

Jonathan M. Soffer

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Columbia University, Department of History, 1992.
M.Phil. Columbia University, Department of History, 1988.
M.A. Columbia University, Department of History, 1986.
California Bar Exam, Passed, 1982.
J.D. University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, 1982.
B.A. Columbia College, Columbia University, 1978.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Chair & Professor of History, Department of Technology, Culture, & Society, Polytechnic School of Engineering, New York University, 2015-present.

Professor of History, Department of Technology, Culture, & Society, Polytechnic School of Engineering, New York University, 2013-present.
Courses include: History of Urban Infrastructure, Introduction to New York City History, Urban Environmental History, Seminar in the History of New York's Infrastructure in Transnational Perspective.

Associated Faculty, New York University, Department of History, 2012-present. Courses include: America in the Early Twentieth Century seminar, U.S. Since 1865.

Associate Professor of History, NYU Polytechnic Institute, 2008-2013.
Associate Professor of History, Polytechnic University, 2003-2008.

Assistant Professor of History, Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, N.Y. 1997-2003.
Assistant Professor of History, Bilkent University. Ankara, Turkey. 1995-97.

Visiting Assistant Professor of History (Summer) Bosphorus University. Istanbul, Turkey. Summer session 1997-8.
Adjunct Assistant Professor, SUNY at Purchase. 1992-3.
Adjunct Assistant Professor, CUNY, College of Staten Island. 1992-3.
Preceptor, Columbia College, Columbia University. 1989

BOOKS

Monetizing the Masses: Tammany Hall and the Business of New York City's Politics and Infrastructure. Under contract for the Historical Studies of Urban America series, University of Chicago Press.

Ed Koch and the Rebuilding of New York City. (Columbia University Press, 2010).
A biography of New York mayor Edward I. Koch (served 1978-89) and a history of New York City from the 1950s through the 1980s. 544 pp. For reviews, see http://www.jonathansoffer.com/ed_koch_reviews.php.

General Matthew B. Ridgway: From Progressivism to Reaganism 1895-1993. 264 pp. (Westport, CT.: Praeger, 1998), 264 pp.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Editor for special section of the *Journal of Urban History* on New York in the 1970s and 1980s. forthcoming.

“Ed Koch and Housing” chapter in Nicholas Bloom, ed. volume, in press Princeton UP, 2015.

“The Police versus the Policed: The Dilemmas of Freedom and Discipline in New York and London” *Journal of Urban History*, Volume 38 Issue 4 July 2012 pp. 843 - 850.

“Modern Women Persuading Modern Men: The Nineteenth Amendment and the Movement for Woman Suffrage, 1916–1920” *History Now* (Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History) Issue 30, January 2012.

“Ed Koch’s Lesson for Today’s Mortgage Crisis” History News Network (HNN), October 6, 2008.
<http://hnn.us/articles/55185.html>

“Mayor Edward I. Koch and New York’s Municipal Foreign Policy” in Shane Ewen and Pierre Yves Saunier, eds. *Another Global City. Transnational Municipal Trails in the Modern Age (1850-2000)* (New York: Palgrave, 2008), 119-34.

“All Politics are Global: Nineteenth Century New York History in its Own World Wide Web” *Urban History* 32.2 (2005), 345-51.

“The National Association of Manufacturers and the Militarization of American Conservatism, 1950-1975,” *Business History Review*, 75 (Winter 2001): 775-805.

“Bleaching the Lily: Robert A. Taft, Barry Goldwater and Republican Southern Strategies, 1940-64” in Jürgen Heideking, Jörg Helbig, and Anke Ortlepp, eds., *The Sixties Revisited: Culture, Society, Politics*, American Studies Monograph Series (Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag C. Winter, 2001), 487-502.
A study of the Republican Party’s southern strategies since 1940, and the increased racial polarization of the party system since Goldwater’s 1964 campaign.

“Ammonia” *Public* 19/20: Lexicon vol. 1 & 2 (Winter/Spring 2000).
An essay based on a family story about Nobel laureate Fritz Haber, inventor of synthetic ammonia and chemical warfare.

“All for One or One for One: The U.N. Military Staff Committee and the Contradictions of American Internationalism.” *Diplomatic History*, vol. 21 no. 1 (Winter 1997), 45-69.
A study of the original negotiations to establish combat-ready UN military forces in 1946-48, arguing that the deliberate vagueness of the charter, as much as Cold War tensions, prevented agreement on the creation of a permanent international military force under the auspices of the UN.

