

Dr. Max Bergholz

Associate Professor of History

Concordia University | Department of History
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EDUCATION

- 2010 **University of Toronto**, Ph.D.
Major Field: Modern Balkan and East-Central European History

Minor Fields: Comparative Nationalism
Russian and Soviet History

Thesis Title: “None of us dared say anything: Mass Killing in a Bosnian Community during World War II and the Postwar Culture of Silence”

Committee: Lynne Viola (Chair), Derek Penslar, Jeffrey Kopstein, Doris Bergen
- 2000 **University of Pittsburgh**, M.A.
Modern European History
- 1998 **University of Pittsburgh**, B.A.
Honors Program, History

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2016- **Concordia University** | Montreal, Canada
Associate Professor of History
- 2011-2016 **Concordia University** | Montreal, Canada
James M. Stanford Professorship in Genocide and Human Rights Studies
Assistant Professor of History

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2016 *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2016).

Bosnian translation: *Nasilje kao generativna sila: identitet, nacionalizam i sjećanje u jednoj balkanskoj zajednici*. Trans. Senada Kreso (Sarajevo / Zagreb: Buybook, 2018).

- Winner | 2019 Laura Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies, Nanovic Institute, University of Notre Dame
- Winner | 2018 European Studies Book Award, Council for European Studies, Columbia University
- Winner | 2017 Herbert Baxter Adams Prize, American Historical Association
- Winner | 2017 Harriman-Rothschild Book Prize in Nationalism and Ethnic Studies, Association for the Study of Nationalities and the Harriman Institute, Columbia University
- Winner | 2017 Taylor and Francis Book Prize in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Canadian Association of Slavists.
- Winner | 2017 *Choice Magazine* Outstanding Academic Title Award
- Finalist | 2017 Raphael Lemkin Book Award, Institute for the Study of Genocide
- Reviews: *American Historical Review* [Featured Review]; *Behar – časopis za književnost i društvena pitanja*; *Canadian Slavonic Papers* [Book Roundtable – three commentaries and author response]; *Choice Magazine*; *Defense Report*; *Études internationales*; *EuropeNow*; *Foreign Affairs*; *Genocide Studies and Prevention*; *H-Genocide*; *H-Soz-u-Kult*; *Journal of Cold War Studies*; *Journal of Modern History*; *Jutarnji list*; *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*; *Nationalities Papers* [Book Symposium – three commentaries and author response]; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Slavic Review*; *Southeastern Europe*

- Forthcoming Chinese translation in 2019 with Imaginist (Beijing).

Journal Articles and Book Chapters (in English)

- 2019 “To Kill or Not to Kill? The Challenge of Restraining Violence in a Balkan Community.” Forthcoming in *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 56, no. 4 (October 2019).
- 2018 “Thinking the Nation: Reappraising Benedict Anderson’s Contribution to the Study of Nationalism.” *American Historical Review* 123, no. 2 (April 2018): 518-528.
- 2018 “Assumptions and Evidence in the Study of Violence: A Response to Üngör, Vujačić, and Bokovoy.” Invited Book Roundtable on *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community*, *Canadian Slavonic Papers* 60, no. 1-2 (2018): 311-333.
- 2018 “Evidence, Explanation, and Telling Histories of Violence: A Response to Dragojević, Braun, and Fedorowycz.” Invited Book Symposium on *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community*, *Nationalities Papers*, 46, no. 6 (2018): 1146-1158.
- 2014 “‘As if nothing ever happened:’ Massacres, Missing Corpses, and Silence in a Bosnian Community.” In Élisabett Anstett and Jean-Marc Dreyfus, eds., *Destruction and Human Remains. Disposal and Concealment in Genocide and Mass Violence* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2014): 15-45.
- 2013 “Sudden Nationhood: The Microdynamics of Intercommunal Relations in Bosnia-Herzegovina after World War II.” *American Historical Review* 118, no. 3 (June 2013): 679-707.
- 2010 “When All Could No Longer Be Equal in Death: A Local Community’s Struggle to Remember Its Fallen Soldiers in the Shadow of Serbia’s Civil War, 1955-1956.” *The Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies*. No. 2008, (November, 2010): 1-58.
- 2010 “The Strange Silence: Explaining the Absence of Monuments for Muslim Civilians Killed in Bosnia During the Second World War.” *East European Politics & Societies* 24, no. 3 (August 2010): 408-434.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters (in Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian)

