

*Curriculum Vitae*  
**Dr. Katherine C. Epstein**  
**Department of History**  
**Rutgers University-Camden**  
**kce17@camden.rutgers.edu**

**Employment**

Associate Professor of History, Rutgers University-Camden, 2015–present

Assistant Professor of History, Rutgers University-Camden, 2011–2015

Adjunct Professor, Wright State University, Fall 2010

**Education**

Ph.D. in history, Ohio State University, 2011

M.Phil. in international relations, University of Cambridge, 2005

B.A. *summa cum laude*, with distinction in history, Yale University, 2004

**Books**

*Analog Superpowers: How Twentieth-Century Technology Theft Built the National Security State* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2024)

*Torpedo: Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex in the United States and Great Britain* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014)

**Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters**

“Harnessing Invention: The British Admiralty and the Political Economy of Knowledge in the World War I Era,” in *Knowledge Flows in a Global Age: A Transnational Approach*, ed. John Krige, 77–102 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022)

“The Sinews of Globalization,” in *Cambridge History of America in the World*, vol. 3, *America and the World, 1900–1945*, ed. Brooke L. Blower and Andrew Preston (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021), 37–61

“A Useful Category of Analysis? Grand Strategy and US Foreign Relations from 1865 to 1918,” in *Rethinking American Grand Strategy*, ed. Christopher Nichols, Elizabeth Borgwardt, and Andrew Preston (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021), 123–42

“The Conundrum of American Power in the Age of World War I,” *Modern American History* 2, no. 3 (November 2019): 345–65

“Intellectual Property and National Security: The Case of the Hardcastle Superheater, 1905–1927,” *History and Technology* 34, no. 2 (2018): 126–56

“The Other Visible Hand: National Security and Intellectual Property in the United States before World War I,” *Enterprises et Histoire* no. 85 (December 2016): 40–53

“Scholarship and the Ship of State: Rethinking the Anglo-American Strategic Decline Analogy,” *International Affairs* 91, no. 2 (March 2015): 319–331

“No One Can Afford To Say “Damn the Torpedoes””: Torpedoes, Battle Tactics, and U.S. Naval History before World War I,” *Journal of Military History* 77, no. 2 (April 2013): 491–520

“Imperial Airs: Leo Amery’s Airmindedness, 1873–1945,” *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 38, no. 4 (December 2010): 571–598

### **Reviews etc.**

Introduction to H-Diplo Roundtable on John Krige and Mario Daniels, *Knowledge Regulation and National Security in Postwar America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022)

Review of Jay Sexton, “From Triumph to Crisis: An American Tradition,” *Diplomatic History* 43, no. 3 (June 2019): 405–17, H-Diplo Article Review no. 907 (December 2019)

Review of Edward Balleisen, *Fraud: An American History from Barnum to Madoff*, in *The American Interest* 13, no. 2 (November/December 2017): 79–82

Review of Frank Ninkovich, *The Global Republic: America’s Inadvertent Rise to World Power*, H-Diplo Roundtable Review 17, no. 16 (March 2016)

Review of David Edgerton, *Warfare State: Britain, 1920–1970*, in *International Journal* 62, no. 4 (Fall 2007): 992–94

### **Other Published Work**

“Historians Killing History,” *Liberties* 5, no. 1 (Fall 2024): 26–43

“Scholarship and the Future of Society,” *Liberties* 3, no. 4 (Summer 2023): 6–33

“America’s Fiscal Frontier: The Foundations of Our Budgetary Dysfunction,” *American Purpose* (26 May 2023)

“America’s Fiscal Frontier: The Peace Dividend,” *American Purpose* (2 June 2023)

“America’s Fiscal Frontier: The Monetary Soul of Empire,” *American Purpose* (9 June 2023)

“When Partisans Cry Wolf,” *American Purpose* (3 November 2022)

“A Dispatch from the Exhausted Majority,” *American Purpose* (7 November 2022)

“Trump’s Supporters and Detractors are Mirror Images,” *Wall Street Journal* (22 August 2022), p. A17

“Academic Twitter Puts the ‘Moron’ in ‘Oxymoron,’” *Chronicle of Higher Education* (11 July 2022)

“Politics and Certitude,” *American Purpose* (3 June 2022)

“The Purple Pill: Charlottesville in Retrospect and Prospect,” *American Purpose* (9 August 2021)

