

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### James T. Kloppenberg

Department of History  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
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#### **PERSONAL:**

Born in Denver, Colorado, June 23, 1951  
Married to Mary Cairns Kloppenberg, July 1, 1972  
Children: Ann Marie, born May 6, 1979  
James Anthony, born August 17, 1983

#### **EDUCATION:**

1976-1980: Ph.D., History and Humanities joint program, Stanford University  
1974-1976: M.A., History, Stanford University  
1969-1973: A.B., Summa Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction in History, Dartmouth College

#### **EMPLOYMENT:**

Charles Warren Professor of American History, Harvard, 2008-present  
David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of American History, Harvard, 2003-2007  
Professor of History, Harvard, 1999-2003  
Assistant Professor to Associate Professor to Professor, Brandeis, 1980-1999  
Instructor, Stanford University program in Florence, Italy, 1977  
Instructor, French Department language program, Dartmouth College, 1972

#### **ACADEMIC HONORS:**

Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, elected Spring, 2015  
Visiting Professor, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, Spring, 2013, Spring, 1993  
Walter Channing Cabot Fellow, Harvard University, 2010-2011  
Fellow Commoner, Jesus College, University of Cambridge, elected October, 2009  
Pitt Professorship in American History and Institutions, University of Cambridge, 2008-2009  
Harvard College Professorship, in recognition of distinguished contributions to undergraduate and graduate teaching,  
Harvard University, 2003-2008  
Fellow, Massachusetts Historical Society, elected February, 2005  
Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize for Senior Faculty, voted by the Harvard Undergraduate Council,  
2002  
Fellowship, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, term to be arranged  
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1999-2000  
Guggenheim Fellowship, 1991-92  
American Council of Learned Societies Travel Grant, 1990  
Merle Curti Award, 1987, given by the Organization of American Historians for the best book in intellectual history  
published in 1985 or 1986  
Pulitzer Prize nomination, 1987  
Bernstein Faculty Fellowship, Brandeis University, 1985-86  
American Council of Learned Societies Postdoctoral Fellowship for Studies in Modern Society and Values, 1982-1983  
Mazer Fund Faculty Research Grant, 1982-1983, 1987-1988  
Danforth Fellowship, 1978-1980  
Whiting Fellowship, 1978-1979  
History Fellowship, Stanford, 1974-1978  
Jones History Prize, Dartmouth, 1973  
Phi Beta Kappa, 1973

**BOOKS:**

- Uncertain Victory: Social Democracy and Progressivism in European and American Thought, 1870-1920 (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986; paperbound edition, 1988).
- A Companion to American Thought, co-editor with Richard Wightman Fox (Cambridge, Mass., and Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1995; paperbound edition, 1998).
- The Virtues of Liberalism (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998; paperbound edition, 2000).
- Reading Obama: Dreams, Hope, and the American Political Tradition (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011; paperbound edition, 2012); also published in Japanese translation (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten, 2012).
- Toward Democracy: The Struggle for Self-Rule in European and American Thought (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016).
- The Worlds of American Intellectual History, co-edited with Joel Isaac, Michael O'Brien, and Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016).

**BOOKS IN PROGRESS:**

- "The American Democratic Tradition: Roger Williams to Barack Obama" (to be published by Princeton University Press)
- "Thinking Historically: Interdisciplinary Studies in History and Theory"
- "The Long Shadow of William James: Pragmatism and American Culture"

