

C.N Bilotft

Carolyn N. Bilotft  
Maison de la Paix, Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202  
Geneva, Switzerland  
+41229086231  
[carolyn.bilotft@graduateinstitute.ch](mailto:carolyn.bilotft@graduateinstitute.ch)

### **Education**

Princeton University, PhD - Modern World History, 2010  
Princeton University, M.A - Modern World History, 2005  
University of Nebraska at Lincoln, B.A - History, Summa Cum Laude, 2002

### **Academic Positions**

Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies, Associate Professor  
International History, 2021-Present

Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies, Assistant Professor,  
International History, 2016-2021

Georgia State University, Assistant Professor of History, 2010-2015

### **Publications**

#### **Books**

*A Violent Peace: Media, Truth, and Power at the League of Nations* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2021).

*The Trouble with Avatars: Henri Bergson's Digital Premonitions* (Manuscript in progress)

#### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

"Pivotes Informacionales y Giros Lingüísticos: Filosofías geopolíticas del lenguaje en la Liga de las Naciones," *Ayer* no. 131 (2023): 21-49.

"Keynesian Meta-Geography and its Afterlives," *Critical Historical Studies*, 8 (1), (March 2021): 23-55.

"Decoding the Balance Sheet: Gifts, Goodwill and the Liquidation of the League of Nations," *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, 1(2) (2020): 379-404.

"The Anatomy of Credulity and Incredulity: a Hermeneutics of Misinformation," *The Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review*, 1(2), (January 2020).  
<https://misinforeview.hks.harvard.edu/article/the-anatomy-of-credulity-and-incredulity-or-a-hermeneutics-of-misinformation/>

"Sundry Worlds within the World: De-Centered Histories and Institutional Archives,"

C.N Bilotft

*Journal of World History*, 30 (4), (2020): 729-760.

### Review Essays/Essays

"*Eros and the Nature of Interest*," *Finance and Society*, 9(1), (2023) 61-64

"Interpreting Disinformation," *Global Challenges*, issue 13, May, 2023.  
<https://globalchallenges.ch/issue/13/interpreting-disinformation/>

"Mixed Signals: Political Economies of the Sign," *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, 4(1), (2023): 1-8.

"The Endless Accumulation of History (in Financial Times)," *History and Theory*, vol 61, no. 2 (2022): 330-344.

"Microcosms and Macrocosms: Capitalism and the Latent Metaphysics of Scope and Scale," *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, 3 (1) , (2022): 1-18.

"Decolonizing the Global", *Global Challenges*, issue 10, October, 2021.  
<https://globalchallenges.ch/issue/10/decolonising-the-global/>

"Reading Roland Barthes in the Misinformation Age," *Los Angeles Review of Books*, March 21, 2021.

"Profit, Penury, and the Impieties of Inequality? A Retrospective on Martin Luther's 'On Trade and Usury' for Our Times," *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, 2 (1), (2021): 1-6.

"Against Scholarly Enclosures: Reconsidering the Art and Economics of Review," *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics* 1(1), (2019): 231-240

### Book Chapters

"On a Certain Blindness in Economic Theory: Keynes' Giraffes and the Ordinary Textuality of Economic Ideas." In Sophus Reinert and Robert Fredona, eds., *New Perspectives on the History of Political Economy*, 309–347. London: Palgrave, 2018.

"The League of Nations and Alternative Economic Perspectives." In Jayati Ghosh, Rainer Kattel & Erik Reinert, eds., *Elgar Handbook of Alternative Theories of Economic Development*, 270-280. Cheltenham, U.K: Edgar Elgar Publishing LTD, 2016.

"The Meek Shall not Inherit the Earth: Nationalist Economies, Ethnic Minorities, and the League of Nations 1919-1939." In Christoph Kreutzmueller, Michael Wildt and Moshe Zimmerman, Eds., *National Economies: Volks-Wirtschaft, Racism and Economy in Europe Between the Wars*, 138-154. Newcastle, U.K: Cambridge Scholars, 2015.

C.N Bilotft

"Reversing the Curse of Babel? International Language Movements and Inter-war Chasms." In Patrick Manning (ed.), *World History: Global and Local Interactions*, 179–194. Princeton: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2005.

"Inter-War Years." In William H. McNeill et al (ed), *Berkshire Encyclopedia of World History*, volume III, 1018-1022. Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire Publishing Group, 2005.

### Edited Collections

Editor, Special Issue, "Microcosms," *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, 1013, no 1, 2022.

### Invited Presentations

"The Short Run and Its Valences: Reading Keynes' Political Theory of Time," *Keynes and Keynesianism Reconsidered*, Conference at the University of Chicago Center in Paris, May 7, 2022.

"Eros goes to Market: Lack, Desire and the Birth of Modern Economics," The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, June 7-9, 2021.

"A Pilgrim's View of Progress: John Moody's Sojourns and the Grading of Places," Harvard Business School, June 18, 2021.

"The League of Nations and the False News Conference of 1936," Universidad Complutense, Madrid, May 2019.

"Decoding the Balance Sheet: Material Objects, Symbolic Capital, and the Liquidation of the League of Nations." Paper presented at the Business History Seminar, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA, October 2018.

"The 'Other Spaces' of Global History." Paper presented at "Making a Case for Internationalism." Workshop organized by the Dahlem Humanities Center and the Department of History of the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University Berlin, June 2017.

"Re-reading Populist Monetary Visions, 1930-2016." Paper presented at "Back to the 1930s? Economic crisis, populism and world disorder," the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, June 2017.

