

RONEN STEINBERG

Department of History
Michigan State University
350C Old Horticulture, East Lansing 48824
517.884.4965
ronens@msu.edu

AFFILIATION

2010-2013 Visiting Assistant Professor, Michigan State University
2013 – 2019 Assistant Professor, Michigan State University
2020 - Associate Professor, Michigan State University

EDUCATION

2010 Ph.D. History, *The University of Chicago* (Awarded with Distinction)

Dissertation: “The Afterlives of the Terror: Dealing with the Legacies of Violence in Post-Revolutionary France, 1794-1830s”

Committee: Jan E. Goldstein (Chair), Michael Geyer, William H. Sewell Jr.

2003 M.A. History, *The University of Chicago*

2000 B.A. History and Philosophy, *Tel-Aviv University* (Magna Cum Laude)

RESEARCH & SPECIALTY AREAS

Old Regime and Modern France	French Revolution	Modern Europe
Cultural and Intellectual History	Mass Violence	Terror & Terrorism
Transitional Justice	Genocide	Visual Culture
Social Theory	Memory	Genealogy

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK (* denotes peer-reviewed)

**The Afterlives of the Terror: Facing the Legacies of Mass Violence in Postrevolutionary France* (Ithaca : Cornell University Press, 2019)

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Transitional Justice before Nuremberg,” *Encyclopedia of Transitional Justice*, edited by Lavinia Stan and Nadya Nedelsky. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). In Press.

“France,” *Encyclopedia of Transitional Justice*, edited by Lavinia Stan and Nadya Nedelsky. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). In Press.

“Situating the Reign of Terror in the History of Modern Terrorism: The Meaning and Practice of

Political Violence in Revolutionary France,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the History of Terrorism*, edited by Claudia Verhoeven and Carola Dietze. (Oxford: Oxford University Press), In Press.

“Reckoning with Terror: Retribution, Redress, and Remembrance in Post-Revolutionary France,” *The Oxford Handbook of the French Revolution*, edited by David Andress (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015; paperback 2018), 487-502. Reviewed in *French Studies: A Quarterly Review*, and in *H-France Review*

“Penser l’après coup de la Terreur en interrogeant le concept de trauma,” in *La Révolution française. En événement de la raison sensible*, edited by Sophie Wahnich (Paris: Hachette, 2012): 232-234

ARTICLES (* denotes peer-reviewed)

“Justice transitionnelle et république de Pan III,” *Annales historiques de la Révolution française* 398(4), 2019: 121-145 [co-authored with Hervé Leuwers, Denis Salas, and Loris Chavanette]

*“Terror on Trial: Accountability, Transitional Justice, and the *Affaire Le Bon* in Thermidorian France,” *French Historical Studies* 39, no. 3 (August 2016): 419-444

*“Trauma and the Effects of Mass Violence in Revolutionary France: a Critical Inquiry,” *Historical Reflections/Reflexions historiques* 41, no. 3 (2015): 28-46

*“Between Silence and Speech: Specters and Images in the Aftermath of the Reign of Terror,” *Acta Academica*, Vol. 47, No. 1 (2015): 247-265

*“Somber Historiographies: the French Revolution, the Holocaust, and Alon Confino’s Concept of Foundational Pasts,” *Storia della Storiografia*, Vol. 66, No. 2 (2014): 87-99

*“Trauma before Trauma: Imagining the Effects of the Terror in Post-Revolutionary France,” in *Experiencing the French Revolution*, edited by David Andress. Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century, Oxford: Voltaire Foundation, 2013. 177-199

*“Transitional Justice in the Age of the French Revolution,” *The International Journal of Transitional Justice*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (July 2013): 267-285

*“The Concept of Terror in Revolutionary France: from New Society to Cultural Trauma,” in *Zmanim*, No. 108 (Fall 2009), 22-35 (in Hebrew)

*“Spaces of Mourning: The Cemetery of Picpus and the Memory of Terror in Post-Revolutionary France,” in *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*, Vol. 36, 133-147.

