

# BRIAN J GRIFFITH

Assistant Professor | Modern European History | California State University, Fresno

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## ∴ EDUCATION

- PhD (2020) **University of California, Santa Barbara**  
DISSERTATION: "Bringing Bacchus to the People: Winemaking and 'Making Italians' in Fascist Italy"  
COMMITTEE: Claudio Fogu (Chair) | Erika Rappaport | Lisa Jacobson | Carol Helstosky (University of Denver)  
MAJOR FIELD: Modern Italian History  
GENERAL FIELDS: Modern European History | Consumerism and Material Culture in Transnational Perspective | Comparative Colonial Studies
- MA (2011) **San Francisco State University**  
MAJOR FIELD: Modern European History  
MINOR FIELD: Intellectual History
- BA (2008) **Sonoma State University**  
MAJOR FIELD: European History

## ∴ EMPLOYMENT

- 2023–PRESENT **California State University, Fresno**  
Assistant Professor in Modern European History
- 2022–2023 **Scripps College**  
Visiting Instructor in Modern European History
- 2020–2023 **University of California, Los Angeles**  
Postdoctoral Scholar and Adjunct Lecturer in Modern European History
- 2012–2022 **University of California, Santa Barbara**  
Teaching Assistant and Adjunct Lecturer in European and World History

## ∴ PUBLICATIONS

- ARTICLES "Bacchus among the Blackshirts: Wine Making, Consumerism and Identity in Fascist Italy, 1919-1937"  
Winner of the 2021 SIHS Article Prize for Modern Italian History (see "Awards and Honors" below)  
*Contemporary European History* 29:4 (November 2020): 394-415  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0960777319000377>
- CHAPTERS "Under the Influence: Winemaking, Temperance, and the 'Battle' against Working-Class Alcoholism in Fascist Italy"  
In Kolleen Guy, ed., *A Cultural History of Wine* Volume 6 (forthcoming with Bloomsbury Academic)
- "'Propaganda for Our Italy': Ruth Williams Ricci, Gendered Mobility, and Fascist Italy's African Empire, 1935-1941"  
In Andrea Germer and Jasmin Rückert, eds., *Gendering Fascism: Organisations, Bodies, Representations* (forthcoming with Brill)

**“(Inter)National Spirits: On the Cultural Politics of the ‘Cocktail Craze’ in Fascist Italy, 1920s-1930s”**

In David Inglis and Hang Kei Ho, eds., *Drinks in Vogue: Exploring the Changing Worlds of Fashions and Beverages* (New York: Routledge, 2024): 77-103

REVIEWS

Manuel Vaguero Piñeiro, Paolo Tedeschi, and Luciano Maffi, *A History of Italian Wine: Culture, Economics, and Environment in the Nineteenth through Twenty-First Centuries* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022)  
*Modern Italy* (forthcoming)

*Auschwitz: Not Long Ago, Not Far Away* (Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum)

*The Public Historian* 45:4 (November 2023): 115-121

Thomas and Eley, eds., *Visualizing Fascism: The Twentieth-Century Rise of the Global Right* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2020)

*Journal of World History* 33:1 (March 2022): 184-189

Dainotto and Jameson, eds., *Gramsci in the World* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2020)

*H-Net Reviews* (June 2021)

Available at: <https://networks.h-net.org/node/7651/reviews/7886395/griffith-dainotto-and-jameson-gramsci-world/>

*The History Harvest* (University of Nebraska, Lincoln-based digital archive)

*The Public Historian* 41:3 (August 2019): 160-163

Naccarato, Nowak, and Eckert, eds., *Representing Italy through Food* (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2017)

*Food, Culture & Society: An International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research* 21:3 (April 2018): 419-420

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ENGAGEMENT

**“Journey to Fascism”**

*Hoover Digest: Research + Commentary on Public Policy* No. 4 (October 2022): 201-219

Available at: <https://hoover.org/research/journey-fascism/>

**“Failure to Respond Strongly to Putin’s Aggression Could Prove Catastrophic: How the League of Nations’ Weak Response to Italy’s Invasion of Ethiopia Helped Precipitate World War II”**

*The Washington Post* (February 24, 2022)

Available at: <https://washingtonpost.com/outlook/2022/02/24/failure-respond-strongly-putins-aggression-could-prove-catastrophic/>

**“The March on Washington”**

*UCLA Luskin Center for History and Policy* (January 20, 2021)

Available at: <https://luskincenter.history.ucla.edu/2021/01/20/short-takes-by-ucla-historians-fascism/#toggle-id-3/>

