

**Christopher W. Close**  
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Saint Joseph's University  
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Philadelphia, PA 19131  
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## **EDUCATION**

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA 2006  
*Ph.D. in History*

**University of Iowa**, Iowa City, IA 1998  
*B. A. with High Distinction in History*

## **PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

*Professor* 2023-Present

*Interim Chair* 2023

*Associate Professor* 2018-2023

*Assistant Professor* 2012-2018

Department of History, Saint Joseph's University  
*Postdoctoral Lecturer* 2007-2012

Writing Program, Princeton University  
*Visiting Assistant Professor* 2006

Department of History, Kutztown University

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Monographs**

*State Formation and Shared Sovereignty: The Holy Roman Empire and the Dutch Republic, 1488-1696*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2021; Paperback 2024.

*The Negotiated Reformation: Imperial Cities and the Politics of Urban Reform, 1525-1550*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009; Paperback, 2018.

### **Articles**

“The Stages of Historical Analysis.” In *The Pocket Instructor: Writing*. Ed. Keith Shaw and Amanda Irwin Wilkins (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2024), 200-204.

- “Cities, Princes, and the Politics of Alliance in the Early Modern Empire.” In *Patterns in the History of Polycentric Governance in European Cities: From Antiquity to the 21st Century*. Ed. Thomas Lau et al. (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2024), 189-203.
- “Alliances and Sovereignty in European History.” *FifteenEightyFour* (blog). February 19, 2021. [http://www.cambridgeblog.org/2021/02/alliances-and-sovereignty-in-european-history/?preview=true&thumbnail\\_id=37338](http://www.cambridgeblog.org/2021/02/alliances-and-sovereignty-in-european-history/?preview=true&thumbnail_id=37338)
- “Politics under the Guild Regime.” In *A Companion to Late Medieval and Early Modern Augsburg*. Eds. Mark Häberlein and B. Ann Tlusty (Leiden: Brill, 2020), 123-145.
- “The Imperial Diet in the 1520s.” In *Martin Luther in Context*. Ed. David Whitford (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), 127-134.
- “City-States, Princely States, and Warfare: Corporate Alliance and State Formation in the Holy Roman Empire (1540-1610).” *European History Quarterly* 47, 2 (2017): 205-228.
- “Reawakening the ‘Old Evangelical Zeal’: The 1617 Reformation Jubilee and Collective Memory in Strasbourg and Ulm.” *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 48, 2 (Summer 2017): 299-321.
- “The Diet of Worms and the Holy Roman Empire.” In *Martin Luther: A Christian between Reforms and Modernity (1517-2017)*. Ed. Alberto Melloni, vol. 1 (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2017), 313-326.
- “Der Reichstag zu Worms und das Heilige Römische Reich.” In *Martin Luther. Ein Christ zwischen Reformen und Moderne (1517-2017)*. Ed. Alberto Melloni, vol. 1 (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2017), 327-342.
- “La dieta di Worms e il Sacro Romano Impero.” In *Lutero. Un cristiano e la sua eredità 1517-2017*. Ed. Alberto Melloni, vol. 1 (Bologna: Mulino, 2017), 253-266.
- “Urban Magistrates, Religious Reform, and the Politics of Alliance in the Low Countries and Southern Germany.” In *Entfaltung und zeitgenössische Wirkung der Reformation im europäischen Kontext*. Eds. Irene Dingel and Ute Lotz-Heumann (Gütersloh: Gütersloher Verlagshaus, 2015), 154-72.
- “Regional History and the Comparative Turn in the Study of Early Modern German Cities.” *German History* 32, 1 (2014): 112-29.
- “Estate Solidarity and Empire: Charles V’s Failed Attempt to Revive the Swabian League.” *Archive for Reformation History* 104 (2013): 134-57.

“‘One does not live by bread alone’: Rural Reform and Village Political Strategies after the Peasants’ War.” *Church History* 79, 3 (September 2010): 556-84.

“Zurich, Augsburg, and the Transfer of Preachers during the Schmalkaldic War.” *Central European History* 42 (December 2009): 595-619.

“The Mindelaltheim Affair: High Justice, *ius reformandi*, and the Rural Reformation in Eastern Swabia (1542-1546).” *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 38, 2 (Summer 2007): 371-92.

