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**Education**

- Dec.1999 Ph.D. in History, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
*dissertation title:* Race, Recordings, and Rock'n'Roll: The American Federation of Musicians and the Popular Music Challenge, 1940-1970. Advisor: Paul Boyer
- Aug. 1992 M.A. in History, UW-Madison  
*thesis title:* Strike Up The Band: The American Federation of Musicians' Recording Bans, 1942-1948. Advisor: David Zonderman
- May 1990 A.B. with Honors in History, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor  
*thesis title:* Collaborative Colonialism: Harry Bandholtz and the Philippine Constabulary, 1903-1913. Advisor: Bradford Perkins

**Publications**

- 2019 Wisconsin, The New Home of the Jew: 150 Years of Jewish Life at the University of Wisconsin—Madison (self-published)
- 2019 “Shylocks to Superheroes: Jewish Scrap Dealers in Anglo-American Popular Culture” Business History 61:1(January)
- 2018 “Who We Were” series in Madison Jewish News (September-October)
- 2015 “Where Have All the Cohens Gone?” Jewish Radicals, Restrictions, and Renewal at the University of Wisconsin, 1964-1972,” Journal of Jewish Identities 8:2 (July)
- 2014 “Rock ‘n’ Roll” entry in Enzyklopädie jüdischer Geschichte und Kultur (Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture)
- 2013 “Bewitched: An Unorthodox View,” The Ultimate History Project ([www.ultimatehistoryproject.com/bewitched](http://www.ultimatehistoryproject.com/bewitched))
- 2012 “Success from Scrap and Second-hand Goods: Jewish Business in the Midwest, 1890-1930,” in Rebecca Kobrin, ed. Chosen Capital: The Jewish Experience with American Capitalism (Rutgers University Press)
- 2012 “Antisemitism” entry in Oxford Companion to the Social History of the United States
- 2011 “‘Ovoutie Slanguage is Absolutely Kosher’: Yiddish in Scat-Singing, Jazz Jargon, and Black Music,” in Bruce Zuckerman, Josh Kun, and Lisa Ansell, eds. The Song is Not the Same: Jews and American Popular Music (The Jewish Role in American Life: An Annual Review, vol. 8) (Purdue University Press)

- 2008 “‘Is This What We Have Among Us Here—A Jew?’: The Hillel Review and Jewish Identity at the University of Wisconsin, 1925-1931,” in Charles L. Cohen and Paul S. Boyer, eds. Religion and the Culture of Print in Modern America, (University of Wisconsin Press)
- 2007 “Who’s Yehoodi? Scat, Jive, and Yiddish, 1938-1953,” Guilt and Pleasure 6 (Fall)
- 2006 “Madison, Wisconsin” entry in Encyclopedia Judaica (Gale Group Publishing)
- 2004 Co-editor, The Voice of the People: Primary Sources on the History of American Labor, Industrial Relations, and Working-Class Culture (Harlan Davidson)
- 2003 “Six Degrees of Ben Sidran,” review of Ben Sidran: A Life in the Music, August issue of Madison Magazine
- 2001 “Jewish Problems: Eastern and Western Jewish Identities in Conflict at the University of Wisconsin, 1919-1941,” American Jewish History 89:2
- 2000 “Duke Ellington,” “Ella Fitzgerald,” Benny Goodman,” entries, Oxford Companion to the History of the United States
- 1998 Margaret Bald, ed. Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Religious Grounds (Facts on File)  
Contributed essays on eight Anglo-American and recent European books censored under pressure from clergy.

### **Teaching experience**

Aug. 1998-current

Instructor, Madison Area Technical College: History 211, 212, 214, 215, 225, 229, 238, 240, and 241

I have taught all of the U. S. history courses at this two-year college, including surveys to and since the Civil War, African-American, Native American, and Latino history courses, US history since 1945, Vietnam and America, 1945-Present, twentieth-century world history, and Introduction to Judaism. 4/5 load)

Jun.-Jul. 1998

Lecturer, UW-Madison: History 102, United States Since 1865

Created lectures and group exercises, and formulated exams, papers, and presentation assignments for intensive four-week summer class.

Jan.-May 1996, Jan.-May 1997

Lecturer, UW-Madison: History 201/Jewish Studies 699, American Jewish History

Wrote and delivered lectures, created exams, assisted students in finding workable paper topics, and used films and discussions to encourage student participation in the course.

