David BEITELMAN

MA Canadian-American Relations 2011

Master's Research Project

Keeping the Republic: American Hegemony and Decline in Perspective.

Current Position

I am currently a doctoral candidate in Political Science and a Killam Scholar at Dalhousie University where I also serve as a Doctoral Fellow and Deputy Director of the Centre for Policy Studies. "The Centre for American Studies at Western University was, without a doubt, the single most important influence on my academic career. I had always been interested in the U.S., particularly after 9/11, but what, exactly, was American 'Studies'? I enrolled in the Intro course out of sheer curiosity. The course captured my imagination and set into motion an intellectual journey that continues to this day. It was during that course that the light bulb went on above my head and I discovered that it *was* possible to study something you truly loved. After that introductory course, I was hooked. I took as many American Studies courses as I could, eventually graduating with a double major in American Studies and Political Science. After earning an MA in Political Science I returned to the CAS to enroll in the first Masters in American Studies program in Canada – something I am proud to have been a part of.

I now study the United States at the doctoral level, and as I continue to evolve as a scholar, it becomes increasingly clear to me just how important the earlier training I received at the Centre was. I truly believe I would not be where I am today without the support, encouragement, and opportunities I received from the CAS faculty and staff. The Centre for American Studies will always feel like home."