**“How to Keep the Lights On in Democracies: An Open Letter of Concern by Scholars of Authoritarianism”**

Co-authored with the other members of the Editorial Board

*New Fascism Syllabus* (October 31, 2020)

Available at: <https://newfascismsyllabus.com/news-and-announcements/an-open-letter-of-concern-by-scholars-of-authoritarianism/>

**“Cultivating Fascism: Winemaking and Identity Construction in Interwar Italy”**

*Perspectives on Europe* 46:1 (Spring 2016): 87-92

**“Blogging in the Classroom: Using a Blog as a Supplemental Resource”**

Co-authored with Sarah A. Curtis and Jason Lahman

*Perspectives on History: The Newsmagazine of the American Historical Association* (April 1, 2012)  
Available at: <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/april-2012/blogging-in-the-classroom-using-a-blog-as-a-supplemental-resource/>

## ∴ RESEARCH IN-PROGRESS

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- MONOGRAPH *Cultivating Fascism: Wine, Politics, and Identity in Mussolini's Italy*  
(Book proposal to be submitted to Cornell University Press)
- EDITED VOLUME *From Red Spain to Fascist Prison: The Memoirs of Italo Orciani, 1937-1946*  
Co-edited with Dr. Marla Susan Stone  
(Volume proposal to be submitted to University of Toronto Press)
- ARTICLE "‘He Who Drinks Wine Never Dies’: Wine, Beer, and the Battle over ‘Italian’  
Taste and Style in Fascist Italy”  
(Article to be submitted to *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*)

## ∴ DIGITAL AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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- ARCHIVE *Where Monsters Are Born: Documenting a Fascist Revival in the Streets of Rome, 2018-2019*  
Co-edited with Dr. Amy King  
Omeka-based digital archive featuring 30 neo-fascist posters and other materials that I personally collected in Rome, Italy between September 2018 and July 2019  
Preliminary version available at: <https://www.wheremonstersareborn.com>
- SYLLABUS *New Fascism Syllabus*  
Co-curated with Dr. Jennifer Evans  
Crowd-sourced syllabus featuring writings on the history of fascist, authoritarian, and populist movements and governments during the 20th and 21st centuries, along with an active scholarly weblog featuring articles from some of the leading scholars on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century fascisms  
Available at: <https://www.newfascismsyllabus.com>
- DATABASES *SIHS DigitaLab*  
Curated, keyword searchable research database consisting of some 3,500 digitized primary source materials pertaining to the history of Italy between the middle ages and the twenty-first century  
Available at: <https://www.italianhistoricalstudies.org/resources/sihs-digitalab/>

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## ∴ FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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### RESEARCH AND TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020–2022 Eugen and Jacqueline Weber Postdoctoral Scholar in European History Fellowship  
History Department | UC Los Angeles
- 2020–2021 Rome Prize Residential Fellowship in Modern Italian Studies  
Honor declined  
American Academy in Rome
- 2018–2019 Fulbright Study/Research Fellowship  
Institute of International Education | Sapienza Università di Roma
- 2015–2016 Council for European Studies Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship  
Council for European Studies | Columbia University
- 2014–2017 Regent’s Dissertation Fellowship  
Kenneth Mouré and Sara Norquay Graduate Study Fellowship  
History Department | UC Santa Barbara

2016–2017 Graduate Humanities Research Fellowship  
Graduate Division | UC Santa Barbara

#### RESEARCH GRANTS

2022 “Ad-Hoc” Trinity College Research Grant in Modern Italian History  
Cesare Barbieri Endowment | Trinity College

2018 History Associates Graduate Student Research Grant  
History Department | UC Santa Barbara

2014–2018 Brython Davis Endowment Graduate Research Grant  
Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation European Studies Research Grant  
Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant  
Graduate Division | UC Santa Barbara

### ∴ AWARDS AND HONORS

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#### EXTRAMURAL AWARDS AND HONORS

2021 SIHS Article Prize for Modern Italian History  
An award for the best article on Italian history by an early career author. Winning article: “Bacchus among the Blackshirts: Wine Making, Consumerism and Identity in Fascist Italy, 1919-1937.”  
Society for Italian Historical Studies

#### INTRAMURAL AWARDS AND HONORS

2014–2015 Dick Cook Memorial Award  
An award for research, teaching, and service to the department  
History Department | UC Santa Barbara

Graduate Students Association Excellence in Teaching Award  
One of only three recipients for the 2013-2014 academic year  
Graduate Students Association | UC Santa Barbara

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### ∴ CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

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#### RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

