

Briana J. Smith, Ph.D.

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Education

Ph.D., History, University of Iowa 2017

Dissertation:
“Creative Alternatives: Experimental Art and Cultural Politics in Berlin, 1971-1999”

Exam Fields:
Modern Europe; Modern Germany; History, Theory, and Politics of Culture

M.A., History, University of Iowa 2011

Thesis: “GDR Television, Viewer Research, and the ‘Emancipation’ of
East German Women, 1961-1971”

B.A., History, (with honors), Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota 2005
Minors: English and German

Academic Appointments

Lecturer 2018 - present
Harvard University, Committee on Degrees in History & Literature

Visiting Assistant Professor 2017 - 2018
University of Iowa, Department of History

Lecturer 2017
Cornell College, Department of History

Graduate Instructor 2010 - 2013
University of Iowa, Department of History

Research and Publications

*Creative Alternatives: Experimental Art and Grassroots Politics in Berlin, 1971 -
Present* (book manuscript solicited by MIT Press, submission for review Dec. 2019)

“Experimental Art, Place Marketing and the Urban Public Sphere in 1980s West Berlin,”
Contemporary European History, forthcoming.

“Experimental Art and Cultural Exchange in Late Cold War Berlin,” in *Cold War Berlin*, edited by Konrad Jarausch, Stefanie Eisenhuth and Scott Krause. London: Bloomsbury, forthcoming.

Review of *Beyond No Future: Cultures of German Punk*, edited by Cyrus M. Shahan, Seth Howes and Mirko M. Hall, *EuropeNow Journal*, July 2017, <http://www.europenowjournal.org/2017/07/28/beyond-no-future-cultures-of-german-punk/>

Under Review

“Grassroots Glasnost: Experimental Art, Second Public Spheres and the 1989 Revolutions in East-Central Europe,” *American Historical Review*, submitted Oct. 2018

Awards, Honors and Competitive Fellowships

John Clive Teaching Prize Committee on Degrees in History & Literature Harvard University	2019
Harvard Excellence in Teaching Award The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning Harvard University	2019
Award Nominee Star Prize for Excellence in Advising Harvard University	2019
Max-Weber-Kolleg Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined) MWK-FELLOWS COFUND Programme Erfurt, Germany	2018 - 2019
Program Fellow, Free University, Berlin, Germany Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies	2014 - 2015
Graduate Research Scholarship, Berlin, Germany German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)	2013 - 2014
Research Grant, Berlin, Germany U.S. Student Fulbright Award (declined)	2013 - 2014
T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship Graduate College, University of Iowa	2014
William O. Aydelotte Dissertation Fellowship History Department, University of Iowa	2014
Stanley Graduate Award for International Research Stanley-UI Foundation, University of Iowa	2012
Presidential Fellowship Graduate College, University of Iowa	2009 - 2017

Presentations and Conferences

“Experimental Art as Aesthetic Opposition in Berlin, 1988-1993,” Ambiguities of Transformation: 1989 between Success Story und Crisis, Institute for Saxon History und Ethnology, Dresden, Germany, November 2019

“Teaching Experimental Art in 1980s East Germany,” Seminar: Teaching East German Culture: From the GDR to the Present, German Studies Association Conference, Portland, Oregon, October 2019

Panel Moderator, “Queer Art and Heterodox Communisms in the GDR,” German Studies Association Conference, Portland, Oregon, October 2019

“Performance and Community over Commodity in 1980s West Berlin,” Occasional Art: Intimacy, Transience, and Community in the 20th and 21st Centuries, College Art Association Conference, New York City, February 2019

“Creative Alternatives on the Web,” Digital Project Presentation
Digital Projects Lightning Round, American Historical Association Conference, Washington, D.C., January 2018

“Photography and Action Art in the Late German Democratic Republic,”
Photographing under Dictatorship, Humboldt University, Berlin, October 2016

“Action Art Activism in Urban Space and the Right to the City,” Making Democratic Subjectivities, German Studies Association Conference, San Diego, September 2016

“West Berlin: Culture Metropolis? Experimental Art and Cultural Politics in 1980s West Berlin,” German Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., October 2015

“Intersections between East and West Berlin Art Scenes in the 1980s,” Berlin in the Cold War, the Cold War in Berlin, Humboldt University, Berlin, July 2015

