

---

# John Edward Ashbrook

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of History  
O'Donohoe Hall 215  
(940) 397-4153 (office)  
(434) 386-1750 (mobile)  
John.ashbrook@msutexas.edu

### WORK EXPERIENCES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- 2023-present Associate Professor, Department of History, Midwestern State University  
2019-2023 Associate Professor and Chair, Department of History, Midwestern State University  
2018-2019 Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Virginia's College at Wise  
2011-2018 Associate Professor, Department of History, Sweet Briar College  
Chair, 2012-2016  
2005-2011 Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sweet Briar College  
2004-2005 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, Idaho State University  
2003-2004 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, St. Cloud State University  
2002-2003 Visiting Assistant Professor, Community College of Allegheny County, Boyce

### EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Department of History, University of Florida, Gainesville, 2002  
M.A. Department of History, Michigan State University, 1996  
B.S. Department of Geology, State University of New York at Oswego, 1994  
B.A. Department of Anthropology, State University of New York at Oswego, 1994  
B.A. Department of History, Radford University, Radford, VA, 1990

### PUBLICATIONS

#### In Progress/In Review

- In progress Article Manuscript: "Changing Politics, Changing Identities: Dalmatian Regionalism and Nationalism in the 19th and 20th Centuries"  
In progress Book Manuscript: *EU and NATO Expansion: Identity Politics and Russian Reaction*  
In progress Book Research: *The War of the Moles: Tunneling and the Underground War in World War I*

#### Peer Reviewed Books

2008 *Buying and Selling the Istrian Goat: Istrian Regionalism, Croatian Nationalism and EU Enlargement*, Regionalism and Federalism Series (Presses interuniversitaires européennes-Peter Lang).

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

2023 Questioning Community and Tradition at MSU: Budget Cuts and Name Changes, 2003-2008. In Everett Kindig, *Midwestern State University*, second edition. With Nathan Endo. [Forthcoming.]

2011 Politicized Identities in a European Borderland: Istrian Regionalism and Croatian Nationalism. *Nationalities Papers* 39/6: 871-897.

2010 With Spencer Bakich: Storming to partition: Croatia, the United States and Krajina in the Yugoslav War. *Small Wars and Insurgencies* 21/4: 537-560.

2010 Euroskepticism in Croatia and the Identity Politics of EU Enlargement. *Problems of Post-communism* 57/3: 23-39.

2006 Locking horns in the Istrian political arena: Politicized identity, policy, the Istrian Democratic Assembly, and the Croatian Democratic Alliance. *East European Politics and Societies* 20/4: 622-58.

2006 Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as an analytical tool in the analysis of politics in Eastern Europe: Istria in the 1990s. *Journal of the American Association for History and Computing* 9/2  
<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=jahc;cc=jahc;view=text;rgn=main;idno=3310410.0009.201>

2006 Istria is ours, and we can prove it: An Examination of Istrian historiography in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries. The University of Pittsburgh's *The Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies* 1707.

2005 Self-perceptions, denials, and expressions: Istrianity in a nationalizing Croatia, 1990-1997. *Nationalities Papers* 33/4: 459-87.

2005 Buying the Istrian goat: Regionalism and the economy in Croatian Istria. *East European Quarterly* 39/3: 329-366.

### Book Reviews

2023 Review of Myroslav Shkandrij, *In the Maelstrom: The Waffen-SS "Galicia" Division and its Legacy*. McGill-Queen's University Press. *Journal of Military History* [forthcoming]

2023 Review of Alfred Rieber, *Storm over the Balkans during the Second World War*.

Oxford University Press, 2022. *Journal of Military History* 87/3, 848-850.

- 2018 Invited feature book review of Max Bergholz, *Violence as a Generative Force: Identity, Nationalism, and Memory in a Balkan Community*. Cornell University Press, 2016. *American Historical Review* 123/1, 177–179.
- 2013 Review of Gregor Joseph Kranjc, *To Walk with the Devil: Slovene Collaboration and Axis Occupation, 1941-1945*, Toronto, 2013. *Journal of Military History* 77/4: 1521-1522.
- 2013 Review of Glenn E. Torrey, *The Romanian Battlefield in World War I*, Kansas, 2011. *Journal of Military History* 77/3: 1151-1152.
- 2013 Review of James Pettifer, *The Kosova Liberation Army: Underground War to Balkan Insurgency, 1948-2001*, Columbia, 2012. *The Journal of Military* 77/2: 758-759.
- 2010 Review of Sabrina Ramet, et al., *Croatia since Independence: War, Politics, Society, Foreign Relations*, Oldenbourg Wissenschaftsverlag, 2008. *Austrian History Yearbook* XLI: 303-304.
- 2004 Review of Pamela Ballinger's *History in Exile: Memory and Identity at the Borders of the Balkans*, Princeton, 2003. *Journal of Southern Europe and the Balkans* 6/1: 71-72.

