

SIMON TORRACINTA

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EDUCATION

YALE UNIVERSITY

Ph.D., History (History of Science and Medicine), expected 2023
M.Phil., 2019
M.A., 2018
Dissertation: “Economy of Desire: The Sciences of Human Wants, 1870-1970”

Committee: Joanna Radin (Chair), Deborah Coen, Samuel Moyn

Field Certifications:

History of Science in the Modern Era
Culture, Economy and Society in Modern Intellectual History
History of the Postwar Human Sciences
Science and Technology Studies

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, GENEVA

M.A., International History, 2014

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

B.A. (First Class), History, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Maps of Desire: Edward Tolman’s Drive Theory of Wants,” *History of the Human Sciences*
(forthcoming). Winner of the journal’s Early Career Prize.

EDITED VOLUMES

“We Don’t Know, But Let’s Try It.” *Uncertainty*. Sheila Jasanoff *et al.* Ed. Joshua Cohen and Deborah
Chasman. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2021. 132-155.

PUBLIC WRITING

“Bad Economics,” *Boston Review* (March 2022). Review of *Thinking Like an Economist* by Elizabeth
Popp-Berman, *Cogs and Monsters* by Diane Coyle, and *What’s Wrong with Economics?* by Robert
Skidelsky.

“The Low-Carbon Good Life,” *New Labor Forum* (June 2021). Review of *Post-Growth Living* by Kate Soper.

“The Gadfly of American Plutocracy,” *Boston Review* (December 2020). Review of *Veblen* by Charles Camic.

“The Peripeteia of The Gift,” *History of Anthropology Review* (October 2020). Review of *Gift Exchange* by Grégoire Mallard.

“Extinction Event,” *n+1* (May 2020). On financing higher education.

“Make Kin, Not Borders,” *The New Inquiry* (September 2017). Review of *The Economization of Life* by Michelle Murphy.

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

2022–23	Duke History of Political Economy Center Predoctoral Research Fellowship
2021	<i>History of the Human Sciences</i> Early Career Prize
2021	National Science Foundation Travel Grant, History of Science Society
2020	Princeton Library University Research Grant
2020	University of Chicago Robert L. Platzman Memorial Fellowship
2019	Duke Center for the History of Political Economy Young Scholars Grant
2019	Rockefeller Archive Center Research Stipend
2018	National Science Foundation Travel Grant, History of Science Society
2017–18	Overbrook History Fellowship Fund, Yale University
2017	History Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University
2016–17	A. Bartlett Giamatti Memorial Graduate Fellowship in the Humanities, Yale University
2016	LAHP Arts and Humanities Research Council Scholarship for Ph.D. in History, King’s College London (declined)
2012	Arnold Modern Historical Essay Prize (Best Thesis in History), University of Oxford
2012	Runner Up, Undergraduate Dissertation Prize, Society for the Study of French History

CONFERENCE AND COLLOQUIA (SELECTED)

- 2021 “States of Desire: The Socialist Calculation Debate over Incommensurable Wants.” History of Economics Society. Utrecht, Netherlands.
- 2021 “Time, Labor, and Motivation in Midcentury Economics.” History of Science Society. New Orleans, Louisiana. (Panel organizer: *Working Theories: The Human Sciences and Motivation to Labor in the Twentieth Century*; sponsored by the Forum for History of Human Science).
- 2021 “Abstract Leisure-Time.” With the Yale Working Group on Globalization and Culture. Yale University American Studies Colloquium.
- 2019 “The Moral Economies of Modernization: Eric Wolf’s Cold War Peasant Ethnography.” American Anthropological Association. Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- 2019 “‘(Can’t Get No) Satisfaction’: Utility and Need in the Global 1970s.” Cultural Studies Association. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2019 “Utility.” With the Yale Working Group on Globalization and Culture. Dartmouth University. May 2019.
- 2018 “Two Sciences for ‘Man with a Capital-M’: Man’s Role and Anthropology in the Atomic Age.” History of Science Society. Seattle, Washington.
- 2018 “How do you know we’ll be alive then?’: Spaceship Earth, Cold War Man, and the Origins of the Anthropocene.” 53rd Annual Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Biology. Princeton University.
- 2017 “Science for Earthly Survival: The *Radical Science Journal* in the History of Science.” Knowledges in Contact: 6th Annual Natura Conference on Science and Epistemology. Rutgers University.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

YALE UNIVERSITY (Teaching Fellow)
American Economic History (Spring 2021)
Historical Perspectives on Global Health (Fall 2020)
Making Climate Knowledge (Fall 2019)
The World circa 2000 (Spring 2019)
Media and Medicine in Modern America (Fall 2018)
American Environmental History (Spring 2018)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Steering Committee, Forum for History of Human Science (2021-present)
Editor, *History of Anthropology Review* (<http://histanthro.org/>) (2018-present)

Coordinator, Yale Working Group on Marxism & Cultural Theory (2018-present)
Coordinator, Holmes Workshop in the History of Science and Medicine, Yale University (2018-19)
Member, Yale Working Group on Globalization and Culture (2018-2021)
Graduate Affiliate, Trumbull College, Yale University (2018-19)
Associate Editor, *History of Anthropology Review* (2017-18)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

History of Science Society (HSS)
Forum for History of Human Science (FHHS)
American Anthropological Association (AAA)
Society for Economic Anthropology

REFERENCES

Joanna Radin (*Dissertation Chair*)

Associate Professor of History, History of Medicine, and Anthropology
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Deborah Coen

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