OTHER (online essays, non-academic publications)

“The Terror as a Difficult Past,” H-France Salon on 230 Years After: What Does the French Revolution Mean Today? Edited by Marisa Linton et al. *H-France Salon*, Vol. 11 (16) #5 (2019), <https://h-france.net/Salon/SalonVol11no16.5.Steinberg.pdf>

- “Ghosts and the French Revolution’s Reign of Terror,” *Not Even Past* (University of Texas at Austin), <https://notevenpast.org/ghosts-and-the-french-revolutions-reign-of-terror/> and *History News Network*, <http://historynewsnetwork.org/article/157469> (2014)
- “Terreur, terrorisme, terroriste: analyse linguistique,” *Le mot juste en anglais*, at http://le-mot-juste-en-anglais.typepad.com/le_mot_juste_en_anglais/2012/02/terreur-terrorisme-terroriste-analyse-linguistique.html?cid=6a010535f04dfe970b0168e82fcc8a970c (2012)
- “Arab Spring, Tel-Aviv Summer,” *Thinker Magazine*, Beijing, (October 2011): 36-39. In Chinese, interview on the 2011 social protests in Israel. (2011)
- “Zhongguo Yinxiang,” in *Sobo*, No. 70, 2-5, “Impressions of China,” in Chinese (2006)
- (Co-Author), “*For Strangers You Were*”: *Modern Slavery and Trafficking Human Beings in the State of Israel, a Report*, Tel-Aviv: Hotline for Migrant Workers, in Hebrew (2002).

BOOK REVIEWS

- Forthcoming. Politics in the Marketplace: Work, Gender, and Citizenship in Revolutionary France, by Katie Jarvis (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019), *Social History* (in press)
- Forthcoming. Making Space for the Dead: Catacombs, Cemeteries, and the Reimagining of Paris, 1780-1830, by Erin-Marie Legacey (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2019), *Journal of Modern History* (in press)
2016. Tuer le mort. Le désir révolutionnaire, by Paul-Laurent Assoun (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 2015), *H-France Review*, Vol. 16 (December 2016), No. 297
2016. Fatal Isolation: the Devastating Paris Heat Wave of 2003, by Richard C. Keller (Chicago: the University of Chicago Press, 2015), *The Journal of Modern History* 89, No. 2: 453-455
2015. Democracy without Justice in Spain: the Politics of Forgetting, by Omar G. Encarnación (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014), *The Journal of Modern History* 87, no. 4 (2015): 999-1000
2011. La France des larmes: Deuils politiques à l’âge romantique (1814-1840), by Emmanuel Fureix, 2009, Éditions Champ Vallon. In *H-France Review*, Vol. 11 (October 2011), No. 228
2009. Commemorating the Dead in Revolutionary France: Revolution and Remembrance, 1789-1799, by Joseph Clarke, 2007, Cambridge University Press. In *The Canadian Journal of History*, XLIV (Autumn 2009), 308-9
2007. Lost Worlds: the Emergence of French Social History, 1815-1970, by Jonathan Dewald, 2006, Pennsylvania State University Press. In *History: Review of New Books*
2004. The Headless Republic: Sacrificial Violence in Modern French Thought, 2005, Cornell University Press. In www.political-theory.org
2003. States and Citizens: History, Theory, and Prospects, edited by Quentin Skinner and Bo Strath, 2003, Cambridge University Press. In www.political-theory.org

