

BRITAIN HOPKINS

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EDUCATION

- 2021 DPhil, School of Geography and the Environment, Brasenose College, University of Oxford
- 2016 MPhil (Distinction), School of Geography and the Environment, St Peter's College, University of Oxford
- 2009 B.A. (Magna Cum Laude), English, Barnard College, Columbia University in the City of New York

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2024- Assistant Professor, Department of American Culture and Literature, Bilkent University
- 2022-2024 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology, Wellesley College
- 2021-2022 Research Assistant, School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford
- 2020-2021 Lecturer in Human Geography, St John's College, University of Oxford

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- 2024 “‘They can never take it away from you:’ The optimistic cruelty of student loan indebtedness.” *Cultural Politics*. 20(1): 1-22. DOI: 10.1215/17432197-10969175
- 2024 “The origins of the student loan industry in the United States: Richard Cornuelle, United Student Aid Funds, and the creation of the Guaranteed Student Loan Program.” *Journal of American History*. 110(4): 667-688. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jahist/jaad351>
- 2023 With I. Klink. “Ellen Churchill Semple’s political economy: Slavery, frontier, imperium.” *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*. 113(9): 2237-2251. DOI: 10.1080/24694452.2023.2210209

2019 "Beyond the Agamben paradigm: The spatial logics of exceptionalism." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. 37(6): 953-970. DOI: 10.1177/0263775819870538

Encyclopedia entries

2024, *forthcoming* - With I. Klinke. "Materialist approaches to geopolitics." In *Encyclopedia of Geopolitics*. C. Flint, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Book reviews

2015 Review of Grégoire Chamayou's *Drone Theory*. *Society & Space*.

Commentary

2024 "Reflections on the geopolitical roots of U.S. student loan debt." *Process: A Blog for American History*. Published online October 29.

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

Book manuscript in preparation

Indebted Subjects: The Origins of Student Loan Debt in the United States

Journal articles under peer review

Revise and resubmit - "A negative dowry': Specters of student loan debt and the financialization of social reproduction in the United States."

Revise and resubmit - With R. Baker, D. Goerisch, D. Harris, E.A. Karaagac, J. McKendrick, G. Murton, and G. Proulx. "Uneven geographies of student debt."

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2025-2026 Kluge Fellowship, Kluge Center at the Library of Congress (\$55,000)

2024 Schlesinger Fellowship, John F. Kennedy Library Foundation (\$940)

2023-2024 Scholar Research Support Grant, Hoover Institution Library & Archives (\$5,000)

2023 Moody Research Grant, LBJ Foundation, LBJ Presidential Library (\$3,000)

- 2023 Wellesley College Faculty Award (\$3,000)
- 2017-2021 Clarendon Fellowship (three-and-a-half years of doctoral work at University of Oxford, including tuition and a living stipend of approx. £14,700/year)
- 2011-2012 Fulbright-Nehru Research Fellowship, Bengaluru, India.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Presentations

- 2024 “Historical geographies of student loan debt.” Geographies of Student Debt Symposium. Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.
- 2023 with I. Klinke, “Ellen Churchill Semple’s political economy: Slavery, frontier, imperium.” Rethinking the Past and Present of Liberal Internationalism. City, University of London and London School of Economics, London, UK.
- 2023 “The origins of the student loan industry in a neoliberalizing United States, 1958-1973.” Session: Campus Experiences from a Geographic Perspective. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado, USA.
- 2023 Panellist, Geographies of Student Debt. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado, USA.
- 2023 “Pausing, resuming, canceling debts: Student loan indebtedness and the specter of normality.” Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference. Fairfax, Virginia, USA.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Workshops organized

- 2024 Spaces of Liberalism: Cross-disciplinary Perspectives. Wellesley College, Massachusetts, USA.
- 2020 Co-organized with I. Klinke, Advances in Political Geography Workshop. (Cancelled due to pandemic) St John’s College, University of Oxford, UK.

Presentations

- 2024 “Feminist insights on social reproduction and planetary financialization.” Planetary Financialization – International Research Project. Instituto de Filosofia e Ciências Sociais, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

- 2024 “Indebted inheritances: Excavating the gendered genealogies of student loan debt in U.S. state archives.” *Spaces of Liberalism: Cross-disciplinary Perspectives*. Wellesley College, Massachusetts, USA.
- 2019 “Confronting the ‘American dream’: Neoliberal activism and the emerging U.S. student loan industry in the mid-twentieth century.” *New Frontiers in Political Geography*. St John’s College, University of Oxford, UK.
- 2018 Transfer of Status presentation. School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford, UK.

INVITED MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2024 *Journal of American History* Podcast. Guest feature. April 29.

TEACHING

Courses designed and convened – Department of American Culture and Literature, Bilkent University

AMER 115 ‘Methods and Texts I’ (Fall 2024)

Courses designed and convened – Sociology Department, Wellesley College

SOC 223 ‘Feminist geopolitics: War, militarism, and everyday life’ (Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Summer 2024)

SOC 229 ‘Contemporary politics of debt and indebtedness’ (Spring 2023, Spring 2024)

Tutorials designed and convened – St John’s College, University of Oxford

Course: Human Geography (Preliminary Examination)

- ‘Bodies and embodiment’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Imaginative geographies’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Introduction to Science and Technology Studies’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Migration and borders’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Multi-species geographies’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Nationalism’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Neoliberalism’ (2019-2020, 2020-2021)
- ‘Qualitative techniques’ (2020-2021)
- ‘Racism and globalization’ (2020-2021, 2021-2022)
- ‘Territory’ (2020-2021)

Course: Space, Place and Society (Final Honour School)

- ‘Digital societies’ (2020-2021)

- 'Gender and geography' (2020-2021)
- 'Geography and colonialism' (2020-2021)
- 'Incarceration and abolition in contemporary society' (2020-2021)
- 'Introduction to biopolitics' (2020-2021)
- 'Modernity and time' (2020-2021)

Course: Geographical Thought (Final Honour School)

- 'Marxist and feminist geographies' (2020-2021)
- 'More-than-representational thought and practices' (2020-2021)
- 'Writing for and with geography' (2020-2021)

Course: Environmental Geography (Final Honour School)

- 'Indigenous ontologies' (2020-2021)
- 'The Anthropocene' (2020-2021)

Tutorials designed and convened – School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford

Course: Residential field course (Final Honour School)

- 'Research and fieldwork design' (2019-2020)

Course: Geography at War (Final Honour School)

- 'Histories of aerial warfare' (Hilary Term 2018, 2019, 2020)
- 'Feminist geopolitics' (Hilary Term 2020)

Dissertation and independent study supervision (undergraduate)

Department of Sociology, Wellesley College (Spring 2023, Spring 2024)

St John's College, University of Oxford (2020-2021, 2021-2022)

Additional teaching experience

Graduate Assistant, Undergraduate field course in Berlin. School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford. (2019–2020) [Travel cancelled due to pandemic; field course moved online]

Program Coordinator and Teaching Assistant (Buddhist Philosophy), Emory University and Institute of Buddhist Dialectics Tibetan Studies Program. Dharamsala, India. (Spring 2011 and Spring 2013)

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2018-2021 Postgraduate Secretary, Political Worlds Departmental Research Cluster. School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford.

LANGUAGES

Spanish – Advanced, written and spoken

Tibetan – Intermediate, written and spoken