

Felix Cowan

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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EDUCATION

- 2022 (expected) PhD in History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Dissertation title: “On the Path of Truth and Progress: The Imperial Russian Penny Press, 1908-18.”
- Dissertation committee: Mark D. Steinberg (chair), Diane P. Koenker, John Randolph, Eugene M. Avrutin.
- Examined fields: Russian and Soviet History, Modern European History, Global Urban History; all three passed with distinction.
- 2015 MA in European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, University of Toronto
- 2013 BA (Honours) in History and Political Science, conferred with high distinction, University of Toronto

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- Accepted for Publication “‘Everyone is a Citizen, Everyone is a Revolutionary!’: Citizenship and Democracy in the Odessa Penny Press.” In *Imagining the Future in Russia’s February Revolution: Instant Voices in the Press Across the Empire*, edited by Franziska Schedewie and Dennis Dierks (Brill, forthcoming).
- 2022 “Hidden Lives: Uncovering Gender Non-conformity in the Russian Press, 1911–1914.” *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 56, no. 1 (2022): 33–56. DOI:[10.30965/22102396-05601006](https://doi.org/10.30965/22102396-05601006).
- 2020 “The Democracy Versus Democracy: Representation and Politics in Odessa During the 1912 State Duma Election.” *Revolutionary Russia* 33, no. 2 (2020): 172–196. DOI:[10.1080/09546545.2020.1821439](https://doi.org/10.1080/09546545.2020.1821439).

- 2017 “Popular Liberalism: Vladimir Anzimirov and the Influence of Imperial Russia’s Penny Press.” *Past Tense: Graduate Review of History* 5, no. 1 (2017): 8–28.

Online Articles

- 2022 “Emotional Accessibility: Illustrations and Editorial Cartoons in Late Imperial Russia’s ‘Kopeck Press’.” *All the Russias’ Blog*, NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, 3 February 2022.
<https://jordanrussiacycenter.org/news/emotional-accessibility-illustrations-and-editorial-cartoons-in-late-imperial-russias-penny-press>.

Working Papers

- 2016 “Primary or Secondary?: Regionalism’s Multiple Roles in Brazil’s International Emergence.” With Stephen Clarkson et al. KFG Working Paper Series No. 69, *Kolleg-Forschergruppe (KFG)* “The Transformative Power of Europe.” Freie Universität Berlin, January 2016.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2021-22 Nina Baym Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Illinois. Receipt of the Baym Fellowship indicates status as “the top-rated nominee from the Humanities in this year’s competition.”
- 2021 Ranked as “excellent” on the University of Illinois Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, Spring 2021
- 2021 Summer Dissertation Writing Grant, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
- 2020 Ranked as “outstanding” on the University of Illinois Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, Fall 2020
- 2019 Conference Travel Grant, Department of History, University of Illinois
- 2019 Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
- 2019-20 Illinois Distinguished Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Illinois

2019	Conference Travel Grant, Graduate College/Department of History, University of Illinois
2019	Conference Travel Grant, Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC), University of Illinois
2018-19	ABD Research Fellowship, Department of History, University of Illinois
2018	Ranked as “excellent” on the University of Illinois Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, Spring 2018
2018	Frederick S. Rodkey Memorial Prize for Most Promising Graduate Student in Russian History, Department of History, University of Illinois
2017	Ranked as “outstanding” on the University of Illinois Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, Fall 2017
2017	Yaro Skalnik Prize for Best Graduate Essay, Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC), University of Illinois
2017	Summer Pre-dissertation Travel Grant, Department of History, University of Illinois
2015-17	Illinois Distinguished Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Illinois
2016	AGHS-Past Tense Best Paper Award for “Popular Liberalism: Vladimir Anzimirov and the Influence of Imperial Russia’s Penny Press,” 12 th Annual Graduate History Symposium, University of Toronto
2016	Conference Travel Grant, Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC), University of Illinois
2014-15	Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master’s, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)
2013-15	Graduate Fellowship, Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (CERES), University of Toronto

2013	Louis Savloc UC '37 Scholarship, University of Toronto
2009-13	Howard Ferguson Scholarship, University of Toronto
2011, 2012	Moffatt and Eleanor Woodside Prize for History, University of Toronto
2011	Canadian International Council Book Prize, University of Toronto
2010	Alen Milne McCombie Award, University of Toronto

CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED

2020	“Exploring Print and Visual Culture in Russian History.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, online, 6 November.
2019	“The Russian Press Across the Revolutionary Era.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, 24 November.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2021	“Service and Social Mobility: Kopec Journalists in Late Imperial Russia.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, online, 2 December.
2021	Panel member for the roundtable “New Approaches in Imperial Russian and Soviet Press History: Questions, Methods, Sources.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, online, 2 December.
2021	Panel member for the roundtable “Foreign-Language Newspapers from the Researcher Perspective.” European Studies Section (ESS) of the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Virtual Meeting, online, 24 June.
2020	“Drawing the News: Illustrations and Editorial Cartoons in Late Imperial Russian Kopec Newspapers.” Association for Slavic, East European, and

Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, online, 6 November.