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

- 2018 TOME Award (Toward Open-Access Monograph Ecosystem); \$15,000, PI
- 2016-17 HARP Scholarship Development Grant, Michigan State University; \$17, 514, PI
- 2016 Fintz Award for Teaching Excellence in the Arts and Humanities, Michigan State University (award given in spring 2016 for teaching carried out in 2015)
- 2013-14 Residency Research Fellowship, The Institute for Historical Studies, University of Texas at Austin; \$32,000, PI
- 2011-12 Residency Research Fellowship, the Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan; \$10,000, PI
- 2011 Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society; \$6500, PI
- 2007 Prize Lectureship in Modern European History, University of Chicago
- 2006-2007 Ecole des Hautes-Études en Sciences Sociales Fellow, Paris
- 2004-5 Sciences Po Exchange Fellow, Paris
- 2005 Kunstadter Travel Grant, University of Chicago
- 2002-5 Mellon Graduate Achievement Award, University of Chicago
- 2002-3 International House Residential Fellow
- 2002 Leifer Fellowship for Social Justice in Israel

PRESENTATIONS (* denotes refereed; ** denotes invited)

- **2020. “Ghostly Matters in Postrevolutionary France: Imagining the Effects of Terror in the Late Eighteenth Century,” Invited Talk, The Max Kade Center for European and German Studies, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, January 2020.
- **2020. “The Phantom of the Guillotine: Dealing with the Legacies of Mass Violence after the French Revolution” (Invited Talk in Hebrew), The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, January 2020.
- **2019. “The Phantom of the Guillotine: Dealing with the Legacies of Mass Violence after the French Revolution” (Invited talk in Hebrew), Tel-Aviv University, Israel, December 2019.
- **2019. “Restituer et inhumer. La voix des victimes après la ‘Terreur,’” Invited Speaker. Conference on *Justice transitionnelle et Révolution française, L’an III (1794-1795)*, Paris, France, October 2019. (Invited Speaker.)
2019. “Comparative Approaches to Trauma and National Gender Identities,” Panel Discussant, *Great Lakes History Conference on Gender and Trauma*, Grand Rapids, MI, September 2019.

- *2019. “Le rapport passé/présent des historiens. Quand “Faire regarder le monde autrement” oblige à réfléchir les enjeu méthodologiques, éthiques, et epistémologiques,” Panel Discussant, the annual meeting of the *Society for French Historical Studies*, Bloomington, IN, April 2019.
- *2019. “Mass Graves and the Politics of the Past during the Restoration,” presented at the annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Atlanta, GA, April 2019.
2019. “Nations in Revolution,” Panel Discussant, the annual *International Graduate Historical Studies Conference*, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI, March 2019.
2019. “Space, Progress, and Emancipation,” Panel Discussant, the annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750-1850*, Atlanta, GA, February 2019.
2018. “Confronting Terrorism in the 18th Century: Justice and Memory after the Revolutionary Reign of Terror in France,” MSU Conflict, Terrorism & Development Collaboratory, December 2018.
- *2018. “Redress and Gender after the Terror: The Case of Emilie Prax,” Presented at the annual meeting of the *Western Society for French History*, Portland, ME, November 2018.
- *2018. “After the Upheaval: Coming to Terms with Political Violence in Post-Revolutionary France,” *Legacies of the Enlightenment Conference*, Lansing MI, October 2018.
2018. “Undoing Terror: Redress, Gender, and the Case of Emilie Prax in Post-Revolutionary France,” *Center for Gender in Global Context*, MSU, October 2018.
- *2018. “The French Revolutionary Prison,” panel discussant, annual meeting of the *Society for French Historical Studies*, Pittsburgh, PA
- *2018. “Massena Society Panel: Revolutionary Thought and Transnational Political Systems,” panel discussant, annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Philadelphia, PA
- **2017. “The French Revolution and Modern Dilemmas of Accountability,” Invited Speaker, Emerging Expertise Conference, *Holding Accountability Accountable*, the Strassler Center for Genocide and Holocaust Studies, Clark University, Worcester MA, April 2017 (Invited Speaker)
- *2017. “Naming a Difficult Past after 9 Thermidor,” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Charleston SC, February 2017
2016. “Reckoning with Terror in the 18th Century: Justice, Memory, and Society in Post-Revolutionary France,” Ben-Gurion University, Israel, December 2016
2016. “Sex Comes to the Bastille: the Marquis de Sade and the French Revolution,” Public Talk, *Studies in Radicalism Online*, Michigan State University Libraries, March 2016.
[https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/MSU+Libraries+Colloquia+Series%2C+March+3%2C+2016/1_c8pme2rk]
2016. “Necessary Evils: Lawyers and Prostitutes in the Revolutionary Era,” Panel Chair, annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Shreveport LA, February 2016

