

## MARTIN KALB

Associate Professor of History  
Texas A&M University  
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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Texas A&M University, Texas, USA  
Associate Professor, 2026-present  
Mellon-RESI Scholar, Race & Ethnic Studies Institute, 2026-present  
  
Bridgewater College, Virginia, USA  
Associate Professor, 2021–2026  
Assistant Professor, 2015–2021  
  
Northern Arizona University, Arizona, USA  
Full-Time Lecturer, 2011–2015

### EDUCATION

Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, USA, Ph.D., Modern European History  
(subfields Environmental History, World History), 2011  
  
Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, M.A., History, Political  
Science, and English (American Cultural Studies), 2007

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed Monographs

*Environing Empire: Nature, Infrastructure, and the Making of German Southwest Africa.*  
Environment and History: International Perspectives, vol. 23. New York: Berghahn  
Books, 2022 (open access, paperback 2024).  
  
*Coming of Age: Constructing and Controlling Youth in Munich, 1942-1973.* New York:  
Berghahn Books, 2016 (paperback 2020).

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Mules, Global Networks, and Settler Colonialism in German Southwest Africa (1884-1915),” *Global Environment* (pre-published online December 2024).  
“Camel Imports and Transport Fantasies in German Southwest Africa, 1884-1915,” *South African Historical Journal* (pre-published online November 2024).  
“Centring Simon Kooper: Frontier Politics, Desert Environments, and African Resistance,” *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 49, 2 (2023), 569-588.  
“The Dowsing Debate: Water, Science, and Colonialism in German Southwest Africa,” *German History* 38, 4 (2020), 568-593.  
“Water, Sand, Molluscs: The Age of Hydrology and German Colonialism in Swakopmund, Southwest Africa, 1884-1915,” *Environment and History* 26, 2 (2020), 175-202.

- “Naturalizing Trout? Fish Farming in German Southwest Africa,” *Environment and Society Portal Arcadia*, 33 (Autumn 2017), Rachel Carson Institute.
- “Moving Beyond the Nation State? Reflections on European Environmental History,” *Global Environment* 12 (2013), 130-165.
- “‘The Youth is a Threat!’ Controlling the Delinquent Boy in Post-WWII Munich,” *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* 6, 2 (Spring 2013), 263-290.
- “Rather Active Today Than Radioactive Tomorrow!” Environmental Justice and the Beginnings of the Anti-Nuclear Movement in Wyhl, West Germany,” *Global Environment* 10 (2012), 156-183.

### **Book Chapters**

- “African Agents and German Hunting Dependencies in Southwest Africa” [working title]. In *Hidden Transcripts in Germany’s Contact Zones*. Edited by Nina Berman and Sara Pugach. University Park, PA: Penn State University Press (*in preparation*).
- “Between the Atlantic Ocean and the Namib Desert: Encounters in a Maritime Borderland,” chapter in an edited volume focusing on environmental borderlands published by the University of North Carolina Press (*forthcoming*).
- “The Harbour of Swakopmund/Namibia: Selling German Colonial Nostalgia in a Seaside Resort?” 180-186. In, *Monuments and Sites de-colonial! Methods and Strategies of Dealing with the Architectural Heritage of the German Colonial Era*. Edited by Michael Falser Gabriele Horn, and Tino Mager. Berlin: ICOMOS, 2024.
- “Tobacco Fantasies in German Southwest Africa,” 191-229. In *Tobacco in Global Perspective, 1780-1960: Trade, Knowledge, Labour*. Edited by Alexander van Wickeren and Jean Stubbs. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2024.
- “Bremer Walfang in Deutsch-Südwestafrika: Die Sturmvogel m.b.H.,” 207-211. In, “*Stadt der Kolonien*”: *Wie Bremen den deutschen Kolonialismus prägte*. Edited by Norman Aselmeyer and Virginie Kamche. Freiburg: Herder, 2024.
- “‘Vom Meer ins Land hinein!’ Die Landungsbrücken von Swakopmund/ Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika (1905-1911),” 50-53. In, *Deutsch-koloniale Baukulturen: Eine globale Architekturgeschichte in 100 visuellen Primärquellen*. Edited by Michael Falser, Passau: Dietmar Klinger Verlag, 2023.
- “Reprinting German Colonial Settler Narratives in Namibia Today,” 221-237. In, *Archiving Colonialism: Culture, Space and Race*. Edited by Yu-ting Huang and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, New York: Routledge, 2018.

