

Andrew R. Robarts

Division of Liberal Arts
History, Philosophy, and the Social Sciences Department
Rhode Island School of Design

Education

Georgetown University, Washington, DC (2003 – 2011)

Ph. D. – History

- Area fields: Middle East and Russia.

Georgetown University, Washington, DC (1994 – 1996)

MS – Foreign Service

- Concentration: International Relations

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME (1986 – 1990)

BA – magna cum laude

- Major: modern European History.

Teaching Experience

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

Associate Professor of History (2020 – Present)

Assistant Professor of History (2015 – 2020)

Visiting Assistant Professor of History (2014-2015)

Courses taught:

- History of the Modern Middle East.
- Russia: Past and Present.
- Russia and Ukraine: Past and Present.
- Islam and the Islamic World.
- Disease in History.
- Election 2016.
- Election 2018.
- Election 2020.
- Election 2022.
- Istanbul in History and Fiction.
- (In)Visible Venice (Wintersession Travel Course).
- Research Seminar in History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences.
- Research Prospectus Seminar (Master's Degree Program in Global Arts and Culture).

Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT (2013)

Visiting Assistant Professor in History

Courses taught:

- History of the Modern Middle East.
- History of the Ottoman Empire.
- World History II, 1500 – Present.

University of California – Riverside, Riverside, CA (2010 – 2013)

Lecturer in History

Courses taught:

- History of the Middle East, 1200 – 1800.
- Istanbul and the Ottoman Empire.
- Comparative History of the Ottoman and Russian Empires.
- Russia since 1917.
- Imperial Russia.

Georgetown University, Washington, DC (2003 – 2005)

Teaching Assistant

- World History I: To 1500.
- World History II: 1500 – Present.
- Themes in European Civilization.

Publications

- *Migration and Disease in the Black Sea Region: Ottoman-Russian Relations in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries* (New York: Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2017).
- *A Global History of Epidemics and Pandemics* (under contract with Bloomsbury Academic Press. Scheduled to be published in Fall 2023).
- *Black Sea Regionalism: A Case Study* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).
- “Nowhere To Run To, Nowhere to Hide?: Society, State, and Epidemic Diseases in the Early Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Balkans” in *Plague and Contagion in the Islamic Mediterranean* (ed. Nüxhet Varlık) (Kalamazoo, MI: ARC Humanities Press, 2017).
- “Reconstruction, Resettlement, and Economic Revitalization in pre-Tanzimat Ottoman Bulgaria” in *Wealth in the Ottoman and Post-Ottoman Balkans: A Socio-Economic History* (ed. Evguenia Davidova) (London: I.B. Tauris, 2015).
- “Imperial Confrontation or Regional Cooperation?: Bulgarian Migration and Ottoman-Russian Relations in the Black Sea Region, 1768–1830s”, *Turkish Historical Review* (Vol. 3, #2, Fall 2012), pages 149-167.
- Five articles (including “Crimean War”, and “Russo-Ottoman Wars”) in *Encyclopedia of the Ottoman Empire* (eds. Gabor Agoston and Bruce Masters) (New York: Facts on File, 2009).
- “The Russian State and Migration: A Theoretical and Practical Look at the Russian Federation’s Migration Regime” in *Migration, Homeland and Belonging in Eurasia* (Baltimore, MD.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008).
- “The Danube *Vilayet* and the Bulgar-Turkish Compromise Proposal of 1867 in Bulgarian Historiography” in *International Journal of Turkish Studies* (Vol. 4, #s 1-2, Fall 2008), pages 61-74.

Invited Talks and Conference Papers (Selected)

- “Migration in the Black Sea Region”, University of Vienna, Institute for East European History, Vienna, Austria, 2020.
- “Migration, Quarantines, and Territorial Sovereignty in the Danubian region in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century”, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia, 2019.