### **Encyclopedia Entries**

- 2014 Wars of Yugoslav Succession (1990-1999). Gordon Martel (ed.), *Twentieth Century War and Conflict: A Concise Encyclopedia*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2011 Tito, Josip Broz. Gordon Martel. *Encyclopedia of War*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2011 Wars of Yugoslav Succession. Gordon Martel. *Encyclopedia of War*, Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2011 General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. *Supplement to the Modern Encyclopedia of Russian, Soviet, and Eurasian History*. Academic International Press, vol. 10
- 2011 Fedorov, Evgraf Stepanovich. *Supplement to the Modern Encyclopedia of Russian, Soviet, and Eurasian History*. Academic International Press, vol. 10

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Midwestern State University**

US History to 1865  
US History from 1865  
US History from 1865 (online)  
Middle Eastern History  
History of Modern Germany  
History of Eastern Europe and the Balkans  
History of the Ottoman Empire  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe  
Methodology and Historiography  
Western Civilization, 1500-present  
The Writing of History  
The History and Theory of Nationalism (graduate level seminar)  
Modern Military History (graduate level seminar)  
World War II in Europe (London Program)  
Thesis I and II

### **University of Virginia at Wise**

Western Civilization I, Antiquity to 1517 (Fall 2018)  
Western Civilization II, 1517 to the present (Spring 2019)  
History of Russia and the Soviet Union (Fall 2018)  
The Ottoman Empire (Spring 2019)  
Modern American Military History (Spring 2019)

### **Sweet Briar College**

#### Russian and Eastern European History

Imperial Russia (Fall 2006, Fall 2008, Spring 2011, Fall 2017)  
The Soviet Union and Beyond (Spring 2009, Fall 2011, Fall 2013, Fall 2016)  
Russian and Soviet Secret Policing, Ivan III-Putin (Spring 2009, Fall 2011)  
The Playground of Empires: Eastern Europe and the Balkans in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
Centuries (Fall 2007, Spring 2011, Fall 2013, Spring 2016)  
Ethnohistory and Yugoslavia (Fall 2010)  
The History of Modern Poland (Fall 2014, Fall 2017)  
Contested Borderlands: Ukraine (Spring 2015)

#### European History

Modern Europe, 1648-2004: From Absolutism to European Union Enlargement (Spring  
2006-2011, Fall 2011, Spring/Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017)  
European Borderlands: The Adriatic Sea (Fall 2012)  
A Clash of Civilizations? The Habsburg and Ottoman Empires, 1246-1923 (Spring 2006,  
Spring 2007, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2015)  
The History of the European Union (Fall 2006, Spring 2008, Spring 2010, Fall 2011, Fall  
2013)

Topics in Modern German History: The History of Prussia (Fall 2010); Nazi Germany (Fall 2012 and Fall 2016); The Holocaust (Fall 2015)  
European Borderlands: The Adriatic Sea (Fall 2012)

### Military and the History of Warfare

The Cold War as History: Russian and American Historiography (Fall 2006, Fall 2009, Spring 2013, Fall 2015)  
The Wars of Yugoslav Dissolution (Fall 2010)  
War and Modern Society (Spring 2017)  
The Great War: War from the Soldiers' Perspectives (Fall 2014)  
World War II in Europe: War from the Soldiers' Perspectives (Fall 2012, Spring 2015, Fall 2016)  
Independent Study: The Perpetrators of the Holocaust (Spring 2007)

### World and Thematic History

Introduction to Historical Methodology: Stalin and Hitler (Freshman/Sophomore Seminar) (Fall 2005, Spring 2008/2010, Fall 2012/2014, Spring 2017)  
World History from 1500 (Fall 2010, Fall 2012, Fall 2014)  
20<sup>th</sup> Century World History (Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007)  
19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Nationalism (Spring 2007, Spring 2009, Spring 2013, Fall 2017)  
Comparative Imperialism (Fall 2005, Fall 2007)  
Modern Revolutions (Fall 2005, Fall 2007)  
World Genocides and Ethnic Cleansing in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (Spring 2006, Fall 2008)  
The Politics of Mass Murder (Fall 2012, Fall 2014, Fall 2016, Fall 2017)  
Senior Seminar in History: Methodology and Historiography (Spring 2015)

### Study Abroad Courses

States in Transition: East Central Europe (Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary), 1939-2004 (Summer 2006)  
Industrialized Killing—The World Wars, the Holocaust, and Memory (Summers of 2016 and 2018)

### **University of Virginia, Charlottesville**

Modern Russia and the Soviet Union, 1855-present (Spring 2014)  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Genocides (Senior Seminar) (Spring 2014)  
The Revolutions of 1989 (Freshman Writing Seminar) (Fall 2014)

