

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 Lecturer in Modern European History
2020–2023	University of California, Los Angeles Postdoctoral Scholar and Lecturer in Modern European History
2012–2022	University of California, Santa Barbara Teaching Assistant and Lecturer in European and World History

∴ PUBLICATIONS

EDITED VOLUMES	<i>A Fascist in "Red Spain": The Prison Memoirs of Italo Orciani, 1938-1946</i> Co-edited with Dr. Marla Stone Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2027
ARTICLES	"Under the Influence: Temperance, Winemaking, and the 'Battle' over Working-Class Consciousness in Mussolini's Italy, 1919-1927" Under review "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) <i>Contemporary European History</i> 29:4 (November 2020): 394-415 Available at: https://doi.org/10.1017/S0960777319000377

CHAPTERS	“‘Propaganda for Our Italy’: Ruth Williams Ricci, Gendered Mobility, and Fascist Italy’s African Empire, 1935-1941” In Andrea Germer and Jasmin Rückert, eds., <i>Gendering Fascism: Individual Actors, Concepts, and Transnational Connections</i> (Brill, 2025): 309-336 “(Inter)National Spirits: On the Cultural Politics of the ‘Cocktail Craze’ in Fascist Italy, 1920s-1930s” In David Inglis and Hang Kei Ho, eds., <i>Drinks in Vogue: Exploring the Changing Worlds of Fashions and Beverages</i> (New York: Routledge, 2024): 77-103
DIGITAL HUMANITIES	<i>Where Monsters Are Born: Documenting a Fascist Revival in the Streets of Rome, 2018-2019</i> Co-edited with Dr. Amy King Omeka-based digital archive featuring 45 neo-fascist posters and other materials that I personally collected in Rome, Italy between September 2018 and July 2019 Available at: https://www.wheremonstersareborn.com
EXHIBITIONS	“Where Monsters Are Born: Documenting a Fascist Revival in the Streets of Rome, 2018-2019” Co-curated with Dr. Amy King A physical exhibition at the Fresno State Library featuring a collection of the Italian neo-fascist materials included in the <i>Where Monsters Are Born</i> digital archive Fresno State Library (January 27 – March 22, 2025) Available at: https://www.brianjgriffith.com/2025/02/04/exhibition-where-monsters-are-born/
REVIEWS	Zientek, <i>A Thirst for Wine and War: The Intoxication of French Soldiers on the Western Front</i> (Montreal; Kingston; McGill-Queens University Press, 2024) <i>The Journal of Military History</i> 89:3 (July 2025): 769-771 Westermann, <i>Drunk on Genocide: Alcohol and Mass Murder in Nazi Germany</i> (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2021) <i>HSozKult</i> (March 13, 2025) Available at: https://www.hsozkult.de/publicationreview/id/reb-140794?title=e-b-westermann-drunk-on-genocide/ Piñeiro, Tedeschi, and Maffi, <i>A History of Italian Wine: Culture, Economics, and Environment in the Nineteenth through Twenty-First Centuries</i> (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022) <i>Modern Italy</i> 29:3 (August 2024): 397-399 Núñez Seixas and Beyda, eds., <i>An Anti-Communist on the Eastern Front: The Memoirs of a Russian Officer in the Spanish Blue Division, 1941-1942</i> (Yorkshire; Philadelphia: Pen & Sword Military, 2023) <i>The Volunteer</i> (August 29, 2024) Available at: https://www.albavolunteer.org/2024/08/book-review-a-russian-in-the-blue-division/ <i>Auschwitz: Not Long Ago, Not Far Away</i> (Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum) <i>The Public Historian</i> 45:4 (November 2023): 115-121 Thomas and Eley, eds., <i>Visualizing Fascism: The Twentieth-Century Rise of the Global Right</i> (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2020) <i>Journal of World History</i> 33:1 (March 2022): 184-189 Dainotto and Jameson, eds., <i>Gramsci in the World</i> (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2020) <i>H-Net Reviews</i> (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

ENGAGEMENT

“80 Years After Auschwitz, Elon Musk Keeps the Fascist Salute Alive”

Newsweek (January 27, 2025)

Available at: <https://www.newsweek.com/80-years-after-auschwitz-elon-musk-keeps-fascist-salute-alive-opinion-2021400>

“100 Years After Mussolini's Dictatorship, a Trumpian US Flirts With the Long Night of Authoritarianism”

Common Dreams (November 30, 2024)

Available at: <https://www.commondreams.org/opinion/trump-mussolini-authoritarianism>

