



Curriculum Vitae

ACADEMIC DEGREES

Jena, 29. Februar 2020

M.A. (1,0, 2001, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena), Dr.phil. (summa cum laude, 2005, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena)

ACADEMIC POSITION

Akademischer Rat, Historisches Institut, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- 07/2009-03/2017 Juniorprofessor of Intellectual History, Research Centre “Laboratory Enlightenment”, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena
- 10/2004-12/2008 Research fellow at the Collaborative Research Centre 482 “The Weimar-Jena phenomenon: Culture around 1800” (Sonderforschungsbereich 482 “Ereignis Weimar-Jena. Kultur um 1800”), Friedrich Schiller University of Jena
- 7/2001–1/2002 Research fellow at the Department of History (Early Modern Studies), Friedrich Schiller University of Jena

GRANTS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

- 7/2018 (together with Professor Paul Cheney, University of Chicago) Summer Institute for University and College Teachers sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities (\$ 110,694), Visiting Faculty at University of Chicago
- 12/2017 Initial grant by the Centre for the Study of the Global Condition (Leipzig) for the “Human rights without religion?” project (5500 €)
- 7/2015-11/2016 Feodor-Lynen-Fellowship for Experienced Researchers (offered by the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation) at the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, The University of Chicago, IL
- 4/2011-7/2011 Visiting-Research-Fellow at Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) and Wolfson College, Cambridge
- 1/2009-6/2009 Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh (financed by a postdoctoral research grant offered by the German Academic Exchange Service)



- 1/2002–9/2004 Scholarship for doctoral students offered by the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation)
- 11/1998–7/2000 Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation)

ACADEMIC ROLES AND SERVICE (SELECTION)

- Co-convenor of research seminar at the Research Centre “Laboratory Enlightenment”
- Co-convenor of the Modern History Research Seminar (2019-), Historisches Institut, Jena
- Member of selection committee Johannes-Zilkens-Promotionspreis German National Academic Foundation (2017-).
- Peer-reviewer for: *Modern Intellectual History*, *American Political Science Review*, *History of Political Thought*, *The Historical Journal*, *Cambridge University Press*
- Peer-reviewer for research fellowships and grants: Swiss National Fund, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, German National Academic Foundation, King’s College Cambridge

RESEARCH PROJECTS, WORK IN PROGRESS

- *Laws for Desirous Beings: Anthropology, Sociability, and the Crisis of Natural Rights in German Thought, ca. 1700-1950* (book MS, to be submitted as Habilitationsschrift in Sommersemester 2020)
- A commented English translation of Friedrich Schiller’s *Writings on Universal History* under contract with Princeton University Press (MS to be submitted in January 2020)
- The teaching of natural law at German Protestant universities 1650-1800 – digitization project, <https://www.uni-erfurt.de/max-weber-kolleg/forschungsgruppen-und-stellen/forschungsstellen/natural-law-project/>
- “Alternatives to Nation-States” (together with Axel Körner, University College London), 2 years-research project (2021-2023), budget ca. 600.000 Euro, applied with AHRC and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Feb 2020, decision pending
- “Funktionen von Menschenrechten” (Functions of Human Rights) (together with Professor Tilman Reitz, Jena, Bernd Ladwig, Berlin, Eva Piirimäe, Tartu and others) application as Research Unit (4+4years) grant with the DFG, currently supported by an initial grant by Centre for the Study of the Global Condition, Leipzig
- An English translation of Samuel Pufendorf’s *De Obligatione adversus Patriam* (Heidelberg, 1663).

PUBLICATIONS

I. Books, Edited Volumes



- *Vaterlandsliebe und Religionskonflikt. Politische Diskurse im Alten Reich 1555-1648*, (*Studies in Medieval and Reformation Traditions*, 126) (Leiden and Boston: Brill Academic Publishers, 2007). Reviews: *H-Soz-u-Kult*, 13.8.2008, <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/rezensionen/2008-3-105> (Gabriele Haug-Moritz), *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* 39, 17.10.2008 (Caspar Hirschi); *German History* 26 (2008), 4, p. 577 (Joachim Whaley); *Sehepunkte* 8 (2008), 9, <http://www.sehepunkte.de/2008/09/13776.html> (Johannes Arndt); *Renaissance Quarterly* 61 (2008), 3, p. 944-945 (Martin Wrede); *Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte* 120 (2009), pp. 401-403 (Axel Gotthard); *Zeitschrift für historische Forschung* 36 (2009), 2 (Robert von Friedeburg); *Francia-Recensio*, 2010-3, <http://www.perspectivia.net> (René Pillorget); *Historische Zeitschrift* 291 (2010), 3, p. 811 (Wolfgang Weber)
- together with Joachim Bauer, Andreas Klinger, and Georg Schmidt, eds., *Die Universität Jena in der Frühen Neuzeit* (Heidelberg: Winter Verlag, 2008).
- Ed. together with Eva Piirimäe, *Sociability in Eighteenth-Century Thought, Special Issue History of European Ideas*, 41 (2015).
- Friedrich Schiller, *On the Aesthetic Education of Man in a Series of Letters*, translated by Keith Tribe, ed. with an Introduction and Notes by Alexander Schmidt (Penguin Classics: 2016).