### **GRANTS & AWARDS**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2019 | Midwestern State University Office of Sponsored Programs and Research Grant |
| 2017 | SBC Faculty Research Grant (Australia) Australian tunneling companies WWI   |
| 2015 | SBC Faculty Research Grant (Slovenia, Italy, France, Belgium) WWI trenches  |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 2014       | IREX Short Term Grant (Croatia and Slovenia)                                |
| 2013       | SBC Faculty Research Grant (Croatia)  |
| 2012       | Fulbright Research Grant (Croatia, declined due to illness)                 |
| 2010       | IREX Short Term Grant (Croatia)   |
| 2010       | SBC Faculty Research Grant (Italy)  |
| 2009- 2010 | Mednick Fellowship for research on EU enlargement                           |
| 2009       | SBC Faculty Research Grant (Croatia and Belgium)                            |
| 2008       | SBC Faculty Research Grant (Croatia)  |
| 2005       | Faculty Research Council of Idaho State University Research Grant (Croatia) |
| 2000-2001  | Fulbright Fellowship (Croatia)  |
| 1999       | College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship                |
| 1998- 2000 | Boren Fellowship (Croatia and Yugoslavia)                                   |
| 1998       | Wilson Center Short Term Grant  |

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

### Invited Speaker

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2021 | Non-German Perpetrators in the Holocaust: Comparing the Experiences of the Polish and French Perpetrators (April 8, 2021). Sheppard Air Force Base  |
| 2016 | The Future of Europe: A Post-Brexit Analysis<br>Great Decisions lecture sponsored by the Lynchburg Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the Lynchburg Chapter of the League of Women Voters, February 9. |
| 2006 | The Politics of ‘Small Differences’ in Croatia, Bosnia, and Vojvodina: An examination of difference and misunderstanding, Radford University East-Central Europe Festival, September 20.  |
| 2005 | Regionalism in Croatia: Breaking the national monolith, Annual Blue Ridge Fulbright dinner, Blacksburg, VA, November 11.  |
| 2002 | Questioning Monolithic National Identity in Croatia, University of Pittsburgh’s Center for Russian and East European Studies, October 1.  |
| 2001 | Dalmatian Regionalism: Some Preliminary Results and Observations, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore, Zagreb, Croatia, May 5.  |

### Papers

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2023 | Dalmatian Identity(ies): Regionalism, Nationalism, or Localism?, 65 <sup>th</sup> Annual Western Social Science Association (WSSA) Conference, Tempe, AZ, April 12-15 |
| 2023 | Changing Politics, Changing Identities: Dalmatian Regionalism and Nationalism in the 19th and 20th Centuries, 2023 Phi Alpha Theta Biennial                           |

Convention, Albuquerque, NM, January 4-7

- 2019 European Conditionality Reconsidered: Croatia and the Western Balkans, 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Western Social Science Association (WSSA) Conference San Diego, CA, April 26
- 2016 National Indifference, Indeterminacy, and Ethnic Surfing in the Upper Adriatic, Roundtable member discussant, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Conference, Washington, DC, November 20.
- 2015 Unspoken Bias: Prejudice and EU Expansion into Eastern Europe and the Balkans, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Conference, Philadelphia, November 19-22.
- 2011 Storming to Partition: Croatia, the United States, and Krajina in the Yugoslav War, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Regional Conference, Charlottesville, VA, November 18-20.
- 2010 Historical Identities in Traditional Borderlands: Istrian Regionalism and Croatian nationalism since 1989, Mediterranean Research Meeting and the Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies, Bologna, Italy, March 23-27.
- 2009 Euroskepticism in Croatia and the Identity Politics of EU Enlargement, Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, Charlottesville, VA, March 26-28.
- 2008 International politics, counterinsurgency and ethnic cleansing: The Case of the Krajina, 1990-1995, The École Doctorale of the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris and the Association for the Study of Nationalities Joint International Conference "Empires and Nations", Paris, France, July 3-5.
- 2008 Identity politicization and multiculturalism in Croatian Istria, Columbia University's Council of European Studies, Chicago, IL, March 6-8.
- 2006 A tale of two regionalisms: Istria and Dalmatian Regionalism in a Nationalizing Croatia, University of Nebraska European Studies Conference, Omaha, NE, October 1-3
- 2006 The goat or the bull? The politicization of national and regional identities in Croatian Istria in the 1990s, European Social Science and History Conference, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, March 22-25.
- 2005 Regional perceptions of the nation and "empire": Istria from Tito's Yugoslavia to Croatia, World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, April 14-16.
- 2005 Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the analysis of ethnopolitics in

