

**DR. THOMAS J. FLEISCHMAN**

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**EDUCATION**

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**New York University**, New York, NY

Ph.D. History (2013)

**Dissertation:** “Three Little Pigs: Development, Pollution, and the  
“Greening” of East Germany, 1970-1989”

**Kenyon College**, Gambier, OH

B.A. History (2005); Magna Cum Laude; Highest Honors in History

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

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Assistant Professor, Department of History, 2016-present

**University of Rochester**

Writer in Residence, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, 2015-16

**New York University**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, 2014-15

**Bowdoin College**

Postdoctoral Fellow, Program in Agrarian Studies, 2013-14

**Yale University**

**PUBLICATIONS**

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**Books**

*Communist Pigs: An Animal History of East Germany's Rise and Fall*. Weyerhaeuser  
Environmental Books, University of Washington Press, 2020.

**Edited Volumes**

“The Half-Life of State Socialism: What Radioactive Wild Boars Tell Us About the  
Environmental History of Reunified Germany.” In *Ecologies of Socialism*, eds. Scott  
Moranda, Eli Rubin, Sabine Mödersheim, pp. 227-250. New York: Peter Lang  
Publishers, 2019.

**Refereed Articles**

“A Plague of Wild Boars,” *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*, Vol. 49, No. 4,  
September 2017, p. 1015-1034.

### **Book Reviews and Roundtables**

Contributor, H-Environment Roundtable Reviews, featuring Stephen Milder's *Greening Democracy: The Anti-Nuclear Movement and Political Environmentalism in West Germany and Beyond, 1963-1983*, September 1, 2020

Review of J.L. Anderson, "Capitalist Pigs: Pigs, Pork, and Power in America," *Gastronomica*, Winter 2020

Review of Neil Maher, "Apollo in the Age of Aquarius," *Environmental History*, Vol. 23, Issue 3, October 2018.

Review of Tiago Saraiva, "Fascist Pigs: Technocratic Organisms and the History of Fascism," *Agricultural History*, Vol. 91, Num. 4, Fall 2017, pp. 579-580.

Review of Scott Moranda, "The People's Own Landscape: Nature, Tourism, and Dictatorship in East Germany," *German History*, Vol. 34, Num. 1, March 2016.

### **Popular Writing**

"The Rise of a Global Animal Farm," *Phenomenal World* (in progress)

"Pigs and People: The Other Missing Link," University of Washington Press Blog, October 2020 <https://uwpressblog.com/2020/10/28/pigs-and-people-the-other-missing-link-thomas-fleischman-on-communist-pigs/>

"Animal Farms: A Porcine History of East Germany," *Cabinet Magazine*, August 6, 2020, [www.cabinetmagazine.org/kiosk/fleischman\\_thomas\\_6\\_august\\_2020.php](http://www.cabinetmagazine.org/kiosk/fleischman_thomas_6_august_2020.php)

### **Interviews**

"How Pigs and Manure Helped Bring Down East Germany," *Futurity*, November 19, 2020 <https://www.futurity.org/pigs-pollution-industrial-farming-2475102/>

Conversation with Steven Seegel and *New Books Network Podcast*, November 3, 2020 <https://newbooksnetwork.com/thomas-fleischman-communist-pigs-an-animal-history-of-east-germanys-rise-and-fall-u-washington-press-2020>

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

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*Humanities Center*, Fellow, University of Rochester, Spring 2020

*The Abraham J. Karp Teaching Excellence Award*, University of Rochester, 2018

*Teaching Innovation Grant*, University of Rochester, for "Podcasting History: Hear UR," 2018-2019

*Program in Agrarian Studies*, Yale University, Post-Doctoral Fellowship, 2013-2014

*Global Research Initiatives Fellow*, NYU-Berlin, Germany, Summer 2013

*American Council of Learned Societies/Mellon (ACLS/Mellon)*, Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2012-2013

*Mellon Foundation/Graduate School of Arts and Science*, NYU, Dissertation Fellowship in History, 2012-2013 (declined)

*German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)*, Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2010-2011

*Social Science Research Council (SSRC)*, Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship (DPDF), Summer 2009

*NYU History Department*, Summer Research Travel Fellowship, Summer 2009

*Henry H. McCracken Fellowship*, Five-year fellowship from NYU, 2007-2012

*J. William Fulbright Fellowship*, Germany, 2005-2006

*Phi Beta Kappa*, Beta of Ohio, Kenyon College, May 2005

Highest Honors, History: “Wrestling with Shadows: Victor Klemperer, Communists and the Restructuring of Germany Society, 1945-1959,”  
Kenyon College, May 2005

Distinction on Senior Exercise for History, Kenyon College, May 2005

## **PAPERS AND ACADEMIC CONFERENCES**

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### **Invited Talks**

Book Talk, “Communist Pigs,” “Landschaften der Verfolgung” Colloquium,  
Humboldt University (June 2, 2021)

Book Talk, “Communist Pigs,” University of Tennessee Knoxville (April 22, 2021)

Book Talk, “Communist Pigs,” University of Southern California (March 16, 2021)

Book Talk, “Communist Pigs,” University of Wyoming (March 6, 2021)

Book Talk, “Communist Pigs,” Kenyon College (December 1, 2020)

“Radioactive Boars, Die Energiewende, and Post-Socialism,” Green Germany  
Conference, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine (March 2019)