- “Bulgarian Migration, National Consciousness, and Imperial (Re)-settlement Programs in the Pre-Tanzimat Ottoman Balkans”, European Social Science History Conference, Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, 2018.
- “Migrants and Microbes: The Human Ecology of the Black Sea Region in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries”, Harriman Institute, Columbia University, 2017.
- “Negotiating Boundaries in the Early-Modern Eastern Mediterranean: Dress, Visual Culture, and Identity in Istanbul and Venice”, Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (2016).
- “Merchants, Migrants and Microbes: Ottoman-Russian Relations in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries”, Bowdoin College (2015).
- “Inter-state Cooperation and Migration Management in the Black Sea Region”, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens, Greece (2015).
- “Nowhere to Run To, Nowhere To Hide: State, Society, and Epidemic Disease in the Ottoman Balkans”, Middle East Studies Association (MESA) National Convention, Washington, DC (2014).
- “State-Society Relations in the Pre-Tanzimat Ottoman Balkans”, UCLA (2013).
- “Bulgarian Migration and the Ottoman State”, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece (2012).
- “Epidemic Disease, Quarantines, and Migration Management in the Ottoman Empire, 1774–1830s”, Middle East Studies Association (MESA) National Convention, San Diego, CA (2010).
- “A Trans-Danubian Waltz: Bulgarian Population Movements, Russian Settlement Initiatives, and the Evolving Conceptualization of Subjecthood in the Black Sea Region, 1768-1830s”, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) National Convention, Los Angeles, CA (2010).
- “Imperial Confrontation or Frontier Cooperation?: Ottoman-Russian Relations in the Black Sea Region from the Late Eighteenth to Early Nineteenth Centuries”, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey (2008).
- "Population Movements and the Spread of Disease across the Ottoman-Russian Frontier, 1768-1830s", Harriman Institute, Columbia University (2008).
- “Trans-Danubian Migrations of Bulgarians in the Early Nineteenth Century”, Center for Liberal Strategies, Sofia, Bulgaria (2007).
- “Migration and Microbes: Population Movements and the Spread of Disease across the Russian-Ottoman Black Sea Frontier in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries”, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) National Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana (2007).

Book Reviews

- Afkhami, Amir. *A Modern Contagion: Imperialism and Public Health in Iran’s Age of Cholera*. The International Journal of Middle East Studies.
- Gardikas, Katerina. *Landscapes of Disease: Malaria in Modern Greece*. The American Historical Review.
- Kelly O’Neill, *Claiming Crimea: A History of Catherine the Great’s Southern Empire*. Canadian-American Slavic Studies
- Glebov, Sergey. *From Empire to Eurasia: Politics, Scholarship, and Ideology in Russian Eurasianism*. The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review.
- Kolovos, Elias (ed.). *Ottoman Rural Societies and Economies*. International Journal of Turkish Studies.

- Greene, Molly. *The Edinburgh History of the Greeks, 1453 to 1768: The Ottoman Empire*. Journal of World History.
- Ingram, Anders. *Writing the Ottomans: Turkish History in Early Modern England*. Journal of World History.
- Trix, Frances. *Urban Muslim Migrants in Istanbul: Identity and Trauma among Balkan Immigrants*. International Journal of Turkish Studies.
- Varlık, Nükhet. *Plague and Empire in the Early Modern Mediterranean World: The Ottoman Experience*. The International Journal of Middle East Studies.
- Brisku, Adrian. *Political Reform in the Ottoman and Russian Empires*. Bloomsbury Academic Press.

Master's Theses Supervised:

- Kyung Eun Lee, "New Media Art: Curating Social Justice in Contemporary Art Museums and Arts Organizations" (2020).
- Elena Kalkova, "Reclaiming History: Russian Queer Art and Visual Culture" (2021).

College and Professional Service:

- Coordinator for Concentration in History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences.
- Parliamentarian to the Faculty Meeting.
- Member of Faculty Steering Committee
- Chair of the Curriculum Committee.
- Member of the Curriculum Committee.
- Chair of Search Committee for Historian of East Asia.
- Member of the Committee on Faculty Appointments.
- Member of the Professional Development Fund Committee.
- Peer Reviewer for Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press.
- Reviewer for Social Science Research Council – International Dissertation Research Fellowship.
- Member of Editorial Board for Journal of Canadian-American Slavic Studies.

Additional Work Experience

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Washington, DC (2002 – 2003) *Government Relations*

- Represented UNHCR to Congress, Department of State, Department of Homeland Security, NGOs, and policy institutes.

International Rescue Committee (IRC), Baltimore, Maryland (1999 – 2002) *Regional Director*

- Managed a refugee resettlement program and supervised a staff of 10.

International Rescue Committee (IRC), Baku, Azerbaijan (1998 – 1999) *Program Manager*

- Oversaw all procurement, communications, and administrative functions of the IRC's humanitarian and refugee relief operation in Azerbaijan.

Professional Memberships

- American Historical Association
- Middle East Studies Association
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Research Languages

- Ottoman Turkish
- Russian
- Modern Turkish
- Bulgarian
- French
- German

Personal

- Born in Beirut, Lebanon and raised in Cairo, Egypt. Lived and worked in: Nairobi, Kenya; Sofia, Bulgaria; Baku, Azerbaijan; Istanbul, Turkey; Moscow, Russia; and Odesa, Ukraine.
- Trustee and Member of the Board of Directors of the American College of Sofia (Bulgaria) (2008–2018).
- Member of the Board of Directors of the French-American School of Rhode Island (2017-2019).
- Soccer coach, East Side Sports, Providence, RI