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Department of History
Northeastern Illinois University
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EDUCATION

PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 1980
M.A., UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 1970
B.A., HOBART COLLEGE, with High Honors in History, 1969

EXPERIENCE

BERNARD J. BROMMEL DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH PROFESSOR,
Department of History, Northeastern Illinois University, 2012-

PROFESSOR, Department of History, Northeastern Illinois University,
1995-2011

CHAIR, Department of History, Northeastern Illinois University, 1992-2000

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, Department of History, Northeastern Illinois
University, 1990-95

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Department of History, Northeastern Illinois
University, 1987-90

VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Department of History, University of
Pennsylvania, 1986-87

ANDREW W. MELLON POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW, Department of History,
University of Pennsylvania, 1985-86

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, Clarkson University, 1983-86 (on
leave, 1985-86)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HUMANITIES, Honors College, Valparaiso
University, 1981-83 (term appointment)

INSTRUCTOR, Liberal Arts Department, School of the Art Institute of Chicago,
1981

ASSISTANT EDITOR, *Bibliographie Internationale de l'Humanisme et de la
Renaissance*, 1977-79

COURSES
TAUGHT

Ancient Greece
Ancient Rome
Graduate Readings in Ancient Historiography
Renaissance Europe
Art and Society in Renaissance Europe (team-taught with an art historian)
Reformation Europe
Graduate Reading Courses and Seminars in Early Modern History (various topics)
The Age of the Baroque
Ancien Régime

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COURSES (cont.)

Europe: 1500 to the Present
Historiography and Historical Methods
Western Civilization (in a variety of formats)
Interdisciplinary Humanities (in a variety of formats)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Birth of the Past (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011). Ranging from antiquity to the eighteenth century, this book explores how we learned to distinguish past from present and see the world historically.

Humanism and the Renaissance, edited volume in the "Problems in European Civilization." Series (Houghton Mifflin, 2002). A critical introduction to recent literature in the field of Renaissance studies.

Information Ages: Literacy, Numeracy, and the Computer Revolution, with Michael E. Hobart (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998; paperback edition, 2000). A study of the relationship between information technologies and forms of knowledge representation from antiquity to the present.

On the Threshold of Modernity: Relativism in the French Renaissance (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991). A study of the impact of historical and cultural relativism on the thought of Hotman, La Popelinière, Vignier, Pasquier, Montaigne, Charron, Descartes, and Vico.

Articles

"Defamiliarizing the Past," *Historically Speaking* 13 (2012).

"Historicizing History/Contextualizing Context," *New Literary History* 42 (2011).

"Histories of Historiography: A Review Essay," *Historically Speaking* 9 (2008).

"Jean Bodin, Roman Law, and the Renaissance Conception of the Past," in *Cultural Visions*, eds. Penny Gold and Benjamin C. Sax (Rodopi Press, 2000)

"An Intellectual in Politics: Montaigne as Mayor of Bordeaux," *Dissent, Identity, and the Law in Early Modern France: Essays in Honor of Nancy L. Roelker*, ed. Michael Wolfe (Duke University Press, 1996).

"Dimensions of Individuality: Recent French Works on the Renaissance," *Renaissance Quarterly* 49 (1996).

"The Origins of Early Modern Historical Consciousness," *Studies in Early Modern France* 2 (1996).

"Rabelais, Renaissance, and Reformation: Recent French Works on the Renaissance," *Renaissance Quarterly* 48 (1995).

"1592-1992: Recent French Works on the Renaissance," *Renaissance Quarterly* 47 (1994).

Articles
(cont.)

- "Montaigne and the Rise of Skepticism in Early Modern Europe: A Reappraisal," reprinted in *Renaissance Essays II*, ed. William J. Connell (University of Rochester Press, 1993).
- "Humanism and the Problem of Relativism," *Humanism in Crisis: The Decline of the French Renaissance*, ed. Philippe Desan (University of Michigan Press, 1991).
- "An Anatomy of the Historical Revolution in Renaissance France," *Renaissance Quarterly* 42 (1989).
- "Montaigne and the Matrix of Selfhood," *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History* 16 (1989).
- "Estienne Pasquier and the Problem of Historical Relativism," *Sixteenth Century Journal* 18 (1987).
- "Renaissance Historicism Reconsidered," *History and Theory* 24 (1985), based on a paper delivered at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in 1984; the paper was awarded the Carl S. Meyer Memorial Prize.
- "Montaigne and the Rise of Skepticism in Early Modern Europe: A Reappraisal," *Journal of the History of Ideas* 45 (1984), based on a paper delivered at the *Novus et Antiquus* Conference in 1983; the paper was awarded the *Novus* Prizes.
- "Montaigne and the Problem of Machiavellism," *Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies* 12 (1982).
- "Montaigne's Perception of Ancient Rome: Biography as a Form of History," *Rome in the Renaissance: the City and the Myth*, ed. Paul A. Ramsey (Medieval & Renaissance Texts & Studies, 1982).

