Why Western Civilization?

The Story of the Rise, Fall, and Rebirth of the Alexander Hamilton Institute

Lecture by

Robert Paquette
Prize-Winning Historian, Hamilton College Professor

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.
Emory University, White Hall 206

ROBERT PAQUETTE, Professor of History and Co-Founder of the Alexander Hamilton Institute for the Study of Western Civilization, will tell an intriguing tale of how tenured radicals at Hamilton College sabotaged efforts to build a Center for the Study of Western Civilization on campus. Paquette, a specialist on the history of slavery, held the Publius Virgilius Rogers chair in American history for more than fifteen years before resigning it in 2011 in protest of the educational direction of Hamilton College. Today, the renamed Alexander Hamilton Institute flourishes off campus, on the town square of Clinton, New York. By offering conferences and lectures by the country’s most distinguished scholars, classes in Western Civilization for students and the public, and research fellowships for graduate students and scholars, AHI fulfills the function that the contemporary academy has abandoned.

Why is the contemporary college so hostile to the dissemination of the Western ideals that form the bedrock of our nation’s founding?

Why would a faculty that had welcomed former domestic terrorist and Weatherman member, Susan Rosenberg, fight a center funded by committed private donations of alumni and others and that would enhance the College’s esteem?

Professor Paquette also will answer the question that the tenured radicals would like us to forget and that was posed by both Hamilton’s president and its dean during the fight: Why Western Civilization?

This lecture is made possible through the generosity of
The Devereaux F. and Dorothy M. McClatchey Foundation.
This lecture is free and open to the public.
Free parking is available in nearby Peavine student parking deck.

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