“Oral History and American Foreign Policy.” *Journal of American History*, v. 82, no. 2 (Sept. 1995), 607-16. Historians of American foreign relations, who could find more uses for oral history texts if they read them in new ways, have underutilized oral history.

Dissertation: “General Matthew Bunker Ridgway: Postwar Warrior 1945-85.” (Columbia Univ., 1992).
Advisor: James P. Shenton.

REVIEWS, JOURNALISM AND REFERENCE ARTICLES

Anonymous manuscript review, Cornell University Press, 2013.

Review of Fiona Deans Halloran, *Thomas Nast: The Father of Modern Political Cartoons* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2012) for H-SHGAP (Society for the History of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era).

Anonymous article review, *Business History Review* 2013.

Anonymous manuscript review, Fordham University Press, 2012.

Anonymous article review, *American Jewish History*. 2011.

Anonymous manuscript review, Columbia University Press, 2011.

Urban History Association, 2010 Prize Committee for best article in the field published in 2009.

Review of Beverly Gage, *The Day Wall Street Exploded: A Story of America in its First Age of Terror* (Oxford UP, 2009) for *Business History Review*, v. 84 (2) (Summer 2010).

Review of Bruce J. Schulman and Julian Zelizer, eds., *Rightward Bound: Making America Conservative in the 1970s* (Cambridge: Harvard UP, 2008), *Journal of American History*, Volume 95, no. 3 (December 2008), 928-9.

Manuscript review, Max Page, *The City's End: Two Centuries of Fantasies, Fears, and Premonitions of New York's Destruction* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008).

Anonymous manuscript review, *Journal of American History*. 2006.

Review of Eli Lederhendler, *New York Jews and the Decline of Urban Ethnicity, 1950-1970* (Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse UP, 2001) and Wendell Pritchett, *Brownsville Brooklyn: Blacks, Jews, and the Changing Face of the Ghetto* (Chicago: U. of Chicago Press, 2002) *Urban History*, Volume 30, Issue 03, (December 2003), 436-439.

"Reform Democratic Clubs" in Peter Eisenstadt, ed. *The Encyclopedia of New York State* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2005).

Referee for the David Thelen Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians, prize for the translation and publication of the best foreign article on American history in the *Journal of American History*, 2002.

Review of Rick Perlstein, *Before the Storm: Barry Goldwater and the Unmaking of the American Consensus* (New York: Hill & Wang, 2001) for H-POL, H-NET, July 20, 2001.

"Matthew B. Ridgway" in Kenneth T. Jackson, ed. *The Scribner's Encyclopedia of American Lives*. v. 3 (New York: Scribners, 2001).

Review of William Stueck, *The Korean War: An International History* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 1995), *Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars*, vol. 28 nos. 3&4 (1996).

Review of Barbara Epstein, *Political Protest and Cultural Revolution: Nonviolent Direct Action* (Berkeley: UC Press, 1990) in *The Oral History Review*, 19:1&2 (Spring/Fall, 1991), 136-37.

Contributing Editor, *The Court TV Cradle to Grave Legal Survival Guide*. (Boston: Little, Brown, 1995).

ACADEMIC HONORS

Fellow, New York Academy of History, elected 2012.

Gilder Lehrman Foundation Fellow, \$3500, 2011-12

Subvention, \$1500 Schopf Fund, Columbia University Seminars, for the publication of *Ed Koch and the Rebuilding of New York*. 2009.

Summer grants for digital classroom materials. Polytechnic University, Summer 1999, 2000.

Grant-in-aid, Hagley Museum and Library, May, 1998.

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Eisenhower Papers Project, The Johns Hopkins University.

Funded by the National Historic Publications and Records Commission, 1993-94.

Eisenhower/Clifford Roberts Fellowship, Eisenhower World Affairs Council, 1989-90.

President's Fellow, Columbia University, 1986-92.