"Henri Bergson and the Unbearable Weight of Memory." Paper presented at *Penser L'Afrique Avec Bergson*, Rabat, Morocco, Ecole de gouvernance et d'économie, May 2017.

C.N Bilotft

"Global Flesh and Spirit." Invited talk, Princeton Humanities Center, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 2017.

"Micro-Megas: International Organizations as Microcosms of the Global." Public lecture, Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, March 2016.

"International Organizations as Heterotopia: Global Modernities at the League of Nations Archives." Paper presented at the Columbia University and NYU joint seminar on Intellectual History, November 28, 2016.

"World History and Business History: a Promising Partnership?" Paper presented at Business History in Africa, Asia, and Latin America: Integrating Course Development and New Research, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA, June 2014.

"The Ambiguities of Emergence: the Middle Class in Global Historical Perspective." Lecture presented at Middle Class Phenomenon in Emerging Markets Conference, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro NUPIN: Núcleo de Pesquisas em Negócios Internacionais, Rio de Janeiro, September 2014.

"Speculators and Spectators: Movies, Markets, and the League of Nations." Paper presented at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Doctoral Seminar, Department of International History and Politics, Geneva, Switzerland, March 2014.

"On a Certain Blindness in Economic Theory: The Firm, the State and the Macro-Micro Divide, 1926-1937." Paper presented at New Perspectives on the History of Political Economy, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, November 2013.

"How Money Talks: Language and International Monetary Policy, 1919-1939." Seminar paper, Université Paris II, France, April 2013.

### **Selected Conference Presentations**

"From Literature to Liturgy: The Origin and Transformation of Moody's Investment Services" Plotlines, University of Pennsylvania, January, 20203,

"Medusa's Eternal Recurrence: Myth, Metaphor and the Historical Work of Re-telling," American Historical Association, New York City, January, 2020.

"Albert Hirschman and Jacques Lacan: Private Interest and the *Ego* after 1945," Paper presented at the Philosophy, Politics and Economics Society Annual Conference, New Orleans, March, 2018.

"The Short Run and La Longue Durée: Economics, History and the Politics of Time." Paper presented at Histories of American Capitalism, Cornell University, Ithaca, November, 2014

C.N Bilotft

“The Risks of Noise: ‘Talkies,’ Market Speculation, and Dangerous Animal Spirits, 1929-1935.” Paper presented at the Business History Conference Annual Meeting, Frankfurt, March 2014

“Unequal Endowments: Comparative vs. Absolute Equality at the League of Nations.” Paper presented at History, Consumption and Inequality, Center for History and Economics, Cambridge University, June 2013

“All that Was Solid: the Competing World Views of Metal and Credit Theories of Money after 1850.” Paper presented at Roundtable, Transfers of Precious Metals and Their Consequences, Casa de Velázquez, Madrid, May 2013

“Global Translation and Exchange: Links between Language and Monetary Policy at the League of Nations, 1920-1939.” Paper presented at the World History and Economics Conference, Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina, April 2012

“Re-Wording the World: Constrained Speech and the Global Body Politic after 1918.” Paper presented at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Department of International History and Politics Doctoral Seminar, Geneva, Switzerland, January 2007

“Language and the World the War Made.” Paper presented at The Idea of Kosmopolis: Ethics, Politics, and Aesthetics of World Citizenship, Stockholm, Sweden, March 2006

### **Conferences and Workshops Organized**

*Plotlines: Narratives Arcs and Subtexts in the History of Capitalism*, University of Pennsylvania, January 2024

*Microcosms of Global Capitalism*, Geneva, Switzerland, October, 2020

*Poetics of Material Life*, Princeton University, November, 2020

### **Grants and Fellowships**

Faculty Fellow, Center on Digital Culture and Society, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, 2024-2025

Swiss National Foundation, Transatlantic Partnership Grant, 2014-2015

Chang Sun Term Professorship, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, 2018-2019.

Faculty Seed Grant, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, 2018.

Princeton University Center for the Study of Human Values, Conference Grant, 2018.

Distinguished Visiting Professorship, Université Paris II, France, 2015-2021

Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne Germany, 2012-2013

C.N Bilotft

Research Initiation Grant, Georgia State University, 2011

Fellow, Andrew Mellon Foundation and The National History Center's Summer Research Seminar on Decolonization, July 2008

Albert Gallatin Fellow at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva Switzerland 2006-2007

Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies,

Shelby Cullum Davis Merit Prize, Princeton University, 2003

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS), 2003-2004

### **Current Courses Taught**

The Mind and Its Maladies: "Mental Illness" from Plato to Postmodernism

Information Revolutions from the Alphabet to the Internet

Making Sense of Conspiracy Theories

The Craft of Scholarly Writing

\* Global History of Fascism (have taught)

\* Commodities in Global Historical Perspective (Lauder)

- (GSU) Crisis and Conjuncture from 1870-1989
- Global History II from 1500-Present
- 

### **Professional Positions**

*Capitalism: A Journal Of History and Economics*, Founding Editor, 2018-present

*World History Bulletin*, editorial board, 2010-2016

### **Professional Service**

*Journal of World History*, manuscript reviewer, 2010-2020

*German History Review*, manuscript reviewer, 2013

*Journal of Modern History*, manuscript reviewer, 2015.

### **Foreign Languages**

English—Native

French—Highly proficient writing, reading and speaking.

\* Reading proficiency in Spanish and German