### **Book Reviews**

- Globalizing Wildlife*, by Raf de Bont, Vanessa Bateman, and Tom Quick (eds.), H-Environment, Sept. 2026.
- The Lion’s Historian: Africa’s Animal Past*, by Sandra Swart, *Choice Magazine* 62, 5 (Jan., 2025).
- Human Portage and Colonial State Formation in German East Africa, 1880s-1914: Tensions of Transport*, by Andreas Greiner, *Central European History* 57, 4 (Dec., 2024), 576-577.

- The Servants of Empire: Sponsored German Women's Colonization in Southwest Africa, 1896–1945*, by Molly K. O'Donnell, *Choice Magazine* 61, 4 (Dec., 2023).
- The Kaiser's Colonies: Monarchy in the Age of Empire*, by Matthew Fitzpatrick, *Choice Magazine* 60, 10 (Jun., 2023).
- "Deutscher Wald" in Afrika. Koloniale Konflikte um regenerative Ressourcen, Tansania 1892-1916, by Lars Kreye, *Central European History* 55, 4 (Dec., 2022), 620-622.
- Experten der Erschließung. Akteure der deutschen Kolonialtechnik in Afrika und Europa 1890-1943*, by Sebastian Beese, *Technikgeschichte* 89, 3 (2022), 267-268.
- Saving Nature under Socialism: Transnational Environmentalism in East Germany, 1968-1990*, by Julia E. Ault, *Choice Magazine* 60, 3 (Nov., 2022).
- Shaping the African Savannah: From Capitalist Frontier to Arid Eden in Namibia*, by Michael Bollig, *Environmental History* 27, 4 (Oct., 2022), 805-806.
- Colonialism and Modern Architecture in Germany*, by Itohan Osayimwese, *Central European History* 54, 4 (Dec., 2021), 710-712.
- The Discourse of British and German Colonialism: Convergence and Competition*, ed. by Felicity Rash and Geraldine Horan, *Choice Magazine* 59, 2 (Oct. 2021).
- Germany: A Nation in Its Time: Before, During, and After Nationalism, 1500-2000*, by Helmut Walser Smith, *Choice Magazine* 58, 10 (Jun., 2021).
- Our Gigantic Zoo: A German Quest to Save the Serengeti*, by Thomas M. Lekan, *German Studies Review* 44, 1 (Feb., 2021), 220-221.
- Violence as Usual: Policing and the Colonial State in German Southwest Africa*, by Marie Muschalek, *German Studies Review* 43, 3 (Oct., 2020), 625-627.
- Climate in Motion: Science, Empire, and the Problem of Scale*, by Deborah Coen, *Environment and History* 26, 2 (May 2020), 289-291.
- Greening Democracy: The Anti-Nuclear Movement and Political Environmentalism in West Germany and Beyond, 1968-1983*, by Stephen Milder, *German Studies Review* 43, 1 (Feb., 2020), 205-207.
- A Social History of Early Rock 'n' Roll in Germany: Hamburg from Burlesque to the Beatles, 1956-69*, by Julia Sneeringer, *The Journal of Modern History* 91, 3 (Sept., 2019), 731-732.
- Global Environmental History: An Introductory Reader*, by J. R. McNeill and Alan Roe, eds., *Middle Ground Journal* (Spring 2019).
- Germany's Ancient Pasts: Archaeology and Historical Interpretations since 1700*, by Brent Maner, *Choice* 56, 12 (Aug. 2019).
- Lexikon zur Überseegegeschichte: Gesellschaft für Überseegegeschichte*, by Hermann Hiery, *Itinerario: The Journal of the History of European Expansion and Global Interaction* 42, 2 (Aug., 2018), 315-317.
- The Arid Lands: History, Power and Knowledge*, by Diana Davis, *Environment and Society* 9, 1 (2018).
- Colonial Captivity during the First World War: Internment and the Fall of the German Empire, 1914-1919*, by Mahon Murphy, *German Studies Review* 41, 2 (May, 2018), 412-414.
- The Rhythm of Eternity: the German Youth Movement and the Experience of the Past, 1900-*