### **Book Reviews**

Julian Katz. *Kriegslegitimation in der Frühen Neuzeit*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2021. *Sixteenth Century Journal* 54, 1-2 (2023): 158-160.

Enno Bünz, ed. *Landwirtschaft und Dorfgesellschaft im ausgehenden Mittelalter*. Ostfildern: Thorbecke, 2020. *Vierteljahrschrift für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte* 110, 2 (July 2023): 235-236.

James Estes. *Good Government and Church Order: Essays on the Role of Secular Authority in the German Reformation*. Toronto: CRRS, 2022. *Church History* 92, 1 (March 2023): 188.

Beat Kümin. *Imperial Villages: Cultures of Political Freedom in the German Lands c. 1300-1800*. Leiden: Brill, 2019. *Renaissance Quarterly* 75, 1 (Spring 2022): 292-293.

Luca Scholz. *Borders and Freedom of Movement in the Holy Roman Empire*. Oxford: OUP, 2020. Published by H-Net Reviews for H-German, January 2022. <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=56554>

Wolfgang Breul and Kurt Andermann, eds. *Ritterschaft und Reformation*. Stuttgart: Steiner, 2019. *Renaissance Quarterly* 74, 2 (Summer 2021): 628-629.

Geoffrey Parker. *Emperor: A New Life of Charles V*. New Haven: Yale, 2019. *The Historian* 82, 3 (2020): 382.

Christopher Ocker. *Luther, Conflict, and Christendom*. New York: CUP, 2018. *American Historical Review* 125, 1 (Feb 2020): 317-318.

Daniela Kah. *Die wahrhaft königliche Stadt: Das Reich in den Reichsstädten Augsburg, Nürnberg und Lübeck im Späten Mittelalter*. Leiden: Brill, 2018. *Renaissance Quarterly* 72, 2 (Summer 2019): 663-664.

Jesse Spohnholz. *The Convent of Wesel: The Event that Never was and the Invention of Tradition*. Cambridge: CUP, 2017. *German History* 36, 3 (2018): 438-439.

- Thomas Lau and Helge Wittmann, eds. *Kaiser, Reich und Reichsstadt in der Interaktion*. Imhof: Petersberg, 2016. *Vierteljahrschrift für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte* 105, 1 (2018): 84-85.
- Christian Hild. *Die Reformatoren übersetzen. Theologisch-politische Dimensionen bei Leo Juds (1482-1542) Übersetzungen von Zwinglis und Bullingers Schriften ins Lateinische*. Zurich: TVZ, 2016. *Renaissance Quarterly* 71, 1 (Spring 2018): 362-364.
- Volker Leppin and Werner Zager, eds. *Reformation Heute. Zum Modernen Staatsverständnis*. Leipzig: Evangelische, 2016. *Sixteenth Century Journal* 48, 4 (2017): 1142-1143.
- David Luebke. *Hometown Religion: Regimes of Coexistence in Early Modern Westphalia*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia, 2016. *Church History* 86, 2 (June 2017): 510-514.
- Five reviews in *Archive for Reformation History – Literature Review* 45 (2016): 7, 43, 63-64, 106.
- Two reviews in *Archive for Reformation History – Literature Review* 44 (2015): 80-81, 119-120.
- Helen Parish et al. *The Search for Authority in Reformation Europe*. Farnham: Ashgate, 2014. *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 66, 3 (July 2015): 650.
- Four reviews in *Archive for Reformation History – Literature Review* 43 (2014): 9-10, 71, 81, 88-89.
- Rössner, Philipp Robinson. *Deflation – Devaluation – Rebellion. Geld im Zeitalter der Reformation*. Stuttgart: Steiner, 2012. *The American Historical Review* 118, 5 (December 2013): 1589-1590.
- Karant-Nunn, Susan. *The Reformation of Feeling: Shaping the Religious Emotions in Early Modern Germany*. New York: Oxford, 2012. *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 44, 4 (2013): 1157-1159.
- Three reviews in *Archive for Reformation History – Literature Review* 42 (2013): 7-9.
- Krogh, Tyge. *A Lutheran Plague: Murdering to Die in the Eighteenth Century*. Leiden: Brill, 2012. *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 44, 1 (2013): 173-174.
- Coy, Jason. *Strangers and Misfits: Banishment, Social Control, and Authority in Early Modern Germany*. Leiden: Brill, 2008. *Law and History Review* 28, 1 (February 2010): 253-254.

