

# BRITAIN HOPKINS

britain.hopkins@bilkent.edu.tr

## EDUCATION

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- 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

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- 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

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### ***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**

2026, *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**

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### **Book manuscript in preparation**

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

### **Journal articles under peer review**

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."

### **Journal articles in preparation**

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

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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2025-2026 Kluge Fellowship, Kluge Center at the Library of Congress

2024 Schlesinger Fellowship, John F. Kennedy Library Foundation

- 2023-2024 Scholar Research Support Grant, Hoover Institution Library & Archives
- 2023 Moody Research Grant, LBJ Foundation, LBJ Presidential Library
- 2023 Wellesley College Faculty Award
- 2017-2021 Clarendon Fellowship, University of Oxford
- 2011-2012 Fulbright-Nehru Research Fellowship, Bengaluru, India.

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

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### *Sessions organized*

- 2025 Session: The university after 1968: Histories of popular struggle and elite capture. Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2025 Session: Visions of the intangible. 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International American Studies Association. Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.

### *Presentations*

- 2025 "Student debt and the war in Vietnam." Session: The university after 1968: Histories of popular struggle and elite capture. Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2025 "Student loan debt in life online." Session: Visions of the intangible. 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International American Studies Association. Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.
- 2025 "The geopolitical contours of student loan debt and the financialization of higher education." The Second Global Financial Geography (FinGeo) Conference: Geopolitics and Geoeconomics of Finance. National University of Singapore, Singapore.
- 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

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### ***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

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

## TEACHING

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

AMER 115 Methods and Texts I

AMER 115 Methods and Texts II

***Courses designed and convened – Sociology Department, Wellesley College***

SOC 223 Feminist geopolitics: War, militarism, and everyday life

SOC 229 Contemporary politics of debt and indebtedness

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

Course: Human Geography (Preliminary Examination)

- Bodies and embodiment
- Imaginative geographies
- Introduction to Science and Technology Studies
- Migration and borders
- Multi-species geographies
- Nationalism
- Neoliberalism
- Qualitative methods
- Racism and globalization
- Territory

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

- Digital societies
- Gender and geography
- Geography and colonialism
- Incarceration and abolition in contemporary society
- Introduction to biopolitics
- Modernity and time

Course: Geographical Thought (Final Honour School)

- Marxist and feminist geographies
- More-than-representational thought and practices
- Writing for and with geography

Course: Environmental Geography (Final Honour School)

- Indigenous ontologies
- The Anthropocene

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

Course: Residential field course (Final Honour School)

- Research and fieldwork design

Course: Geography at War (Final Honour School)

- Histories of aerial warfare
- Feminist geopolitics

***Dissertation, senior project, and independent study supervision (undergraduate)***

Department of American Culture and Literature, Bilkent University

Department of Sociology, Wellesley College

St John's College, University of Oxford

***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**

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