## Academic Presentations

- Dec., 2019 “‘One of the Most Prosperous Business Houses in Pittsfield’: Scrap Yards in New England Jewish Life, 1890-1940,” Association for Jewish Studies annual conference, San Diego
- Jan., 2016 “The Many Lives of the Ragman: Jews, Comics, and Secondhand Goods,” American Historical Association annual conference, Atlanta
- Jun., 2014 “It’s relevant and we have to take a stand: Jewish Responses to Radicalism at Wisconsin, 1960-1975,” Scholars’ Conference on American Jewish History, Emory University, Atlanta
- Mar., 2014 “*Cohen v. Udelowish*: Yiddish, Business, and Rabbinical Authority in Monroe, Wisconsin, 1898-1907,” Wisconsin! Tales from Yiddish Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin
- Apr., 2013 “RAKHMONES,” performance, Conney Conference on Jewish Arts, University of Wisconsin
- Feb., 2013 “Making Mill-Town Machers and Menschen in Prominent Jews of America (1918),” Melton Coalition for Creative Interaction Conference: The Transition of Jewish Culture Outside the Classroom, Ohio State University
- Apr., 2012 Panelist on “Wisconsin 2011: A Teaching Challenge” roundtable, Organization of American Historians, Milwaukee
- Mar., 2010 Moderated “Works Concluded and In Progress: Jewish Oral History in Wisconsin” panel at Wisconsin Oral History Day, Milwaukee
- Oct., 2009 “Crime, Reflective Citizenship, and Memory: Madison’s Greenbush Neighborhood, 1900-2000,” Community College Humanities Association National Conference, Chicago
- Mar., 2008 “Machers on the Margins: Scrap Dealers and American Jewish Communities, 1890-1990,” Jews and American Capitalism, New York University & Columbia University
- Sept. 2004 “Patterns of Reconstructionist Jewish Practice in the Wisconsin Hillel Review,” Religion and the Culture of Print in America, University of Wisconsin—Madison
- Oct. 2002 “Where the Borscht Belt Meets the Corn Belt: My Life as a Midwestern Klezmer,” presentation at Central Division annual meeting of the Community College Humanities Association
- Oct. 1999 Moderated panel on international exchange programs at two-year colleges, Community College Humanities Association National Conference, Chicago
- June 1998 “The New York Students Are the Root of the Problem: The Formation of a Midwestern Jewish Identity at the University of Wisconsin, 1919-1940,” Scholars’ Conference in American Jewish History, Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati
- Mar. 1998 “Opportunities and Obligations: Ending Segregation in California Musicians’ Locals, 1946-1960,” Black History Workshop, University of Houston
- Oct. 1995 “Washboards, Whiteness, and World War Two: The American Federation of Musicians and ‘The Hillbilly Problem’,” International Association for the Study of Popular Music-U. S. A. Annual Conference, Vanderbilt University

Oct. 1993 “The American Federation of Musicians’ Recording Ban, 1942-1944,”  
Social History Conference, University of Cincinnati

### **Awards and Honors**

May 2013-present

Honorary Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison

Jan. 2012-present

Honorary Fellow, Center for Jewish Studies, UW-Madison

Mar. 2013 Golden Apple Award, Madison College Phi Theta Kappa chapter

May 2008-Aug. 2012

MATC Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison

Apr. 2008 Project director, *Life During Wartime*, funded through the Teaching American History program of the US Department of Education

Sept. 2007 Honorary Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison

Apr. 2007 Sabbatical recipient (for Fall, 2007), MATC Educational Funding Committee

Nov. 2006 Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership Award, Madison Jewish Community Council

Apr. 2003 MATC Foundation Grant recipient for MATC History Project

Aug. 2002 NEH grant extension recipient for Faces of Madison’s Jewish Community

Aug. 2000 National Endowment for the Humanities grant recipient for Faces of America

Oct. 1997 Second place, Michigan Historical Review Student Essay Competition

May 1997 Mellon Political Culture Fellow, History Department, UW-Madison

May 1995 Departmental Travel Grant, History Department, UW-Madison

Dec. 1993 Graduate School Domestic Research Travel Grant, UW-Madison

May 1990 Departmental Honors in History, UM-Ann Arbor

May 1989 Michael Bernstein Junior Research Award, UM-Ann Arbor

### **Multimedia projects**

2007 Built on Scrap (Lapinsky & Sons/Ambrose Media film): producer, director, writer, narrator

2004 Ruach! A Musical Tribute to Camp Shalom (privately released music CD): producer

2001 Yid Vicious, Forverts (Knitting Factory Records KFW 308): drums, liner notes

1998 Yid Vicious, Klez, Kez, Goy Mit Fez (Uvulittle Records UVU 101): drums

### **Representative sample of public presentations**

Nov. 2019 Presented “New Communities from Old Iron: Jewish Immigrants and the Scrap Industry, 1890-1924,” as part of the Scrap Yard: Innovators in Recycling exhibit, Jewish Museum Maryland

