**Matthew Klopfenstein**Curriculum Vitae  
309 Gregory Hall, MC-466, 810 S Wright St, Urbana, IL 61801  
(217) 766-5613 ● [klpfnst2@illinois.edu](mailto:klpfnst2@illinois.edu)

**EDUCATIONPhD in History** **Expected May 2020**  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
 *Dissertation title*: “Performing Death, Embodying Modernity: Media, Emotion, and Modern   
 Selfhood in the Celebrity Funerals of Russian Female Performers, 1859-1919.”  
 *Committee*: Mark Steinberg (chair), Diane Koenker, John Randolph, Maria Todorova, Harry   
 Liebersohn *Examined fields*: Russia, Modern Europe, Global Cultural and Intellectual History (all exams   
 passed with distinction)  
**MA in History** 2017  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**BA in History and Philosophy, *summa cum laude*** 2010  
Bethel College, Mishawaka, IN

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Russia  
Modern Europe  
Global History  
Gender and Sexuality  
Urban History

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Refereed Articles**

“The Death of the Seagull: Vera Kommissarzhevskaia and the Search for Transcendence in Late Imperial Russia,” *Russian Review* (under review)

“Hegel, Kireyevsky, and the Quest for Russian Identity,” *Fides et Historia* (42:1, winter/spring 2010): 1-19.

**Conference Proceedings**

"The Death of the Pre-Revolutionary Actress: Public Funerals, Cultural Status and Theater Identity in the Soviet 1920s," in *Konstruiruia “sovetskoe”? / Constructing the “Soviet”?*, 54-59. St. Petersburg: Izdatel’stvo Evropeiskogo universiteta, 2018.

**Other Publications**

“The Everyday and the Spectacular in the Russian Archives,” *History at Illinois* (Spring 2019): 24.

“Meet Our Fellows: Matthew Klopfenstein, Fulbright Fellow in Moscow,” *Grad Life* (blog), April 23, 2018, <https://blogs.illinois.edu/view/6397/642491>.

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS2019** **William C. Widenor Teaching Fellowship**   
 Department of History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)  
**2019 Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant**   
 Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)  
**2019 Career Development Fellowship**  
 American Historical Association  
**2018 Conference Travel Grant**  
 Graduate College, UIUC  
**2017-2018** **Fulbright Research Fellowship (Moscow, Russia)**   
 U.S. Department of State  
**2017**  **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (*declined*)** U.S. Department of Education  
**2017** **Cohen-Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship (*declined*)** ASEEES  
**2016** **Yaro Skalnik Prize for the Best Graduate Essay** Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center, UIUC  
**2016** **Rodkey Prize for Most Promising Graduate Student in Russian History**  Department of History, UIUC  
**2016** **Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant** Department of History, UIUC  
**2015-2016** **Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship (Russian)**   
 U.S. Department of Education  
**2014-2015** **FLAS Fellowship (Russian)**   
 U.S. Department of Education

**CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

**Panels Organized**

**2019** “Disease, Dying Bodies, and the Discourse of Civilization in Late Imperial Russia,” Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies 2019 Annual Convention, San Francisco, California, November 23, 2019.

**Papers Presented**

**2019** "‘The Battle for Existence and the Battle with Disease': The Death of Vera Kommissarzhevskaia and the Limits of Russian Civilization," Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies 2019 Annual Convention, San Francisco, California, November 23, 2019.

**2018** “‘Death was Victorious’: Media, Social Flux, and the Boundaries of Medicine in the Death of Anastasiia Vial’tseva,” Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies 2018 Annual Convention, Boston, Massachusetts, December 9, 2018.

**2018** "The Death of the Pre-Revolutionary Actress: Public Funerals, Cultural Status and Theater Identity in the Soviet 1920s,” “Constructing the ‘Soviet’?” Conference, European University, St. Petersburg, Russia, April 20, 2018.