**JOURNAL ARTICLES:**

- "Deconstruction and Hermeneutics as Strategies for Intellectual History," The Intellectual History Newsletter 9 (April 1987).
- "The Virtues of Liberalism: Christianity, Republicanism, and Ethics in Early American Political Discourse," The Journal of American History 74 (June 1987). Reprinted in Peter S. Onuf, ed., The New American Nation, 1775-1820 (New York: Garland, 1991).
- "The Republican Idea in American History and Historiography," La Revue Tocqueville/The Tocqueville Review 13 (1992).
- "Institutionalism, Rational Choice, and Historical Analysis," Polity 28 (1995).
- "Life Everlasting: Tocqueville in America," La Revue Tocqueville/The Tocqueville Review 17 (1996). Reprinted in Religion and Values in Public Life 5 (1997), supplement to Harvard Divinity Bulletin 26 (1997).
- "Pragmatism: An Old Name for Some New Ways of Thinking?" The Journal of American History 83 (1996). Reprinted in Morris Dickstein, ed., The Revival of Pragmatism (Durham: Duke University Press, 1998) and in John Pettegrew, ed., A Pragmatist's Progress? Richard Rorty and American Intellectual History (Oxford: Rowman & Littlefield, 2000).
- "Rethinking America's Liberal Tradition," Religion and Values in Public Life 6 (1998), supplement to Harvard Divinity Bulletin 27 (1998).
- "The Life of the Mind," The Newsletter of The Roxbury Latin School 75,4 (2002).
- "Aspirational Nationalism in America," The Intellectual History Newsletter 24 (2002).
- "Advise and Dissent: The Tradition of Antiwar Protest and the Relevance of the Past," Section C, "Ideas," Boston Globe, April 6, 2003.
- "Pragmatism and the Practice of History," Metaphilosophy 35 (2004).
- "Transnational and Multi-Disciplinary: The New Goals of American Studies Programs," American Studies Association Newsletter 28 (March 2005).
- "The Canvas and the Color: Tocqueville's 'Philosophical History' and Why It Matters Now," Modern Intellectual History 3 (2006).
- "Tocqueville, Mill, and the American Gentry," La Revue Tocqueville/The Tocqueville Review 27, 2 (2006). Another version of this article was published in Ricche di Storia Politica 8 (Ottobre 2005).
- "True to His Word," Newsweek, November 29, 2010.
- "A Nation Arguing with Its Conscience': Deliberative Democracy, Philosophical Pragmatism, and Barack Obama's Conception of American Governance," Harvard Magazine, November-December, 2010.
- "Thinking Historically: A Manifesto of Pragmatic Hermeneutics," Modern Intellectual History 9 (2012).

- "Restoring the Language of Obligation," Democracy 24 (2012).
- "Two Cities, Two Americas," Commonweal, October 26, 2012.
- "Obama, Pragmatique incompris," Le Monde, November 2, 2012.
- "The 2012 Election and the Future of the Parties," Footnote, March 28, 2013.
- "Great Exhortations: Taking Obama at His Word," Commonweal, May 17, 2013.
- "A Well-Tempered Liberalism: Modern Intellectual History and Political Theory," Modern Intellectual History 10,3 (2013).