II. Articles

- (together with Eva Piirimäe), 'Introduction: Between Morality and Anthropology—Sociability in Enlightenment Thought', in *Sociability in Eighteenth-Century Thought, Special Issue History of European Ideas* 41 (2015), Eva Piirimäe and Alexander Schmidt (eds.), 571-588.
- 'Unsocial sociability and the crisis of natural law: Michael Hissmann on the state of nature', in: Eva Piirimäe/Alexander Schmidt (eds.), *Sociability in Eighteenth-Century Thought, Special Issue History of European Ideas* 41 (2015), 619-639.
- 'Neo-Epikureismus und die Krise des Naturrechts: Michael Hißmann (1752-1784) über Naturzustand und Gerechtigkeit', *Aufklärung* 25 (2014), 159-182.
- 'Scholarship, Morals and Government: Jean-Henri-Samuel Formey's and Johann Gottfried Herder's Responses to Rousseau's *First Discourse*', *Modern Intellectual History*, 9,2 (2012), 249-274.
- 'Du pouvoir de « muses » : Politiques des « petits États », prestige dynastique et culturel à l'ère napoléonienne', *Francia* 39 (2012), 167-191.
- 'Irenic patriotism in sixteenth and seventeenth-century German political discourse', *The Historical Journal* 53 (2010), 243-269.
- 'The Liberty of the Ancients? Friedrich Schiller and Aesthetic Republicanism', *History of Political Thought* 30 (2009), 286-314.
- 'Prestige, Kultur und Außendarstellung. Überlegungen zur Politik Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenachs im Rheinbund (1806–1813)', *Zeitschrift des Vereins für Thüringische Geschichte* 59/60 (2005/6), 153–192.
- 'Ein französischer Kaiser? Die Diskussion um die Nationalität des Reichsoberhauptes im 17. Jahrhundert', *Historisches Jahrbuch* 123 (2003), 149-177.

III. Book Chapters

- ‘Der Bischof in römischer Toga – Julius Pflugs politisches Denken’, In *Dialog der Konfessionen: Bischof Julius Pflug und die Reformation*, ed. Vereinigte Domstifter zu Merseburg und Naumburg und des Kollegiatstifts Zeitz (Fulda: Michael Imhof Verlag, 2017), 42-50.
- ‘Sources of evil or seeds of the good? Rousseau and Kant on needs, the arts, and the sciences’, *Responses to Rousseau: Reaction and Interpretation from the Eighteenth Century to the Present*, ed. Avi Lifschitz, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2016), 33-55.
- ‘Introduction’, in Friedrich Schiller, *On the Aesthetic Education of Man in a Series of Letters*, ed. Alexander Schmidt and translated by Keith Tribe (Penguin Classics: 2016), vii-xxxiv.
- ‘Freedom and State Action in German Late Enlightenment Thought’, in *Freedom and the Construction of Europe*, ed. Quentin Skinner and Martin van Gelderen, vol. 2 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), 208-226.
- ‘Self-cultivation (*Bildung*) and Sociability between Mankind and the Nation: Fichte and Schleiermacher on Higher Education’, in *Ideas of Education: Philosophy and politics from Plato to Dewey*, Elizabeth Frazer and Christopher Brooke (eds.) (London: Routledge, 2013), 160-177.
- ‘Ein Vaterland ohne Patrioten? Die Debatten über deutsche Vaterlandsliebe in der Frühen Neuzeit’, in Georg Schmidt, ed., *Die deutsche Nation im frühneuzeitlichen Europa. Politische Ordnung und kulturelle Identität?* (Munich: Oldenbourg, 2010), 35-63.
- (together with Andreas Klinger) ‘Die Universität zwischen Reich und Fürstenstaat’, in *Die Universität Jena in der Frühen Neuzeit (1558-1820)* (Heidelberg: Winter Verlag, 2008), 73-95.
- ‘Das Überleben der „Kleinen“. Die Zäsur 1806 und die Politik Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenachs (1796-1813)’, in Hans-Werner Hahn, Andreas Klinger, and Georg Schmidt, eds., *Das Jahr 1806 im europäischen Kontext. Balance, Hegemonie und politische Kulturen* (Cologne and Weimar: Böhlau, 2008), 349-380.
- ‘Konfession und nationales Vaterland. Katholische Reaktionen auf den protestantischen Patriotismus im Alten Reich (1520–1620)’, In *Frühneuzeitliche Konfessionskulturen*, ed. Kaspar von Greyerz, Thomas Kaufmann, and Anselm Schubert (Gütersloh: Gütersloher Verlagshaus, 2008), 14-41.

FORTHCOMING BOOK CHAPTERS

- ‘Enlightenment Origins of the Democratic Welfare State’, in *A Cultural History of Democracy in the Age of Enlightenment*, ed. Anna Plassart and Michael Mosher (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2020).
- ‘Introduction’ in Friedrich Schiller, *Writings on Universal History*, ed. Alexander Schmidt and transl. by Keith Tribe (Princeton and Oxford, Princeton University Press).

