (3:45–5:15 PM)**

Greg Conti (Cambridge), *Liberty between the Mills: Samuel Bailey on Liberty of Thought and Discussion*  
Chris Barker (Southwestern), *J.S. Mill's Theory of Public Engagement*