#### BOOK CHAPTERS:

- "Rethinking Tradition: Sidgwick and the Philosophy of the Via Media," in Bart Schultz, ed., Essays on Henry Sidgwick (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).
- "Democracy in Social Theory," in Willi-Paul Adams et al., eds., Problems of Democracy in the United States, Symposium of the Graduiertenkolleg at the John F. Kennedy-Institut für Nordamerikastudien, Freie Universität Berlin (Berlin: Zentrale Universitätsdruckerei, 1993).
- "Democracy and Disenchantment: From Weber and Dewey to Rorty and Habermas," in Dorothy Ross, ed., Modernist Impulses in the Human Sciences, 1870-1930 (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994).
- "Knowledge and Belief in American Public Life," in William M. Shea and Peter A. Huff, eds., Knowledge and Belief in America: Enlightenment Traditions and Modern Religious Thought (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995).
- "Political Ideas," in Stanley Kutler, ed., Encyclopedia of the United States in the Twentieth Century, 4 volumes (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1995) 1: 273-294.
- "The Reciprocal Vision of German and American Intellectuals: Beneath the Shifting Perceptions," in David Barclay and Elisabeth Glaser-Schmidt, eds., Transatlantic Images and Perceptions: Germany and America Since 1777 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997).
- "Why History Matters to Political Theory," in Ronald Walters, ed., Scientific Authority and Twentieth-Century America (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997).
- "Cosmopolitan Pragmatism: Deliberative Democracy and Higher Education," in Robert Orrill, ed., Education and Democracy: Re-imagining Liberal Learning in America (New York: The College Board, 1997).
- "Demokratie und Entzauberung der Welt: Von Weber und Dewey zu Habermas und Rorty," in Hans Joas, ed., Philosophie der Demokratie: Beiträge zum Werk von John Dewey (Frankfurt am Main, Suhrkamp, 2000).
- "Une histoire des idées et des mouvements politiques," in Jean Heffer, Pap Ndiaye, and François Weil, eds., La démocratie américaine au XXe siècle (Paris: Belin, 2000).
- "Intellectual History, Democracy, and the Culture of Irony," in Melvyn Stokes, ed., The State of American History (Oxford: Berg Publishers, 2002).
- "American Democracy and the Welfare State: The Problem of Its Publics," in R. Laurence Moore and Maurizio Vaudagna, eds., The American Century in Europe (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003).
- "From Hartz to Tocqueville: Shifting the Focus from Liberalism to Democracy in America," in Meg Jacobs, William J. Novak, and Julian Zelizer, eds., The Democratic Experiment: New Directions in American Political History (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003).
- "Pragmatism and the Practice of History: From Turner and Du Bois to Today," in The Range of Pragmatism and the Limits of Philosophy, ed. Richard Shusterman (Oxford: Blackwell, 2004).
- "The Place of Value in a Culture of Facts: Truth and Historicism," in David A. Hollinger, ed., The Humanities and the Dynamics of Inclusion since World War II (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006).
- "Tocqueville at 200: Reconsidering Democracy in America," in Transatlantic Negotiations, ed. Christa Buschendorf and Astrid Franke (Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2007).
- "James's Pragmatism and American Culture, 1907-2007," in John Stuhr, ed., 100 Years of Pragmatism: William James's Revolutionary Philosophy (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010).
- "Requiescat in Pacem: The Liberal Tradition of Louis Hartz," in Mark Hulliung, ed., The American Liberal Tradition Reconsidered: The Contested Legacy of Louis Hartz (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2010).
- "Barack Obama and Progressive Democracy," in Bruce Schulman, ed., Making the American Century: Essays in the Political Culture of Twentieth-Century America (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014).

"Barack Obama and the Traditions of Progressive Reform," in Stephen Skowronek and Stephen Engel, eds., The Progressives' Century: Democratic Reform and Constitutional Governance in the United States (New Haven: Yale University Press, forthcoming).

#### REVIEW ESSAYS:

- "In Retrospect: Morton White's Social Thought in America: The Revolt Against formalism," Reviews in American History 15 (September 1987). Reprinted in Stanley Kutler, ed., American Retrospectives: Historians on Historians (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995).
- "Objectivity and Historicism: A Century of American Historical Writing," The American Historical Review 94 (October 1989).
- "Who's Afraid of the Welfare State?" Reviews in American History 18 (September 1990).
- "The Theory and Practice of American Legal History," Harvard Law Review 106 (1993).
- "Deliberative Democracy and Judicial Supremacy," Law and History Review 13 (1995).
- "The Authority of Evidence and the Boundaries of Interpretation," Intellectual History Newsletter 17 (1995).
- "Describing America: The Absence of Experience in Jon Butler's Becoming America and Why It Matters," common-place 1, 1 (2000); www.common-place.org
- "In Retrospect: Louis Hartz's The Liberal Tradition in America," Reviews in American History 29 (2001).
- "Teaching The Metaphysical Club," Intellectual History Newsletter 24 (2002).
- "Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Visionary," Reviews in American History 34 (2006).

#### ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES:

- "Virtue," in Jack P. Greene and J.R. Pole, eds., The Blackwell Encyclopedia of the American Revolution (Oxford: Blackwell, 1991).
- "North America," in John Yolton, ed., The Blackwell Companion to the Enlightenment (Oxford: Blackwell, 1991).
- "Democracy," "Enlightenment," "William James," "Thomas Jefferson," "Philosophy," "Political Theory," and "Pragmatism," in Richard Wightman Fox and James T. Kloppenberg, eds., A Companion to American Thought (Cambridge, Mass., and Oxford, England: Blackwell, 1995).
- "Equality," "Pragmatism," and "Republicanism," The Oxford Companion to United States History, ed. Paul Boyer et al., (Oxford University Press, 2001).
- "Liberalism," "Locke's Political Philosophy," "Tocqueville's Democracy in America," Dictionary of American History, ed. Stanley Kutler et al., (New York: Scribner's, 2002).
- "Liberalism," in The Princeton Encyclopedia of United States Political History, ed. Michael Kazin (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010).

