

Kate Birkbeck

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APPOINTMENTS

- 2025-2027 **Brown University**
Watson School of International and Public Affairs
Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
- 2024-2026 **Harvard University**
Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs
Ernest May Fellowship in History and Policy

EDUCATION

- 2018- 2025 **Yale University**
Doctor of Philosophy, History (expected)
Dissertation Title: *Public Arms, Private Armies: Militia and the Modern American Empire, 1865-1915*.
Dissertation Co-Advisors: Beverly Gage and David Blight.
Master of Philosophy, History (2021)
- 2017-2018 **University of Cambridge**
Master of Philosophy, American History
Isaac Newton Award.
- 2012-2016 **University College London**
Bachelor of Arts, History (1st honours)
Burns Prize for Best Thesis in History.
BrANCH Peter J. Parish Dissertation Prize.
- 2014-2015 **University of California, Berkeley**
Education Abroad Program.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles in Progress

- Accepted “The Dual Origins of the National Rifle Associations, 1860-77.” *Diplomatic History*.
- Solicited “The response of the National Rifle Association to the Great Strike of 1877.” *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era Special Issue: 150 years since the Strike of 1877*.

Op-Eds

- 2024 “What People Get Wrong About Wayne LaPierre’s Time at the NRA.”
Made by History, Time Magazine, <https://time.com/6564789/nra-lapierre-history/>

Book Reviews

- 2025 John Bardes, *The Carceral City: Slavery and the Making of Mass Incarceration in New Orleans, 1803-1930* [Review], *Slavery and Abolition*.
- 2019 R. J. M. Blackett, *The Captive’s Quest for Freedom: Fugitive Slaves, the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, and the Politics of Slavery* [Review], *U.S. Studies Online*.

GRANTS, AWARDS & PRIZES

External

- 2024-5 HFG Emerging Scholar Award, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation.
- 2024-5 Ernest May Fellowship, Belfer Center, Harvard University.
- 2024 MacKinnon Family Fellowship, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.
- 2023 Amos E. Simpson Travel Award, Louisiana Historical Association.
- 2016 Peter Parish Prize, British American Nineteenth Century Historians.

Internal

- 2023 Graduate Research Fellowship, Gilder Lehrman Centre, Yale University.
- 2022 Research Travel Award, Yale Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity and Transnational Migration.
- 2021 Graduate Fellowship, Yale University Department of History.
- 2021 Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship, Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies.
- 2019-20 Edith Lowman Wile Scholarship, Yale University.
- 2019 Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship, Yale University Department of History.
- 2019 Pre-Prospectus Research Fellowship, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.
- 2018-20 Nathan Hale Associates Fellowship, Yale University.
- 2017-8 Isaac Newton Award, Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge.
- 2016 Burns Prize for Highest Mark in a History Dissertation, University College London.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks and Participation

- 2024 “The Redemption of the Arms Trade.” Center for the Study of Guns and Society, Wesleyan University, Invited Speaker.
- 2023 The Contested Meaning of the Second Amendment, Bonnie and Richard Reiss Graduate Institute for Constitutional History, New York Historical Society, Invited Discussant.
- 2023 “Toward a Cooperative Commonwealth: Agrarian Radicalism in US Political Culture, 1870s-1920s.” Agrarian Studies, Yale University, Invited Discussant.
- 2023 “Policing the Empire: White militia in Hawai’i from the Honolulu Rifles to the Hawaii National Guard 1883-1903.” Society for Historians of Foreign Relations.
- 2023 “The British and American NRAs 1865-77.” Center for the Study of Guns and Society, Wesleyan University, Invited Speaker.
- 2022 “The British and American NRAs 1865-77” Oxford University, Symposium on Histories of Transatlantic Conservatism, Invited Speaker.

Panels Organized

- 2024 “The Redemption of the Arms Trade.” *New Histories of the Military Industrial Complex*, American Political History Conference, Nashville.
- 2024 “Policing the Empire: White militia in Hawai’i from the Honolulu Rifles to the Hawaii National Guard 1883-1903.” *Policing in the Progressive Era and Gilded Age*, Organization of American Historians Conference, New Orleans.
- 2022 “Six-Shooter Empire: the 1857 Indian Rebellion and the transnational origins of the NRA.” *Rally ‘Round The Flag: American White Supremacy’s Militant Global Vision*, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, online.

Papers Presented

- 2024 “The Redemption of the Arms Trade.” The Southern Historical Association, Kansas City.
- 2024 “The Redemption of the Arms Trade.” British American Nineteenth Century Historians Conference, Cambridge (UK).
- 2023 “Policing the Empire: Militia in the territories from Utah to Hawai’i 1883-1903.” Urban History Association, Pittsburgh.
- 2023 “The British and American NRAs 1865-77.” Modern America Seminar, John Hopkins University.
- 2023 “The Security of a Free State: Militia in the United States and the World,

- 1865-1915.” ASLH Summer Research Workshop.
- 2023 “Policing the Empire: White militia in Hawai’i from the Honolulu Rifles to the Hawaii National Guard 1883-1903.” Journal of Policy History Conference.
- 2022 “The British and American NRAs 1865-77.” Twentieth Century US Working Group, Yale University.
- 2019 “Claudia Jones and Black Internationalism.” *Dead Ladies Show*. Live show and podcast.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

- 2021 Fall *Militia and State Violence in the British and American Empires*, Yale University.

Teaching Fellow

- 2022 Fall Head Teaching Fellow, *Civil War and Reconstruction*, Yale University.
- 2021 Spring *Civil War and Reconstruction*, Yale University.
- 2020 Fall *Early Middle Ages, 284-1000*, Yale University.

DEPARTMENTAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2024-6 Events Committee, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era.
- 2023-4 Disability Peer Mentor, Yale University.
- 2023-4 RITM-Graduate Writing Lab Fellow, Yale University.
- 2022-4 Graduate Fellow, Ezra Stiles College, Yale University.
- 2022-3 Co-Convener, Symposium on Disability and Accessibility in Connecticut.
- 2022-3 Diversity Committee, History Department, Yale University.
- 2022-3 Graduate Fellow, Modern US History Workshop, Yale University.
- 2019-21 Co-Convener, ‘Racial Capitalism and the Carceral State’ Working Group, Yale University.