

LAIRD BOSWELL

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POSITIONS

2005-2008 Professor of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2008 Professeur Invité, Institut d'études politiques de Paris (France) (November)
2005-2008 Associate Chair and Chair of Undergraduate Studies
1999 -2005 Associate Professor of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2000-04 Chair, Center for European Studies (Department of Education, Title VI National Resource Center)
2001-02 Chair, Academic Program in Aix-en-Provence. Consortium of the Universities of Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan
Invited Lecturer, Université de Provence
1992-99 Assistant Professor of History, University of Wisconsin at Madison
1991-92 Visiting Assistant Professor, Université de Provence
1990-91 Instructor in History, California Institute of Technology
1988-90 Mellon Postdoctoral Instructor in History, California Institute of Technology

EDUCATION

1988 Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley (History)
1981 M.A., University of California, Berkeley (History)
1979 B.A., Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts (Sociology of Literature)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2005 University of Wisconsin Sabbatical (spring)
2004 UW Graduate School Research Committee, Summer Funding
2004 Alternate, American Council of Learned Societies
1998 UW Graduate School Research Committee, Summer Funding Fall 1997
Humanities Institute, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Resident Fellowship
1996 UW Graduate School Research Committee, Summer Funding
1994-95 German Marshall Fund of the United States Research Fellowship
Research Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate School
1992-93 Fulbright Teaching Award, Republic of Guinea (declined)
1991 National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend
1986-87 Sather Fellowship, University of California-Berkeley
1985 Allan Sharlin Memorial Award, University of California-Berkeley
1982-84 Social Science Research Council Fellowship
George Lurcy Foundation Fellowship
Bourse Chateaubriand (French Government Grant)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 1998 Rural Communism in France, 1920-1939. (Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1998, 266 p.)
- French Translation, Le communisme rural en France : Le Limousin et la Dordogne de 1920 à 1939, traduit par Guy Clermont (Limoges : Presses universitaires de Limoges, 2006)

Articles

- 2009 “Rethinking the Nation at the Periphery,” French Politics, Culture and Society, forthcoming
- 2008 “Should France be Ashamed of its History? Coming to Terms with the Past in France and its Eastern Borderlands,” Totalitarian Movements and Political Religion 9 (June 2008): 237-251.
- 2006 “Alsace-Lorraine,” in Encyclopedia of Europe: 1789-1914. John Merriman and Jay Winter, eds. (New York: Charles Scribner’s, 2006), I : 50-52.
- 2005 « L’historiographie du communisme français est-elle dans une impasse? » [Has the Historiography of French communism reached a dead end?], Revue française de science politique 55, no. 5-6 (2005): 919-934.
- 2004 “La petite propriété fait le communisme (Limousin, Dordogne),” Etudes Rurales no. 171-172 (July-December 2004) : 73-82.
- 2001 “Fissures dans la nation française: les réfugiés Alsaciens et Lorrains en 1939-1940,” in Max Lagarrigue ed., 1940, La France du repli, l’Europe de la défaite (Toulouse: Privat, 2001), 197-208.
- 2000 “From Liberation to Purge Trials in the “Mythic Provinces:” the Reconfiguration of Identities in Alsace and Lorraine, 1918-1920,” French Historical Studies 23 (Winter 2000): 129-162.
- 2000 “Fissures de la nation française: Les évacués alsaciens et lorrains de 1939-1940,” Migrations 17 (2000): 24-27.
- 1999 “Franco-Alsatian Conflict and the Crisis of National Sentiment during the Phoney War,” Journal of Modern History (September 1999): 552-584.
- 1998 “Le communisme et la défense de la petite propriété en Limousin et en Dordogne,” Communisme [Paris] 51-52 (1998): 7-27.
- 1993 “The French Rural Communist Electorate,” Journal of Interdisciplinary History 23 (Spring 1993): 719-749.
- 1989 Review essay : “How do French Peasants Vote?” Peasant Studies 16: 2 (Winter 1989): 107-122.
- 1986 “Les origines électorales du communisme en Limousin,” in Les Limousins en quête de leur passé, ed. Rencontre des Historiens du Limousin (Limoges: Souny, 1986), 133-153.
- 1986 “Postface,” to Georges Dauger, Aux origines du Front populaire dans la Creuse (Guéret, 1986), 191-196.

Book Reviews

- 2009 Review of Matt Perry, Prisoners of Want: The Experience and Protest of the Unemployed in France, 1921-45 (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007), H-France, forthcoming.
- 2007 Review of Timothy B. Smith, France in Crisis: Welfare, Inequality and Globalization since 1980 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004), Journal of Modern History 79 (2007).
- 2006 Review of Marc Lazar, Le Communisme: Une passion française (Paris: Perrin, 2002), French Politics, Culture and Society 24 (2006), 144-6.
- 2005 Review of Cyrille Guiat, The French and Italian Communist Parties: Comrades and Culture (London: Frank Cass, 2003), Totalitarian Movements and Political Religions (June 2005), 156-57
- 2003 Review of Max Lagarrigue, ed., Renaud Jean. Carnets d'un paysan député communiste (Anglet: Atlantica, 2001), Communisme (Paris) no. 76-77 (2003-04) : 239-241.
- 2003 Review of Deborah Reed-Danahay, Education and Identity in Rural France: The Politics of Schooling (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), Contemporary Sociology (Summer 2003).
- 2002 Review of Stephen L. Harp, Learning to be Loyal: Primary Schooling as Nation Building in Alsace and Lorraine, 1850-1940 (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1998), Journal of Modern History 74 (2002): 870-71.
- 1994 "Political History and Class Analysis," Review of Ronald Aminzade, Ballots and Barricades. Class Formation and Republican Politics in France, 1830-1871 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993), Contemporary Sociology 23 (1994): 799- 800.
- 1990 Film Review of Bernardo Bertolucci's 1900 [Novecento] (American Historical Review, October 1990, 1131-33).

IN PROGRESS

Forging France along the Rhine: Cultural Conflict and National Identity in Alsace-Lorraine, 1919-2006 (Book Manuscript – expected date of completion, August 2009)

This book uses the contested borderland of Alsace-Lorraine to rethink critical aspects of French and European history. The book questions the assumption that nationalism was less problematic in well established nations such as France and Great Britain, and uses debates over citizenship and nationhood on France's eastern border to show how, in a highly centralized state, nationalism was not simply imposed from above, but shaped by contentious grassroots conflict. My work also underscores that frontier regions provide a unique window for writing the history of Europe.