

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

- 2026 With R. Baker, D. Goerisch, D. Harris, E.A. Karaagac, J. McKendrick, G. Murton, and G. Proulx. "Making the case for public geographies of student debt abolition." *Dialogues in Human Geography*. DOI: 10.1177/20438206261449230
- 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. DOI: 10.1093/jahist/jaad351
- 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

2023 With I. Klinke. "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 With I. Klinke. "Materialist geopolitics." In *Encyclopedia of Geopolitics*. C. Flint, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Book reviews

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

Invited 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

A Negative Dowry: The Origins of Student Loan Debt in the United States

Journal article in preparation

"Alice Rivlin, human capital theory, and the development of the Student Loan Marketing Association, 1960-1973."

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2024-2025 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.

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, INVITED TALKS

Conference sessions organized

- 2027 Session: Politics of Gender and Higher Education in the 20th Century. OAH Conference on American History. San Francisco, California, USA.
- 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. 12th World Congress of the International American Studies Association. Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.

Workshops organized

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

Research presentations

- 2027 "Women, student debt, and the financialization of social reproduction." Session: Politics of Gender and Higher Education in the 20th Century. OAH Conference on American History. San Francisco, California, USA.
- 2026 "Converging intellectual histories of student loan debt, 1950-1980." Session: Four Approaches to Postwar American Conservatism. Society for U.S. Intellectual History Conference. University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA.
- 2026 "Histories of student loans and human capital." Session: Race, Finance, and the Cost of Higher Education. History of Education Society Annual Meeting. Portland, Oregon, USA.
- 2026 "The origins of the student loan industry in the United States, 1950-1980." Work-in-progress talk. Kluge Center, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, USA/Online.

- 2026 "The intellectual origins of the Student Loan Marketing Association, 1966-1973."
Session: Public Purse, Private Gain: Educational Policy, Finance, and Political Culture in the Long 20th Century. American Political History Conference. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Center, Washington, DC, USA.
- 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, USA.
- 2025 "Student loan debt in life online." Session: Visions of the Intangible. 12th 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 "Feminist insights on social reproduction and planetary financialization." Planetary Financialization – International Research Project. Instituto de Filosofia e Ciências Sociais, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil/Hybrid.
- 2024 "Historical geographies of student loan debt." Changing the Student Debt Landscape Symposium. Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA/Hybrid.
- 2024 "Indebted inheritances: Excavating the gendered genealogies of student loan debt in U.S. state archives." Spaces of Liberalism: Cross-disciplinary Perspectives Workshop. Wellesley College, Massachusetts, 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/Hybrid.
- 2023 "Pausing, resuming, canceling debts: Student loan indebtedness and the specter of normality." Session: Cracks in the Foundation - Societal Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference. Fairfax, Virginia, USA.
- 2021 "The Volker Fund, independent action, and the creation of United Student Aid Funds." Martin Society Seminar. St John's College, University of Oxford, UK.
- 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 Workshop. St John's College, University of Oxford, UK.

Discussant and panellist roles

2023 Panellist. Session: Geographies of Student Debt. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado, USA/Hybrid.

INVITED MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS

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
AMER 116 Methods and Texts II
AMER 358 Intellectual History
AMER 447 Topics in Cultural Studies

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

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