

Jeffrey Sklansky

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Academic Employment

Professor, Department of History, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2018-
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2011-2018
Associate Professor, Department of History, Oregon State University, 2003-2011
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Oregon State University, 1997-2003

Education

Ph.D., Columbia University, 1996
M.A., Columbia University, 1990
B.A. with Highest Honors, University of California at Berkeley, 1988

Awards and Fellowships

Faculty Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2020-21
Honorable Mention, Best Book in U.S. Intellectual History Prize, for *Sovereign of the Market*,
awarded by the Society for U.S. Intellectual History, 2018
Shirley Bill Award for Excellence in Teaching, History Department, University of Illinois at
Chicago, 2017
Faculty Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2012-13
Humanities Resident Research Fellowship, Center for the Humanities, Oregon State University,
2009-2010
Program in Early American Economy and Society Fellowship, Library Company of
Philadelphia, 2009
American Council of Learned Societies Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship for Recently
Tenured Scholars, American Antiquarian Society, 2006-2007
Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History Fellowship, Harvard University, 2005-
2006
Cheiron Book Prize, for *The Soul's Economy*, awarded by Cheiron, the International Society for
the History of Behavioral and Social Sciences, 2004
National Endowment for the Humanities-Newberry Library Fellowship, Chicago, 2003-2004
Researcher of the Year, College of Liberal Arts, Oregon State University, 2003
Humanities Resident Research Fellowship, Center for the Humanities, Oregon State University,
1998-1999
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, Society of Fellows in the Humanities, Columbia
University, 1996-1998 (declined)
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Science in Human Culture program, Northwestern University, 1996-
1997
Frederic Bancroft Dissertation Award, Columbia University, 1996 (for an outstanding
dissertation in American History, Diplomacy, or International Affairs)
Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation Fellowship in the Humanities, Columbia University, 1995-1996

Richard Hofstadter Fellowship in History, Columbia University, 1989-1994
 Highest Distinction in General Scholarship, University of California at Berkeley, 1988
 Phi Beta Kappa, University of California at Berkeley, 1987

Publications

Books:

Sovereign of the Market: The Money Question in Early America
 (University of Chicago Press, 2017).
The Soul's Economy: Market Society and Selfhood in American Thought, 1820-1920
 (University of North Carolina Press, 2002).
James Farmer: Civil Rights Leader (Chelsea House Publishers, 1992). One in a series of books
 for young adults on "Black Americans of Achievement." Selected by the New York
 Public Library for "Books for the Teen Age 1993."

Journal Articles and Essays:

"The Work of Retirement," *International Review of Social History* 68:2 (Aug. 2023): 301-323.
 "The Work of Class in American History," *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History* 16:4
 (December 2019): 11-28.
 "Review Essay: The Republic for Which it Stands," *Business History Review* 92:2 (Summer
 2018): 355-60.
 "Labor, Money, and the Financial Turn in the History of Capitalism," *Labor: Studies in
 Working-Class History of the Americas* 11:1 (Spring 2014): 23-46.
 "Marxism in the Age of Financial Crises: Why Conventional Economics Can't Explain
 the Great Recession," *New Labor Forum* 21: 3 (Fall 2012): 49-56.
 "The Elusive Sovereign: New Intellectual and Social Histories of Capitalism," *Modern
 Intellectual History* 9:1 (April 2012): 233-248
 "The Moneylender as Magistrate: Nicholas Biddle and the Ideological Origins of Central
 Banking in the United States," *Theoretical Inquiries in Law* 11:1 (Jan. 2010): 319-59.
 "Business and Solitude," *Modern Intellectual History* 3:2 (Aug. 2006): 357-369 .
 "'A Bank on Parnassus': Nicholas Biddle and the Beauty of Banking," *Common-place* 6:3 (April
 2006).
 "Progress and Populism," *Reviews in American History* 32 (March 2004): 58-67.
 "Corporate Property and Social Psychology: Thomas M. Cooley, Charles H. Cooley, and the
 Ideological Origins of the Social Self," *Radical History Review* 76 (Winter 2000): 90-
 114.
 "Pauperism and Poverty: Henry George, William Graham Sumner, and the Ideological Origins
 of Modern American Social Science," *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*
 35:2 (Spring 1999): 111-138.
 "Rock, Reservation and Prison: The Native American Occupation of Alcatraz Island," *American
 Indian Culture and Research Journal* 13:2 (1989): 29-68.

