

**Christopher F. Minty**  
**2012 UELAC Loyalist Scholarship Award Recipient**

The 2012 UELAC Loyalist Scholarship was awarded to Christopher F. Minty. Originally from Edinburgh, Chris completed his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Stirling between 2006 and 2014. In 2010, Chris earned a Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in History. He completed a thesis on the experience and treatment of disease in the Confederacy during the American Civil War, a copy of which remains on permanent deposit in Stirling's library. In October 2010, he began doctoral studies at Stirling, where he began research under the joint supervision of Dr. Colin Nicolson and Dr. Emma V. Macleod. His dissertation, submitted in August 2014 and examined by Frank Cogliano (Edinburgh) and Ben Marsh (Kent), analyzed the political origins of Loyalism in New York between 1768 and 1778. It also contained a large-scale prosopographical analysis of 9,338 Loyalists, all of whom signed a Loyalist declaration or took the oath of allegiance to King George III. This analysis is the largest of its kind to date. His dissertation is electronically available via the University of Stirling's 'STORRE: Stirling Online Research Repository'.

Chris has held research fellowships at the American Antiquarian Society (declined), the British Library, Colonial Williamsburg, the David Library of the American Revolution, Harvard University, the Huntington Library, the New-York Historical Society, the New York State Archives, the New York State Library, and the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan (x2). His work has also been supported by the University of Stirling, the Foundation for Canadian Studies, the Royal Historical Society, and, of course, the United Empire Loyalists' Association.

In 2014–2015, he was a Bernard and Irene Schwartz Fellow at the New-York Historical Society and Eugene Lang College at The New School. He has taught at The New School, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Glasgow, and the University of Stirling.



Dr. Minty is a firm advocate of bridging the gap between 'academic' and 'public' history. He has worked on exhibitions at the National Library of Scotland and the New-York Historical Society. In 2012, he was contributor and co-designer of 'Dreams and Declarations from the Founding Fathers', National Library of Scotland, July-October 2012; NLS presenter of '[Loyalists in Revolutionary New York, 1763–1785](#)'; and in fall 2014 he delivered a public lecture at the New-York Historical Society on Myles Cooper and New York politics. He is also known to many as the author of numerous articles published in 2012 in *Loyalist Trails*, the electronic newsletter of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. Today, he is a contributing writer to two group blogs on early North American history, *The Junto* and *Borealia*. He has also published

other work in the *Long Island Historical Journal* and has forthcoming articles in *New York History* and *Early American Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.

Since October 2015, Chris has been an Assistant Editor at The Adams Papers Editorial Project at the Massachusetts Historical Society, a position in which he can truly bridge the ‘public’–‘academic’ gap. Alongside his editorial work, he is working on a book manuscript that examines the origins of the American Revolution in New York City and is in the early stages of a book project that examines the impact of travel in colonial and early America.

Following is the thesis abstract for – “Mobilization and Voluntarism: The Political Origins of Loyalism in New York, c. 1768–1778” by Christopher F. Minty.

This dissertation examines the political origins of Loyalism in New York City between 1768 and 1778. Anchored by an analysis of political mobilization, this dissertation is structured into two parts. Part I has two chapters. Using a variety of private and public sources, the first chapter analyses how 9,338 mostly white male Loyalists in New York City and the counties of Kings, Queens, Suffolk and Westchester were mobilized. Chapter 1 argues that elites and British forces played a fundamental role in the broad-based mobilization of Loyalists in the province of New York. It also recognizes that colonists signed Loyalist documents for many different reasons. The second chapter of Part I is a large-scale prosopographical analysis of the 9,338 identified Loyalists. This analysis was based on a diverse range of sources. This analysis shows that a majority of the province’s Loyalist population were artisans aged between 22 and 56 years of age.

Part II of this dissertation examines political mobilization in New York City between 1768 and 1775. In three chapters, Part II illustrates how elite and non-elite white male New Yorkers coalesced into two distinct groups. Chapter 3 concentrates on the emergence of the DeLanceys as a political force in New York, Chapter 4 on their mobilization and coalescence into ‘the Friends to Liberty and Trade’, or ‘the Club’, and Chapter 5 examines the political origins of what became Loyalism by studying the social networks of three members of ‘the Club’. By incorporating an interdisciplinary methodology, Part II illustrates that members of ‘the Club’ developed ties with one another that transcended their political origins. It argues that the partisanship of New York City led members of ‘the Club’ to adopt inward-looking characteristics that affected who they interacted with on an everyday basis. A large proportion of ‘the Club’’s members became Loyalists in the American Revolution. This dissertation argues that it was the partisanship that they developed during the late 1760s and early 1770s that defined their allegiance.

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