COURSES TAUGHT AT JENA OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS (SELECTION)



- Conservative thought from Burke to Oakeshott (graduate seminar)
- *Patria*, nation, Race: Categories in European thought from the Renaissance to the 19th C (seminar, BA students)
- Hobbes (graduate seminar)
- Morals and Markets: Economic Thought from Luther to Smith (seminar, BA students)
- Natural and Human Rights: A Genealogy 17th to 21st Cs (graduate seminar)
- European perspectives on Asian Empires in the 17th and 18th Centuries (introduction into academic writing course, first year's students)
- China and the European Enlightenment (MA students' seminar)
- The European Enlightenment (14 lectures à 90mins)
- Freedom: genealogy of a concept from Hobbes to Kant (seminar, MA students)
- Scottish Enlightenment (MA seminar with 5days student excursion to Edinburgh & St Andrews)
- Enlightenment, reform and revolution (seminar, MA students)
- War and peace in Early Modern History (seminar, BA students)
- Methods in the history of ideas (seminar, MA & PhD students)
- *Patria*, Patriotism, and Nation in European Political Thought (seminar, BA students)
- The Early Modern Monarchy in Theory and Practice (basic module, BA students)
- Rousseau and Enlightenment Thought (seminar, MA students)

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- July 2018 Invisible Bonds - The Enlightenment Science of Society from Mandeville to Hegel (NEH Summer Seminar for College and University Faculty, July 7-29, 2018, The University of Chicago, together with Professor Paul Cheney)
- July 2016 The Enlightenment Science of Society (14hrs lecture course with exam), Sichuan University, Chengdu, China

INVITED PAPERS AND LECTURES (SELECTION)

- Anti-Intellectualism: Johann Christian Claproth's Natural Law (After Pufendorf: Natural Law and the Passions in Germany and Scotland, University of St Andrews, 24-26 October 2018)



- Christian Human Rights in later Nineteenth-Century International Thought (17 October 2018, Oberseminar Neuere Forschungen zum 19. Jahrhundert, Jena)
- Make Manure not War - Balanced Growth, Sensibility and the Future of Europe in Swiss Enlightenment Debates (The Discovery of the Future and the Making of the Modern Economy, 1600s-1800s, Internationaler Workshop des Forum for the Study of the Global Condition, 28-29 June 2018, Sächsische Akademie, Leipzig)
- Curing Monsters: Ideas of Federalism and Patriotic Reform for Poland and the German Empire in the later Eighteenth Century ("Rousseau, Poland and Europe", 2-4 Feb 2018, College of Europe, Warsaw)
- Reading Schiller's On the Aesthetic Education of Man as a Historian of Ideas Enlightenment (Social Thought Colloquium, 2 May 2017, University of Chicago).
- Rights of Man Redefined: Fichte and the Crisis of Natural Law (Political Thought Colloquium, 1 May 2017, Northwestern University, Evanston, ILL)
- Natural law as advice to fallen man in Christian Thomasius's thought (Unsocial Sociability: The German Enlightenment at the Intersection of European Discourses/"Ungesellige Geselligkeit. Die deutsche Aufklärung am Schnittpunkt der europäischen Diskurse, 14-16 December, Martin Luther University Halle, Germany)
- Advice for fallen man: Natural law and the Augustinian Origins of the German Enlightenment (Social Thought Colloquium, 23 May 2016, University of Chicago).
- From Church to Moral Community: Religion and the Enlightenment Project in Herder and Fichte (*Enlightenment beyond Radicalism. Reasserting the Role of Faith in the European Enlightenment*, 4-6 January 2015, University of Haifa, Israel)
- The inanity of natural law': Unsocial sociability and the crisis of natural law in late eighteenth-century German debates (Commerce, War and Peace in the Long Eighteenth Century, Festschrift-Symposium, Université de Lausanne, CH, 4-5 July 2013)
- The sociability debate and the crisis of natural law in the late eighteenth century: Michael Hissmann (1752-1784) on the state of nature' (Europe and Humanity: Natural Law, Civilisation, and Cosmopolitanism, Symposium University of Tartu, Estonia, 8 June 2013)
- Erfolgreiche Imagepolitik? Fürstliches Mäzenatentum in den Debatten des späteren 18. Jahrhundert (Repräsentation und Selbstinszenierung Friedrichs II. von Preußen, Conference organised by IZEA Halle and Stiftung Preußische Schlösser und Gärten Berlin-Brandenburg, Potsdam, 28-29 September 2012)
- Amor Patriae and Ratio Status: The Morality of Patriotic Actions in Late-Humanist Political Thought (History of Political Ideas seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London, 25 April 2012)



- Sources of evil? Rousseau and Kant on the arts and sciences (Rousseau 300: Nature, Self, and State, University College London, 19-21 April, 2012)
- German debates about university reform around 1800 and the foundation of the university of Berlin (Notions of Bildung, Franke-Center, The University of Chicago, 18-19 November 2011)

LANGUAGES

- English (fluent, both spoken and written)
- German (mother tongue)
- French (good working knowledge)
- Latin, Ancient Greek (academic proficiency)
- Dutch, Italian, Russian (read)