

Timothy John Olin

Central College, Pella, Iowa

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Academic Appointments:

Fall, 2022-Present

Associate Professor of History, Central College, Pella, Iowa

Fall, 2016-Spring, 2022

Assistant Professor of History, Central College, Pella, Iowa

Fall, 2015- Spring, 2016

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Education:

2015. PhD History. Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

2011. MA History. Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

2004. MA German. University of Wisconsin, Madison.

2002. BA German. University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Monograph:

The Banat of Temesvar: Borderland Colonization in the Habsburg Monarchy
Stanford University Press, 2025

Dissertation:

“An Empire in Europe: Borderland Colonization in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1716-1847”

Winner: Center for Austrian Studies Biennial Dissertation Prize, 2016
Purdue College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Dissertation Award, 2015

Publications:

“External Influences on Internal Colonization: The Case of the Banat of Temesvar,” in Jonathan Singerton, ed., *The [Oxford] Handbook of Global Habsburg History* (Oxford University Press), Under contract.

“Roma on the Habsburg Frontier: ‘Nomad swarms’ or ‘New Farmers’?” *Eighteenth-Century Studies*. Volume 58.2, 2025.

“Precarious Tolerance: Jews on the Early-Modern Habsburg Frontier.” *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*. Volume 42.1, 2024: 30-51.

“‘Flüchtlinge’ oder ‘Auswanderer’? Migration aus dem Osmanischen Reich in das Banat im 18. Jahrhundert [‘Refugees’ or ‘Migrants’? Migration from the Ottoman Empire to the Banat in the Eighteenth Century],” in Börries Kuzmany and Rita Garstenauer, eds., *Aufnahmeland Österreich. Über den Umgang mit Massenflucht seit dem 18. Jahrhundert* (Wien: Mandelbaum, 2017).

Also assisted in editing English abstracts

“Cultivating an Orderly Society: Physical and Mental Landscapes on the Habsburg’s Southern Frontiers.” *Austrian History Yearbook*, Volume 48, 2017: 159-172.

Part of a “Forum” in honor of Charles Ingrao that I organized

“Imperial Dreams, Ambiguous Outcomes: Colonialism in the Banat and on the Volga.” *The Journal of the Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences*, Volume 16, Number 2, 2013: 157-171.

Other Publications:

with Borislav Chernev, Jonathan Kwan, Marion Romberg, “HABSBURG Discussion Network-A digital pioneer looking back and forward.” *Das Achtzehnte Jahrhundert und Österreich Band*, Volume 33, 2018: 207-208.

Review of Bereznay, András. *Historical Atlas of the Gypsies: Romani History in Maps*. HABSBURG, H-Net Reviews. July, 2024.

Works in Progress:

"Hierarchies of Faith: Orthodoxy and Loyalty at the Frontiers of the Habsburg State"

“Tepid Nationalists: The Germans of southern Hungary”

Conference Papers:

“Seeking People, Keeping People: Migration Policy as Political–Economic Strategy.” Panel. American Historical Association (AHA). Chicago, IL. Anticipated 01/10/2026.

“‘Nomad Swarms’ or ‘New Farmers’?: Roma in the Eighteenth-Century Habsburg Monarchy.” Austrian Studies Association Conference. Easton, PA. 04/14/2023.

“Centers and Peripheries in Central European History.” Three Day Seminar Co-convened with Rita Krueger-Temple University. German Studies Association Conference (GSA). Indianapolis, IN. Conducted Remotely. 10/2021 (delayed from 2020).

“Advertisements and Migration: Marketing the European Borderlands in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.” German Studies Association Conference (GSA). Portland, OR. 10/04/2019.

“Crypto-Protestants and Criminals: Forced Migration in Maria Theresia’s Domains.” German Studies Association Conference (GSA). Atlanta, GA. 10/07/2017.

Served as commentator for panel: “Patronage and Sociability in the Age of Maria Theresia.” 10/06/2017

“Tepid Nationalists: The Germans of the Banat of Temesvár.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES). Washington D.C. 11/19/2016.

“Refugees of Migrants? Flight from the Ottoman Empire in the Eighteenth Century.” Consortium for the Revolutionary Era. Louisiana State University. Shreveport, LA. 02/25/2016.

"Hierarchies of Faith: Orthodoxy and the Habsburg State in the Eighteenth-Century Balkans." Consortium for the Revolutionary Era. High Point University. High Point, NC. 02/21/2015.

“The ‘Toleration’ of Jews and Romani in the Habsburg Balkans.” Association for the Study of Nationalities. Columbia University. New York, New York. 04/26/2014.

“‘Industry, Care and Honesty’: Germans Colonies through German Eyes.” Northeast Modern Language Association. Harrisburg, PA. 04/06/2014.

“‘Ein- und Fortpflanzung der alleinheilig machenden Katholischen Glaubens’: Religious Boundaries on the Habsburg Frontier.” Consortium for the Revolutionary Era. University of Mississippi. Oxford, MS. 02/22/2014.

“Remembrance as Propaganda: The Germans of the Banat of Temeswar.” Association for the Study of Nationalities. Columbia University. New York, New York. 04/20/2013.

“Settler-Colonialism, Modernization, and the Balkans: Germans in the Banat.” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Cleveland, Ohio. 04/03/2013.

“Imperial Dreams, Ambiguous Outcomes: Colonialism in the Banat and on the Volga.” Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences. Indiana University Northwest. Gary, Indiana. 10/12/2012.