**2017** “Smert’ i pokhorony izvestnykh aktris i pevits nakanune Revoliutsii: emotsii, lichnost’, i novye vidy obshchestva [The Deaths and Funerals of Celebrity Actresses and Singers on the Eve of the Revolution: Emotion, the Self, and New Forms of Society],” “Russia in the World. Western Russian Studies: Current Trends” Conference, Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, September 25, 2017. (*in Russian*)

**2016** “Reproducing Death: Media, the Body, and Disease in the Celebrity Funerals of Vera Kommissarzhevskaia and Anastasiia Vial’tseva,” Central Slavic Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, October 21, 2016.

**INVITED TALKS AND CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS**

**2019** “The Image of Death: Self-Invention and the Funeral of Anastasiia Vial’tseva,” Graduate Research Symposium, UIUC Department of History, November 8, 2019.

**2019** “Public Life through Public Death: Civic Activism, Media Spectacle, and Contested Spaces in the Funeral of Vera Kommissarzhevskaia,” Noontime Scholars Lecture, UIUC Russian, East European and Eurasian Center, April 9, 2019.

**2018** “Kul’turno-antropologicheskii podkhod k izucheniiu tela (na primere smerti i pokhoron aktris pozdnei Rossiiskoi imperii [The Cultural Anthropological Approach to the Study of the Body (by Example of the Deaths and Funerals of Late Imperial Russian Actresses)],” guest presentation for doctoral seminar of Professor I. M. Savelieva, the Poletayev Institute for Theoretical and Historical Studies in the Humanities, National Research University-Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia, April 3, 2018. (*in Russian*)

**2018** “Prepodavanie istorii Rosii dlia inostrantsev [Teaching Russian History for Foreigners],” round table presentation, “Prepodavanie istorii v sovremennoi shkole [Teaching History in the Contemporary School],” National Research University-Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia, January 30, 2018. (*in Russian*)

**TEACHINGWidenor Teaching Fellow/Instructor of Record, University of Illinois**HIST 498: Popular Culture in a Globalizing World (Spring 2020)

**Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois**   
HIST 140: Western Civilization to 1660, Advanced Composition (Fall 2019)

HIST 252: The Holocaust in Historical Perspective (Spring 2019)  
 • included on List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, Center   
 for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL)

HIST 143: Western Civilization since 1660, Advanced Composition (Fall 2018)  
 • ranked “outstanding” on List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students (CITL)

**Writing Across Curriculum Training**Center for Writing Studies, UIUC (August 2019)

**Reacting to the Past Course Training**History Department, UIUC (May 2019)

**Certificate in Graduate Teaching**  
Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning, UIUC (April 2019)

**ADDITIONAL TEACHING**  
**Secondary History Teacher** 2010-2014  
International Academy of Saint Petersburg (St. Petersburg, Russia)  
 • Designed and taught the following courses: Russian history, modern world history,   
 medieval world history, ancient world history, world geography, American history, Russian   
 fine arts and humanities, environmental ethics and the philosophy of science

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE*Slavic Review*, Urbana, Illinois** 2016-2017  
Editorial assistant for the journal of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies

**DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICESourceLab, University of Illinois** 2019 –   
Member, editorial board and steering committee  
 • Oversee development, programming, and policies for SourceLab, a digital publishing   
 project affiliated with the History Department: [sourcelab.history.illinois.edu/](https://sourcelab.history.illinois.edu/)

**History@Illinois**  2019-2020  
Member, editorial committee

**Friends of History** 2019-2020  
Graduate student board representative

**General Education Assembly on Learning Outcomes** 2019  
Graduate student representative

**Committee for Website Redesign, UIUC History Department**  2016-2017  
Member

**LANGUAGES**Russian (fluent speaking, reading, and writing)  
German (intermediate reading)

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies  
Association for Women in Slavic Studies

**REFERENCES**

**Mark Steinberg**  
Professor of History  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
425 Gregory Hall  
810 S Wright  
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**Harry Liebersohn**  
Professor of History (emeritus)  
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