- 1933, by Robbert-Jan Adriaansen, *German Studies Review* 40, 3 (Oct., 2017), 653-654.
- Sex and Control: Venereal Disease, Colonial Physicians, and Indigenous Agency in German Colonialism, 1884-1914*, by Daniel Walther, *German Studies Review* 40, n2 (May 2017), 428-429.
- The Nature of German Imperialism: Conservation and the Politics of Wildlife in Colonial East Africa*, by Bernhard Gissibl, *Environmental History* 22, 3 (July, 2017), 545-547.
- Violent Intermediaries: African Soldiers, Conquest, and Everyday Colonialism in German East Africa*, by Michelle R. Moyd, *German Studies Review* 40, 1 (Feb., 2017): 212-213.
- Constructing a German Diaspora: The 'Greater German Empire', 1871-1914*, by Stefan Manz, *H-Empire*, Sept. 2016.
- The Marcel Network: How One French Couple Saved 527 Children from the Holocaust*, by Fred Coleman, *Swiss American Historical Review* 52, 2 (June 2016), 64-65.
- Colonial Switzerland: Rethinking Colonialism from the Margins*, edited by Patricia Purtschert and Harald Fischer-Tine, *Itinerario: The Journal of the History of European Expansion and Global Interaction* 40, 1 (Apr., 2016), 167-168.
- Genocide in the Age of the Nation State, Vol. 2: The Rise of the West and the Coming of Genocide*, by Mark Levene, *Middle Ground Journal* (Fall 2015).
- Süssen is Now Free of Jews: WW II, the Holocaust, and Rural Judaism*, by Gilya Gerda Schmidt, *German Studies Review* 38, 1 (Feb. 2015), 212-213.
- Ecological Imperialism: The Biological Expansion of Europe, 900-1900*, by Alfred Crosby, *Middle Ground Journal* (Fall 2014).
- The People's Own Land: Nature, Tourism, and Dictatorship in East Germany*, by Scott Moranda, *Environmental History* 19, 4 (Oct. 2014), 754-756.
- A Very Little Woman*, by Peter Henisch, *Journal of Austrian Studies* 47, 3 (Fall 2014), 136-137.
- Street Dreams & Hip Hop Barbershops: Global Fantasy in Urban Tanzania*, by Brad Weiss, *UrbanAfrica.net* (Spring 2014).
- The German Forest: Nature, Identity, and the Contestation of a National Symbol*, by Jeffrey K. Wilson, *Environmental History* 18, 2 (Apr. 2013), 641-642.
- Encounters with Witchcraft: Field Notes from Africa*, by Norman N. Miller, *Middle Ground Journal* (Fall 2012).
- Versorgung und Entsorgung der Moderne. Logistiken und Infrastrukturen der 1920er und 1930er Jahre*, by Wiebke Porombka, Heinz Reif, and Erhard Schütz, eds., *Sehepunkte: Rezensionjournal für die Geschichtswissenschaften* 12, 11 (2012).
- A Laboratory of Liberty: The Transformation of Political Culture in Republican Switzerland, 1750-1848*, by Marc H. Lerner, *Swiss American Historical Review* 48, 3 (Nov. 2012), 80-81.
- Victims and Perpetrators: 1933-1945. (Re)Presenting the Past in Post-Unification Culture*, by Laurel Cohen-Pfister and Dagmar Wienroeder-Skinner, eds., *New German Review* 25, 1 (2011), 83-84.

