

ISABEL GABEL

Institute on the Formation of Knowledge
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021- University of Chicago
Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute on the Formation of Knowledge

Faculty Affiliate, Department of History, Committee on Conceptual & Historical Studies of Science
- 2018-2021 University of Pennsylvania
Fellow in Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications of Genetics and Genomics
Perelman School of Medicine

Visiting Scholar
Department of History
- 2015-2018 University of Chicago
Postdoctoral Fellow in Conceptual & Historical Studies of Science

Faculty Affiliate, Department of History

EDUCATION

- 2015, Ph.D. Columbia University
Department of History
Dissertation: *Biology and the Philosophy of History in Mid-Twentieth-Century France*
- 2011-2012 Max Planck Institute for the History of Science
Pre-doctoral Research Fellow
Department II
- 2007, B.A. Reed College
History (Phi Beta Kappa)

RESEARCH FIELDS

History of science, medicine, technology
Intellectual history
Bioethics

PUBLICATIONS

IN PREPARATION

Experiments in History: French Biology between Liberalism and Critique. Book manuscript in preparation.

“Intellectual History and the History of Science” (with Nima Bassiri) Special Issue of *Modern Intellectual History* co-edited with Nima Bassiri (Duke University).

“Science, Liberalism, and Critique” Special Issue of *Modern Intellectual History* co-edited with Nima Bassiri (Duke University).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Gene Editing, Ethics, and Politics.” (with Jonathan Moreno) *AMA Journal of Ethics*, December 2019.

“La biologie, la réflexivité et l’histoire: Réinscrire Canguilhem dans son milieu.” *Revue d’histoire des sciences* 71-72, (July-December 2018): 155-177.

“From Evolutionary Theory to Philosophy of History: Raymond Aron and the Crisis of French Neo-Transformism.” *History of the Human Sciences* 31, no. 1 (February 1, 2018): 3–18.

- *HHS* blog interview about the article here: <http://www.histhum.com/the-evolution-of-raymond-aron-biological-thought-and-the-philosophy-of-history/>

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

“Introduction,” Book forum on *Politics and the Anthropocene* by Duncan Kelly, H-Diplo July 2021 (guest editor).

“Introduction,” Book forum on *Transparency in Postwar France: A Critical History of the Present* by Stefanos Geroulanos, H-Diplo May 2019.

“Thinking Outside the Present.” Contribution to Forum on Benjamin Aldes Wurgaft, *Thinking in Public: Strauss, Levinas, Arendt* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016), in *Politics, Religion & Ideology* 18:2, 217-219.

“Undisciplined Biology in 20th-Century France.” *Perspectives on Europe* (Spring 2016), 69-73.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

Eugene Garfield Fellowship, American Philosophical Society (Summer 2019)

National Human Genome Research Institute T32 Training Grant, University of Pennsylvania (3-year award starting August 2018)

Faculty Research Grant, University of Chicago Center in Paris (Spring 2018)

Mellon-Council for European Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2014-2015)

DAAD Research Grant (Fall 2012)

Georges Lurcy Fellowship (Spring 2012)

GSAS International Travel Fellowship (Fall 2011)

Pre-doctoral Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (2011-2012)

Jerrold Seigel Fellowship in Intellectual and Cultural History (Summer 2011)

DAAD Intensive Language Course grant (2010) (declined)

Middlebury Grant (Summer 2009)

Richard Hofstadter Fellowship, Columbia University (2008-13)

Phi Beta Kappa member, 2007

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

“Science and Liberalism: Biology as Critique in 20-Century France.” UW-Madison History of Science Brown Bag, April 2022.

“Biology as Historical Science in 20th-Century Philosophy.” National Institutes of Health (zoom). July 2021.

“Experiments in French Historical Thought: Between Biology and Humanism.” American Philosophical Society Brown Bag Talk, December 2019.

“Experiments with Historical Thought: An Intellectual History of the Anthropocene” HPS Lecture, University of Chicago, November 2019.

“The Living Past: Neo-Lamarckism in French History.” HSS Workshop, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, November 2018.

“History, Biology, Cybernetics: Raymond Ruyer and Temporal Critique.” Cybernetics and the Human Sciences. Remarque Institute. New York, December 2016.

“Causality and Scale: Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenological Natural History.” NYU Intellectual History Workshop. New York, April 2016.

“Raymond Aron, Maurice Caullery, and the Philosophy of History.” Unusual Lives: Historicizing Life as a Problem of Knowledge. Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Berlin, Germany, November 2014.

“Why Study Ignorance?: Science as a Problem of Knowledge.” Agnotology: Ways of Producing, Preserving and Dealing with Ignorance. Bielefeld, Germany, June 2011.

WORKSHOPS

All of Us Research Program, ELSI Workshop, National Institutes of Health. Rockville, Maryland, June 2019.

Dartmouth History Institute, Dartmouth College. Hanover, New Hampshire, June 2017.

History of Biology Seminar, Marine Biological Laboratory. Woods Hole, Massachusetts, May 2016.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

“Biology and Critique: Jacques Monod and the Fate of Hegel in France.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Chicago, November 2022.

“Gene Regulation and Liberal Scientific Ethics: Historical Contexts.” National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) Annual Trainee Meeting, Zoom, April 2021.