2015. "Redefining Reaction: Instigators, Insurgents, and Identity after Thermidor," Panel Chair, annual meeting of the *Western Society for French History*, Chicago, IL, November 2015.
- *2015. "The Politics of Memory in the Age of Revolutions," Panel Discussant, annual meeting of the *Western Society for French History*, Chicago, IL, November 2015.
- *2015. "Commentary: Victims, Compensation, Melancholy: Shaping the Legacies of Revolution and Violence in France, 1793-1834," discussant, Annual Meeting of the *Society for French Historical Studies*, Colorado Springs, CO, April 2015. [To watch the presentation online, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Djqli5nSjUc>]
2015. "Physicians Confront the Terror: Trauma before Trauma in Post-Revolutionary France," the Laurence Porter French Colloquium Series, MSU, East Lansing, March 2015.
2014. Panel on "Fictional Representations of War in Twentieth-Century France," annual meeting of the *Western Society for French History*, (Chair of Panel), San Antonio, TX, November 2014.
- **2014. "Between Silence and Speech: Specters and Images in the Aftermath of the Reign of Terror," Invited Speaker, conference on *Silence after Violence: Mass Atrocities and their Aftermath*, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, May 2014. (Invited Speaker)
- **2014. "Trauma before Trauma: Studying the Effects of Mass Violence in the 18th Century," paper presented at the conference on *Trauma and History*, University of Texas at Austin, March, 2014.
- *2014. "The Reign of Terror as Modern Atrocity," paper presented at the annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Oxford, MS, February 2014.
- *2014. "A Revolutionary Search for Stability," Panel Discussant, the annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Oxford, MS, February 2014.
- *2013. Panel on "Civilizing in the Colonial Context," Panel Discussant, Annual meeting of the *Western Society for French History*, Atlanta, GA, October 2013
2013. "Traumatic Spaces: Mass Graves in Post-Revolutionary France," paper presented at the weekly workshop of the Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, September 2013
2013. "Amity and Resilience," *Rethinking Amity: A Symposium in honor of Michael Geyer*, Chicago, IL, April 2013
- *2013. "Spaces of Terror: Mass Graves and Expiatory Monuments in Post-Revolutionary France," annual meeting of the *Association of American Geographers*, Los Angeles, CA, April 2013
- *2013. "Commemorating the Terror in Post-Revolutionary France," paper presented at the annual meeting of *The Society for French Historical Studies*, Cambridge, MA, April 2013
2012. "After Terror: Mass Violence and Transitional Justice in the French Revolution," *James Madison College*, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, November 2012