“The Centennial of an Assassination in Italy Offers a Sober Warning for Today”

Co-authored with Dr. Amy King

TIME Magazine (June 14, 2024)

Available at: <https://time.com/6987974/matteotti-assassination-centennial-lesson/>

“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

MONOGRAPH	<i>Cultivating Fascism: Wine, Politics, and Identity in Mussolini's Italy</i> (Monograph to be submitted to Cornell University 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 <i>Journal of Modern Italian Studies</i>)

∴ FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

RESEARCH & TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS

2020–2022	Eugen and Jacqueline Weber Postdoctoral Scholar in European History Fellowship History Department UC Los Angeles
2020	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; 2024	“Ad-Hoc” Trinity College Research Grant in Modern Italian History Cesare Barbieri Endowment Trinity College
2024	Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Grant College of Social Sciences CSU Fresno
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 & HONORS

EXTRAMURAL AWARDS & 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
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INTRAMURAL AWARDS & 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

∴ CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- APRIL 2025 “Towards an Anti-Fascist Pedagogy: On Promoting a Visual Literacy of Italian Far-Right Propaganda in the History Classroom”
Co-presented with Dr. Amy King
Columbia Seminar in Modern Italian Studies | Columbia University | New York City, NY
- “*Italiani brava gente*: Reparations for Fascism and Mass Murder in Post-WWII Italy”
“Reparations: Confronting Historical Legacies of (In)Justice”
CSU Fresno | Fresno, CA
- JANUARY 2025 “Fascism beyond Borders: Towards the ‘Rebirth’ of Generic Fascism”
“60 Years: Fascism Seminar Revisited” | Sapienza Università di Roma and American Academy in Rome | Rome, IT
- “Where Monsters Are Born: Archiving and Interpreting Neo-Fascist Propaganda on the Streets of Rome”
Co-presented with Dr. Amy King
American Historical Association Annual Conference | New York City, NY
- JANUARY 2023 “From ‘Red Spain’ to Fascist Prison: The Spanish Civil War Memoir of Italo Orciani”
Co-presented with Dr. 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
- “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 & LEADERSHIP

- APRIL 2025 “Reparations: Confronting Historical Legacies of (In)Justice”
Conference Co-Coordinator
CSU Fresno | Fresno, CA
- 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 and The 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

ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATIONS & INTERVIEWS

- APRIL 2025 “Navigating Controversy in the Classroom”
Panel Respondent
History Graduate Student Association Annual Symposium | CSU Fresno | Fresno, CA

∴ INVITED LECTURES & INTERVIEWS

- FEBRUARY 2021– “Winemaking and Making Italians in Fascist Italy”
OCTOBER 2025 Dr. Nicole Pacino | University of Alabama, Huntsville | Huntsville, AL
Dr. Marla Stone | Occidental College | Los Angeles, CA
Dr. Erica Moretti | SUNY, Fashion Institute of Technology | New York City, NY

NOVEMBER 2024	“‘Mine Eyes Have Seen’: Ruth Williams Ricci and Fascist Italy’s African Empire, 1935-1941” Parma Hilton Historical Society Hilton, NY
FEBRUARY–MAY 2024	“Where Monsters Are Born: Documenting a Fascist Revival in the Streets of Rome, 2018-2019” Dr. Carol Helstosky University of Denver Denver, CO Dr. Erika Rappaport UC Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA Dr. Diana Garvin University of Oregon Eugene, OR
JANUARY 2024	“The Year Ahead and the New Fascism Syllabus” <i>Refuse Fascism</i> podcast with Sam Goldman
NOVEMBER 2022–APRIL 2023	“Fascism Reborn: <i>Fratelli d’Italia</i> and the Italian Neo-Fascist Community, 1946-2022” Dr. Jazmine Contreras Goucher College Baltimore, MD Dr. Sabrina Ovan Scripps College Claremont, CA Keck Center for International and Strategic Studies Claremont McKenna College Claremont, CA
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” Dr. Mercedes Penalba-Sotorrio Manchester Metropolitan University Manchester, UK
MARCH 2022	“<i>Uncorked History</i>: Wine and Identity in Mussolini’s Italy” <i>Uncorked History</i> 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” Dr. Scott Moranda SUNY, Cortland Cortland, NY
JULY 2021	“<i>Wine Over Time</i>: Fascist Italy” <i>Wine Over Time</i> 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” Dr. Gabriele Proglio University of Gastronomic Sciences Pollenzo, Italy
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” Dr. Olivier de Maret The Umbra Institute Perugia, Italy
FEBRUARY 2019	“<i>Enotria</i>: On the Modernization of Winemaking in Interwar Italy” Azienda Agricola Trebotti Winery Castiglione in Teverina, Italy