*Politics and Reformations*. Eds. Christopher Ocker et al. 2 Vols. Leiden: Brill, 2007.  
Published by H-Net Reviews for H-HRE, October 2008.

*Stadt und Religion in der frühen Neuzeit*. Ed. Vera Isaiasz et al. Frankfurt: Campus,  
2007. Published by H-Net Reviews for H-German, March 2008.  
<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.cgi?path=82961218304853>

Metzger, Christof et al. *Landsitze Augsburger Patrizier*. Munich: Deutscher Kunstverlag,  
2005. *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 38, 3 (2007): 849-850.

Groebner, Valentin. *Who Are You? Identification, Deception, and Surveillance in Early  
Modern Europe*. Trans. Mark Kyburz and John Peck. New York: Zone, 2007.  
Published by H-Net Reviews for H-HRE, September 2007.  
<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.cgi?path=298991197833852>

Stollberg-Rilinger, Barbara. *Das Heilige Römische Reich Deutscher Nation*. Munich:  
Beck, 2006. Published by H-Net Reviews for H-HRE, July 2007.

Warde, Paul. *Ecology, Economy and State Formation in Early Modern Germany*.  
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Published by H-Net Reviews for  
H-German, February 2007.  
<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.cgi?path=54091198786138>

*Landgemeinde und Kirche im Zeitalter der Konfessionen*. Ed. Beat Kümin. Zürich:  
Chronos, 2004. *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 37, 3 (2006): 822-824.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Interview with Jana Byars. *New Books Network*. Podcast Audio. April 7, 2021.  
<https://newbooksnetwork.com/state-formation-and-shared-sovereignty>

“Wider des heyligen Reichs ordnung/ aussgekundten Landtfriden/ und Inhalt des  
Landspergischen Schirmseinigung: Gemischte Souveränität und Staatsbildung im  
frühneuzeitlichen Heiligen Römischen Reich.” **Invited paper** delivered via Zoom  
at the Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany, March 16, 2021.

“Cities, Princes, and the Politics of Alliance in the Early Modern Empire.” **Invited paper**  
scheduled for the conference *Creating Order: An Urban History of Polycentric  
Governance in Europe from Antiquity to the 20th Century* at Fribourg,  
Switzerland, March 14, 2020. **CONFERENCE CANCELLED DUE TO  
COVID-19**

“Staatsbildung und bündische Politik während der Reformationszeit.” **Invited paper**  
delivered at the Universität Bamberg, Germany, June 26, 2019.

- “The Legacy of the Reformation: Religion and Politics.” **Invited public lecture** delivered at the Free Library of Philadelphia Central Branch, April 25, 2018.
- “From a Matter of Religion to one of Region: The Protestant Union and the start of the Thirty Years’ War.” Presented at *Rethinking Europe: War and Peace in the German Lands*, the eighth FNI Interdisciplinary Conference at Washington University, March 9, 2018.
- “Confessionalization: Survival of a Paradigm.” **Solicited paper** presented at the annual German Studies Association Conference, October 7, 2017.
- “The Long Shadow of the Swabian League: Politics and Memory in the Holy Roman Empire.” Presented at the annual Renaissance Society of America Conference, March 30, 2017.
- “The First Centennial: Local Memory Cultures and the 1617 Reformation Jubilee in Southern Germany.” Presented at the annual American Historical Association Conference, January 6, 2017.
- “A Matter of Religion and Region: New Views on the Start of the Thirty Years War.” **Invited paper** delivered at the Department of History Research Colloquium at Syracuse University, November 7, 2016.
- “One Hundred Years Gone By: The 1617 Reformation Jubilee and Local Memory in Strasbourg and Ulm.” Presented at the annual German Studies Association Conference, October 2, 2015.
- “The Nuremberg *Argumenta* of 1570: Politics of Alliance in the Holy Roman Empire After the Peace of Augsburg.” Presented at the annual Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 17, 2014.
- “Staying Disciplined: Transferring Writing Pedagogy into Departmental Courses.” **Solicited workshop** presented at Princeton University, February 24, 2014.
- “‘Like no other history course I’ve taken’: Writing Pedagogy and the Introductory History Survey.” Presented at the annual American Historical Association Conference, January 5, 2014.
- “The Thirty-Eight Years War? Loyalty to the Empire and the Protestant Union’s Invasion of Alsace in 1610.” Presented at the annual Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 26, 2013.
- “The Reformation as Regional Event: Urban Magistrates and the Politics of Alliance.” **Solicited paper** presented at the conference, “Dissemination and Contemporary Impact of the Reformation in a European Context” in Eisenach, Germany, June 8, 2012.