Dec. 2017 Presented “Shabbat or Not? A Historical Perspective on the Work Week and Blue Laws, as part of the exhibit “The Seventh Day: Revisiting Shabbat,” Jewish Museum Milwaukee

May 1999-December 2017

Popular culture expert, Wisconsin Ideas Network

Four to eight times a year, I serve as a guest on Wisconsin Public Radio talk-radio programs, discussing the social significance of popular films, songs, and television shows.

Feb. 2009-Sept. 2017

Project Scholar, Verona Public Library and Waunakee Public Library

I've given talks and facilitated discussions with these public libraries on projects funded by the American Library Association and National Endowment for the Humanities on the Civil War, the Federal Writers' Project, the Civil Rights movement, Vietnam War veterans, the experiences of Latino Americans, and the World War I centennial.

Oct. 2013 Presented "Built on Scrap" as part of the exhibit "From Pushcarts to Professionals," Jewish Museum Milwaukee

Oct. 2013 Presented "Art, Solidarity, Jewishness, and Jive" as part of the Twin Cities Yiddish Fest, sponsored by the Sabes Jewish Community Center, Minneapolis

Apr. 2013 Appeared on local NBC affiliate to recap the career of film critic Roger Ebert

July 2011 Presented "Madison's Jewish Central Committee: 1915-1922" for a luncheon of major donors to the Jewish Federation of Madison

May 2011 Appearances as Madison College's "popular culture expert" on three local network affiliates, discussing the historical importance of the Prince Harry-Kate Middleton wedding

May 2011 For Kiwanis Club of Downtown Madison, gave a talk entitled, "Elias Tobenkin in Madison, 1899-1906: Immigration and Insights"

May 2010 Introduced and facilitated discussion of "Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories," presentation at Verona Public Library

Apr. 2009 "Jewish Academic Networks from Central Wisconsin to the University of Wisconsin," presentation at Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Oct. 2007 Presented "The Gates of Heaven and Madison's Jewish/Unitarian Tradition" to the Friends of the Meeting House annual meeting.

July 2005 For the Greenfield Summer Institute, delivered a talk on the early Jewish experience at the University of Wisconsin and led a bus tour of Jewish sites in the Madison area.

Oct. 2001-May 2003

Six presentations on Madison's Jewish history, to audiences at the University of Wisconsin, Madison Rotary, Temple Beth El, and Beth Israel Center. Two presentations supported by NEH Faces of America project.

July 2001 Moderated "Faces of Westmorland" oral history project, where residents of a suburban Madison neighborhood told the area's history through family snapshots, part of NEH-sponsored Faces of America program, Westmorland Park, Madison

June 1997 "Labor's Impact on American Jews," evening lecture for Statesider Elderhostel program, Madison.

Dec. 1995 "Jews in the Labor Movement," part of American Jewish History lecture series, Temple Beth El, Madison.

- June 1992 “Drive-In Blues,” film presentation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin Museum
- Aug. 1988 “Cheap ’n’ Good: The Films of Roger Corman,” film presentation, Library of Congress

### **Public history experience**

November 2014-present

Scholar/consultant, Scrap Yard: Innovators of Recycling exhibit, Jewish Museum of Maryland and Jewish Museum Milwaukee

Assisted museum staff in applying for grants, identifying primary sources and oral-history interviewees and designing an exhibit on the Jewish contributions to the scrap business.

July 2008-Aug. 2011

Project Director, Life During Wartime

Served as the principal investigator on a three-year, \$940,000 grant that brought together college faculty, museum professionals, and 35 teachers in grades 4-12 to develop new approaches to teaching the history of twentieth-century American wars.

Aug. 2003-July 2004

MATC History Project Coordinator

Researched a history of MATC, with support from the MATC Foundation, to commemorate the college’s ninetieth birthday.

Oct. 2001-Jan. 2003

Consultant, Unpacking on the Prairie: Jewish Women in the Upper Midwest

Provided ideas for local history angles and gave a lecture localizing national touring exhibit at Wisconsin State Historical Museum.

