

# Ludwig Decke

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Modern European History; Modern Jewish History; Germany; Empire and Decolonization; Human Rights; Race and Citizenship; Minorities and Nationalism; Holocaust and Genocide; International Order; Far Right

## EDUCATION

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- In progress     **Ph.D. in Modern European History**, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Fields: Central European History; Modern Jewish Politics; Race, Empire, and Human Rights in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe  
Committee: Giuliana Chamedes, Tony Michels, Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, Brandon Bloch
- 2020             **M.A. in History & Political Science**, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena  
Fulbright Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (2018-19)  
Erasmus+ Visiting Student at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2018)
- 2016             **B.A. in Philosophy**, University of Leipzig

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Refereed Journal Articles

“Ungleiche Weggefährten: Hannah Arendt, Melvin Lasky und der Antitotalitarismus im Kalten Krieg” in *Dubnow Institute Yearbook*, vol. 17 (2018) [2020], 117-146, doi.org/10.13109/9783666370809.117.

### Book Chapters

“Illiberale Demokratie avant la lettre: Zu Carl Schmitts demokratietheoretischen Überlegungen in der Weimar Republik” in *Konflikt und Konsens: Demokratische Transformation in der Weimarer und Bonner Republik*, ed. Sebastian Elsbach and Ronny Noak (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2019), 279-294.

“Carl Schmitt” in *Handbuch der völkischen Wissenschaften: Akteure, Netzwerke, Forschungsprogramme*, ed. Michael Fahlbusch, Ingo Haar and Alexander Pinwinkler (Berlin/Boston, MA: De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2017), 732-736 (with Raphael Gross).

### Manuscripts in Preparation

“A Liberal Faith in Times of Crisis: Morris R. Cohen, American Liberalism, and the Fight for Jewish Rights, 1933-1941.”

### Reviews

Review of Abigail Green and Simon Levis Sullam, eds., *Jews, Liberalism, Antisemitism: A Global History*, in *Comparativ: Zeitschrift für Globalgeschichte und vergleichende Gesellschaftsforschung*, vol. 32, no. 6 (2023), 775-777.

Review of Tiffany N. Florvil, *Mobilizing Black Germany: Afro-German Women and the Making of a Transnational Movement*, in *Cold War History*, doi.org/10.1080/14682745.2023.2190428.

Review of Samuel Salzborn, *Angriff der Antidemokraten: Die völkische Rebellion der Neuen Rechten*, in *Phase 2*, vol. 55 (2018).

## Public-Facing Writing

Review of Andrei S. Markovits, *Der Pass mein Zuhause: Aufgefangen in der Wurzellosigkeit*, in *Jüdische Geschichte & Kultur*, vol. 7 (forthcoming).

[“A Letter of Refusal: Morris R. Cohen and Oscar I. Janowsky on the Problems of Jewish Peace Studies during World War II” in Mimeo: Blog of the Dubnow Institute, 2022.](#)

[“Im Gleichschritt gegen die Moderne: Zum \(Miss-\)Verhältnis von Postmoderne und der Neuen Rechten” in sprachlos-blog.de, 2016.](#)

## **PRIZES AND HONORS**

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### Research

2017 Matthias Erzberger Prize  
*Awarded to the best German-language B.A. thesis on the history of the Weimar Republic*

### Teaching

2023 Campus-Wide Early Excellence in Teaching Award, UW-Madison  
*One of the 21 best teaching assistants out of 2,300 TA's at the university*

2022 Early Excellence in Teaching Award, Department of History, UW-Madison

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS**

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### External

2024 Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Cultur-Simon Dubnow, Visiting Research Fellowship

2023 American Academy for Jewish Research, Travel Grant

2023 Center for Jewish History-Fordham University, Research Fellowship

2023 FU Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, Dissertation Fellowship

2023 Central European History Society, Research Grant

2023 Leo Baeck Institute, Fritz Halbers Fellowship Award

2022 Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University (HEFNU), Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization Fellowship

2021 German Studies Association, Travel Grant (Community Fund)

2018 Fulbright, Study Fellowship (UW-Madison)

2018 ERASMUS+ Fellowship (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

2015 DAAD, Travel Grant (Perm, Russia)

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

2023 George L. Mosse Program, Graduate Exchange Fellowship, UW-Madison/The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (deferred until 2024)

2022 Center for Jewish Studies, David Sorkin Graduate Student Award

2022 Department of History, Dissertation Research Travel Award

2021 Graduate School, Student Research Grants Competition, Conference Presentation Award

2020 George L. Mosse Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in European Cultural History

2019 International Student Service, Academic Excellence Award

2018 International Student Service, Academic Excellence Award

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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### Invited Talks

- 2021 “‘Hold on to the Faith in American Liberalism!’ Morris R. Cohen and the American Jewish Liberal Imagination during Nazism” at “American Jewish Political Thought - At Home and Abroad,” Annual Conference of the Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture - Simon Dubnow/Goldstein-Goren Center for American Jewish History, New York University.
- 2017 “Carl Schmitt’s Anti-Liberalism in the Weimar Republic” at the international conference “Zusammenbruch, Aufbruch, Abbruch? Die Novemberrevolution als Ereignis und Erinnerungsort” (in German). Research Institute Weimar Republic, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Weimar.