- 2018 “Naprasna nacionalnost: mikrodinamika odnosa među zajednicama u Bosni i Hercegovini nakon Drugog svjetskog rata” [Sudden Nationhood: The Microdynamics of Intercommunal Relations in Bosnia-Herzegovina after World War II]. *Historijski zbornik* [Historical Anthology], 71, broj 2 (2018): 283-319.
- 2012 “Čudna šutnja: zašto nema spomenika za muslimanske civilne žrtve ubijene u Bosni u Drugom svjetskom ratu?” [The Strange Silence: Why Were There No Monuments for Muslim Civilians Killed in Bosnia During the Second World War?] *Historijska traganja* [Historical Searches], broj 8, (2012): 109-147.
- 2009 “Sveštenik, spomen ploča i borba za sećanje na pale borce u jednom selu u Srbiji, 1955-1956.” [The Priest, the Plaque, and the Struggle for the Memory of Fallen Soldiers in a Serbian Village, 1955-1956]. In Dragana Radojičić i Aleksandra Pavićević, urednici, *Spomen mesta, istorija, sećanja* [Sites of Remembrance, History, and Memory] (Beograd: Etnografski institut SANU, 2009): 37-46.
- 2008 “Među rodoljubima, kupusom, svinjama i varvarima: spomenici i grobovi NOR-a, 1947-1965 godine,” [Among Patriots, Cabbage, Pigs, and Barbarians: Monuments and Graves to the People’s Liberation War, 1947-1965] *Godišnjak za društvenu istoriju* godina. XIV, sveska 1-3, (Beograd, 2007): 61-82.
- 2006 “Među rodoljubima, kupusom, svinjama i varvarima: spomenici i grobovi NOR-a, 1947-1965 godine” [Among Patriots, Cabbage, Pigs, and Barbarians: Monuments and Graves to the People’s Liberation War, 1947-1965]. In Husnija Kamberović, ed., *60 godina od završetka Drugog svjetskog rata. Kako se sjećati 1945. godine?* [60 Years Since the End of the Second World War. How to Remember 1945?] (Sarajevo: Institut za istoriju, 2006): 75-99.

Book Reviews

- 2016 Review of Rory Yeomans, ed., *The Utopia of Terror: Life and Death in Wartime Croatia* (Rochester, N.Y.: Rochester University Press, 2015). *The Canadian Slavonic Papers*, Vol. 58, No. 4, 434-436.
- 2013 Review of Theodora Dragostinova, *Between Two Motherlands. Nationality and Emigration among the Greeks of Bulgaria, 1900-1949* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2011). *The Canadian Journal of History*, Vol. 48, No. 2, 349-351.

- 2013 Review of Davide Rodogno, *Against Massacre: Humanitarian Interventions in the Ottoman Empire, 1815-1914* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2012). *The Historian*, Vol. 75, No. 2, 410-411.
- 2012 Review of Mark Biondich, *The Balkans. War, Revolution and Political Violence since 1878* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011). *The Canadian Slavonic Papers*, Vol. 55, No. 3-4, 539-540.
- 2011 Review of Judith Armatta, *Twilight of Impunity. The War Crimes Trial of Slobodan Milosevic* (Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2010). *The Canadian Slavonic Papers*, Vol. 53, No. 2-4, 589-590.
- 2009 Review of Dennison Rusinow, *Yugoslavia. Oblique Insights and Observations* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008). *The Canadian Slavonic Papers*, Vol. 51, No. 4, 588-589.