BOOK APPEARANCES AND MEDIA INTERVIEWS:

Panel on Ed Koch, St. Johns University, October 15, 2013.
 NPR, "The Takeaway" with John Hockenberry, February 18, 2013.
 Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, invited to panel with Atlanta mayor Kasim Reed at screening of "Koch" February 10, 2013.
 92 2 Y Tribeca February 7, 2012.
 Business Talk with Jim Campbell, WYBC Yale College Radio, December 12, 2010.
 Gotham Center for New York City History, December 7, 2010.
 Columbia University, Oral History Research Office and Friends of Butler Library, November 11, 2010.
 New York City Tenement Museum, October 26, 2010, televised on CNN Book TV.
 92d Street Y, October 18, 2010.
 WNYC Radio, The Brian Lehrer Show, October 15, 2010.
 NYU, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, October 14, 2010.
 NY 1 Television, October 14, 2010.
 Unnameable Books, Brooklyn NY October 8, 2010.
 Upper West Side Barnes & Noble, October 7, 2010.
 Radio interview KOWS-FM Sebastopol, CA, October 7, 2010.
 Panel on Post War New York City, Brooklyn Book Fair, September 11, 2010.

LECTURES AND CONFERENCES

Commentator: "New York by the Numbers" panel, Urban History Association Conference, University of Pennsylvania, October 9-12, 2014.

Paper: "Tammany Hall: The Transnational Machine 1789-1940" and Panel organizer "Municipal Politics in Transnational Context," Urban History Association Conference, University of Pennsylvania, October 9-12, 2014.

Talkback: performance of *Icebound* (1923), by Owen Davis, Metropolitan Playhouse, New York City, October 5, 2014.

Paper: "Transnational Tammany" and Panel co-organizer, "Crossings and Crossers: Experts, Institutions and Networks under the Transnational Municipal Turn" European Association of Urban History Conference, Lisbon, Sept. 9-12, 2014.

Chair and Commentator, After the Urban Crisis: New York and the Path to Neoliberalism, 2014 Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting.

Talkback, performance of the Gilbert Emery play "The Hero" (1921) Metropolitan Playhouse, New York City, March 23, 2014.

"Paradigm for Corruption: Aaron Burr, Tammany Hall and New York's First Water System" Infrastructural Worlds 2014: A Workshop on Ethnographic Studies of the Built Environment, Duke University, Oct. 28-29, 2014.

"Feminist Machinations: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, H.G. Wells and the Pragmatist Recuperation of Machiavellianism, 1911-14." The Prince at 500: An Interdisciplinary Symposium on Niccolò Machiavelli, Hunter College, CUNY, November 8, 2013.

"Feminism and Greenwich Village Bohemia, 1910" Talk-back at a performance of Rachel Crothers 1910 play "A Man's World." Metropolitan Playhouse, New, York. October 13, 2013.

Panel Chair, "E.P. Thompson and the Global North," The Global E.P. Thompson Conference, Harvard University, Oct. 4, 2013.

"John Zuccotti and the Perils of New York's Austerity Regime 1975-1994," American Historical Association, January 5, 2013. Organized refereed panel "The Perils of Austerity" with Michael Bernstein, Tulane, Meg Jacobs, MIT, Louis Hyman, Cornell, Natasha Zaretsky, Southern Illinois.

"John Zuccotti and New York's Austerity Regime 1975-1994," Urban History Association conference, Columbia University, New York, NY, October 26, 2012. Organized refereed panel "The Perils of Austerity" with Samuel Zipp, Brown University, Meg Jacobs, MIT, Kim Phillips Fein, NYU, Pete L'Officiel, Harvard, Brian Goldstein, Harvard.

Organized Occupy Wall Street Teach-Ins at Zuccotti Park myself and with academics including Hamid Dabashi, Columbia University, Alex Vitale, Brooklyn College, Tahrir Square organizer Ahmed Salah, Zuccotti Park, February-March 2012.

"New York City Politics and Woman Suffrage, 1915-17" Presented at the Urban History Association Conference, October, 21, 2010.

"Ed Koch and the Rebuilding of New York" Presented to the Boston University History Department Seminar, January 27, 2010.

"Machiavelli In America" Invited lecture, Drew University, February 25, 2009.

Interviewed for Sewell Chan, "Third Time No Charm, Historians Say" on Ed Koch's third term as mayor, *New York Times*, October 1, 2008, <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/10/01/third-term-no-charm-historians-say/>.

"Scheming for Freedom, Fun, Profit, Justice or Empire: American Machiavellianism in the Progressive Era" Invited Lecture, History Seminar, University of Delhi, India, January 16, 2008.

"Neoliberalism and Racial Conflict in the 'Heart of Harlem': The Koch Administration and the Hospital Closing Controversy 1979-1980." Invited Lecture, Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholars Working Group in African-American History and the Health and Social Sciences (AAHSS) Columbia University, October 30, 2007.