*Between Marx and Coca-Cola. Youth Cultures in Changing European Societies, 1960-1980*,  
by Axel Schildt and Detlef Siegfried, eds., *European Studies Annual Review* 6  
(Spring 2010), 52-53.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

### External Funding

Mednick Award, Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, 2026 (\$2,200)  
DAAD summer grant, 2024 (declined)  
Fellowship, 7<sup>th</sup> Leadership Academy, German Scholars Organization e.V., 2023  
Mednick Award, Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, 2022 (\$2,000)  
Summer Stipend, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2019 (\$6,000)  
Summer Grant, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C., 2012

### Internal Funding

#### Bridgewater College

Faculty Research Grant, Bridgewater College (\$1,200, annually since 2016)  
Faculty Scholarship Award, Bridgewater College, 2022 (\$2,500)

#### Northern Arizona University

Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Northern Arizona University, 2014 (\$6,000)  
Scholarship, Frances B. McAllister Endowment, Northern Arizona University, 2010  
Graduate Fellowship, Martin-Springer Institute, Northern Arizona University, 2010  
Scholarship, Garland & Evelyn Downum Award, Northern Arizona University, 2009

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### Texas A&M, 2026-

Nature, Empire, and the Scramble for Africa (fall 2026)

### Bridgewater College, 2015-2026

Introduction to World History  
World History since 1500  
Early Modern Europe in the World, 1492-1789  
Europe since 1789  
Genocide  
Nature and Empire  
Nature, History, and the Making of Modern Europe  
Modern Germany and Its Empires  
(Honors) Senior Capstone (Interdisciplinary Course)  
Research Experience/ Independent Studies/ Honors Thesis  
Professional Development for Historians

### Northern Arizona University, 2008–2015

World History since 1500 (also online)  
The Development of Europe until 1650 (also online)  
The Development of Europe since 1650 (also online)  
Recent Europe  
Modern Germany  
The Holocaust

Modern Britain  
European Imperialism  
Independent Studies

#### **UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECTS**

*The Research Experience at Bridgewater (TREB)* (website), supervisor, student research on the Stenger collection (World War 2), live since 2018

*History Unfolded* (database) U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C., internship supervisor (2016-2018) and contributor to blog (2017)

*Through the Eyes of Youth* (website), co-faculty supervisor of an undergraduate/graduate student digital history project focusing on the Bedzin ghetto, live since 2015

*Berlin Wall Exhibit* (permanent exhibit), co-faculty supervisor of an undergraduate student public history project, Northern Arizona University (completed 2014)

*Through the Eyes of Youth* (travel exhibit), co-faculty supervisor of an undergraduate student public history project focusing on the Bedzin ghetto (open since 2014)

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND INVITED LECTURES**

“‘Rethinking *Umweltgerechtigkeit* Environmental Justice,” presentation at the conference ‘Environments and Societies at the Crossroads: Socio-Environmental Justice in Europe and the Americas in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries,’ at the German Historical Institute, Berkley, Nov. 16-18, 2026 (*upcoming*).

“Sustaining Exploitation: The ‘General Store’ in ‘Pre-Colonial’ Namibia,” presentation at the symposium “Companies and the Colonial Past,” Weinberg, Germany, Oct. 2025.

“African Agents and German Hunting Dependencies in Southwest Africa, 1885-1915,” presentation in the panel “Hidden Transcripts (3): Colonial Memory Cultures,” German Studies Association Conference, Arlington, VA, Sept. 2025.

“Hunting, Wildlife Protection, and Safari Tourism in Namibia, 1780s-1990,” introduction of book-project in the “Colloquium,” University of Bayreuth, Dec. 2024.

“African Resistance in a Trans-Imperial Frontier Space,” at “Environment and Empire,” Bonn/online, Nov. 2024.

