

## **Alix Cooper**

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### **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Associate Professor, History Department, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2007-present.

Assistant Professor, History Department, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2000-2007.

Assistant Professor, History Department and Environmental Studies Program, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA, 1998-2000.

### **EDUCATION**

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Ph.D., History of Science, 1998.

Dissertation: "Inventing the Indigenous: Local Knowledge and Natural History in the Early Modern German Territories." Advisors: Everett Mendelsohn, Katharine Park, and Mario Biagioli.

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. B.A. *magna cum laude*, History and Science, 1989.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Marker Faculty Research Award, History Department, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2021.

Senior Research Fellow, "How Physicians Know" Project (funded by the European Research Council/ERC), Institut für Geschichte der Medizin und Ethik in der Medizin, Charité Medicine, Freie Universität & Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany, 2014-2015.

Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (FAHSS) Grant for "Histories of Modernity Project" lecture series, 2010-2011.

Visiting Scholar (non-stipendiary), Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Germany, fall 2008.

Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (FAHSS) Summer Grant, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, summer 2006.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC, 2004-5.

Huntington Library Long-Term Fellowship, San Marino, CA, 2004-5 (declined).

ACLS/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Junior Faculty Fellowship, 2004-5 (declined).

Princeton Library Short-Term Research Fellowship, Princeton, NJ, summer 2004.

Maria Sibylla Merian Fellowship, University of Erfurt, Erfurt, Germany, summer 2003.

Predocctoral Fellowship, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Germany, summer 1997.

Dibner Institute Graduate Fellowship in the History of Science and Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 1996-97.

Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, 1995-96.

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), Universität Göttingen, Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Göttingen, Germany, 1994-95.

Harvard University Center for European Studies, Dissertation Exploration Summer Travel Grant, 1993.

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, 1991-94.

Phi Beta Kappa, 1989.

## **WORK-IN-PROGRESS**

"Domestic Matters: Family and Household in the Origins of Modern Science," a book-length project.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Book:***

*Inventing the Indigenous: Local Knowledge and Natural History in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

### ***Articles:***

"Natural History as a Family Enterprise: Kinship and Inheritance in Eighteenth-Century Science," *Berichte zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte* special issue on "Working at the Margins: Labor and the Politics of Participation in Natural History, 1700-1830," 44 (2021): 211-227.

"Placing Plants on Paper: Lists, Herbaria, and Tables as Experiments with Territorial Inventory at the Mid-Seventeenth Century Gotha Court," *History of Science*, 56, 3 (2018): 257-277.

"Die Begutachtung der Natur. Frühmodernes medizinisches Berichten am Beispiel von Judicia« über Mineralwässer in Friedrich Hoffmanns *Medicina consultatoria*"

- [Issuing Expert Opinions on Nature. Early Modern Medical Reporting in the Case of 'Judgments' on Mineral Springs in Friedrich Hoffmann's *Medicina consultatoria*], in *Medizinisches Gutachten. Geschichte einer neuzeitlichen Praxis* [Medical Expert Opinions. History of a Modern Practice], ed. Alexa Geisthövel and Volker Hess (Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2017), 145-165.
- "Afterword: Science and the Domestic Sphere in the *Longue Durée*," in *Domesticity in the Making of Modern Science*, ed. Donald L. Opitz, Staffan Bergwik, and Brigitte van Tiggelen (Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), 281-287.
- "Environment and the Natural World," annotated bibliography in *Oxford Bibliographies Online (OBO): Renaissance and Reformation*, ed. Margaret King (New York: Oxford University Press, Jan. 15, 2014). Approx. 50 pages typescript.
- "Picturing Nature: Gender and the Politics of Natural-Historical Description in Eighteenth-Century Gdańsk/Danzig," *Journal of Eighteenth-Century Studies*, special issue on "The Cultural Production of Natural Knowledge," 36, 4 (December 2013), 519-529.
- "Women and Science," annotated bibliography in *Oxford Bibliographies Online (OBO): Renaissance and Reformation*, ed. Margaret King (New York: Oxford University Press, Dec. 17, 2012). Approx. 30 pages typescript.
- "Fragen ohne Antworten. Die Suche nach lokalen Informationen in der frühen Aufklärung" [Questions without Answers. The Search for Local Information in the Early Enlightenment], in *Vor Google. Eine Mediengeschichte der Suchmaschine im analogen Zeitalter* [Before Google. A Media History of the Search Engine in the Analog Era], ed. Thomas Brandstetter, Thomas Hübel, and Anton Tantner (Bielefeld: transcript, 2012), 73-83.
- "Latin Words, Vernacular Worlds: Language, Nature, and the 'Indigenous' in Early Modern Europe," *East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine*, special issue on "Global Science and Comparative History: Jesuits, Science, and Philology in China and Europe, 1550-1850," 26 (2007), 17-59.
- "Homes and Households," in *The Cambridge History of Science, Vol. 3: Early Modern Science*, ed. Katharine Park and Lorraine Daston (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 224-237.
- "The Possibilities of the Land': The Inventory of 'Natural Riches' in the Early Modern German Territories," in Margaret Schabas and Neil DeMarchi, eds., *Oeconomies in the Age of Newton* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2003), 129-153.
- "The Indigenous versus the Exotic: Debating Natural Origins in Early Modern Europe," *Landscape Research*, 28, 1 (2003), 51-60 (as part of special issue on "The Native, Naturalized, and Exotic: Plants and Animals in History").
- "From the Alps to Egypt (and Back Again): Dolomieu, Scientific Voyaging, and the Construction of the Field in Eighteenth-Century Europe," in *Making Space: Territorial Themes in the History of Science*, ed. Crosbie Smith & Jon Agar (London: Macmillan, 1997), 39-63.
- "The Museum and the Book: The *Metallotheca* and the History of an Encyclopaedic Natural History in Early Modern Italy," *Journal of the History of Collections*, 7 (1995), 1-23.