Newspaper and Magazine Pieces:

"The Working-Class Roots of 'Woke Capital,'" *The American Prospect*, 6 February 2023:

<https://prospect.org/economy/2023-02-06-working-class-roots-woke-capital/#.Y-EIpnRvUA8.link>

“A New Public Digital Dollar Could Be A Big Boost to American Democracy,” *Washington Post*, “Made By History” section, 21 July 2021:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/07/21/new-public-digital-dollar-could-be-big-boost-american-democracy/>.

“The Science of Integration,” *Dissent* 44:3 (Summer 1997): 118-122.

Book Chapters:

“William Leggett and the Melodrama of the Market,” in Michael Zakim and Gary J. Kornblith, eds., *Capitalism Takes Command: The Social Transformation of Nineteenth-Century America* (University of Chicago Press, 2012): 199-222.

“Das *Gilded Age* als Reifeprüfung: G. Stanley Halls Psychologie der Industrialisierung” (“The Gilded Coming-of-Age: G. Stanley Hall’s Psychology of Industrialization”) in Philipp Löser and Christoph Strupp, eds., *Universität der Gelehrten—Universität der Experten: Adaptionen Deutscher Wissenschaft in den USA des Neunzehnten Jahrhunderts* (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2005; Transatlantische Historische Studien, Bd. 24): 89-103.

Books Edited:

Associate Editor, *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Cultural and Intellectual History* (Oxford University Press, 2013).

Book Reviews and Other Publications:

Review of Joshua R. Greenberg, *Bank Notes and Shinplasters: The Rage for Paper Money in the Early Republic*, in *Journal of Early American History* 11 (2021): 235-274.

Review of Emma Hart, *Trading Spaces: The Colonial Marketplace and the Foundations of American Capitalism*, in *Journal of American History* 108:2 (Sept. 2021): 358-359.

Review of Caitlin Rosenthal, *Accounting for Capitalism: Masters and Management*, in *Journal of Social History* 54:3 (Spring 2021): 973-975.

Review of Jonathan Levy, *Freaks of Fortune: The Emerging World of Capitalism and Risk in America*, in *Journal of American History* 100:3 (Dec. 2013): 848.

“The Marriage of Government and Banking,” opinion piece, OregonLive.com, 21 Oct. 2008

Review of Stephen Mihm, *A Nation of Counterfeiters: Capitalists, Con Men, and the Making of the United States*, in *The Book: The Newsletter of the Program in the History of the Book* (published by the American Antiquarian Society), November 2008.

Review of Susan J. Matt, *Keeping Up with the Joneses: Envy in American Consumer Society, 1890-1930*, in *American Historical Review* 108:5 (Dec. 2003): 1465.

Review of Axel R. Schäfer, *American Progressives and German Social Reform, 1875-1920: Social Ethics, Moral Control, and the Regulatory State in a Transatlantic Context*, in *Journal of American History* 89:3 (Dec. 2002): 1067-1068.

Review of Gary Cross, *An All-Consuming Century: Why Commercialism Won in Modern America*, in *History: Reviews of New Books* 29:3 (Spring 2001): 105.

“Popular Fiction” and “Cartooning,” *The Encyclopedia of New York City* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1995).