“The Tolling Bell: A Plea from an Exhausted Majority,” *American Purpose* (26 March 2021)

Excerpts anthologized in *Reflections on the Pandemic: COVID and Social Crises in the Year Everything Changed* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2024)

“To Understand China, Look to America’s History,” *Wall Street Journal* (20 March 2019), p. A17

“Are Sino-US Relations Really Comparable to the WWI-Era Anglo-German Rivalry?” London School of Economics Politics and Policy Blog (24 September 2018)

“Corruption in the American Political Imagination,” *The American Interest* 11, no. 4 (March/April 2016): 47–54

“The Early Origins of the Military-Industrial Complex,” *Huffington Post* UK (28 April 2014)

“Military-Industrial Complex? Blame the Torpedoes,” *Boston Globe* (26 January 2014), sec. K, p. 1

“The Invention of the Military-Industrial Complex,” *Salon* (26 January 2014)

### **Work in Progress**

“Technology and National Security,” chapter for *Explaining American Foreign Relations*, 4<sup>th</sup> edn., ed. Frank Costigliola and Barbara Keys (under contract with Cambridge University Press)

### **Appointments**

Scholars Council, Braver Angels, 2022–present

Advisory Board, FixUS, 2022–present

Editorial Board, *American Purpose*, 2021–present

Board of Directors, Naval Historical Foundation, 2018–2022

### **Selected Fellowships and Awards**

America in the World Consortium Grant, 2021

ACLS Frederick Burkhardt Fellowship, 2018–2021

Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, 2018–2019

Rutgers University Board of Trustees Research Fellowship for Scholarly Excellence, 2015

American Philosophical Society Franklin Grant, 2014

Ohio Academy of History Dissertation Award, 2013

Honorable Mention for K. Austin Kerr Prize for Best First Paper at the Business History Conference, 2012

Runner-up for Edward Coffman Prize for Best First Manuscript, Society for Military History, 2011

Gates Cambridge Scholarship, 2004–2005

### **Invited Talks and Workshops**

“The Anglo-American Antagonism and the Neutral Problem”  
Cold Wars Symposium, Hoover Institution, 2024

“Superpower Secrets: Computers, Intellectual Property, and Anglo-American Technology Theft”  
Colloquium in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, Johns Hopkins  
University, 2024

Commentator, “Reiterations”  
“Plotlines” workshop, University of Pennsylvania, 2024

“America’s Frontier of Debt”  
Foreign Policy Seminar, University of Connecticut, 2023

“Foreign Policy and Domestic Constraints”  
Garmisch Strategy Forum, George C. Marshall Center / Hanns Seidel Foundation, 2023

“Competition and Consolidation: Intellectual Property and the Interwar US Fire-Control Industry”  
Center for Innovation Law and Policy, University of Toronto, 2023

“Trade and Technology Controls: A Historical Perspective”  
“Investing, Trading, and Doing Deals in a Dynamic World 2023: Navigating Persistent  
Risk” Conference, Practising Law Institute, 2023

“The Narcissism of the Present”  
Salon for *American Purpose*, 2022

“The Purple Pill: Charlottesville in Retrospect and Prospect,” and Closing Remarks  
“The History of History” conference, History Working Group, Hoover Institution, 2022

Remarks on “Framing National Strategies” Panel  
Center for Space Policy and Strategy, The Aerospace Corporation, 2022

“State Secrets before *Reynolds*: The Pollen and Isherwood Lawsuits and the Pax Americana”  
International Security Studies, Yale University, 2022

“Yesterday’s China”  
International History Workshop, Columbia University, 2022

“The Secret Origins of the Pax Americana: Defense Contracting, Intellectual Property, and National  
Security, 1900–1945”  
Political Economy of Security Workshop, Boston University, 2021

“Yesterday’s China: Intellectual Property, Government Secrecy, and the British Origins of the Pax  
Americana”  
History Working Group, Hoover Institution, 2020

“Harnessing Invention: The British Admiralty and the Political Economy of Knowledge in the  
World War I Era”  
“Transnational Transactions: Negotiating the Movement of Knowledge Across Borders,”  
California Institute of Technology, 2020

Remarks at workshop on my book manuscript  
Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law, University of Texas-Austin, 2019

