

BENJAMIN DAVID SCHMACK
Ph.D. Candidate – Graduate Teaching Assistant
University of Kansas
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., The University of Kansas, Department of American Studies (In Progress).

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

B.S., Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Department of History,
Magna Cum Laude (2011)

PUBLICATIONS

“*Agents Provocateurs: State Infiltration in BlackKlansman and the Greensboro
Massacre,*” accepted to *Left History* (2021).

“Denouncing the Hooded Order: Radicalism, Identity, and Dissent in the
UMWA,” *American Studies* 57, no 4 (2019).

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

Bernard Bellush Prize in Labor History, New York Labor History Association
(2021) - \$250 Award

Annette K. Baxter Travel Grant, American Studies Association Annual
Conference (2019) - \$300 Award

University of Kansas Summer Research Scholarship (2018) - \$5,000 Award

Annette K. Baxter Travel Grant, American Studies Association Annual
Conference (2017) - \$300 Award

Travel Grant, Labor and Working Class History Association Annual
Conference (2017) - \$300 Award

Best PhD Paper Prize, Northern Illinois University History Graduate Student
Association Conference (2016) - Book Prize

Katzman-Yetman Graduate Paper Prize, Mid-America American Studies
Association Conference (2016) - \$250 Award

Hayter Young Summer Research Grant, Northern Illinois University (2014) –
\$250 Award

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

AMS 100 Online: Introduction to American Studies (Instructor of Record)

AMS 100: Introduction to American Studies (Instructor of Record)

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

AMS 110/SOC 110: American Identities
HIST 260: U.S. History to the Civil War
HIST 261: U.S. History after the Civil War

GUEST LECTURER EXPERIENCE

AMS 100 (Instructor of Record: Hannah Bailey – Fall, 2018)
Lectured on criminalization and the Prison Industrial Complex
AMS 100 (Instructor of Record: Caleb Lázaro Moreno – Spring, 2016)
Lectured on race management in the western United States.

PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- “Revolt / Reaction: The CPUSA, the Black Belt, and American Fascism Then and Now” (presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, San Juan, October 2021).
- “Anti-Bodies, Anti-Commies: 1930s Klan Anticommunism and Its Lessons” (presented at the Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference, Online, June 2021).
- “Dead Red Reaction: The Klan Responds to the CPUSA Organizing the South” (presented at the Labor and working Class History Association Conference, Online [originally Chicago, IL], May 2021)
- “Defending the Southland: The KKK's war on Communism in the American South,” (accepted to the canceled Southern Labor Studies Association Conference, originally scheduled for September 2020 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina).
- “Infiltration Nation: *BlacKkKlansman* and the Legacy of COINTELPRO,” (presented at the Film & Media Studies Graduate Symposium, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, February 2020).
- “When Red Squads Wear White Hoods: Boots Riley, *BlacKkKlansman*, and Antiradicalism in America,” (presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI, November 2019).
- “*Agents Provocateurs*: State Infiltration in *BlacKkKlansman* and the Greensboro Massacre,” (presented at the Jesse B Semple Brownbag Series of the Langston Hughes Center, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, October 2019).
- “‘Wake Up Amerika’: Klan Anticommunism in the Twentieth Century,” (presented at the Conference of the Kansas Association of Historians, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, March 2019).
- “American Boogeymen: The Klan, Communism, and Demonization in the United States,” (presented at the Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, April 2018).

- “Who Do We Hate in the United States?: White Nationalism and American Communists,” (presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2017).
- “Combating the Klan: Constructing Radical Identity in Southern Illinois,” (presented at the Labor and Working Class History Association Conference, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, June 2017).
- “Commies vs. Klansmen: Identity and Resistance in Southern Illinois,” (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,” (presented at the Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, March 2016).
- “‘Everything Despicable and Backward and Reactionary’: The Struggle of Radical Coal Miners in Southern Illinois,” (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,” (presented at the 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,” (presented at the Midwest Labor and Working Class History Colloquium, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, April 2014).

SERVICE

- Union Steward for the Graduate Teaching Assistants Coalition (AFT Local 6403), 2017-2020
- Judge for the Katzman-Yetman Graduate Paper Prize, Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, 2018
- Secretary for the Graduate Teaching Assistants Coalition (AFT Local 6403), 2017-2018
- Graduate Representative for the Executive Board of the Mid-America American Studies Association, 2016-2018
- Graduate Representative for the University of Kansas American Studies Faculty Voting Committee, 2015-2016
- Treasurer for the Northern Illinois University History Graduate Student Association, 2014-2015
- Conference Committee Member of the Annual Northern Illinois University History Graduate Student Association Conference, 2014 and 2015
- MA Representative to Northern Illinois University History Department Graduate Committee, 2013-2014

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- American Studies Association
Cultural Studies Association

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

LANGUAGES

English
Spanish