Presentations

- “The Person Is Political: Fiduciary Duties and Fictive Beneficiaries,” invited paper, American History and Cultures Workshop, University of Chicago, 2024.
- “How Retirement Funds Transformed Our World,” invited talk, Wyndemere Senior Living Community, Wheaton, Ill., 2023
- Comment, “Critical Perspectives on U.S. Historical Development,” annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, 2022.
- “Making Money American: The Monetary Regimes of the New United States,” opening roundtable, Early American Money Symposium, William R. Rhodes Center for International Economics and Finance, Brown University (online), 2020.
- “Class, Labor, and the Money Question in American History, 1700-1900,” invited talk, Roosevelt University, Chicago, 2019.
- Comment, “The Politics of Display at Early U.S. Commercial Fairs,” annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, 2019.
- Chair, “Financing the State: Silver Coins, Paper Money, and Tax Revenue in Britain’s Atlantic Empire and the United States, 1700-1900,” annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, 2019.
- “The Currency of Agrarian Cooperation in the Gilded Age,” and round-table panelist on “History and Theory,” conference on “Money as a Democratic Medium,” Harvard Law School, 2018.
- Chair and commentator, “Rethinking Independence and Rights: Democracy, Labor Radicalism, and Racial Theory in Jacksonian America,” annual meeting of the Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Chicago, 2018.
- “A Genealogy of the ‘Indian Gift’ in Colonial New England,” annual meeting of the American Society for Legal History, Las Vegas, 2017.
- “The Fund of Trust: Monetary Reform and the Ethic of Investment in the Gilded Age,” invited talk, Center for the Study of Work, Labor, and Democracy, University of California at Santa Barbara, 2017.
- Panelist, author-meets-critics round-table on Nicolas Barreyre, *Gold and Freedom: The Political Economy of Reconstruction*, Social Science History Association meeting, Chicago, 2016.
- Commentator, “Reinterpreting American Money and Finance from the Revolutionary War to the 1920s: International, Transnational, and Global Perspectives,” Business History Conference, Portland, OR, 2016.
- “The Value of Trust: Monetary Reform and the Ethic of Investment in the Progressive Era,” Program in Law and History, University of Minnesota Law School, 2015.
- “The Currency of Cooperation: Charles Macune and the Social Meaning of Money in the Farmers’ Alliance,” Yale Center for the Study of Representative Institutions, Yale University, 2015.
- Chair and panelist, “New Histories of Capitalism In and Beyond the Atlantic,” annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New York, NY, 2015.
- Chair and commentator, “Calculating the Future: Capitalism and Predictive Statistics,” annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New York, NY, 2015.
- “John Wise and the Natural Law of Commerce,” conference on “Markets, Law, and Ethics, 1300-1832,” Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, 2014
- “The Ideological Origins of Opposition to Paper Money: Medicine, Natural History, and Political

- Economy in Colonial New England,” Business History Seminar, Harvard Business School, 2014.
- Panelist, “What’s Up With the New History of Capitalism?” Stephen Allen Kaplan Memorial Lecture, University of Pennsylvania, 2014.
- “Money in Motion: Circulation in Early Modern Science, Political Economy, and Debates Over Currency and Banking,” Science, Technology, and Society Program, University of Michigan, 2014.
- “Circulation in Early Modern Science, Political Economy, and Debates Over Currency and Banking,” Science in Human Culture program, Northwestern University, 2012.
- “The Contested Natures of Money and Mobility in Provincial New England,” Vanderbilt History Seminar, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 2012.
- Comment, “The Antimonopoly Tradition,” annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Milwaukee, 2012.
- “Paper Money and the Problem of Circulation in Provincial New England: Natural Law, Natural History, and Political Economy,” Early American History and Culture Seminar, Newberry Library, Chicago, 2012.
- “Money in Early America,” two Newberry Teachers Consortium seminars, Newberry Library, Chicago, 2012.
- Comment, “The Conceptual Apparatus of Capitalism,” conference on “Power and the History of Capitalism,” New School for Social Research, New York, 2011.
- Chair, “State of the Field: History of Capitalism,” conference on “Power and the History of Capitalism,” New School for Social Research, New York, 2011.
- Panelist, “State of the Field: American Intellectual History,” annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Houston, 2011.
- Chair and Comment, “Cornering Abundance: Struggles for Meaning in Politics, Culture, and Class in the United States, 1880-1935,” annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Seattle, 2009.
- “The Middleman as Magistrate: Nicholas Biddle and the Origins of Central Banking in Jacksonian America,” conference on “Money Matters: The Law, Economics, and Politics of Currency,” Cegla Center for Interdisciplinary Research of the Law, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, 2009.
- “A Temple for Money-Changers: The Neoclassical Architecture of Jacksonian Banking,” Organization of American Historians, New York City, 2008.
- “The Melodrama of Panic: William Leggett and the Literary Logic of Jacksonian Political Economy,” conference on the Panic of 1837, sponsored by the Program in Early American Economy & Society at the Library Company of Philadelphia, 2007.
- “Nicholas Biddle and the Romance of Banking in Jacksonian America,” American Antiquarian Society Academic Seminar, 2007.
- “Neoclassicism and the Political Economy of Banking in Jacksonian America,” Ancients and Moderns Workshop, Stanford Humanities Center, 2007.
- Comment, “Women: Politics, Language, and Time,” annual meeting of the Southern Intellectual History Circle, Mississippi State University, 2007.