#### BOOK AND FILM REVIEWS PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING JOURNALS:

Albion, American Historical Review, Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie, Boston Globe, common-place, Ethics, The Historian, History, History and Theory, The History Teacher, Journal of American History, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Journal of Modern History, Journal of the Early Republic, Journal of the History of Ideas, Qualitative Sociology, Political Theory, Reviews in American History, The William and Mary Quarterly

#### MANUSCRIPTS REVIEWED FOR THE FOLLOWING JOURNALS AND PRESSES:

The American Historical Review, The American Political Science Review, American Quarterly, The Harvard Theology Review, The Intellectual History Newsletter, The Journal of American History, The Journal of American Studies, The Journal of the History of Ideas, La Revue Tocqueville/The Tocqueville Review, Modern Intellectual History, Political Theory, Bedford/St. Martin's Press, Blackwell Publishers, Cambridge U. Press, Columbia U. Press, Harvard U. Press, Johns Hopkins U. Press, Kansas U. Press, New York U. Press, Oxford U. Press, Princeton U. Press, Stanford U. Press, Twayne Publishers, U. of Chicago Press, U. of North Carolina Press, U. of Notre Dame Press, U. of Tennessee Press, U. of Wisconsin Press, Yale U. Press

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Executive Board, Organization of American Historians, 2014-2018  
 Editorial Board, Modern Intellectual History, 2003-present

Council Member, The Tocqueville Society, 2001-present  
Committee on Committees, Organization of American Historians, 2011-2013  
Fellows Committee, Massachusetts Historical Society, 2007-2010  
Editorial Board, Journal of American History, 2004-2007  
Mellon Graduate Fellowships Final Selection Committee, 2002-2006  
ACLS Burkhardt Fellowships Final Selection Committee, 2003-2006  
Guggenheim Fellowships Selection Committee, Cultural/Intellectual History, 2002-2005  
Advisory Board, Rethinking History, 1996-2003  
Advisory Board, The Review of Politics, 1998-2005  
Editorial Board, Intellectual History Newsletter, 1987-2003  
Editorial Board, The Tocqueville Review/La Revue Tocqueville, 1991-2001  
Chair, Merle Curti Award Committee, Organization of American Historians, 1997-99  
Littleton-Griswold Award Committee, American Historical Association, 1998-2000  
Selection Committee, Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Fellowships, 1995-1999

**ACADEMIC SERVICE AT HARVARD:**

Chair, Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, 2013-2014, 2015-2018  
Chair, Department of History, 2007-2008, 2010-2012  
Standing Committee on Public Service, 2007-present, Chair, 2015-2016  
Chair, Graduate Program in the History of American Civilization, 2003-06, 2007-08  
Co-director, Seminar on US Intellectuals and the Cultures of the Atlantic World, Charles Warren Center, 2005-2006  
Visiting Committee, Harvard Graduate School of Education, 2004-2007  
Educational Policy Committee, 2004-2006  
Faculty Council, 2004-2005  
Committee on Undergraduate Student Life, Harvard in Allston, 2004-2005  
Co-director, Seminar on Global America, Charles Warren Center, 2000-2001  
Freshman Adviser, 2000-present  
Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, 1999-present  
Committee on Degrees in History and Literature, 1999-present  
Historical Studies Core Committee, 1999-2002  
Committee on the Study of Religion, 1999-2002  
History Department Graduate Admissions Committee, 2000-2006

**ACADEMIC SERVICE AT BRANDEIS:**

Chair, Graduate Program in American History, 1989-91, 1997-99  
Chair, University Seminars in Humanistic Inquiry, 1996-1999  
Tenure Board, 1993-1998, Chair, 1997-98  
Faculty Senate and Senate Council, 1989-91  
Chair, History of Ideas Program, 1988-90  
Brandeis History Department Commencement Speaker, 1984, 1991  
Brandeis History Department Advising Head, 1983-1989