"New York and the Global Economy in the Age of Ed Koch" Estelle Feinstein Lecture, Invited Lecture, University of Connecticut, Stamford, April 4, 2007.

"Ed Koch, the UN, and Municipal Foreign Policy," Global Village Conference, New York Institute of Technology, March 9, 2007.

"Ed Koch and the Idea of a Municipal Foreign Policy" Invited Lecture, Columbia University City Seminar, New York City, November 6, 2006.

"Ed Koch and New York's Municipal Foreign Policy" Invited Lecture, European Urban History Association Conference, Stockholm, Sweden, September 1, 2006.

"New York's Fiscal Crisis and the Limits of Neoliberalism" Invited Lecture, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia, March 24, 2006.

"Urban History and the New Political History" Roundtable I organized at the American Historical Association, Chair: Craig Wilder, Dartmouth College, Commentator: Kevin Kruse, Princeton University. Papers included my own "Ed Koch and New York's Municipal Foreign Policy" and contributions by Guion McKee, University of Virginia, Anne Kornhauser, Princeton University, Alyosha Goldstein, University of New Mexico, and Lindsay Silver, Brandeis University. January 5, 2006.

Chair, "Chinese Historians in the United States Session 1 Prelude to Change? Relationships between China, the United States, and Japan in the 1960s" Panel, American Historical Association, January 6, 2006.

"Participatory Democracy: The Village Independent Democrats and the Deweyan Tradition" Presented as the inaugural paper at the Gotham Center for New York City History Seminar on New York City History, September 24, 2003.

"The New York City Fiscal Crisis and the Mayoral Election of 1977" Conference on New York City History, Gotham Center for New York City History CUNY Graduate Center, October 7, 2001.

"The Web World of History: Quick and Dirty Internet Applications for the History Classroom" Knowledge Workers Educational Alliance Conference, New York City, April 27, 2001.

"Participatory Democracy: The Village Independent Democrats and the Deweyan Tradition" presented at the Liberalism Under Fire Conference, Columbia University, April 6, 2001.

"The Great Goldwater Purge and the Racial Polarization of the American Party System" Maple Leaf and Eagle Conference, Helsinki, Finland, September 2000.

"Matthew Ridgway as a Great Commander" Invited Lecture. Great Commanders Conference, sponsored by the Naval Institute and the McCormick Foundation, Cantigny, Illinois, March 8-9, 2000.

"The Race Politics of Robert A. Taft, Barry M. Goldwater and the Quest for a Conservative Majority," Presented to the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikanstudien, Cologne, May 26, 1999.

"A Republican Dilemma: Robert A. Taft, Barry Goldwater and the Quest for a Conservative Majority" presented to the American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 9, 1999.

"The Militarization of American Conservatism" Los Alamos National Laboratories' Cold War Conference, Los Alamos, New Mexico, August 9, 1998.

"The Meaning of Military Keynesianism" Public Policy Forum, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. April 17, 1997.

"The Moral Economy of Military Keynesianism" American Historical Association, 1997 Annual Meeting, New York, January 5, 1997.

"Oral History Practices and Procedures" Oral History Conference sponsored by The History Foundation, Istanbul, March 16, 1996.

"International Military Forces and the Cold War" Bosphorus University, Istanbul, March 14, 1996.

"America 1975-85: A Historian's Perspective." Lecture to the Turkish-American Studies Association sponsored by USIS, Antalya, Turkey, November 2, 1996.

"All for One or All for All?: The UN Military Staff Committee Negotiations, 1942-49"
The American History Seminar, The Johns Hopkins University, February 28, 1994.

"General Matthew B. Ridgway and Cold War Ideology."
MacArthur Seminar on Peace and International Security, Columbia Univ., April 8, 1992.

"It Was All Bob Wagner As Far As I Can Remember': The Politics of Memory and the Memory of Politics."
Oral History Association Mid-Atlantic Region Conference, September 21, 1991.

“Ike's Butter and Ridgway's Guns: The Ideology of New Look Defense Policy and Its Critics.”
Ike's America” Conference, University of Kansas, October 5, 1990.

“Oral History: A Practical Workshop.”
Long Island Archivists Conference, April 10, 1992.

“Oral History and Family History. “Huntington, N.Y. Historical Society, September 26, 1990.

“The First Amendment in History.”
New York Public Library Bicentennial Series on the Constitution, 1989.

RESEARCH, EDITING AND LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Oral Historian, Columbia University Oral History Research Office.