Reviews

- Katherine Van Liere, Simon Ditchfield, and Howard Louthan, *Sacred History: Uses of the Christian Past in the Renaissance World*, forthcoming in *Church History*
- Marc Bizer, *Homer and the Politics of Authority in Renaissance France*, H-France (Society for French Historical Studies web reviews, November 2012)
- Richard Scholar, *Montaigne and the Art of Free-Thinking*, H-France (Society for French Historical Studies web reviews), July 2011
- Anthony Grafton, *Bring Out Your Dead: The Past as Revelation*, H-France (Society for French Historical Studies web reviews), May 2002
- Peter N. Miller, *Peiresc's Europe: Learning and Virtue in the Seventeenth Century*, H-France (Society for French Historical Studies web reviews), November, 2001

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Reviews
(cont.)

George Huppert, *The Style of Paris: Renaissance Origins of the French Enlightenment*, in *American Historical Review* 105 (2000)

Donald R. Kelley, *Faces of History: Historical Inquiry from Herodotus to Herder*, in *Renaissance Quarterly* 53 (2000)

Nancy Lyman Roelker, *One King, One Faith: The Parlement of Paris and the Religious Reformations of the Sixteenth Century*, and Mark W. Konnert, *Civic Agendas and Religious Passions: Châlons-sur-Marne during the French Wars of Religion, 1560-1594*, in *Renaissance Quarterly* 52 (1999)

David Lewis Schaefer, *The Political Philosophy of Montaigne*, in *American Historical Review* 97 (1992).

Eugenio Garin, ed., *Renaissance Characters*, and Margaret L. King, *Women of the Renaissance*, in *History Teacher* 26 (1992).

UNPUBLISHED
PAPERS

"Bookends: Henry Y. K. Tom and the Shaping of Renaissance Studies," Renaissance Society of America, March 2012

"Classics in Context: Machiavelli's *The Prince*," Chicago Humanities Festival and the Center for Renaissance Studies, Newberry Library, 2004

"The First Information Age," invited paper, Comparative Literature Program and Unit for Criticism and Interpretative Theory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1998

"Jean Bodin and the Neo-Bartolist Conception of the Past," American Historical Association, 1994.

"Everything in Its Place: The Classificatory Urge in Renaissance France," New College Conference on Medieval-Renaissance Studies, 1992.

"The Compulsion to Classify in Early Modern France," Society for French Historical Studies, 1991.

"Printing, Literacy, and the Decontextualization of Language," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 1990.

"Order and Origins in La Popelinière's Conception of Perfect History," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 1988.

"Individuality and Relativity in Sixteenth-Century Europe," invited paper, Center for Comparative Studies in the Humanities, Ohio State University, 1988.

"Montaigne's Moral Morphology: A Prelude to Psychology," American Historical Association, 1987.

"The Impact of Historical and Cultural Relativity on Renaissance Thought," Renaissance Society of America, 1986.

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PAPERS
(cont.)

"Montaigne's Creatural View of Man," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 1983.

"The Rise of Skepticism in Early Modern Europe," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 1982.

"Schooling and Skepticism: The Intellectual Origins of Montaigne's *Essais*," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 1980.

FELLOWSHIPS
AND AWARDS

Faculty Excellence Award, Northeastern Illinois University, 2013

Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professorship, 2012

Faculty Excellence Award, Northeastern Illinois University, 2003

University Foundation Grant, Northeastern Illinois University, 1991

Faculty Excellence Award, Northeastern Illinois University, 1991

NEH Summer Stipend, 1990

NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers, Northwestern University, 1989

Faculty Excellence Award, Northeastern Illinois University, 1989

Grand-in-Aid, Committee for Organized Research, Northeastern Illinois University, 1989

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, 1985-86

ACLS Grant-in-Aid, 1985

Carl S. Meyer Memorial Prize, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 1984

Exxon Education Foundation Fellowship, Newberry Library, 1984

Mellon Foundation Research Grant, Clarkson University, 1983-84

Novus Prizes (publication and monetary awards), Committee for the Advancement of Early Studies, Ball State University, 1983

Special Ford Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1972-73

Honorary Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1969-70