- 2020 “How Large was the Late Imperial Russian Public Sphere? Assessing the Audience of the Penny Press.” Midwest Russian History Workshop (MRHW), online, 18 April.
- 2020 “Gender Non-Conforming Lives in the Late Imperial Russian Press, 1911–14.” Twentieth Annual Women’s and Graduate History Symposium (WGHS), University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, April. Conference canceled due to Covid-19.
- 2020 “Women’s Rights and Emancipation in the Russian Penny Press, 1908–1917.” Second Annual Feminist inter/Modernist Association (FiMA) Conference, Chicago, IL, April. Conference canceled due to Covid-19.
- 2019 “How Large Was the Late Imperial Russian Public Sphere? An Investigation into the Audience of the Penny Press.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, 24 November.
- 2019 “Social Reform in the Kopeck Newspapers of Imperial Russia.” British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) Annual Conference, Cambridge, UK, 13 April.
- 2017 “‘Russia is Dying’: Political Polarization and Liberal Discourse in the 1917 Penny Press.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, 12 November.
- 2017 “Reading Past the City: Global Narratives in an Urban Russian Newspaper.” Osaka City University-University of Illinois Symposium, Urbana, IL, 7 March.
- 2016 “Beyond Urban Boundaries: The Penny Press and Lower-Class Integration in the Russian Empire.” Midwest Popular Culture Association (MPCA) Annual Conference, Urban Studies area, Chicago, IL, 8 October.
- 2016 “Popular Liberalism: Vladimir Anzimirov and the Influence of Imperial Russia’s Penny Press.” University of Toronto Twelfth Annual Graduate History Symposium, Toronto, Canada, 6 May. Winner of the AGHS-Past Tense Best Paper Award.
- 2014 “Historical Narratives of Stalinism in Post-Soviet Russia and Ukraine.”

University of Toronto Slavic Studies Conference, Toronto, Canada, 24 April.

INVITED TALKS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 “The Politics of the Penny Press: Democratizing Political Culture in Revolutionary Russia.” Graduate Research Symposium, Department of History, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, 5 November.
- 2021 “Writing in the Arts and Humanities.” Invited panelist. Doctoral Research Support Program, University Library, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL (online), 28 September.
- 2021 “Narratives of Backwardness and Modernization in the Late Imperial Russian Penny Press.” Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC) Noontime Scholars Lecture, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL (online), 2 March.
- 2019 “Coalition-Building and Identity Politics: Representation and Democracy in Odessa during the 1912 State Duma Election.” European University at Saint Petersburg, Saint Petersburg, Russia, 29 May.
- 2019 “Gazety kak istochniki dlia istoricheskogo issledovaniia” (“Newspapers as Sources for Historical Research”). National Research University Higher School of Economics, Saint Petersburg, Russia, 24 January. In Russian.
- 2017 “The Russian Revolution.” Guest lecture for the course “Western Civilization Since 1660,” Professor Mark Micale. University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, 31 October.
- 2017 “Professor Panel: The Russian Revolution.” Invited panelist. Phi Alpha Theta, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, 19 October.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- 2020-21 Instructor of record, HIST 259: Global History of the Cold War.
- Ranked as “outstanding” (Fall 2020) and “excellent” (Spring 2021) on

the University of Illinois Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students.

- 2017-18 Teaching Assistant, HIST 143: Western Civilization Since 1660, Advanced Composition.
- Ranked as “outstanding” (Fall 2017) and “excellent” (Spring 2018) on the University of Illinois Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

- 2021-22 Organizer, Russian Studies Circle (*Kruzhok*), University of Illinois
- 2021-22 Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of History, University of Illinois
- 2019-20 Illinois Promise mentor, University of Illinois
- 2018 Research Assistant for Mark D. Steinberg, reading digitized newspapers from colonial India for a research project comparing twentieth-century Odessa, New York, and Mumbai.
- 2017-18 History Graduate Student Association mentor, University of Illinois
- 2017-present Blog Contributor, Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC), University of Illinois
- 2016-17 SourceLab Research and Development Committee, Department of History, University of Illinois
- 2015-16 SourceLab Working Group, Department of History, University of Illinois
- 2014 Research Intern, Uppsala Centre for Russian and Eurasian Studies (UCRS; now the Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies, IRES), Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden.
- Assisted organization of two academic conferences, “Translation in Russian Contexts” (3-7 June 2014) and “Kazakhstan: Beyond Economic Success” (13-14 June 2014).

Edited book chapters for *Punishment as a Crime? Perspectives on Prison Experience in Russian Culture*, ed. Julie Hansen and Andrei Rogachevskii (Uppsala: Uppsala University Press, 2014).

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

2013-15 Information and Privacy Analyst, Archives of Ontario, Toronto, Canada

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

Canadian Association of Slavists

Urban History Association

LANGUAGES

Russian (Near-fluent reading, advanced spoken)

French (Intermediate reading, basic spoken)

REFERENCES

Mark D. Steinberg

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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Diane P. Koenker

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