### Panels Organized

- 2022 “The Future of the Jews from Imperial Germany to the Holocaust,” German Studies Association, Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

### Conference Papers and Workshop Presentations

- 2023 “Jewish Internationalism and the Problem of ‘Race’ after the Holocaust and Decolonization,” in Panel “Holocaust Memory, Jewish Difference, and Paradigms of Anti-Racism,” Association for Jewish Studies, Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- 2022 “The Americanization of the ‘Jewish Question’ during the Holocaust,” German Studies Association, Annual Conference, Houston, TX.
- 2022 “Prolonging Empire: American Jews, Colonialism, and Visions of Global Order after the Holocaust” at “Jewish Questions and the Global South: Between Sovereignty and Human Rights,” The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2021 “After Genocide: The Postwar Visions of the American Jewish Committee and the Holocaust,” Lessons & Legacies Regional Interim Meeting, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2021 “Exploring Jewish Postwar Visions during the Holocaust: The Case of the American Jewish Committee” at “Examining American Responses to the Holocaust: Digital Possibilities,” FDR Presidential Library and Museum, virtual.
- 2021 “A Europe for All: American Jewish Liberalism and its Multicultural Vision for Post-Holocaust Europe” at “Europe’s Past, Present, and Future: Utopias and Dystopias,” 27<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Europeanists, Council for European Studies, virtual.
- 2020 “Fighting for the American Jewish Dream: Morris R. Cohen and Liberal Jewish Postwar Planning during World War II” at Kolloquium Neuere und Nordamerikanische Geschichte (in German), Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena.
- 2019 “Planning against the Void: The Research Institute on Peace and Post-War Problems and Its Visions for a Jewish Future after the Holocaust, 1940-1945.” Presentation at 27<sup>th</sup> Wissenschaftliches Halbjahresgespräch (in German), Lehrstuhl für Neuere und Neueste Geschichte, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena.
- 2019 “Envisioning a Post-Holocaust Future: The Postwar Planning of the American Jewish Committee during World War II” at the Graduate Student Conference “Back to the Future: Visions of Tomorrow in History,” Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2018 “Jewish Postwar Planning during World War II and the Lessons from the Interwar Period.” Poster Presentation at the conference “War’s End? The Legacy of Migration and Displacement, Europe 1918-2018.” Center for German & European Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

- 2016 “Carl Schmitt’s Ideal of Homogenous Democracy” at the Graduate Student Conference “Nationen, Minoritäten, und Menschenrechte im 20. Jahrhundert” (in German). Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena.

## **FURTHER EDUCATION**

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- 2022 Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization at Northwestern, Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University (HEFNU)
- 2021 Emerging Scholars Workshop “Cultural Approaches to Modern German History” with Monica Black (U-Tennessee). German Studies Association, Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2020 International Summer School on “Belonging.” With Joachim v. Puttkamer (Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena), Paul Hanebrink (Rutgers), Melissa Feinberg (Rutgers), and Gábor Egry (Institute for Political History, Budapest), Biertan, Rumania (cancelled due to Covid-19).
- 2017 Seminar “Jews and Politics in Postwar Germany.” German Studies Association, Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- 2017- Visiting Member, Graduate School Jena Center 20th Century History, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität  
2020 Jena (Ph.D.-level seminars with Dr. Dan Diner, Dr. Mark Roseman, and Dr. Doris L. Bergen).
- 2015 International Summer School “Cultures of Memory in a Comparative Perspective.” Academy of Arts and Culture Perm, Russia.

## **TEACHING**

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### University of Wisconsin-Madison (as Instructor)

HIST/JEWISH 310: The Holocaust (Summer 2023)

### University of Wisconsin-Madison (as Teaching Assistant)

HIST 120: Europe and the Modern World, 1815 to the Present (Spring 2023)

HIST 350: The First World War and the Shaping of Twentieth Century Europe (Spring 2022)

HIST 357: The Second World War (Fall 2021 & Fall 2022)

### Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena (as Teaching Assistant)

Historiography and Historical Methodology

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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### Article referee

*Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison Committee, 2022-2023

Graduate Council Student Representative, 2021-2023

Co-founder and Organizer of the Modern Europe Graduate Dissertation Workshop, 2021-2023

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

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- 2020 Organization and moderation of the online panel discussion “USA: A Country in Transition” at the Volkshochschule Leipziger Land, an institution for adult education, with Richard A. Bachmann (University of Michigan) and Prof. Damani Partridge (University of Michigan) (in German).
- 2019 “Where is America Headed? On the Current Political Situation in the United States.” Invited lecture and group discussion at the VHS Leipziger Land (in German).

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### Research Assistance

Giuliana Chamedes, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Feb.-Jul. 2021

Dan Diner, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jul.-Sep. 2020

Doris L. Bergen, University of Toronto, May-Jun. 2019

### Academic Editing

Hannah Arendt Institute for Totalitarianism Studies, Dresden, Editorial Assistant, Jan.-Jun. 2020.

Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture - Simon Dubnow, Leipzig, Scientific Assistant & Freelance Editor, 2013-2019

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Association for Jewish Studies

German Studies Association

Central European History Society

## **LANGUAGES**

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German (native), English (advanced), French (upper intermediate), modern Hebrew (beginner)