JANUARY 2023 “From ‘Red Spain’ to Fascist Prison: The Spanish Civil War Memoir of Italo Orciani”  
Co-presented with Marla Susan Stone  
American Historical Association Annual Conference | Philadelphia, PA

FEBRUARY 2022 “*Chi beve birra campa cent’anni!*: Wine, Beer, and the Question of Italian Identity under Fascism”  
European History Colloquium | UC Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA

FEBRUARY 2022 “Contesting the National Beverage: Wine, Beer, and the Battle over ‘Foreign’ Tastes and Habits in Interwar Italy”  
American Historical Association Annual Conference | Virtual Sessions

NOVEMBER 2021 “‘Propaganda for Our Italy’: Ruth Williams Ricci, Gendered Mobility, and Fascist Italy’s African Empire, 1935-1941”  
“Gendering Fascism: Organisations, Bodies, Representations” Workshop | Heinrich Heine University | Düsseldorf, Germany

JANUARY 2018 “An All-Consuming Nationalism: Winemaking, Consumerism, and National Identity in Mussolini’s Italy”  
American Historical Association Annual Conference | Washington DC

- OCTOBER 2016 “‘Mine Eyes Have Seen’: An American Woman in Fascist Italy’s Empire”  
“Transnational Italies: Mobility, Subjectivities, and Modern Italian Cultures” Conference | The British School at Rome | Rome, Italy
- JULY 2016 “Fascist Italy’s Agro-Political Spectacles: Displaying the Nation’s Grapes, Wines, and Regional Heritages at Popular Festivals, Markets, and Exhibitions”  
International Federation for Public History Annual Conference | Universidad de los Andes | Bogotá, Colombia
- JUNE 2016 “‘Native but Foreign’: Winemaking and Colonization in Fascist Italy’s Alpine and Adriatic Borderlands”  
“Food, Drink, and the Articulation of Power and Agency in Modern Europe” Conference | University of St. Andrews | St. Andrews, Scotland
- APRIL 2016 “Mussolini’s Winescapes: Typical Wines, Heritage Tourism, and National Identity in Interwar Italy”  
Council for European Studies’ Annual International Conference of Europeanists | Philadelphia, PA
- AUGUST 2015 “Bringing Bacchus to the People: Viticulture, Autarky, and Domestic Tourism in Fascist Italy”  
International Committee of Historical Sciences Annual Congress | Jinan, China

#### ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

- JANUARY 2023 “Transnational War Volunteerism in Southern Europe, 1880s-1940s”  
Panel organizer  
American Historical Association Annual Conference | Philadelphia, PA
- OCTOBER 2022 “Marching on Rome: Contesting the Eternal City through the Centuries”  
Conference co-coordinator  
Society for Italian Historical Studies | Italian Academy, Columbia University | New York City, NY
- FEBRUARY 2022 “Italy in the World, the World in Italy: Modern Italian Culture in Transnational Perspective”  
Panel organizer  
American Historical Association Annual Conference | New Orleans, LA
- AUGUST 2021 “The Politics of Food and Occupation during the Second World War”  
Panel respondent  
Virtual Workshop | UC Santa Barbara | Santa Barbara, CA
- FEBRUARY 2016 “*Italia senza frontiere* (Borderless Italy)”  
Conference co-coordinator  
California Interdisciplinary Consortium for Italian Studies Annual Conference | UC Santa Barbara | Santa Barbara, CA
- MARCH 2015 “Fascism in Italy and Abroad (Session 1)”  
Panel respondent  
American Association for Italian Studies Annual Conference | UC Boulder | Boulder, CO

#### ∴ INVITED LECTURES AND INTERVIEWS

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- FEBRUARY 2024 “Where Monsters Are Born: Documenting a Fascist Revival in the Streets of Rome, 2018-2019”  
Dr. Diana Garvin | University of Oregon | Eugene, OR
- NOVEMBER 2022–  
APRIL 2023 “Fascism Reborn: *Fratelli d’Italia* and the Italian Neo-Fascist Community, 1946-2022”

Keck Center for International and Strategic Studies | Claremont McKenna College | Claremont, CA  
Department of Italian Studies | Scripps College | Claremont, CA  
Department of History | Goucher College | Baltimore, MD