- “Globalization, Geopolitics, and the Anglo-American Relationship”  
 Money, History, and Finance Workshop, Department of Economics, Rutgers University-  
 New Brunswick, 2019
- “Was the United States the Greatest Threat to World Order in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century?”  
 America in the World: A Tribute to Dorothy Borg, Weatherhead Institute, Columbia  
 University, 2019
- “The Political Economy of Secrecy: Defense Contracting, Intellectual Property, and National  
 Security”  
 Economic History Workshop, Princeton University, 2019
- “The US Military-Industrial Complex in Global Perspective: Continuity and Change”  
 Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, 2019
- “Seizing the Torch: Globalization, Hegemony, and the Anglo-American Relationship, 1865–1918”  
 “America in the World” series, School of History and Sociology, Georgia Tech, 2016
- “More Fox, Better Hedgehog: Grand Strategy and US Foreign Relations from 1865 to 1918”  
 “Rethinking Grand Strategy” conference, Oregon State University, 2016
- “Early Government Technology Procurement: The Case of the Bliss-Leavitt Torpedo”  
 Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Department of the Treasury, 2016
- “State Secrets: Defense Contracting, Intellectual Property, and the Hidden History of National-  
 Security Information”  
 History Seminar on Contemporary Science and Technology, National Air and Space  
 Museum, 2016
- “The Hidden History of National-Security Information”  
 Contemporary History Institute, Ohio University, 2015
- “The Hidden History of National-Security Information”  
 Foreign Policy Seminar, University of Connecticut, 2014
- “The Borders of National-Security Information”  
 University of Maryland, 2014
- “When Did the 20<sup>th</sup> Century End?”  
 Conference at Princeton University, 2014
- Participant, Workshop on US Empire  
 University of Kentucky, 2014
- “British Strategy and the Origins of World War I”  
 New Thinking on the Origins of World War I Workshop, Foreign Policy Research  
 Institute/Reserve Officers Association, 2014
- “The Technical, Tactical and Operational Impact of Early U.S. Navy Torpedoes”  
 Naval Submarine League/Naval Historical Foundation History Seminar, 2014
- Comments at “Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex,” a roundtable on my book *Torpedo*  
 Miller Center, University of Virginia, 2014

“Consuming War”

Stedman Art Gallery, Rutgers University-Camden, 2013

Panel chair, Symposium on the US Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy, Temple University, 2013

“Advanced Weapons and Industrial Process: The Case of the Bliss-Leavitt Torpedo”

Evolution of Organizations and Institutions Seminar Series, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2013

Roundtable participant, “Militarization and American Society”

Military and Society Conference, Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy, Temple University, 2013

“State Secrets: Torpedo Development, Intellectual Property Rights, and the National-Security State”

Technology, Strategy, and Power Workshop, International Security Studies, Yale University, 2012

“The Nuts and Bolts of the Military-Industrial Complex: Standardization, Inspection, and Information Control in American Torpedo Production before World War I”

Research Seminar Series, Hagley Museum and Library, 2012

“Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex: ‘Command Technology,’ Property Rights, and the Case of the Balanced Turbine, 1903–1918”

Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy, Temple University, 2011

“Inventing in His Majesty’s Service: Intellectual Property Rights, National Security, and the Case of the Hardcastle Torpedo Superheater, 1905–1927”

Rutgers University-Camden Lees Seminar, 2011

“Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex: ‘Command Technology,’ Property Rights, and the Case of the Balanced Turbine, 1903–1918”

Triangle Institute for Security Studies New Faces Conference, 2010

“Putting the Complex in the Naval-Industrial Relationship: The Development of the Bliss-Leavitt Torpedo, the Commodification of Information, and the (Re-)Invention of Property, 1900–1908”

Naval Heritage and Education Command, 2009

“British and American Application of the Gyroscope to the Whitehead Torpedo, 1896–1902: History, Comparison, Sources”

Military Frontiers: A Graduate Symposium, Conference at the Mershon Center, The Ohio State University, 2009

“The United States Navy and the Whitehead Torpedo, 1896–1902: Technology, Industry, Tactics, and Historiography”

International Security Studies Colloquium, Yale University, 2009

### **Conference Presentations**

Commentator, “Doing Business in Others’ Interest: Wartime Production for Allies, Occupiers, and Colonizers”

Business History Conference, 2024

Chair, “Spatial Histories of Law, Science, and Technology after World War II”  
American Society for Legal History, 2023

“Yesterday’s China: US Patent Law and Anglo-American Technology Transfer”  
Society for the History of Technology / History of Science Society, 2021