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

Wellesley College Board of Trustees, 2003-present  
Member of Visiting Committees to evaluate History Departments and Social Studies Programs in New England colleges, universities, and secondary schools, 1986-present  
Guest speaker at public and private elementary and secondary schools and teacher-training programs in Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Newton, and Wellesley, Massachusetts, 1985-present  
Coach of Wellesley girls and boys youth soccer, basketball, and baseball teams, 1987-1998  
Parish Pastoral Council, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 1996-1999, President, 1998-1999

**SELECTED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS GIVEN SINCE 1987:**

- 1987: Political Theory Group, Yale  
History Department Colloquium, Harvard  
Interdisciplinary Cluster Program, Wellesley  
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago
- 1988: Symposium on American Individualism, New York University  
Industrial Democracy Conference, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC  
Seminar on Republicanism, University of Rochester  
Conference for the Study of Political Thought, Harvard
- 1989: Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, St. Louis  
Interdepartmental Seminar, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Center for European Studies, Harvard  
American Studies Conference, UCLA  
American Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco
- 1990: Religion and Enlightenment Conference, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC  
History Department Colloquium, Dartmouth  
American Studies Program, UCLA  
Charles Warren Center, Harvard  
Life Sciences and Social Sciences Conference, Bellagio, Italy
- 1991: Bill of Rights Conference, United States Capitol Historical Society, Washington, DC  
Conference on Political Identity in American Thought, Yale  
Modernism Conference, Interdisciplinary Research Center, Bielefeld  
History Department Seminar, Northwestern
- 1992: Intellectual History Colloquium, New York University  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Chicago  
American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Yale  
American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Costa Mesa, California  
American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
- 1993: Southern Intellectual History Conference, University of Mississippi  
Conference on American and German Culture, Kalamazoo College  
Symposium on U. S. Democracy, Kennedy Institute, Free University of Berlin  
Conference on American History, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris  
Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore  
Business History Seminar, Harvard Graduate School of Business
- 1994: Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Atlanta  
American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 1995: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago  
Phi Alpha Theta lecture, University of Oklahoma  
Conference on John Dewey and German Thought, Bad Homburg, Germany  
Conference on Tocqueville in France and in America, University of Virginia
- 1996: Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Chicago  
Conference on German and American Political Thought, Madison, Wisconsin  
History and American Studies lecture, Lehigh University  
Keynote Address, Symposium on Democracy, Kennedy Institute, Free University of Berlin
- 1997: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York  
Conference on Pragmatism and Liberal Education, Rollins College  
Conference on Transcendentalism, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston  
Symposium on Tocqueville and Democracy, Harvard Divinity School  
Seminar on William James and France, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
- 1998: Legal History Seminar, University of Chicago  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Indianapolis  
American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Seattle