- **2012. “‘Preaching Mutual Forgiveness and the Forgetting of all Wrongs’: Reconciliation and Justice in the French Revolution,” Invited Speaker, *Hope College Critical Issues Symposium on Reconciliation: Hope in a Divided World*, Holland, MI, September 2012
- *2012. “Transitional Justice and the French Revolution,” paper presented at the annual meeting of *The Society for French Historical Studies*, Los Angeles, CA, March 2012
- *2012. “Legacies of Terror: Interrogating Mass Violence in Post-Revolutionary France,” [presenter and organizer of panel on “Constructive Aspects of Mass Violence”], *Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association*, Chicago, IL, January 2012
2011. Roundtable Discussion on Samuel Moyn’s *The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History*, [Discussant], Peace and Justice Speaker Series, Michigan State University, November 2011.
2011. “The Afterlives of the Terror in Post-Revolutionary France,” *The Fellows Forum of the Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, November 2011.
- **2011. “Terror on Trial: Transitional Justice in the Age of the French Revolution,” Invited Speaker, European History Colloquium, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, November 2011.
- *2011. “Traumatized Generations: Thinking about the Effects of the Terror during the Restoration,” *Annual Meeting of the Western Society for French History*, Portland, OR, November 2011
- *2011. Panel on “Contesting the Revolutionary State: Justice, Reform and Legitimacy in France, 1786-1799,” Panel Discussant, Annual Meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Tallahassee, FL, March 2011
2010. “The Afterlives of the Terror: Dealing with the Legacies of Violence in Post-Revolutionary France,” Speaker Series, Department of History, Michigan State University, November 2010.
- *2010. “System and Shock: Imagining the Effects of Terror in Post-Revolutionary France,” paper presented at the *French Revolution in 2010* Conference, Portsmouth, UK, July 2010
- *2010. “On Phantasmagorias and Talking Dead: Imagining the Effects of Terror in Post-Revolutionary France,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the *Society for French Historical Studies*, Tempe, Arizona, April 2010
- *2010. “Seeing Terror in Post-Revolutionary France: On Robertson’s Phantasmagoria,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Charleston SC, February 2010
2009. “Atonement: the Ambiguities of Mourning in Post-Revolutionary France,” paper presented at the *Society for French Historical Studies* conference, St. Louis, March 2009
2009. “Terror on Trial: Joseph Le Bon and the Problem of Successor Justice in the Thermidorian Republic,” paper presented at the annual *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era*, Savannah, February 2009
2008. “Spaces of Mourning: Mass Graves in Revolutionary France,” paper presented at the annual conference of the *Western Society for French History*, Quebec City, November 2008

2007. "Defining Historical Injustice in Thermidorian France: the Problem of the Victims," paper presented at the annual conference of the *Western Society for French History*, Albuquerque, November 2007
2007. "After the Terror: Transitional Justice in the Age of the French Revolution," paper presented at the Graduate Conference on *Regime Change: the Social and Cultural Origins of Political Transformations in France*, New York University, New York, November 2007
2006. "Restitution of Property, Rehabilitation of Memory: Undoing the Terror in France, 1794-1799," paper presented at the annual conference of the *Society for French Historical Studies*, Urbana-Champaign, April 2006 (Panel Organizer: "Confronting Terror: Violence, Memory and Healing, 1793-1799")
2005. "Modern France, the View from the Scaffold: Towards a History of the Death Penalty in Nineteenth Century France," paper presented at the Graduate Workshop, the Paris Center of the University of Chicago, Paris, France, May 2005
2004. "Israeli Intellectuals and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," Invited Talk presented to the *Program of Law and Politics*, Nankai University, Tienjin, China, June 2004.
2003. "Enemies from within: the Affair of the Hostages in the Paris Commune of 1871," paper presented at the Ohio Valley History Conference, Eastern Kentucky University, October 2003.
2003. "Modern Slavery in Israel: a Report on Migrant Workers, 2001-2," Invited Talk presented at the Hillel Center, the University of Chicago, November 2003.
1999. "Libertinage and Enlightenment: the Marquis de Sade," Invited Lecture presented to the Program of Visual Arts, Beit-Berl College, Kfar-Saba, Israel.

TEACHING

Classes taught

Michigan State University

- HST 850: Historical Justice and Trauma
 HST 803: Methods of Historical Research [Required graduate seminar]
 HST 483: Difficult Pasts: Catastrophes and their Aftermaths [Research Seminar]
 ISS 210: The History and Theory of Genocide [Large Lecture]
 HST 483: The French Revolution, What was it and Why Should We Care? [Research Seminar]
 IAH 202: Europe and the World: Understanding Europe in an Age of Globalization [Large lecture]
 HST 335: The Age of Revolutions, 1750-1870s [Lecture]
 HST 336: Contemporary Europe, 1870 to the present [Lecture]
 HST 347: Modern France [Lecture]
 HST 455: the History and Theory of Genocide [Research Seminar]
 HST 483: How Societies Deal with the Legacies of Mass Violence [Research Seminar]
 HST 890: History and the Social Sciences [Graduate level, independent reading]
 HST 890: Religion and Gender in Modern France [Graduate level, independent reading]