Other Writing

- 2019 “U bosanskim arhivima.” Post for *Peščanik*, April 17, 2019.
<https://pescanik.net/u-bosanskim-arhivima/>
- 2016 “Archives in Bosnia in Minutes and Hours.” Post for *Sage House News: The Cornell University Press Blog*, February 16, 2017.
<https://sagehouse.blog/2017/02/16/archives-in-bosnia-in-minutes-and-hours/>
- 2014 “World War I Conference in Sarajevo Produced no ‘Ethnic Firestorm.’” Letter to the Editor co-authored with Edin Hajdarpasic, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 30, 2014.
<https://www.chronicle.com/blogs/letters/world-war-i-conference-in-sarajevo-produced-no-ethnic-firestorm/>

Interviews

- 2019 “Interview with Max Bergholz on CBC Radio ‘Homerun’ with Sue Smith.” *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation* [Montreal], aired live on March 7, 2019.
<http://www.maxbergholz.com/cbchomerun>
- 2019 “World War II Massacres in Bosnia: How Violence Transforms Communities.” *Balkan Insight*, January 16, 2019 [published in English, Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Albanian, and Macedonian].
<http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/wwii-massacres-in-bosnia-how-violence-transforms-communities-01-11-2019>

- 2019 “Seconda guerra mondiale in Bosnia: come la violenza trasforma le comunità.” *Osservatorio Balcani e Caucaso*
<https://www.balcanicaucaso.org/aree/Bosnia-Erzegovina/Seconda-guerra-mondiale-in-Bosnia-come-la-violenza-trasforma-le-comunita-192314>
- 2018 “We have to find ways to walk in the shoes of our historical subjects, an interview with Max Bergholz.” *Concordia University News*, June 7, 2018
<http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/artsci/2018/06/07/concordians-book-recognized-with-fourth-major-award.html>
- 2018 “*American Historical Review* Interview with Max Bergholz on his reappraisal of Benedict Anderson’s *Imagined Communities*.” American Historical Association, March 15, 2018.
<https://soundcloud.com/aha-historians/ahr-interview-with-max-bergholz-on-his-reappraisal-of-benedict-andersons-imagined-communities>
- 2017 “Violence as a Generative Force. Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community.” *New Books Network*, August 25, 2017.
<https://newbooksnetwork.com/max-bergholz-violence-as-a-generative-force-identity-nationalism-and-memory-in-a-balkan-community-cornell-up-2016/>
- 2017 “CEERES of Voices Interview with Max Bergholz at the Seminary Co-op Bookstore in Chicago.” *The Center for East European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at the University of Chicago*, February 17, 2017.
<https://lucian.uchicago.edu/blogs/eastfromchicago/2017/03/09/ceeres-of-voices-interview-with-max-bergholz/>

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Postdoctoral

- 2013-2014 International and Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Short-Term Research Grant Program
- 2013-2014 Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Research Grant
- 2012-2015 Le Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture (FQRSC), Établissement de nouveaux professeurs-chercheurs
- 2012-2013 American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Early Career Post Doctoral Fellowship in East European Studies

Preddoctoral

- 2006-2007 American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Dissertation Writing Fellowship for East European Studies
- 2005-2006 Fulbright Fellowship from the International Institute of Education (U.S. Department of State)
- 2005-2006 Ontario Government Scholarship (OGS)
- 2005 Bernadotte E. Schmitt Grant from the American Historical Association
- 2004-2005 International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Grant
- 2004-2005 American Councils for International Education ACTR/ACCELS East-Central European Research Scholar Grant

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “Telling Histories of Violence without Borders.” Invited lecture to be given at the Nanovic Institute for European Studies on the occasion of receiving the Laura Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies, University of Notre Dame, November 21, 2019.
- 2019 “Prepričavanje istorija nasilja.” Invited presentation at the Institut za noviju istoriju Srbije [Institute for the Contemporary History of Serbia], May 28, 2019.
- 2019 “Nasilje kao generativna sila: identitet, nacionalizam i sjećanje u jednoj balkanskoj zajednici.” Invited presentation at the Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju [Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory], University of Belgrade, May 27, 2019.
- 2019 “Izazov interdisciplinarnog istraživanja o nasilju.” Invited presentation at the Institut za društvenu istraživanja u Zagrebu [Institute for Social Research in Zagreb], University of Zagreb, May 13, 2019.
- 2019 “Histories of Violence Without Borders.” Invited plenary lecture at the conference ‘Mediterranean Violence.’ To be held at the University of Minnesota, April 25-26, 2019.
- 2019 “Communities of Peace and Violence.” Invited presentation at Carleton University, Ottawa, February 7, 2019.

