

Rachel A. Oppenheimer  
Curriculum Vitae  
2023

Department of History  
Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences  
University of Pittsburgh  
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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D.** Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, 2017

Dissertation: “Of Prisons and Politics: The Black Panther Party, Irish Republican Army, and Radical Socio-Political Organization, 1966-1983”

Dissertation Committee: Dr. David W. Miller (Chair), Dr. Joe Trotter, Dr. Nico Slate

**M.A.** Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, 2008

**B.A.** Magna Cum Laude, Departments of History and Music, Kenyon College, 2005

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

2019 “Analysing Contested Pasts: A Reply to Erin Hinson’s “‘Our Journey, Our Narrative’: Narratives of (Para)militarism and Conflict Transformation in the ACT Exhibition,” *Global Discourse* 9, no. 3: 529-533.

2014 “‘Inhuman Conditions Prevailing’: The Significance of the Dirty Protest in the Irish Republican Prison War, 1978-81,” *Éire-Ireland* 49, no. 1: 142-163.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

2012 Susan H. Van Horn Scholarship, Carnegie Mellon University

2012 Graduate Student Assembly/Provost’s Office Conference Funding Grant, Carnegie Mellon University

2010 Graduate Small Project Help Grant (GuSH), Carnegie Mellon University

2008 Departmental Research Aid Grant, Carnegie Mellon University Department of History

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

## **Papers Presented**

- 2020 “Breaking Out: Boundaries, Bridges, and Paramilitary Prisoners in Northern Ireland, 1972-1981” American Conference for Irish Studies Annual Meeting, “Borders, Borderlands, Bridges,” Houston, Texas, April 1-4. [*anceled as a result of Covid-19*]
- 2019 “Special Category: Toward a New Understanding of Irish Republican Conceptualization of the Troubles, 1972-1976,” American Conference for Irish Studies Annual Meeting, “Declarations of Independence: Treaties, Transitions, and Tearing Away,” Boston, Massachusetts, March 20-23.
- 2019 “‘The Lowest Circle of Hell is Reserved for Those Who Betray Their Comrades:’ Treason and Counterintelligence in the Black Panther Party and Irish Republican Army, 1968-1973,” Presidential Session, American Historical Association 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, January 3-6.
- 2016 “Building 1981: The Creation of a Dominant Narrative of Irish Republican Prison Protest,” Council for European Studies 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of Europeanists, “Resilient Europe?” Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 14-16.
- 2014 “Policing the Political and Discouraging Dissent: Irish Republican Army and Black Panther Party Prisoners, 1965-1975,” OAH Annual Meeting, “Crossing Borders,” Atlanta, Georgia, April 10-13.
- 2012 “‘That was Hardly Pleasurable:’ The Construction of a Politically Motivated Prisoner Hierarchy in Northern Ireland and the United States, 1969-1985,” 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Conference on British Studies, Toronto, Canada, October 12-14.
- “Agency and Politically Motivated Prison Protest in Northern Ireland and the United States, 1969-1985,” Agency: IHR History Lab Annual Conference, London, England, June 13-14.

## **INVITED TALKS**

- 2022 “No Wash: Republican Prison Protest Before the 1981 Hunger Strike,” The Linen Hall Library, Belfast, Northern Ireland, July 4.
- 2021 “Conversations about Northern Ireland,” panelist, The Tull Family Theater, Sewickley, Pennsylvania, November 19.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Carnegie Mellon University, As Instructor of Record**

Coming to America: Immigration History and Policy (fall semester 2020, summer session I 2021)

Race, Gender, and the Politics of Sports in America Since 1900 (fall semester 2019, spring semester 2021)

Politics and Social Change in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America (spring semester 2018, spring semester 2020)

Politics, Religion, and Conflict in Irish History (fall semester 2012, spring semester 2020, spring semester 2021)

The History of Violence in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Protest (summer session II 2012)

From Venice to Chicago: How the Ghetto Came to America (summer session II 2021)

### **Carnegie Mellon University [As Teaching Assistant]**

The Roots of Rock & Roll (spring semester 2013)

The Arab-Israeli Conflict and Peace Process Since 1948 (grader and substitute lecturer, spring semester 2011)

Global Histories: Spain and the World, 1898-2010 (fall semester 2010)

Introduction to World History: Engaging the World Through History (fall semester 2008-spring semester 2010)

### **Community College of Allegheny County, As Instructor of Record**

Western Civilization since 1500 in-person course (fall semester 2015-Fall 2019, fall semester 2021)

Western Civilization since 1500 online course: (spring semester 2021, spring semester 2022, fall semester 2023)

The United States After 1865 hybrid course: (spring semester 2023)

The United States After 1865 in-person course: (spring semester 2014-spring semester 2020, spring semester 2023)

The United States Until 1865 in-person course (fall semester 2013, summer session II 2017, summer session 2020)

### **La Roche University, As Instructor of Record**

History of Ireland and Scotland (fall semester 2020, spring semester 2023)

Social Dynamics of US History (fall semester 2022)

History of Spain (fall semester 2023)

### **University of Pittsburgh, As Instructor of Record**

A Global History of Terrorism (fall semester 2023)

History of Modern Ireland (fall semester 2020, Fall 2021-fall semester 2023)

World History (fall semester 2020- spring semester 2023)

The Irish in America (spring semester 2019, fall semester 2019, Session I fall 2019  
OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute)

The United States After 1945 (spring semester 2019, spring semester 2021)

The United States in the 1960s (spring semester 2019)

History of Sports (fall semester 2018, spring semester 2020)

Western Civilization II (spring semester 2018)

### **SERVICE**

#### **To Profession**

Peer review for Bloomsbury Press, 2022

Graduate Student Representative to Humanities and Social Sciences College Council,  
Carnegie Mellon University, 2010-2011

Graduate Student Representative to Carnegie Mellon Department of History, 2010-2011

Graduate Student Representative to Carnegie Mellon Department of History, 2009-2010

#### **To Community**

Social Media Director, Friends of Crowell-Hilaka, 2015-present

Advisory committee to Board of Directors member, Friends of Crowell-Hilaka, 2019-  
present

Director at Large, Board of Directors, Friends of Crowell-Hilaka, 2010-2019, 2022-present

Member, Friends of Crowell-Hilaka, 2009-present

## **TEACHING FIELDS**

African American history  
British history  
Collective memory  
The carceral state  
European history  
Irish history  
Radicalism, political violence, and terror  
Sports history  
The Twentieth century  
United States history  
World history

## **LANGUAGES**

Irish, rudimentary knowledge

German, basic reading and speaking knowledge

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Conference for Irish Studies

American Historical Association

Organization of American Historians

## **REFERENCES**

Joshua Forrest  
Department of History and Political Science  
La Roche University  
9000 Babcock Boulevard  
Pittsburgh, PA 152337  
(412) 478-5628  
Joshua.Forrest@LaRoche.edu

Katherine Lynch  
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Carnegie Mellon University  
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