**Other Short Pieces:**

(with Wolf Feuerhahn) "Bill Clark or the Ironic Analyst of *homo academicus*," multiple publication in *Newsletter of the History of Science Society* 49, 2 (April 2020): 12-14, and in *CAktus: Le carnet du Centre Alexandre-Koyré*, posted Feb. 19, 2020 at <https://caktus.hypotheses.org/1715#more-1715>.

**WORKSHOPS, TALK SERIES, AND SESSIONS ORGANIZED**

Organizer, "Hidden Labor in the Practices of Early Modern Science," session held at the History of Science Society annual meeting originally scheduled to meet in New Orleans in November 2020, delayed due to COVID-19 and held online via Zoom November 2021.

Organizer, "Specimen, Text, Image: Herbaria and Paper Technology," international workshop held at the Forschungszentrum Gotha and the Forschungsbibliothek Gotha, Gotha, Germany, June 5-6, 2015.

Co-organizer, Histories of Modernity Project, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2010-2011. With Douglas Pfeiffer of the English Department, co-organized full-year series of interdisciplinary lectures and workshops held at Stony Brook's Humanities Institute.

Organizer, "Environments and Empires: Natural Resources and the Construction of State Power in Comparative Context," session held at the American Society for Environmental History annual meeting, Tucson, AZ, April 1999.

Organizer, "Political Economies of Science in Early Modern Europe," session held at the American Historical Association annual meeting, Washington, DC, Jan. 1999.

**SELECTED RECENT TALKS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

"Pleasures and Perils of Natural History in the Early Modern Family Context," paper presented at the Cambridge Cabinet of Natural History, Cambridge, UK (via Zoom), May 2022.

"Family Projects: Fathers, Sons, and the Study of Science in the Early Modern Home," paper presented at Scientiae annual conference [on early modern history of science & scholarship], Belfast, Northern Ireland, June 2019.

"Revisiting Local Knowledge and the Indigenous in Eighteenth-Century Natural History: A Few Thoughts," keynote lecture for conference on "Mapping the Territory: Exploring People and Nature, 1700-1830", held at the Historisches Institut, Universität Bern, Bern, Switzerland, September 2017.

"Family Matters: Gendering the Labor of Early Modern Science," talk sponsored by the Society for the Study of Women in the Renaissance, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY, April 2018.

"Finding a Home for Science: Family and Household in the Making of Natural Knowledge in the Early Modern German Territories," paper presented at the Early Modern German Seminar, History Faculty, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, January 2017.

"Plants on Paper: Charts, Lists, and Herbaria as Methods of Territorial Inventory at 17th-century German Courts," paper presented at the Renaissance Society of America annual meeting, Boston, MA, April 2016.

"Reporting to Rulers: Physicians and the Paperwork of Natural History in Early Modern Gotha," roundtable presentation at the History of Science Society annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 2015.

"Family Networks in a Global Era: Women and Gender in Early Modern Natural History," paper presented at the "Global Entanglements – Rethinking Europe" workshop, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany, September 2015.