The University of Chicago

Fall 2007 Transitional Justice in Modern Europe (Self-designed seminar)
Spring 2007 Knights and Samurai (Teaching Assistant)
Spring 2007 History of Globalization (Teaching Assistant)
Winter 2006 European Civilization II
2005-6 BA Preceptor (leading weekly BA Senior Seminars; Reader of BA theses)
Fall 2004 European Civilization I

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING AND MENTORING

Honor's Thesis Direction:

Kasper Volk (Michigan State University, Spring 2010)
Anna Esenther (Michigan State University, Spring 2019)

Honors Contracts:

Brittney Haluch, IAH 202, Spring 2018
Hadley Kerr, IAH 202, Spring 2018
Christopher Yatooma, ISS 210, Spring 2016
Emily Henley, ISS 210, Spring 2016
Yixin Wang, HST 335, Fall 2015
Andrew Pecora, HST 335, Fall 2015
Shannon Fegan, HST 335, Fall 2012
Kimberly Fortenberry, HST 335, Fall 2012
Caryn Sigurdson, HST 347, Spring 2011

GRADUATE ADVISING AND MENTORING

Current students:

Joseph Karisny (Advisor, Ph.D., Michigan State University)
Heather Brothers (Committee Member, Ph.D., Michigan State University)
James Chrislip (Committee Member, Ph.D., Michigan State University)
Marlo Buser (Committee Member, Ph.D., Michigan State University)
Adam Coldren (Committee Member, Ph.D., Michigan State University)
John Vsetecka (Committee Member, Ph.D., Michigan State University)
Torie Fritz (Committee Member, Ph.D., Michigan State University)

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2005-6 Coordinator of the Workshop on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Modern France, University of Chicago
2003-4 Coordinator of the Modern European History Workshop, University of Chicago
2003-4 Research Assistant, National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
2002-3 Research Assistant, Center for Research Libraries, Chicago

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2002 Intern at the Hotline for Migrant Workers, Israel
1995-2000 Foyer Manger, Tel-Aviv Performing Arts Center and the Israeli Opera House
1996-7 Youth Leader, Social Involvement Initiative, Tel-Aviv University, Israel
1992-1995 Puppeteer, Bim-Bam-Bom Puppet Theater, Israel

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2018 – 2021. Koren Prize Committee (Society for French Historical Studies. Recognizes the most outstanding article on any aspect of French History published the previous year.)
2019-2020. Undergraduate Studies Committee
2018-2019. Graduate Studies Committee
2017 – 2020. Board of Directors, the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era (elected member in 2016; term begins in 2017.)
2015 – 2016. Annual Review Committee, Michigan State University
2015 – present. Affiliate Faculty, the Center for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University
2015. Organizing Committee, the Israeli Film Festival at Michigan State University
2015 – 2018. Governing Council Member, Western Society for French History
2014 – 2015. Chair of the Speaker Series Committee, Michigan State University
2014 – Present. Affiliate Faculty, Jewish Studies, MSU
2012 – 2013. Faculty Organizer, the European History Graduate Colloquium, Michigan State University
2012 – Present. Core Faculty, Political Violence and Fragile Democracies, Collaborative Research Project. (<http://revolution.hypotheses.org/>)
2011 – Present. Core Faculty, Peace and Justice Studies, Michigan State University
2009 – Present. Manuscript Review, Cambridge University Press
2011 – Present. Article Reviews, *History and Memory*
2011 – Present. Article Reviews, *The International Journal of Transitional Justice*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

American Historical Association
Society for French Historical Studies
Western Society for French History
The Consortium on the Revolutionary Era

LANGUAGES

Hebrew (native), French (fluent), German (reading, intermediate; spoken, beginner), Chinese (Mandarin; spoken, beginner)