- 2019 “Intercommunal Killing and the Transformation of Identity: Evidence from a Bosnian Town, Summer 1941.” Invited presentation at Georgia State University, January 23, 2019.
- 2018 “Microhistories of Nationalism and Violence.” Invited presentation at the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, Ohio State University, October 18, 2018.
- 2018 “Local History, Ethnicity, and Intercommunal Violence.” Invited presentation at the Department of History and Civilization, European University Institute, Florence, September 27, 2018.
- 2018 “Telling Histories of Violence.” Invited presentation at the Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles, March 8, 2018.
- 2017 Invited presentations about the book *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community* (Cornell University Press, 2016).
- University of Toronto (January 12th)
 - University of Chicago (February 17th)
 - Claremont Colleges (February 22nd)
 - University of California, Los Angeles (February 23rd)
 - Université de Montréal (March 30th)
 - University of Washington (April 23rd)
 - University of California, Berkeley (May 10th)
 - Stanford University (May 11th and 12th)
- 2017 “Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community.” Book panel discussion at the Annual Convention for the Association for the Study of Nationalities. New York, May 4, 2017.
- 2016 “Violence and Ethnic Categories: Local Evidence from Bosnia, 1941.” Presentation at the Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, Washington, D.C., November 19, 2016.
- 2016 “Violence as a Generative Force: How Ethnic Categories Change During Ethnic Conflict [Bosnia and Croatia, 1941].” Invited presentation at the workshop Micro-Comparative Studies of Twentieth Century Conflicts, organized by the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence at Yale University, April 23, 2016.
- 2015 “Microhistory, ‘Ethnic Violence,’ and the Future of Area Studies.” Presentation at the Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, Philadelphia, November 20, 2015.

- 2015 “Violence as a Generative Force: Rethinking ‘Ethnicity’ through a Bosnian Community.” Invited presentation at the Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 15, 2015.
- 2015 “To Kill or Not to Kill? The Challenge of Restraining Insurgent Violence in Bosnia, Summer 1941.” Invited presentation at the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence at Yale University, April 20, 2015.
- 2014 “Global Lessons from a Local History of Forced Migration: Northwest Bosnia, 1941.” Invited presentation at the workshop Global Conflict and Conflict Management: Israel/Palestine and Beyond, University of Oxford, May 18, 2014.
- 2014 “Intercommunal Violence in Bosnia: The Continuing Mystery of 1941.” Presentation at the Annual Convention of the Association for Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, New York, April 26, 2014.
- 2013 “To Kill or Not to Kill? The Challenge of Restraining Insurgent Violence in Bosnia, Summer 1941.” Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Boston, November 22, 2013.
- 2012 “‘As If Nothing Ever Happened:’ Massacres, Missing Corpses, and Silence in Post-World War II Bosnia-Herzegovina.” Invited presentation at the conference Les cadavres et leur destruction/ Corpses and Their Destruction, L’Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, September 12-14, 2012.
- 2012 “Masovna ubojstva u Glini tijekom 1941. godine i poslijeratna kultura sjećanja na žrtve: što znamo, a što ne?” [Mass Killing in Glina during 1941 and the Postwar Culture of Remembrance: What do we know and not know?]. Invited presentation at the conference Što se uistinu dogodilo u glinskoj srpsko-pravoslavnoj crkvi između 29/30. srpnja i 4/5. kolovoza 1941. godine? Svjedočanstva i kultura sjećanja [What Actually Happened in Glina's Serbian Orthodox Church between July 29-30 and August 4-5, 1941? Testimonies and the Culture of Remembrance], Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb, Croatia, June 28-29, 2012.
- 2011 “Beyond National Aloofness and Disinterest: The Problem of Sudden Nationhood.” Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Washington, D.C., November 18, 2011.