“‘They Smack of the Steppe’: German Colonists on the Cusp of Asia.” Indiana Association of Historians. Hanover College. Hanover, Indiana. 02/18/2011.

Invited Lectures, Talks, and Workshops:

“Intensive Summer School on Comparative Habsburg and Ottoman Paleography.” Lecturer on Habsburg Paleography. Austrian Academy of Sciences: Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies. 07/10/2025.

“Ukrainian-Russian Relations: Pivotal Moments.” Knoxville Rotary Club. 05/18/2022.

“Religion, Ethnicity, Loyalty: Lessons from Central Europe.” Central College Faculty Lecture Series. 02/21/2022.

“Austrianism, Regionalism, Nationalism: Identity Construction on the Habsburg Frontier.” Institute for Modern and Contemporary Historical Research at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. 06/04/2018.

College and University Educators Workshop. Council on Foreign Relations. New York, New York. 04/19/2018-04/20/2018 and 04/11/2019-04/12/2019.

“Tempered Expectations: Early German Colonialism in the Banat of Temesvár.” History and Culture in Central Europe during the Long 18th Century: A Workshop. Center for Austrian Studies. University of Minnesota. 11/30/2017-12/02/2017.

“Migrants and Refugees in the Central Europe: Contemporary Reactions and Historical Context.” Keynote. 6th Annual Chairs’ Conference. Central College. Pella, Iowa. 09/15/2017.

Teaching Experience:

2016-Present: Central College

- History 111/210: Modern Western Civilization/History of Modern Europe
- History 125: World Civ. To 1500
- History 126: World Civ. From 1500
- History 213: The USSR
- History 215: The Balkans: Between East and West
- History 216: Germany and Central Europe
- History 220: Middle Eastern Civilization
- History 290: Currency, Capitalism, and Coca Cola: A History of Business
- Political Science 223/History 217: Contemporary Europe
- History 310: Europeans Encounter the World: Travel Writing as Historical Narrative
- History 310: Between Europe and the Middle East: Conflict and Compromise
- History 310: The Cold War
- History 310: Pandemic in World History
- History 310: Hitler and Nazi Germany
- History 485: Historiography
- Liberal Arts Seminar 410: World History through a Glass
- Liberal Arts Seminar 390: Commencement: The Beginning (with Harry Smith)
- General Credit 104: Central College Kickstarter

2015-2016: Wabash College

- History 101: World History to 1500
- History 102: World History from 1500
- History 200: History of the Modern Middle East
- History 240: Twentieth Century Europe
- History 300: Europeans Encounter the World: Travel Writing as Historical Narrative
- History 498: Senior Thesis Research Seminar

2009-2015: Purdue University

Instructor: History 105: Survey of Global History 1500-Present (online)

Instructor: History 246: History of the Modern Middle East

Teaching Assistant: "Introduction to the Medieval World," "Introduction to the Modern World," "Survey of Global History," "Introduction to Modern Latin American History," "History of Aviation," "History of the Space Age"

Honors and Awards:

The Dr. John Wesselink Award for Scholarship having a Direct Impact on Teaching. 2025.

Central College Research and Development Grant. 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2023-2024.

Center for Austrian Studies Dissertation Prize. 2016.

Purdue University. College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Dissertation Award. 2015.

Purdue University. Purdue Research Foundation Research Grant. 2014-2015.

Purdue University. Global Research Synergy Grant. 2013.

Paul and Reed Benhamou Scholarship in History. 2014-2015.

Central European History Society Research Grant. 2014.

Purdue University. Graduate School Summer Research Grant. Summer 2012, 2013.

Woodman Travel Grant. 2013, 2014.

Member Phi Beta Kappa.

Professional and Institutional Service:

2025-Fall: Member: Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Exigency Policy

2025-Present: Faculty Trustee (assigned to Student Experience Committee)

2024-Present: Member: Committee on Funding Priorities

2024: Chair: Center for Austrian Studies Dissertation Prize Committee

2023-Present: Member: Faculty Welfare Committee

2024-2026-Chair

2021-Spring, Summer: Member: Ad Hoc Committee on Core Renewal

2020-Summer: Member: Ad Hoc Committee on Curriculum Renewal

2018- 2020: Member: Central College Honors Council

2017- 2022: Editor and Member of Founding Team for *Central Europe: An Undergraduate Yearbook*, <https://pubs.lib.umn.edu/index.php/cey>
 First Issue, Published, October 2019.
 Second Issue, Published, November 2020.
 Third Issue, Published, Fall 2021.

2017-2018: Member: Strategic Planning Steering Committee
 Co-chair: Sub-committee: “Curriculum Relevant to Student Interest and Societal Needs”

2017-2022: Member: Curriculum Committee
 2018-2022: Secretary, Curriculum Committee

2017-2022: Member: Campus Benefits Committee
 Three-Year Appointment, Two Additional One-Year Extension Appointments at Request of the President

2015-2022: Editor: HABSBURG (H-net listserv for Habsburg Studies)

Peer Reviewer: *Yearbook of the Austrian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, *Journal of Historical Geography*

Language and Paleographic Skills:

German: Near-native fluency

German: Eighteenth-century Kanzleischriften, Kurrent, and Handwriting

Russian: Basic Reading Proficiency

Scholarly Referees:

Chair: Professor Charles Ingrao: ingrao@purdue.edu

Committee Member: Professor Michael Smith: mgsmith@purdue.edu

Committee Member: Professor Rebekah Klein-Pejsova: rkleinpe@purdue.edu

Mailing address for all of the above:

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 672 Oval Drive
 West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
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