Roundtable participant, “Actors Categories.” Joint HSS/SHOT session. Zoom, October 2020.

Session chair, “Technology, Violence, and Resistance: Feminist, Decolonial, and Intersectional Perspectives.” 4S Annual Meeting. New Orleans, September 2019.

“Intellectual History in an Anti-Intellectual Age” (roundtable in honor of Charles Capper) American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, January 2019

“Histories of Knowledge: Intellectual History and History of Science.”(roundtable) History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Seattle, November 2018.

“Between the Natural and Human Sciences: What was Structuralism?” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Toronto, November 2017.

“Disarming the Milieu: Evolution, Environment, and History in Interwar France.” Conference of Europeanists. Glasgow, July 2017.

“Biologies of Scale and Historical Theory in Twentieth-Century France.” American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Denver, January 2017.

“Is Embryology Posthumanist?” Society for Social Studies of Science (4S/EASST). Barcelona, Spain, August 2016.

“Biology, Structure, and Temporality in 20th-Century French Thought.” International Conference of Europeanists. Philadelphia, April 2016.

“Raymond Ruyer, Embryology, and the History of ‘Structure’ in French Thought.” Society for French Historical Studies Annual Meeting. Nashville, March 2016.

“Animal Environments and the Philosophy of History in France.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. San Francisco, November 2015. *Roundtable*.

“History, Heredity, Event: Raymond Aron, Georges Canguilhem and an Epistemology of Biology.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Boston, November 2013.

“Umwelt, world, milieu: heretical reading in Heidegger, Agamben and Canguilhem.” Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Berlin, Germany, June 2012.

“Cell Cultures and the Specificity of Life: From Philosophy of Biology to Histories of the Organism.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Phoenix, November 2009.

“‘Imitation of Man’: Towards a Prehistory of Man as Biogenetic Artist.” James A. Barnes Club Conference. Temple University, March 2009.

PANELS ORGANIZED

“Structure Across the Disciplines.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Toronto, November 2017.

“Translating Scale: Space and Time Between Science and History.” American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Denver, January 2017.

“Permeable Boundaries of Science.” International Conference for Europeanists. Philadelphia, April 2016.

“Systems of Thought, Institutions of Knowledge: Epistemology of the Social Sciences in Twentieth-Century France.” Society for French Historical Studies Annual Meeting. Nashville, March 2016.

“Ideas of Environment.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. San Francisco, November 2015. *Roundtable*.

“Metabolic Philosophy: Digesting Biology in mid-20th Century European Thought.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Boston, November 2013.

TEACHING

COURSES

University of Chicago:

- ❖ “Science, Governance, and the Crisis of Liberalism”(Graduate seminar) Winter 2023.
- ❖ “Gaming History” (co-taught undergrad lecture, Cinema + Media Studies) Winter 2023.
- ❖ “Ways of Knowing” (co-taught MA seminar) Winter 2022.
- ❖ “The End of Certainty? Chaos, Complexity, and Human Life,” Fall 2021.
- ❖ “Biology and Human Nature,” Winter 2018.
- ❖ “Global Environmental Humanities,” Fall 2017.
- ❖ “Biology, Technology, and Politics in 20th-Century Europe,” Fall 2016.
- ❖ “The End of History from Hegel to the Large Hadron Collider,” Winter 2016.
- ❖ “Philosophies of Life before and after DNA,” Fall 2015, Winter 2017.

University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine:

- ❖ “Frontiers in Bioethics,” February 2019.

Columbia University Core Curriculum:

- ❖ “Contemporary Civilization.” (Core Program, yearlong seminar), 2013-2014.

B.A. THESIS ADVISING

Clio Sophia Koller (2018, University of Chicago). “The Rise of Commercial Genetics: Understanding the Power Direct-to-Consumer Giants Have Over Our Sense of Self” (honors).

Calgary Haines-Trautman (2017, University of Chicago). “Finding Art in Cybernetics: New Perspectives for Cybernetic Art in Cybernetic Serendipity” (honors)

PEDAGOGY/DEVELOPMENT

Seminar on Course Design (participant), University of Chicago, January 2016.

Teaching Contemporary Civilization (weekly seminar participant), Columbia University, 2013-2014.

Teaching Assistant Workshops (co-leader), Columbia University, 2010-2011.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

EDITORIAL BOARDS

History of the Human Sciences

PEER REVIEW

- History and History of Science Journals
Modern Intellectual History
Centaurus
Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences
- Bioethics and Biomedical Journals
Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine
Journal of Genetic Counseling
AMA Journal of Ethics

ETHICS REVIEW

Internal Review Board (IRB) #8 (voting member), University of Pennsylvania, 2020-

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS CO-ORGANIZED

(upcoming) “Science and Liberalism.” University of Chicago, April 2023.

Mid-Atlantic Bioethics Fellows Conference. National Institutes of Health, May 2021.

“Histories of Knowledge: Intellectual History and History of Science.” Stevanovich Institute on the Formation of Knowledge, University of Chicago, April 2018.

“Biopolitics Across Borders: Ideas and Practices.” (Graduate History conference) Columbia University, April 2010.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

French, German