“Sustaining Empire: Animal Dependencies in German Southwest Africa,” workshop “From Passive Livestock to Untamed Beings: Reanimating Animals in the History of Technology,” Berlin, Mar. 2024.

“From Entry Point to Seaside Resort: Swakopmund’s Harbor over the Years,” symposium, “Monuments and Sites de-colonial! Methods and Strategies of Dealing with the Architectural Heritage of the German Colonial Era,” Munich/online, Nov. 2023.

“Dryland Farming in German Southwest Africa,” conference “Assessing Colonial Soil Science in Africa and its Legacy,” Nottingham/online, Sept. 2023.

“Messing with Empires? Simon Kooper and Anglo-German Relations,” conference “Best of Enemies? Anglo-German Relations and Empire,” Flinders University (Australia/Zoom), Jun. 2023.

“Reaching Beyond the Namib: Draft Animal Dependencies and the Making of German

- Southwest Africa,” American Society for Environmental History conference, Boston, Mar. 2023.
- “Environing Empire: Nature, Infrastructure, and the Making of German Southwest Africa,” invited talk, Colgate University, Apr. 2023.
- “Environing Empire: Nature, Infrastructure, and the Making of German Southwest Africa,” conference “Roads to Exclusion: Social-Spatial Dynamics of Mobility Infrastructure since 1800,” German Historical Institute Washington D.C., Sept. 2022.
- “Beef Fantasies? Germany’s Meat Crisis and Southwest African Cattle Farming,” workshop “Commodities of Empire International Workshop,” Berlin/online, Jul. 2022.
- “Boom and Bust: Commodity Extraction Along Namibia’s Coastline,” Richard Robinson Business History workshop, Portland/online (rescheduled, Apr. 2022).
- “Tobacco Fantasies? German Tobacco Cultivation in Southwest Africa,” conference “Rethinking Tobacco History: Commodities, Empire and Agency in Global Perspective, 1780-1960,” Cologne/online, Dec. 2021.
- “Namibia’s Coastline as an Environmental Borderland,” workshop “Global Environmental Borderlands,” Taos (Oct. 2019) and Stanford/online (Apr. 2020).
- “Mollusks Against Empire? The Naval Shipworm and German Colonialism in Southwest Africa, 1884-1915,” American Society for Environmental History conference, Columbus, OH, Apr. 2019.
- “Troubled Youth in Transit? ‘Gammer,’ Social Anxieties, and Moral Panics in 1960s West Germany,” German Studies Association conference, Pittsburgh, PA, Sept. 2018.
- “German Colonial Fantasies: Empire, Nature, and Infrastructures in Southwest Africa, 1884-1915,” invited talk Basler Afrika Bibliographien, Switzerland, Mar. 2018.
- “A Key for Empire? Nature, Geography, and German Colonialism in Southwest Africa,” Northeastern Workshop on Southern Africa in Burlington, VT, Oct. 2017.
- “Fighting Nature in Swakopmund, German Colonial Southwest Africa (1884-1915),” invited talk to Berlin-Brandenburg Colloquium für Umweltgeschichte, Jun. 2017.
- “History, Identity, Memory: Germanizing Landscapes in Colonial Southwest Africa,” conference “The Best Ideas? Nature, Nations, and Collective Memory,” German Historical Institute, London, Dec. 2016.
- “Settlers Abroad: Imagining Daily Life in Colonial German Southwest Africa,” American Comparative Literature Association conference, Seattle, WA, Mar. 2015.
- “The Bedzin Public History Project,” German Studies Association conference, Kansas City, MO, Sept. 2014.
- “No Zero Hour? Delinquent Youth in Munich’s Crisis Years, 1942-1949,” conference “War and Childhood in the Age of the World Wars: Local and Global Perspectives,” German Historical Institute, Washington D.C., Jun. 2014.
- “The Persecution of Homosexuals during the Third Reich,” conference Holocaust, Education Scottsdale, AZ, Mar. 2014.
- “Teaching the Holocaust: A Conversation,” organizer/ facilitator teacher workshop, Flagstaff, AZ, Feb. 2014.
- “Exploring the Future of Holocaust Education,” attendant United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Education Summit, Phoenix, AZ, Nov. 2013.