Roundtable participant, “The Origins of U.S. Hegemony: When Did Ruling the World Start Seeming Like the Right Idea?”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2021

Chair, “Debating International Law at Home”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2021

Chair, Roundtable on “Science and Technology”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2021

“The Sinews of Globalization,” Roundtable on “American Knowledge of the World and Bids to Transform the US Global Role”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2018

Commentator, “Towards a New History of National-Security Information”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2018

Chair, “The US Military as an Economic Institution since World War II”  
American Historical Association, 2018

“The Infrastructure of Empire: Great Britain and the United States in Comparative Perspective,”  
Roundtable on “New Directions in Military History”  
American Historical Association, 2018

Chair, “Science and Technology, Power and Projection in US Foreign Relations”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2017

Roundtable participant, “Arsenal to the World: The Missing History of the US Arms Trade”  
Organization of American Historians, 2017

“The Not-So-Special Relationship: Imperial Power and Anglo-American Rivalry in the World War I Era”  
American Historical Association, 2016

“Security and Property: Preparing a Liberal Political Economy for War,” Roundtable on “War in the Western World”  
American Historical Association, 2016

“Infrastructure,” Roundtable on “Keywords of Empire”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2015

“The Not-So-Special Relationship: Imperial Power and Anglo-American Rivalry in the World War I Era”  
Social Science History Association, 2014

“Torpedo Lawfare: Intellectual Property and National-Security Information before World War I”  
Policy History Conference, 2014

Roundtable participant, “The US Armed Forces in America and the World”  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2013

“A New Angle on National Security Law: Intellectual Property Rights, Anti-Espionage Legislation, and Export Control before World War I”  
American Society for Legal History, 2012

“Arms and the State: American Torpedoes, Intellectual Property Rights, and the Origins of the Military-Industrial Complex before World War I”  
Business History Conference, 2012

““No One Can Afford To Say “Damn the Torpedoes””: The Influence of Torpedoes upon American Fleet Operations before World War I”  
Naval History Symposium, 2011

Chair, “Dissecting the Concept of Decisive Battle”  
Society for Military History, 2011

“Inventing in His Majesty’s Service: Intellectual Property Rights, National Security, and the Case of the Hardcastle Torpedo Superheater, 1905–1927”  
Southern Conference on British Studies, 2010

“Early American Development of the Whitehead Torpedo: Technology, Industry, and Tactics”  
Naval History Symposium, 2009

“National Identity, Naval History, and Torpedo Development in the Fisher Era”  
Society for Military History, 2008

### **Courses Taught**

The Craft of History (Graduate Readings Seminar)

Research in U.S. History, 1898–1945 (Graduate Research Seminar)

Readings in U.S. History, 1898–1945 (Graduate Readings Seminar)

Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex: Culture, Technology, and Property in the Rise of the West (Graduate Readings Seminar)

Approaches to Military History (Undergraduate Seminar)

Command History (Undergraduate Seminar)

The United States in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 1865–1918 (Undergraduate Lecture Course)

American Foreign Relations to 1914 (Undergraduate Lecture Course)

American Warfare in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (Undergraduate Lecture Course)

World War II (Undergraduate Lecture Course)

Modern Western Civilization [c. 1500 to present] (Undergraduate Survey)



**Service**

Reviewer for Cambridge University Press, *Historical Journal*, *Journal of Policy History*, *Technology and Culture*, *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, *Journal of Military History*, and *Vulcan*

Member, Program Committee, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2020–2021

Member, Faculty Council, Rutgers University-Camden, 2019–2020

Co-chair, Program Committee, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2017–2018

Member, General Education Committee, Rutgers University-Camden, 2017–2018

Regional coordinator, New Jersey History Day competition, 2016–2018, 2021–present

Undergraduate Program Coordinator, Department of History, Rutgers University-Camden, 2015–2018, 2022–present

Chair, United States in the World Sub-Committee, General Education Committee, Rutgers University-Camden, 2013–2017

Member, East Asian History Search Committee, Rutgers University-Camden, 2013–2014

Member, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Dissertation Prize Committee, 2013–2016

Faculty Senator, Rutgers University-Camden, 2012–2014

Member, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Program Committee, 2012–2014

Director, Department of History Lees Seminar Series, Rutgers University-Camden, 2012–2014

Member, East Asian History Search Committee, Rutgers University-Camden, 2011–2012

Member, Society for Military History Weigley and ABC-Clio Grant Committee, 2010–2013