- OCTOBER 2022 Q&A on “Bacchus among the Blackshirts: Wine Making, Consumerism and Identity in Fascist Italy, 1919-1937”  
Dr. Mark B. Cole | Cleveland State University | Cleveland, OH
- MAY 2022 “Scholars against Fascism: Contesting the New Right via Digital Engagement”  
Department of History, Politics and Philosophy | Manchester Metropolitan University | Manchester, UK
- MARCH 2022 “*Uncorked History: Wine and Identity in Mussolini’s Italy*”  
*Uncorked History* podcast with Dr. Jamie L.H. Goodall and Kelly Therese Pollock
- OCTOBER 2021 “The New Fascism Syllabus: Exploring the New Right through Scholarship and Digital Engagement”  
SUNY, Cortland | Cortland, NY
- JULY 2021 “*Wine Over Time: Fascist Italy*”  
*Wine Over Time* podcast with Dr. Steven Marks and Julia Marks
- MAY 2021 “Contesting the National Beverage: Wine, Beer, and the Battle over ‘Foreign’ Tastes and Habits in Interwar Italy”  
University of Gastronomic Sciences | Pollenzo, Italy
- MARCH 2021 “Fascisms Past and Present”  
University of Toronto | Toronto, Canada
- FEBRUARY 2021 “Winemaking and Making Italians in Fascist Italy”  
Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY | New York City, NY
- DECEMBER 2020 “Contesting the National Beverage: Wine, Beer, and the Battle over ‘Foreign’ Tastes and Habits in Interwar Italy”  
Center for European and Russian Studies | UC Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA  
Available at: <https://youtu.be/636DescCimY>
- NOVEMBER 2020 “Wine, Politics, and Identity in Fascist Italy: A Lecture and Q&A with Dr. Brian J Griffith”  
Food Studies Consortium | UC Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA
- MARCH 2019 “Black Grapes, Blackshirts: Towards a National ‘Wine Consciousness’ in Mussolini’s Italy”  
The Umbra Institute | Perugia, Italy
- FEBRUARY 2019 “*Enotria: On the Modernization of Winemaking in Interwar Italy*”  
Azienda Agricola Trebotti Winery | Castiglione in Teverina, Italy

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## ∴ TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### GRADUATE-LEVEL HISTORIOGRAPHY SEMINARS

- 2024 Comparative Fascisms: 1920s to Present  
CSU Fresno
- 2020 Theories and Practices of Digital History  
UC Santa Barbara

### UPPER-DIVISION HISTORIOGRAPHY SEMINARS

2021–2023      **Eating and Drinking under European Totalitarianisms**  
UC Los Angeles | Scripps College

#### LOWER-DIVISION COURSES

2023              **20<sup>th</sup> Century European History**  
CSU Fresno

2015; 2023      **European Intellectual & Cultural History**  
UC Santa Barbara | CSU Fresno

2023              **History of Italy: 1848 to the Present**  
UC Los Angeles

2022–2023      **Europe after Hitler, 1945–Present**  
UC Los Angeles

2018–2023      **Interwar Crisis: Europe, 1918–1939**  
UC Santa Barbara | UC Los Angeles | Scripps College

#### SURVEY COURSES

2023–2024      **World History since 1500**  
CSU Fresno

2020–2022      **Food in World History**  
UC Santa Barbara

#### TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP COURSES

2012–2019      **World History (prehistory to present)**  
UC Santa Barbara

2013–2018      **Western Civilization (1715 CE to present)**  
UC Santa Barbara

2014–2018      **History in the Digital Age**  
UC Santa Barbara

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### ∴ PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE POSITIONS

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#### EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2017–PRESENT      *New Fascism Syllabus*  
Member of Editorial Board; Weblog Series Co-Editor, Website Administrator

2014–2015        *The Public Historian*  
Assistant Reviews Editor

#### MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

2020–2023        Bloomsbury Academic  
*Modern Italy*  
*California Italian Studies*  
*Food, Culture & Society*

#### LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

2015–2023        **Society for Italian Historical Studies**  
Member of “Program,” “Conference,” and “Technology” committees

#### THESIS AND DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

2022              Rosemary Trenholm, “Italian Jewish Identity: The Intersections of Memory and Politics in Post-Fascist Italy”  
Master of Arts Thesis, Sonoma State University

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2010–PRESENT American Historical Association  
2010–PRESENT Society for Italian Historical Studies

## ∴ PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

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### **Dr. Claudio Fogu**

Associate Professor of French & Italian  
UC Santa Barbara

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### **Dr. Erika Rappaport**

Professor of History  
UC Santa Barbara

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### **Dr. Marla Stone**

Professor of History  
Occidental College

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### **Dr. Carol Helstosky**

Associate Professor  
University of Denver

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### **Dr. Pamela Ballinger**

Professor of History  
University of Michigan

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### **Dr. Joshua Arthurs**

Associate Professor of History  
University of Toronto, Scarborough

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