Interviewer on several projects, including the Mayor Edward I. Koch project, the Marshall D. Shulman project, and the American Pediatric Society project. 1991-92, 1994-95.

Online Editor, Lexis Counsel Connect, American Lawyer Media.

Wrote on-line columns and moderated discussion lists (today they would be called blogs) for the first-ever online service for lawyers, on daily developments in employment discrimination and intellectual property law.. 1995-96.

Postdoctoral Fellow, The Johns Hopkins University.

Editor and annotator of *The Papers of Dwight D. Eisenhower*, vols. XV-XVI (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996), under Louis Galambos and Daun Van Ee, now available online. 1993-94. I also participated in history departmental seminars, contributed to a successful NEH grant proposal to upgrade the project's computer system and researched the practicality of a CD-ROM version of the papers.

Assistant Editor, *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Fifth ed. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1993).

Editorial Associate, *Reader's Companion to American History*. Eric Foner and John A. Garraty, eds. (Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1991), now available on line.

Oral Historian, Robert F. Wagner Project. Wagner and LaGuardia Archives, CUNY. 1991.

Research Assistant for Professor David J. Rothman, Institute for Society and Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. 1991.

Attorney, San Francisco. My private general practice concentrated on criminal defense and First Amendment cases. 1982-85.

SERVICE

Member, Department Promotion Committee for Prof. Jonathan Bain, 2014.

Chair, award committee, Kenneth T. Jackson Prize for best book in North American Urban History, Urban History Association, 2013-14.

TCS Department Executive Committee, 2013-14.

School of Engineering Financial Policies Committee 2013-16.

Chair, Department Tenure and Promotion Committee for Prof. R. Luke Du Bois, 2013-14.

Organized TCS/Poly event showing of the film “My Brooklyn” featuring the director, Hunter College Media Studies Professor Kelley Anderson. September 26, 2013.

Urban History Association, Organizing and Program Committees for 2014 National Conference in Philadelphia.

Board Member, Urban History Association, 2012-15.

Department Mission Statement Committee, 2012.

Chair, 3rd Year Review for Prof. R. Luke Du Bois, 2012.

Assessment Committee, Dep't. of Technology, Culture and Society, NYU Polytechnic Institute, 2011-12.

Convenor of a citywide writing group of specialists in twentieth century U.S. history, including scholars from NYU, Columbia, CUNY, St. Johns, Seton Hall, Rutgers, New School, and other institutions in the metropolitan area. 2005-present.

Member, Committee to determine Departmental Research Focus, 2011.

Chair, 4th Year Review for Prof. Carl Skelton, 2011.

Humanities and Social Sciences Department, NYU Polytechnic Institute
Department Executive Committee, 2006-2008, 2010.

Director, Sustainable Urban Environments major, NYU Polytechnic Institute, 2009-10.

Curriculum Revision Committee, 2008.

Chair, Liberal Studies Degree Revision Committee, 2006 (This committee created new degree programs in Science and Technology Studies and Sustainable Urban Environments.

Member, Digital Media Studies Search, 2006-7, Director of Writing Search 2006-7

Chair, Global History Search 2005.

Coordinator for History, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Polytechnic University. 2002-2008.

Liberal Studies Program and Core Curriculum Revision committees, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Polytechnic University, 1998-2000.

University or School-wide:

NYU Poly Faculty, Financial Policies Committee, 2013-16.

Honors College Advisory Board 2007-2008.

Urban Systems task force 2006-7.

Dibner Chair in History and Philosophy of Science Search Committee, 2006.

Pre-law advisor, Polytechnic University 1998-2005.

Member, Polytechnic University Human Research Institutional Review Board, 2001-2004.

Member, Educational Policy Committee, Polytechnic University. 2000-01.

Search Committees, Polytechnic University Department of Humanities and Social Sciences: 2007: Digital Media Studies, Writing Director searches, 2006: Chair, History of Globalization search; 2000: Psychology, Technical Communications; 1998-99: Modern European History, Early Modern Literature; 1997-98: History of Science.

“Engineering and the Law” Lectures to Freshman Engineering classes (EG101). Polytechnic University, February 1998, 1999.

Othmer Interdisciplinary Graduate Institute Committee, 1998-99.

Chair, Columbia University Seminar on Twentieth Century Politics and Society, 2000-01.

LANGUAGES

French and Italian. Reading knowledge of Spanish. Basic conversational Turkish.