- Humanities Colloquium, University of Miami
- 1999: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC  
Triangle Intellectual History Seminar, North Carolina  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Toronto  
Symposium on American Studies, Kennedy Institute, Free University of Berlin  
Seminar on Democracy and Civil Society, University of Dresden  
American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Toronto  
Symposium on the Work of Charles Taylor, Association for Canadian Studies, Pittsburgh
- 2000: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago  
Commonwealth Fund Lecture on the State of the Field of Intellectual History, University College, London  
Lecture on William James and Modernism, Kansas University  
Seminar on Nationalism in Liberal Cultures, University of North Carolina  
Conference on "The American Century," University of Turin  
Conference on the History of Democracy in America, MIT
- 2001: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Boston  
University of Virginia Legal History seminar, Charlottesville  
Conference on Global America, University of Oxford
- 2002: American Studies Faculty Seminar, Boston University  
Sawyer Seminar on Liberal Cultures, National Humanities Center, North Carolina  
American Political Development Seminar, University of Virginia, Charlottesville  
Senior Leadership Forum, Harvard School of Design, Cambridge  
Conference on neo-pragmatism, Ecole doctorale des Sciences Sociales de Paris-IX Dauphine
- 2003: Conference on the State of American intellectual history, Harvard University  
Conference on U.S. Catholicism in Comparative Frameworks, University of Notre Dame  
Humanities in America Conference, American Academy of Arts & Sciences, Cambridge  
Lecture on the Humanities and the Discursive Social Sciences, Symposium on the Curricular Review, Harvard
- 2004: Nef Lecture on the Place of Values in a Culture of Facts, Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago  
Seminar on Problems in the Humanistic Disciplines, Harvard Humanities Center  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Boston  
Symposium on Library of America edition of Tocqueville, Democracy in America, Center for European Studies, Harvard  
Lecture on America in European Perspective for Freshman Parents Convocation, Sanders Theatre, Harvard  
John Sloan Dickey Lecture on Democracy, Dartmouth College  
American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta
- 2005: Lecture on Transnational Studies, German Association of American Studies, Frankfurt  
Conference on Tocqueville entre Deux Mondes, C erisy-la-Salle, Normandy  
Tocqueville Bicentennial Conference, Yale  
Lecture on Intellectual History, History of Ideas Program, Fortieth Anniversary, Brandeis  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, San Jose  
Conference on Rights in the American Revolutionary Era, Northwestern
- 2006: Conference of the Southern Intellectual History Circle, Radcliffe Institute  
Conference on the Constitution and Public Policy in US History, Boston University  
Lecture on Democracy in the New England Town, Goldfarb Center on Public Policy, Colby College  
Lecture on American Historical Studies, Fortieth Anniversary of the Charles Warren Center, Harvard  
Lecture on Wilson as a Progressive Reformer, Conference on Woodrow Wilson's Presidency, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington DC
- 2007: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta  
Lecture on the Political Resources of Pragmatism for Democracy, Philadelphia Philosophy Forum  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Minneapolis

- Seminar on Democracy in Early American History, The Ohio State University  
Conference on Pragmatism and Idealism in Dialogue, Harvard University  
Goldman Lecture on Modernism in American History and Philosophy, Boston University
- 2008: Lecture on David M. Kennedy and American and European Intellectual History, Stanford University  
Forum on the Future of Liberal Education, Harvard Humanities Center  
Welfare States in Europe and America, Justice Welfare Economics Program, Harvard  
Seminar on Scholarship and Values in Catholic Universities, Boston College  
Seminar on Tocqueville and Democracy in America and France, Catholic University  
Paper on Mill and Tocqueville for Conference on Nineteenth-Century Republicanism in the Atlantic World, University of Oxford  
Symposium on the 2008 US Presidential Election, Dartmouth College
- 2009: Commonwealth Conference on Lincoln and European Liberalism, University College, London  
Seminar in Political Theory and Intellectual History, King's College, University of Cambridge  
Lecture on Barack Obama and the American Democratic Tradition, Universities of East Anglia, Sheffield, Nottingham, Oxford, and Cambridge; the London Institute for Historical Research; and the Mid-America History Conference, Norman, Oklahoma  
Lecture on Atlantic Enlightenments and the American and French Revolutions, University of Sussex  
Lecture on Democracy in Rousseau, Madison, James Wilson, and Sieyes, University of Cambridge  
Lecture on Barack Obama and the Future of American Democracy, Torino, Italy  
Paper on Obama, Dewey, and the Tradition of Philosophical Pragmatism, Interdisciplinary Research Center, Bielefeld, Germany
- 2010: Paper on Reading Obama: Dreams, Hope, and the American Political Tradition, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Diego  
Paper on the Future of Atlantic Intellectual History, Center for European Studies, Harvard  
Moderator for Social Science Symposium, "What Makes a Life Significant?" Harvard  
Keynote Address on the Enduring Significance of William James, Centennial Conference, Cambridge, MA  
Paper on Pragmatism and American Writing, University of Illinois, Champagne-Urbana  
Keynote Address on Politics and Ideas, US Intellectual History Conference, City University of New York  
F. Ross Johnson-Connaught Distinguished Lecture on Obama and America, University of Toronto  
Seminar on Obama's books in US intellectual history, University of California, Berkeley  
Radio interviews with Scott Horsley, NPR; Christopher Lydon, Open Source Radio; Ian Masters, KPRK, Los Angeles; Kathleen Hays, Bloomberg Radio; Marty Moss-Coane, WHYY, Philadelphia; Cecil Prescod and Celeste Carey, KBOO, Portland, Oregon; and with radio stations in England, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, and Spain  
Television interview with Charlie Rose, PBS
- 2011: Martin Luther King Day Lecture on Obama and Race in America, The Roxbury Latin School  
Lectures on Reading Obama: Hope, Dreams, and the American Political Tradition: Dartmouth College; Wellesley College; New York Ethical Culture Society; Public Library of Nashua, New Hampshire; Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement  
Littauer Distinguished Guest Lecture on Obama and American Politics, Babson College  
Lecture on Obama and American domestic and foreign policy, Charles Warren Center and Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University  
Program in History and Literature Annual Lecture on the American Democratic Tradition, Harvard  
Conversation with Steve Marini on Obama and Race in American History, Massachusetts Historical Society  
University of Dublin Fund Lecture on Obama and American Democracy, Trinity College, Dublin  
Paper on the Future of US Intellectual History, Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Houston  
Twenty Questions on Obama, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard  
Edith Green Endowed Lecture on Obama and America, Linfield College  
Presentation on Obama and American Thought, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris

- Panel on Intellectual Transfer between Europe and the US, Annual Meeting of the Society for US Intellectual History
- Radio interviews with PBS stations in Boston, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia
- 2012: Paper on Democracy in European and American Thought for panel entitled “What’s the Big Idea?” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago
- Panel on Historians and the Obama Presidency, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago
- Visiting historian, Phillips Andover Academy, Andover, Massachusetts
- Symposium on Steven Pinker, “Has Violence Declined?” Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard
- Donald E. Sharp Lecture in American History, “The American Democratic Tradition,” Denison University, Denison, Ohio
- Inaugural lecture in the series “Democracy Studies,” Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State University
- Gray Colloquium Address, “Obligations of American Citizenship,” St. Mark’s School, Northborough, Massachusetts
- Co-convener, Conference on “The Futures of Atlantic Intellectual History,” Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study
- Barack Obama and African-American Autobiography, University of Paderborn, Germany
- Seminar on Barack Obama and American History in conjunction with the release of the Japanese translation of Reading Obama, University of Tokyo
- Obama and Democracy, Alberta Institute for American Studies, University of Alberta
- Conference on the History of the American Presidency, University of Virginia
- Conference on the 2012 US presidential election, sponsored by the German Marshall Fund, Institut des Sciences Politiques, Paris
- The Reformation and Western Culture, University of Notre Dame
- Radio interviews with stations in Boston, Portland, OR, Los Angeles, Edinburgh, Paris, Frankfurt, Vienna, and Tokyo
- 2013: Inaugural David M. Kennedy Lecture on the United States in the World, Stanford University
- Remarks on Knowledge, Responsibility, and Reform in the Work of Thomas Haskell, Rice University
- Fifth Annual Gerald Stourzh Lecture on Democracy, University of Vienna
- Symposium on Reading Obama, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
- Seminar on Philosophical Pragmatism and History, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
- Seminar on Rousseau, Madison, and the American and French Revolutions, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
- Seminar on Democracy and the US Civil War, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
- Co-convener, Conference on “The Worlds of American Intellectual History,” University of Cambridge
- Keynote Address for Conference on “The Progressives’ Century: Democratic Reform and Constitutional Governance in the United States,” Yale University
- 2014: Keynote Address for Conference on “Beyond the Culture Wars: Recasting Religion and Politics in the Twentieth Century, John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, Washington University, St. Louis
- Lecture on Democracy in the Worlds of American Intellectual History, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- John Patrick Diggins Memorial Lecture, City University of New York Graduate Center
- 2015: History Convocation Address, The Roxbury Latin School
- Democracy in the Longue Durée, conference on “New Questions for Democracy,” University of Rennes, France
- Lecture on democracy in European and American thought, Columbia University
- 2016: Persistence and Change in the Work of Carl N. Degler, Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Atlanta
- Panel discussion on Toward Democracy: The Struggle for Self-Rule in European and American Thought, Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians
- “Reading the American Presidents, Adams to Obama,” Conference on Leadership in American and Russian History, Moscow