Courses Taught

University of Illinois at Chicago
 American Intellectual History to 1865
 Graduate Colloquium on American History

Graduate Research Seminar
 History of American Capitalism
 Modern America from Industrialization to Globalization
 Radicalism in America From the Revolution to Occupy Wall Street
 Making Property: Labor, Land, and Law in Early America
 Oregon State University
 American Labor History
 Careers in History
 The Gilded Age and the Progressive Era
 The Historian's Craft
 History of American Social Thought, 1776 to 1860, 1860 to 1930, and 1930 to present
 History of Social Science
 History of the United States, 1820 to 1920 and 1920 to present
 The Industrial Revolution in the United States
 Northwestern University
 Social Science and Social Movements in American History
 Columbia University
 History of Segregation and Racism
 Main Currents in American History, 1865 to present

Departmental Service (History Department, University of Illinois at Chicago)

Executive Committee, 2011-2016, 2021-23
 Third-Year Review for Adam Goodman, 2018-2019
 Work, Race, and Gender in the Urban World Graduate Concentration Steering Committee, 2011-2012, 2016-2017, 2018-2019
 Graduate Advisory Committee, 2011-2012, 2018-2020
 Chair, Early American/Atlantic History Search Committee, 2017-2018
 Member, Illinois Chair in Hellenic Studies Search Committee, 2018-1019
 Promotion and Tenure Review Committee for Joaquín Chávez, Fall 2016
 Director of Graduate Studies, 2012-2016
 Chicago/Urban History Search Committee, 2011-2012
 Organizer, History of Capitalism Reading Group, 2012-2013

University Service (University of Illinois at Chicago)

Graduate College Arts and Humanities Awards Committee, 2021-2024
 Liberal Arts and Sciences Quorum Committee, 2018-2019
 Liberal Arts and Sciences Diversity Council, 2018-2020
 Hellenic Studies Chair Search Committee, 2018-2019
 UIC Faculty Senate, August 2017-2020
 Public lecture, "Hamilton, Hip-Hop, and the Voices of History," UIC Open House, Fall 2016.
 Co-organizer, "Cutting-Edge Workshop: Beyond Free and Unfree Labor," UIC Institute for the Humanities, Spring 2016

Professional Service

Short-Term Fellowship Review Committee, Newberry Library, 2017
 Society for U.S. Intellectual History Annual Meeting Program Committee, 2016
 Co-organizer, History of Capitalism Seminar, Newberry Library, 2013-2018
 Series Editor, "New Studies in American Intellectual and Cultural History," Johns Hopkins

University Press, 2007-2015

Community Service

Taught class on “Roots of the Global Economic Crisis,” Prison-Neighborhood Arts Project,
Stateville Correctional Center, Fall 2011