

BENJAMIN DAVID SCHMACK
Visiting Lecturer at the University of Kansas
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Kansas, Department of American Studies (June, 2022)
Dissertation with Honors: "Hate-State: Klansmen, Communists, and America's Perpetual Red Scare"
Committee: Professors David Roediger (Chair), Elizabeth Esch, Clarence Lang, Sherrie Tucker, and Shawn Alexander

M.A., Northern Illinois University, Department of History (May, 2015)
Thesis: "Rural Radicalism: Labor, Repression, and Resistance in Southern Illinois Coal Country"
Advisor: Professor Rosemary Feurer

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

PUBLICATIONS

"Agents Provocateurs: State Infiltration in *BlackKlansman* and the Greensboro Massacre," *Left History* vol. 24, no. 2 (2021).

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

GRANTS & AWARDS

Argersinger Dissertation Award Nominee, University of Kansas (2023)

Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize Nominee, American Studies Association (2022)

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

Randy Martin Prize for Best Student Paper Nominee, Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference (2021)

Annette K. Baxter Travel Grant, American Studies Association Annual Conference (2019 and 2017) - \$300

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

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

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

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

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

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Lecturer and Researcher, University of Kansas, Fall 2024 to Present

- Instruct sixteen week long courses
- Mentor students
- Develop course syllabi
- Grade
- Facilitate discussion
- Hold office hours

Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies, Kenyon College, Fall, 2023 to Spring, 2024

- Serve on American Studies Steering Committee
- Instruct semester long seminars as part of a 2:3 course load
- Judge senior capstone project presentations
- Mentor students
- Develop course syllabi
- Grade
- Facilitate discussion
- Hold office hours

Boston University Public History Postdoctoral Associate at the National Archives, Summer, 2022 to Summer, 2023

- Website: <https://www.bu.edu/antiracism-center/profile/ben-schmack/>
- Conduct original primary and secondary source research at the National Archives in Washington, DC and College Park, Maryland
- Synthesize analysis and organize into broader themes for use in public programming
- Write summary reports of research findings
- Collaborate with staff and liaise with archivists at the National Archives, Library of Congress, and Smithsonian Institution to translate scholarly research for public consumption
- Contribute to academic research products for future publication and dissemination, e.g. co-author journal articles, write chapters for edited volumes, deliver conference papers, and participate in conference panels
- Assist in the training and mentorship of a graduate student research assistant

Adjunct Professor, Southern New Hampshire University Department of History, Summer, 2022 to Summer, 2023

- Instruct eight-week long online history courses
- Grade
- Facilitate discussion
- Hold online office hours

Research Assistant for the Boston University Center for Antiracist Research at the National Archives, Spring, 2022

- Conduct secondary source research and preliminary searches of archival holdings at National Archives locations

Graduate Teaching Assistant for the Department of American Studies, University of Kansas, Fall, 2015 to Fall, 2020 and Fall, 2021 to Spring, 2022

- Instruct sixteen-week long in-person and online American Studies courses
- Assist professors in sixteen-week long in-person and online American Studies and Sociology courses
- Develop course syllabi
- Grade
- Facilitate discussion
- Hold office hours

Research Assistant for Foundation Distinguished Professor in American Studies and History David Roediger, University of Kansas, Spring, 2021

- Assist in online primary and secondary source research

Tutor, University of Kansas Athletics Department, 2017

- Mentor in writing and study methods for history, American Studies, African and African American Studies, Sociology, Communications courses for student athletes

Teaching Assistant for the Department of History, Northern Illinois University, Fall, 2013 to Spring, 2015

- Assist professors in sixteen-week long in-person history courses
- Lecture select classes
- Grade
- Facilitate discussion
- Hold online office hours

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

AMS 332: The United States in Global Context, University of Kansas

AMS 332 (Online): The United States in Global Context, University of Kansas

AMS 100 Online & Hybrid: Introduction to American Studies, University of Kansas

AMS 100: Introduction to American Studies, University of Kansas

AMST 391 (Special Topic): American Studies Methods, Kenyon College

AMST 291 (Special Topic): American Studies through Labor and Film, Kenyon College

AMST 291 (Special Topic): Intro to Racial Capitalism, Kenyon College

AMST 191 (Special Topic): American Identities, Kenyon College

HIST 100 Online: Perspectives in History, Southern New Hampshire University

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

AMS 324/SOC 324: Being Deviant in America, University of Kansas

AMS 110 Online: American Identities, University of Kansas

AMS 110/SOC 110: American Identities, University of Kansas

HIST 261: U.S. History after the Civil War, Northern Illinois University

HIST 260: U.S. History to the Civil War, Northern Illinois University

GUEST LECTURER EXPERIENCE

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

PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- “Solidarity and the Archives: A Roundtable Discussion of Antiracist Public History,” Roundtable’s Organizer, Chair, and Panelist, (presented at the Organization of American Historians Conference on American History, New Orleans, LA, April 2024).
- “Finding Solidarity in Contested Spaces: A Roundtable Discussion of Antiracist Research in the National Archives,” Roundtable’s Organizer, Chair, and Panelist, (presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, November, 2023)
- “The Right Reads the Left: Surveillance Through Radical Publications,” (presented at the Labor and Working Class History Association Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, May 2023).
- “You’re blue by day, but white by night’: Punk Rock and the Communist Anti-Klan Tradition,” presented at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 2023).
- “Revolt / Reaction: The CPUSA, the Black Belt, and American Fascism Then and Now” (presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, Online [originally San Juan, Puerto Rico], 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: *BlackKlansman* 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, *BlackKlansman*, and Antiradicalism in America,” (presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI, November 2019).
- “*Agents Provocateurs*: State Infiltration in *BlackKlansman* 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

- Member of the Kenyon College American Studies Department Steering Committee,
2023-2024
- 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

Organization of American Historians
American Studies Association
Labor and Working Class History Association
Mid-America American Studies Association