Aug. 2000-June 2003

MATC Coordinator, Faces of America Project

Served as one of two local organizers for a nationally-coordinated project that brought members of Madison-area communities together to discuss local history through the use of family photographs. Photos and text from the exhibition were displayed publicly and will appear in my history of Madison’s Jewish community.

Sept. 1990-Aug. 1993

Senior Film Collections Assistant, Visual/Sound Archives, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Handled research requests. Processed collections of home movies, industrial films, and documentaries. Helped compile a guide to Madison news footage. Supervised volunteers and work-study students.

May-Aug. 1988

Intern, Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress

Processed the Syd Cassyd collection of television promotional materials. Researched National Press Club Collection background. Assisted researchers.

## **Community service, departmental service, and union experience**

July 2021-present

Chair, History Department

Serve as conduit of information from deans to fellow faculty. Lead scheduling meetings each semester. Serve as contact for high-school teachers interested in teaching dual-credit courses at area high schools.

August 2019-present

Coordinator, Arts and Humanities Pre-Major

Advise students, train faculty in advising best practices, and coordinate with other faculty and academic advisors to identify course schedules for students wishing to major in arts and humanities areas at four-year colleges.

May 2000-May 2005, September 2019-present

Local 243 Forum, MATC

Serve as a union steward for MATC Teachers' Union, Local 243, American Federation of Teachers.

Jan. 2013-present

Faculty Advising Committee

Work with faculty and staff from around the college to research, review, and implement successful models of faculty advising college-wide, with particular attention to providing faculty advising framework to college-transfer students. Advise transfer students (3-4 hours/week) about course selection, transfer planning, and the transfer process.

Jan. 2013-Dec. 2018

Honors Program Steering Committee

Planned implementation of honors program (launched Spring, 2014); created surveys to gauge student and faculty interest, promoted honors program to administrators, faculty, and students; compiled list of possible honors-worthy projects; evaluated ~50 proposals/semester.

Sept. 2010-May 2012

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning International Education Fellow

Work with faculty members to internationalize the college's curriculum. Serve on International Education committee, evaluating new courses with significant international content. Work with faculty members and employers to create the most appropriate international-education activities for programs.

Sept. 2008-July 2011

Chair, Humanities Department

Managed budget for department of five full-time and roughly twenty-five part-time faculty members. Served on hiring committees for adjunct History instructors. Mentored new adjuncts. Worked on strategic plan for Arts & Sciences division.

Sept. 2006-July 2009

Chair, Camp Shalom Committee

For a summer-long day camp serving 1,000 campers, I oversaw raising roughly \$100,000 from corporate and individual donors to fund day-camp scholarships. I coordinated snack donations from area grocers, wholesalers, and farmers. I served on hiring committees for camp directors.

Aug. 2004-Jul. 2006

Lead Teacher, Social Science and History Department

Oversaw the reorganization of a 25-member department into three smaller departments. Served on hiring committees for four full-time and two part-time instructors. Managed departmental budgets.

Jan. 2002-May, 2004

Academic Advising Steering Committee, MATC

Served as Arts & Sciences delegate to cross-campus committee that coordinated academic advising efforts.

Mar. 2002-May, 2003

Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee, MATC

Served as Social Science/History representative to division-wide committee that authorizes and funds new courses.

Oct.-Dec. 2002

Curriculum and Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee, MATC

Served as Arts & Sciences delegate to campus-wide committee on assessment of learning outcomes.

Feb. 2001-May 2002

Professional Development Committee, Arts and Sciences Division, MATC

Served as one of six faculty members on committee to determine definitions of “professional development” under new workload arrangement.

January 1999-May 2000



Faculty Library Committee, MATC

Advised library staff of important text and database acquisitions as well as books to preserve.

Sept. 1994-May 1995

Vice President, Teaching Assistants' Association, Local 3220, American Federation of Teachers

Oversaw relations with other graduate employee unions. Served as TAA liaison to county labor federation. Wrote monthly newsletter column on union benefits.

Addressed questions and concerns of membership.

Aug. 1993-May 1994

Legislative Coordinator, Teaching Assistants' Association

Headed campaign to win a full tuition waiver for 2,400-member teaching and project assistants' union. Served as media contact. Met regularly with UW committees to present the TAA's stand on University issues. Supervised volunteers for lobby days.

## **References**

Available upon request.