- Istria in the 1990s: An approach for historians of Eastern Europe and the Balkans, American Association for History and Computing, Seattle, WA, January 6-9.
- 2004 Cognitive borders in an European borderland: Croatian Istrian perceptions of their non-Istrian co-nationals, 1989-97, University of Glamorgan's Centre for Border Studies conference, Glamorgan, Wales, December 2-4.
- 2003 Buying the Goat: Economic Regionalism in Croatian Istria in the 1990s, Athens Institute for Education and Research 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Modern European History, Athens, Greece, December 29-31.
- 2003 Buying the Goat: Economic Regionalism in Croatian Istria in the 1990s, Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York, NY, April 15-17.
- 2003 Economic Motivations for the Expression of Subnational Identities, Istria in the 1990s, Southern Conference for Slavic Studies, Savannah, GA, March 28-29.
- 2002 Revisiting 'nesting orientalisms': The case of Istria in the 1990s, University of Sofia's Centre for Advanced Study and the NEXUS Project Conference, Sofia, Bulgaria October 18-20.
- 2002 Nesting Balkanisms among Dalmatian and Istrian Croats in the 1990s, Special Convention of the Centro per l'Europa centro orientale e balcanica in association with ASN, Forli, Italy, June 4-9.
- 2001 The Economic as a 'Determinant' of Istrian Identity, 1990-1996, Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeastern Europe's "New Doctoral Research on the History of Southeast Europe" Workshop, Dubrovnik, Croatia, June 29-July 1.
- 1996 Anti-Semitism and the Croatian Independent State, 1941-1945. Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, Oakland, MI, March 23.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Peer Reviewer**

- Article Reviewer, *Journal of Military History*, 2022-present  
 Article Reviewer, *Comparative Southeast European Studies*, 2021  
 Article Reviewer, *European Journal of International Relations*, 2011-2013  
 Article Reviewer, *Ethnicities*, 2013  
 Article Reviewer, *Europe-Asia Studies*, 2012 and 2014

### **To Department**

- Chaired search for new Latin Americanist (Spring 2021-2022)  
 Hired Department Secretary (Fall 2019)



Chaired search for new Asianist (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)  
Lead the Department in transition to online delivery during overblown COVID crisis  
Helped create and implement the Department's 3/2 Fast Track MA Program  
Chaired, wrote, and responded to the Department's graduate program external review  
(Fall 2019)

### **To Institution (MSU Texas)**

Pre-Law Scholarship Committee (2022-present)  
Brought Spencer Bakich to campus to deliver the Speakers & Issues talk  
    "Counterinsurgency in Iraq and Afghanistan: Strategy and (oral) History, 21  
    March 2023  
Coordinated the Centennial project of updating Dr. Kindig's book on the History of MSU  
Texas. Operated at the Chief Editor and Compiler of the new edition for the 100<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Celebration edition with Texas Tech Press (2022-23)  
Taught the History of World War II in Europe at the Institution's London Study Abroad  
program (July-August 2023)  
Taught HIST 1233, HIST 1433, and Independent Study: Modern Germany at the  
Institution's Berlin Study Abroad program (June 2023)  
Taught HIST 1433 at the Institution's Berlin Study Aboard program (June 2022)  
Teacher Education Committee (August 2019-August 2023)  
Chair of the Department (August 2019-August 2023)  
Planned and hosted Phi Alpha Theta's Biennial Conference at MSU. With Whitney  
Snow (2021)  
Memorandum of Understanding between Sheppard Air Force Base and Department (Fall  
2021)  
Faculty Advisor for the Young Conservatives of Texas (Fall 2019-present)  
College Council Member, MSU Texas (Fall 2019-May 2023)  
College Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee (Fall 2019-May 2023)

### **To Institution (non-MSU)**

Human Subjects Committee, Sweet Briar College (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)  
International Affairs Advisory Committee, Sweet Briar College (Fall 2005-2009)  
Honors Committee, Sweet Briar College (Fall 2007-Spring 2009)  
General Education Committee, Sweet Briar College (Fall 2008-Spring 2011)  
Friends of the Library (2006-2016), Treasurer (2013-2016)  
Faculty Grants, Sweet Briar College (2013-2017)  
Diversity Committee, Sweet Briar College (Fall 2014-2017), Chair from Fall 2015  
Instruction Committee, Sweet Briar College (2014-present), Chair 2016-17

### **To Community**

Volunteer at the Wichita Falls Adult Literacy Council, 2019-present  
Treasurer of the Sweet Briar College Friends of the Library, 2013-2016  
Secretary of the Friends of the Amherst County Public Library, 2010-2019  
Volunteer at the Lynchburg Boys and Girls Club, 2015-2019

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Historical Association (AHA)  
Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)  
Phi Beta Kappa  
The Society for Military History

## **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

Croatian  
Serbian  
Bosnian  
Slovenian: reading only  
German: reading only  
Italian: reading only