

Ben Schmack
4009 Crossgate Court
Lawrence KS, 66047

Current Position: (August 2015 -)

Graduate Teaching Assistant
The University of Kansas
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Lawrence, KS 66045
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Education

Ph.D. The University of Kansas, Department of American Studies

M.A. Northern Illinois University, Department of History
Thesis Title: Rural Radicalism: Labor, Repression, and Resistance
in Southern Illinois Coal Country
May 2015

B.S. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
Major: History
Magna Cum Laude
May 2011

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

Best PhD Paper Prize Winner, NIU HGSA Conference (Fall 2016)
Katzman-Yetman Graduate Paper Prize Winner, MAASA Conference (Spring
2016)
Full Graduate Teaching Assistantship, KU (Fall 2015)
Hayter Young Summer Research Grant, NIU (Summer 2014)
Full Teaching Assistantship, NIU (Fall 2013)

Teaching Experience

AMS 100: Introduction to American Studies
- Instructor of Record, created course syllabus, assigned readings,
graded, held office hours.

Teaching Assistant Experience

AMS 110/SOC 110: American Identities

- Led discussion sections, lectured, graded, held office hours.

HIST 260: U.S. History to the Civil War

- Lectured on pre-Civil War immigration, graded, held office hours.

HIST 261: U.S. History after the Civil War

- Led discussion, led test review sessions, graded, held office hours.

Guest Lecturer Experience

AMS 100 (Instructor of Record: Caleb Lázaro Moreno – Spring, 2016)

- Lectured on race management in the western United States.

Presentations

Schmack, Ben, “Combating the Klan: Constructing Radical Identity in Southern Illinois,” (paper accepted to The Labor and Working Class History Association Conference, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, June 2017).

-----, “Commiss vs. Klansmen: Identity and Resistance in Southern Illinois,” (paper presented at The Ninth Annual History Graduate Student Association Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, November 2016).

-----, “‘Denouncing the masked order’: Radicalism, Identity, and Dissent in the UMWA,” (paper presented at Mid-America American Studies Association 2016 Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, March 2016).

-----, “‘Everything Despicable and Backward and Reactionary’: The Struggle of Radical Coal Miners in Southern Illinois,” (paper presented at The Seventh Annual History Graduate Student Association Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, November 2014).

-----, “Rural Radicalism: Labor Repression in Southern Illinois Coal Country,” (paper presented at the 36th Annual North American Labor History Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, October 2014).

-----, “Red Zeigler: The Zeigler Local 992 and the Fight for Radicalism in Southern Illinois,” (paper presented at the Midwest Labor and Working Class History Colloquium, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, April 2014).

Service

Graduate Teaching Assistants Coalition (GTAC - AFT Local 6403) Secretary,
2017
American Studies Association of Graduate Students Representative to GTAC,
2017
Graduate Student Representative to the Executive Board of the Mid-America
American Studies Association, 2016-2017
New Cohort Representative to the American Studies Faculty Voting Committee
of the University of Kansas, 2015-2016
NIU History Graduate Student Association Treasurer, 2014-2015
Conference Committee Member of the Seventh Annual NIU History Graduate
Student Association Conference, 2014
M.A. Representative to the Northern Illinois University History Department
Graduate Committee, 2013-2014
Conference Committee Member of the Sixth Annual NIU History Graduate
Student Association Conference, 2013

Organizational Membership

American Studies Association
Labor and Working Class History Association
American Historical Association
Graduate Teaching Assistants Coalition – AFT Local 6403

Languages

English
Spanish