- 2011 “When Nationhood Suddenly Happens: The Micro Dynamics of Inter-Communal Relations in Post-World War II Bosnia-Herzegovina.” Invited presentation at the conference Beyond Mosque, Church, and State: Negotiating Religious and Ethno-National Identities in the Balkans, Center for Slavic and East European Studies, Ohio State University, October 7, 2011.
- 2011 “The Problem of Silence in the Shadow of Mass Violence: Bosnia after World War II.” Presentation at the 9th Biennial Conference of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, Buenos Aires, July 21, 2011.
- 2011 “Intimate Violence and Divided Remembrance in Serbia during and after World War II.” Lecture presented at the Center for East European and Russian Studies, University of Pittsburgh, March 1, 2011.
- 2010 “Community Studies and the Problem of Communal Peace and Discord in Bosnia-Herzegovina.” Presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Los Angeles, November 19, 2010.
- 2010 “War Crimes and Post-Conflict Silence in Bosnia-Herzegovina.” Presentation at the Junior Scholars Training Seminar, Aspen Wye River Conference Center, Maryland, August 13, 2010.
- 2009 “The Creation of Silence about Muslims Killed in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the Second World War.” Presentation at the Annual Conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Boston, November 15, 2009.
- 2008 “Sveštenik, spomen ploča i borba za sećanje na pale borce u jednom selu u Srbiji, 1955-1956.” [The Priest, the Plaque and the Struggle for the Memory of Fallen Soldiers in a Village in Serbia, 1955-1956]. Presentation at the conference Spomen mesta, istorija, sećanja [Sites of Remembrance, History, Memories], Ethnographic Institute of the Serbian Academy of Arts and Science and the Cultural Center of Loznica, Tršić, Serbia, September 6, 2008.
- 2006 “The Priest, the Plaque, and the Struggle to Remember Fallen Soldiers in a Serbian Village.” Presentation at the Annual Conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Washington, D.C., November 19, 2006.
- 2005 “Ka istoriji sećanja na NOB” [Towards a History of the Memory of the People’s Liberation Struggle]. Invited presentation at the Institute for the Newer History of Serbia, Belgrade, July 25, 2005.

2005 “Među rodoljubima, kupusom, svinjama varvarima: spomenici i grobovi NOR-a, 1947-1965 godine.” [Among Patriots, Cabbage, Pigs, and Barbarians: Monuments and Graves to the People’s Liberation War, 1947-1965]. Presentation at the conference 60 godina od završetka Drugog svjetskog rata. Kako se sjećati 1945. godine? [60 Years Since the End of the Second World War. How to Remember 1945?], Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, May 13, 2005.

COURSES TAUGHT

History of the Balkans
History of Europe, 1789-Present
Rise and Fall of Yugoslavia
History of Genocide, 1945-Present
Histories of Nationalism (graduate seminar)
Histories of Violence (graduate seminar)

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Fluent (reading, writing, and speaking): Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian
Intermediate (reading): Macedonian, Slovene, French

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Proposal Reviewer

American Councils for International Education
Austrian Academy of Sciences
French National Research Agency
University of Toronto Press

Manuscript Reviewer

Akademija nauka i umjetnosti Bosne i Hercegovine
Comparative Studies in Society and History
Ethnopolitics
Europe-Asia Studies
Historijski zbornik
History & Memory
Human Remains and Violence: An Interdisciplinary Journal
Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power
Slavic Review

Editorial Board Membership

Nationalities Papers

STUDENT SUPERVISION

B.A. Honours

Jon Page (complete – currently pursuing M.A. studies in History at Concordia University)

M.A.

Émilie Duranceau Lapointe (complete – currently pursuing Ph.D. studies in History at University of Michigan)

Sean Remz (in progress)

Ph.D.

Dragan Batanchev (in progress); committee member

Stefan Djordjevic (in progress); committee member [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign]

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

2011-2017	Associate Director, Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies
2016-2017	History Department Graduate Admissions Committee
2015-2016	History Department Chair Search Committee
2015-2016	History Department Speakers Series Committee
2015	Member of Fellowship Awards Committee, Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies at Concordia University
2014-2015	History Department Speakers Series Committee
2013-2014	History Department Undergraduate Committee
2012-2013	History Department ‘History Skills Workshop’ Reassessment Committee
2012-2013	History Department Chair Search Committee
2011-2012	Public History Committee