- “A Space for Peace: Celebrating the End of War since 1648,” Peace History Society, conference, Carbondale, IL, Oct. 2013.
- “The *Meeder Friedensfest*: Celebrating Peace in a Very Small Town in Germany,” German Studies Association conference, Denver, CO, Oct. 2013.
- Learning Community, “Intersections,” participant “Intersections of Culture and Learning,” Northern Arizona University, 2012-2013.
- “Thorny Bushes and Public Spaces: Urban Planning, the Young, and Social Control in 1960s Munich,” conference Urban History, New York City, Oct. 2012.
- “A Matter of Gender and Age: Questioning Dominant Constructs of Youth in post-WWII Germany,” German Studies Association conference, Louisville, KY, Sept. 2011.
- “Green Justice in History? Community Initiatives, Environmental Justice, and the Rise of the German Greens,” American Society for Environmental History conference, Phoenix, AZ, Apr. 2011.
- “My Digital Story, or: Breaking with the Past by Teaching History,” American Educational Studies conference, Denver, CO, Oct. 2010.
- “Anxiety, Hope or Myth? Social Constructions of Youth in Post-1945 Munich,” German Studies Association conference, Oakland, CA, Oct. 2010.
- “The Importance of Self-Reflectivity for Educators,” Symposium of the College of Education, Flagstaff, AZ, Apr. 2010.
- Participant, “Teaching about the Holocaust Through Eyewitness Testimonies,” Hess Seminar, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C., Jan. 2011.
- “Fighting for Justice and Nature: A Trans-cultural Approach?” Rocky Mountain European Scholars Consortium, Flagstaff, AZ, Oct. 2009.
- “A Matter of Environmental Justice? The Rise of the Green Party in Germany,” Rocky Mountains Interdisciplinary History conference, Boulder, CO, Sept. 2009.
- “Changing Perceptions of German Resistance in Nazi Germany,” Missouri History conference, Springfield, MO, Apr. 2008.

#### **SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

Texas A&M University

Committees

Graduate Committee, 2026-present

Bridgewater College

Committees

Teaching Resource Group, 2024-2026

General Education: Study of the Past, 2024-2026

Kline Bowman, 2022-2026

Promotion and Tenure, 2023-2024

Teacher Education, 2019-2023

Search American History position, 2022

Museum Collections, 2019–2021

Sustainability, 2017-2019

May Term 2017

New Faculty Development, 2016-2017  
Diversity, 2016

**Other Service**

Academic Advisor, 2015-2026  
Organizer, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, annual commemorative event  
Co-Facilitator, Professional Development Summer Workshop, 2019  
Co-Facilitator, Annual Pedagogy Project, 2016  
Organizer, student roundtable discussions, 2016-2019

**Northern Arizona University**

**Committees**

Search, Early Modern and Modern Europe (two lecturer positions), 2015  
Undergraduate Curriculum, 2013–2015  
Search, Visiting Professor, Latin American History, 2014

**Other Service**

Academic Adviser, 2011-2015  
Faculty Advisor, Phi Theta Alpha History Honor Society, 2014-2015  
Faculty Advisor & Founding Faculty Member, NAU History Club, 2013 –2015

**SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION**

Reviewer, Swiss National Science Foundation, 2025  
Reader, AP World History, remote, May 2022 and June 2023  
Reviewer, fellowships (European history), National Endowment for the Humanities, 2022  
(Peer) Reviewer, book proposals/ journals (ongoing)

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association (AHA)  
American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)  
European Society for Environmental History (ESEH)  
German Studies Association (GSA)

**LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES**

German: native proficiency  
English: equivalent to native proficiency  
French: elementary speaking/reading proficiency  
Afrikaans: very basic/elementary reading proficiency

[last updated Sept. 2026]