"Prehistories of Linnaean Natural History: Origins and Narratives," paper presented at "A Global History of Linnaean Science, 1750-1820," Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden, October 2012; revised version presented at European University Institute, Florence, Italy, November 2014.

"Picturing Nature: Gender and the Politics of Scientific Description in Eighteenth-Century Natural History," paper presented at the Seminar on Scientific Illustration, Université de Bourgogne [University of Burgundy], Dijon, France, June 2012.

"Native to This Place: Locating Geography in European Natural History, 1550-1750," paper presented at the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, co-sponsored by the Centre Alexandre Koyré de Recherche en Histoire des Sciences et des Techniques and the Département Systématique et Evolution du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France, April 2011.

"Dealing in Difference: Natural History and Exchange in Early Enlightenment Danzig," paper presented at "In Kind: Species of Exchange in Early Modern Science and Philosophy," workshop held at the Centre for Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (CRASSH) at Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, June 2010.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2000-present. Teaching has included a wide variety of classes, from undergraduate to graduate. Courses I have taught so far, or am scheduled to teach, include:

- History 101 ("European History: Antiquity through Revolution"), an introductory lecture course
- History 237 ("Science, Technology and Medicine in Western Civilization I"), a lower-division lecture course
- History 301 ("Reading and Writing History: Renaissance Florence "), an upper-division writing-intensive course
- History 302 ("Environment in World History"), an upper-division lecture course
- History 304 ("Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe"), an upper-division lecture course
- History 360/Women's & Gender Studies 334 ("Women in Premodern Europe"), an upper-division lecture course
- History 391 ("Politics, Culture, and Authority in Early Modern Europe"),

- an upper-division lecture course
- History 401 ("Religion, Magic, and Belief in Early Modern Europe"), a senior writing-intensive seminar
- History 401 ("Europe and the World: Cross-Cultural Encounters, 1400-1800"), a senior writing-intensive seminar
- History 500 ("Historiography"), a graduate seminar for MAT students
- History 501 ("Early Modern Europe"), a graduate field seminar covering European history from approximately 1450 to 1800
- History 524-7 ("Core Seminar: History, Theory, and Practice"), a year-long co-taught introductory historiographical and research seminar for M.A. and Ph.D. students in History
- History 535 ("The Body, Gender, and Power"), a graduate theme seminar
- History 570 ("Culture and Identity"), a graduate theme seminar
- History 601 ("Research Seminar"), a graduate research seminar
- History 652 ("Geography, Identity, and Environment"), a graduate research seminar

University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA, 1998-2000. Taught courses using both lecture and discussion. Students ranged from freshmen to seniors, and included all levels of ability. Courses taught included:

- "Cross-Cultural Encounters: Europe and the World, 1492-1800"
- "Environmental History in Global Perspective"
- "Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe"
- "Renaissance Europe"
- "Cosmological Thought in Historical Perspective"

## **SELECTED DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Graduate Director, History Department, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, fall 2012-summer 2014; also Interim Graduate Director fall 2019.

Member, Graduate Committee, History Department, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2001-2, 2010-14, and 2019-20.

Member, Undergraduate Committee, History Department, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, 2000-2001, 2002-2010, 2015-2016, 2018-2019, and 2021-present.

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Referee for the following journals, publishers, granting organizations, and universities:

*Isis: Journal of the History of Science Society*; *History of Science*; *British Journal for the History of Science*; *Science in Context*; *NTM: Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Wissenschaften, Technik und Medizin* [NTM: Journal for the History of the Sciences, Technology & Medicine]; *Centaurus: The Journal of the European Society for the History of Science*; *History of the Human Sciences*; *Social History of Medicine*; *Medizinhistorisches Journal* [Medical History Journal]; *Environmental History*; Routledge; Blackwell Publishers; University of Chicago Press; W.W. Norton; National Science Foundation (NSF); Social Sciences and Humanities; Research

Council of Canada (SSHRC); Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) (France) [National Research Agency (France)]; Dutch Council for the Humanities; Research Grants Council of Hong Kong; Hunter College, CUNY; and University College London.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association  
History of Science Society  
American Association for the History of Medicine  
American Society for Environmental History  
European Society for Environmental History  
Renaissance Society of America  
Sixteenth Century Studies Conference  
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies  
World History Association  
Forum on European Expansion and Global Interaction

## **LANGUAGES**

Good speaking and reading ability: English and German.  
Good reading and some speaking ability: French and Spanish.  
Good reading ability: Dutch, Italian, and Latin.  
Some reading ability: Irish, Polish, and Greek (ancient and modern).

## **REFERENCES**

Available upon request.