“Quack Magic! Iowa, East Germany, and Hog Modernity,” Histories’ Modern Visions: A Colloquium in Honor of Mary Nolan, Berlin, Germany (June 2018)

“The Half-Life of Communism,” History Department Annual Lecture, Meliora Weekend (October 2017)

“Creatures of Development: Interpreting Wild Boar Overpopulation in the Age of the Anthropocene,” Arts and Humanities Speaker Series, Oklahoma State University (Spring 2016)

“*Müsten Mit Resten!* – East Germany’s Recycled Fodder Program”, Pig Out! Hogs and Humans in Global and Historical Context, Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University (October 2015)

“A Plague of Wild Boars’: Heinz Meynhardt, *Kulturlandschaft*, and Nature in East Germany,” Yale Agrarian Studies Colloquium (March 2014)

### **Academic Conferences & Workshops**

“Memories of the GDR in the Age of Climate Catastrophe,” GSA Seminar: “Beyond Umweltschutz,” German Studies Association Annual Meeting (September 2020 – Cancelled due to COVID-19)

“Quarantines and Communism: 1982 Foot and Mouth Outbreak in the GDR,” American Society of Environmental History Annual Meeting (March 2020 - Cancelled due to COVID-19)

“The Petrel and the Viking: German Whaling in the Age of Globalization,” Works in Progress Seminar, Humanities Center, University of Rochester (February 2020)

“Organizations and Scales of Power” Panel, Chair/Commenter, Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting (June 2019)

Book Manuscript Workshop, *Three Little Pigs: East Germany’s Green Revolution, 1945-2014*, commentary from Kate Brown, Andrew Zimmerman, and Donna Harsch, Humanities Center at the University of Rochester (May 2018)

“Quack Magic!” Iowa, East Germany and the Invention of the Industrial Pig,” The Nature of Development in the Second and Third Worlds Panel, ASEH 2018, Organizer and Presenter

“The Hog City in the Boar Forest,” Revising the Geography of Modern World Histories, University of York, (Feb. 2018)

“The Half-Life of State Socialism: Radioactive Boars in Unified Europe,” German Studies Association Annual Conference (September 2016)

“Wasteland Roundtable,” Presenter, Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting (June 2016)

“Creatures of Development: Pigs, Wild Boars, and the Anthropocene in the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century,” American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) Annual Conference (March 2016)

“The Iron Law of Exports: World Trade, Planned Economies, and the GDR’s Pork Crisis of 1982,” German Studies Association (GSA) (September 2014)

“A Plague of Wild Boars,” Agrarian Studies Colloquium Series, Yale University (March 2014)

“Agrarianism in Theory and Practice” Workshop, UC Berkeley Food Institute/SSRC, Berkeley, CA (March 2014)

“The Garden City Paradise,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting Boston, MA (November 2013)

“Pigs, Animal Bodies, and History,” Socialist Animals, Diasporas Project, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia at NYU (May 2013)

“Purchased at the Garden Door: Pigs and Produce in the Backyards of East Germany,” American Society of Environmental History Conference (ASEH) (April 2013)

“From Import Land to Export Land - The GDR's Fodder Problem and the Shrinking Industrial Pig,” New York Metro Seminar in Environmental History (NYMSEH) (October 2012)

“Fertilizers in the Fields, Mossy Giants in the Woods: The Manure Problem on East Germany’s Farms,” Scholarship in Progress Panel, NYU (February 2012)

NYU Modern European History Dissertation Workshop, Presenter and participant, (2011-2012)

Critical Agrarian Studies Seminar, SSRC DPDF Conference, Presenter and Participant, New Orleans Chairs: Wendy Wolford (Cornell) and Marc Edelman (Baruch/CUNY) (May 27-May 31, 2009 & Philadelphia, September 10-13, 2009)

## **TEACHING**

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*The University of Rochester*

HIS 126 Hitler's Germany  
 HIS 128 Postwar Europe  
 HIS 219 Animal Histories  
 HIS 227 Podcasting History: HearUR  
 HIS 263 History of Food  
 HIS 327 Real Existing Socialism  
 HIS 500 Problems in Historical Analysis

*The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art*

George Orwell's Spanish Civil War, (Spring 2016)  
 The Making of Modern Society, Europe 1789-2000 (Fall 2015)

*Bowdoin College*

Socialist Societies in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe (Spring 2015)  
 Postwar Europe: 1945-2013 (Spring 2015)  
 First Year Seminar: A Global History of Food (Fall 2014)  
 Modern Germany: 1848-2000 (Fall 2014)

*New York University*

History 101: "The History of Food" (Spring 2012)

*J. William Fulbright Fellowship Program*

English Foreign Language Assistant, John-Brinckman-Gymnasium, Güstrow,  
 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany (2005-2006)

**SERVICE**

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*University of Rochester*

## Department of History

Undergraduate Studies Committee (2016-2017)  
 Graduate Studies Committee (2017, 2019-2021)  
 Executive Committee (2017-2019)  
 Target of Opportunity Hire Committee (2017-18)  
 Clark Chair Search Committee (2018-19)

## Environmental Humanities

Interim Direction (Spring 2020)  
 Steering Committee (2018-present)

## Sustainability Minor

Advisory Committee

AS&E Faculty Council Representative (2018-)

Judge, "Writing Colloquium Awards" in 2018

Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program

*American Academy in Berlin*

External Reviewer (2020-21)

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**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Society of Environmental History  
Agricultural History Society  
German Studies Association  
American Historical Association  
Phi Beta Kappa