∴ COURSES OFFERED

GRADUATE-LEVEL HISTORIOGRAPHY SEMINARS

- “Eating and Drinking in the Time of Totalitarianism”
- “Comparative Fascisms: 1920s to Present”
- “Theories and Practices of Digital History”

UPPER-DIVISION COURSES

- “European Intellectual & Cultural History”
- “20th Century European History”
- “Interwar Crisis: Europe, 1918–1939”
- “The Holocaust”
- “Europe after Hitler, 1945–Present”
- “Modern Italy: Napoleon to the Present”

LOWER-DIVISION COURSES

- “World History since 1500”
- “Food in World History”

∴ GRADUATE THESIS COMMITTEES

CHAIR OF MA THESIS COMMITTEE

- Alexa Gutierrez, Thesis Title TBD (In Progress)
- Kenia Rodriguez, Thesis Title TBD (In Progress)
- Caleb Flores, “Situational Antisemitism: Polish and Ukrainian Cooperation in the Holocaust” (June 2025)

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MEMBER OF MA THESIS COMMITTEE

- Ben Nehring, “Comics as Evidence of Changing World War II Memory” (Fall 2025)
- Jacob Leach, “War of Words and Actions: American Foreign Policy Debates in the Leadup to Pearl Harbor” (Spring 2025)
- Jackson Kiehmeier, “A Campus on Fire: A Study of Evangelical Influences on California State University, Fresno, 1961–1997” (Fall 2024)
- Angel Rojas, “Encounters on the British Imperial Frontier: Colonial Knowledge in the Travel Writings of Maria Riddell and Mary Ann Parker in the Late-Eighteenth Century British Empire” (Spring 2023)

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- Rosemary Trenholm, “Italian Jewish Identity: The Intersection of Memory and Politics in Post-Fascist Italy” (June 2022)

History Department | CSU Sonoma | Rohnert Park, CA

∴ PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & SERVICE POSITIONS

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2025–PRESENT *Enotria*

	Contributing Editor to the Scientific Committee Unione Italiana Vini Milano, Italia
2022–PRESENT	SIHS DigitaLab Founding Editor Available at: https://www.italianhistoricalstudies.org/resources/sihs-digitalab/
2017–PRESENT	New Fascism Syllabus Co-Editor with Dr. Jennifer Evans Available at: https://www.newfascismsyllabus.com
2014–2015	The Public Historian Assistant Reviews Editor
MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS	
2020-2025	Bloomsbury Academic <i>California Italian Studies</i> (eScholarship/University of California) <i>Contemporary European History</i> (Cambridge University Press) <i>Food, Culture & Society</i> (Taylor & Francis) <i>Modern Italy</i> (Cambridge University Press) <i>Symbolic Interaction</i> (Wiley)
PROMOTION OF EMERGING SCHOLARSHIP	
2024-2025	Fresno State History Department Book Talks Series – <u>June 5, 2024</u>: Carol Helstosky, <i>Italian Forgers: The Art Market and the Weight of the Past in Modern Italy</i> (Cornell, 2024) – <u>November 20, 2024</u>: Terrence Peterson, <i>Revolutionary Warfare: How the Algerian War Made Modern Counterinsurgency</i> (Cornell, 2024) – <u>December 11, 2024</u>: Michelle Kahn, <i>Foreign in Two Homelands: Racism, Return Migration, and Turkish-German History</i> (Cambridge, 2024) – <u>March 31, 2025</u>: Zamira Abman, <i>Coerced Liberation: Muslim Women in Soviet Tajikistan</i> (Toronto, 2024) – <u>April 28, 2025</u>: Lisa Jacobson, <i>Intoxicating Pleasures: Reinventing Wine, Beer, and Spirits after Prohibition</i> (University of California Press, 2024) History Department CSU Fresno Available at: https://www.youtube.com/@FresnoStateHistDept
LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	
2025–PRESENT	Honors and Scholarships Committee Contributing Member College of Social Sciences CSU Fresno
2024–PRESENT	University Budget Committee Contributing Member CSU Fresno
2023–PRESENT	Curriculum Committee Contributing Member History Department CSU Fresno
2015–2023	Program, Conference, and Technology Committees Contributing Member Society for Italian Historical Studies
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS	
2010–PRESENT	American Historical Association
2010–PRESENT	Society for Italian Historical Studies

∴ PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Dr. Joshua Arthurs

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