“Art is Not a Luxury: Democratizing Art in West Berlin in the 1970s,”
German Historical Institute, 21st Annual Transatlantic Doctoral Seminar, May 2015

“A Brief History of Action Art in Berlin,” Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies Colloquium, Free University, Berlin, Germany, November 2014

Panelist, “Twenty Years after the Berlin Wall: Women’s Shifting Roles and Status in Post-Communist Europe,” University of Iowa, April 2011

“‘Everything for the Ladies...But Not Just for Her’: East German Television and the Emancipation of Women,” Gender and Women’s History Symposium, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, March 2011

“Journal for Her? Television Viewer Research and the Emancipation of East German Women,” May Brodbeck Symposium on Women’s and Gender History, University of Iowa, May 2010

Teaching and Advising

History & Literature, Harvard University

HL-90 Seminar: Everyday Life in Cold War Berlin

2018; 2019

Sophomore Tutorial

Art and Politics of the Cold War
(Co-taught with Professor Duncan White) Planned for spring 2020

Art and Politics of Public Life in Transatlantic Perspective
(Co-taught with Professor Jordan Brower) 2019

Junior Tutorial

Cultural and Intellectual History of 20th Century Europe 2018 - 2019

Senior Tutorial (One-on-one thesis advising) 2018 - present

Theses advised:

Wyatt Hayden, "Unity Makes Strength: Americanization in the German Community of Lawrence, Massachusetts" (submitted March 1, 2019)

Gareth Anderson, "Another Brick in the Fall of Britain: Britain's Decline in Pink Floyd's *The Wall*" (submitted March 1, 2019)

First-year Advising 2019 - 2020

Academic Advising Pilot Program
Board of First-Year Advisors
Harvard University

Courses Designed and Taught - University of Iowa & Cornell College

Modern Germany, 1914 - Present 2018

Western Civilization III (1650 - Present) online course 2018

Everyday Life in Cold War Berlin 2017, 2018

Europe Since 1945 2017

Utopia, Dystopia, and Dictatorship in Modern Europe 2017

From K. Marx to K-Mart: Consumerism in World History 2012

Courses Assisted

U.S. Women's History as the History of Human Rights 2012

Western Civilization I (ca. 500 b.c.e. - 1300) 2010, 2011

Western Civilization II (ca. 1300 - 1700) 2011, 2013

Service, Public Engagement and Professional Development

Book project website and maps: <https://creativealternatives.lib.uiowa.edu>

Committee on Instruction and Tutorial Board 2018 - present
History & Literature, Harvard University

Prize Subcommittee, Committee on Instruction History & Literature, Harvard University	2018 - 2019
Tools & Techniques for Leading Classroom Discussions The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning Harvard University	October - November 2018
Summer Institute on Digital Storytelling Digital Bridges for Humanistic Inquiry University of Iowa/Grinnell College	May 2018
Mastering the Online Classroom Workshop Office of Distance and Online Education University of Iowa	May 2018
Fulbright Program Assistant University of Iowa International Programs	January - July 2018
Digital Humanities Scholar University of Iowa Libraries Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio	June 2016
Summer Institute Fellow Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University	June 2016
Volunteer ELL Instructor Community Refugee Program Lutheran Services of Iowa	March 2016 - June 2017
City walking tour, Berlin, Germany Led a two-hour group tour on public art and Berlin's 750 th Anniversary Celebration in 1987.	2015
Writing Tutor History Writing Center University of Iowa	2013
Co-president, Graduate History Society Department of History University of Iowa	2012 - 2013
Research Assistant Professor John Durham Peters University of Iowa	2011
Bringing History Home Professional Development Project History Teaching at the Undergraduate Level Cedar Rapids, Iowa	2010
Museum Interpreter and Historic Site Guide Minnesota Historical Society Mill City Museum and State Capitol Historic Site Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota	2005 - 2009

Language Skills

English: Native

German: Advanced-level speaking, reading and writing

Professional Affiliations

American Historical Association

German Studies Association

College Art Association

References

Elizabeth D. Heineman (doctoral advisor)
Professor of History
University of Iowa
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Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409
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H. Glenn Penny
Professor of History
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Lauren Kaminsky
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Jennifer Sessions
Associate Professor of History
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