“An Experiment at Bi-Confessionality: The League of Landsberg and the Resolution of Neighborly Conflict.” Presented at the annual German Studies Association Conference, September 25, 2011.

“Urban Solidarity and the Imperial Failure to Revive the Swabian League.” Presented at the annual Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 16, 2010.

“‘According to our Old Customs, Rights, and Traditions’: Rural Reform and Village Political Strategies after the Peasants’ War.” Presented at the annual German Studies Association Conference, October 10, 2009.

“The Loss of Confessional Allies: Augsburg and the Schmalkaldic War.” Presented at *Enduring Loss in Early Modern Germany*, the fifth FNI Interdisciplinary Conference at Duke University, March 28, 2008.

“‘Ravaging Wolves and Seducers’: Negotiating the Reformation’s Official Introduction in Kaufbeuren.” **Solicited paper** presented at the annual German Studies Association Conference, October 6, 2007.

“Consultation as Reformation: The Reform of Marriage Law and Clerical Pay Scales in 1540s Augsburg.” Presented at the annual Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 28, 2006.

“The Negotiated Reformation: The Process of Reform in Donauwörth.” Presented at the annual Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 20, 2005.

### **Conference Session Comments**

Session Commentator: “German Lutheranism and Fear, 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries.” German Studies Association Conference, October 2, 2015.

Session Commentator: “Religion and Rule in Early Modern Germany (2).” German Studies Association Conference, September 25, 2011.

### **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Early Modern Europe; The Reformation; History of Criminal Justice; The Holy Roman Empire; Religious, Social, and Political Conflict in Europe 1300-1800; Witchcraft in the Early Modern World.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **Courses taught at Saint Joseph’s University**

Crime and Punishment in Europe 1200-1840  
Forging the Modern World

Reform and Revolution in Europe 1500-1650  
Seminar in European History  
Transformations in Early Modern Europe 1400-1800  
Witches in Early Modern Europe

**Courses taught at other institutions**

The Inquisition  
Religious Faith, Religious Conflict, and Attacks on Religion in Europe 1200-1789  
Ways of Knowing: Unlocking Disciplinarity at the University  
Western Civilization I-II

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

<b>Teaching Innovation Grant</b> Saint Joseph's University	2024
<b>Faculty Merit Award for Research</b> Saint Joseph's University	2022
<b>Summer Research Grant</b> Saint Joseph's University	2020
<b>Re-invitation Scholarly Research Grant</b> German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)	2019
<b>Faculty Merit Award for Teaching</b> Saint Joseph's University	2017
<b>Michael J. Morris Grant for Scholarly Research</b> Saint Joseph's University	2017
<b>Franklin Research Grant</b> American Philosophical Society	2014
<b>Summer Research Grant</b> Saint Joseph's University	2014
<b>Curriculum Development Grant</b> Saint Joseph's University	2013
<b>2011 Quin Morton '36 Teaching Award</b> Princeton University	2011
<b>Tuck Fund for the Advancement of Teaching Competitive Research Grant</b> Princeton University	2010



<b>Tuck Fund for the Advancement of Teaching Competitive Research Grant</b> Princeton University	2008
<b>Faculty Professional Development Grant</b> Kutztown University	2006
<b>Benjamin Franklin Fellow</b> University of Pennsylvania	2004-2006
<b>German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Annual Research Grant Fellow</b>	2003-2004
<b>Participant in 2003 German Historical Institute (GHI) Summer Archival Seminar in Germany</b>	June 2003
<b>Odlozilik Fellow</b> University of Pennsylvania	2002-2003
<b>Annenberg Fellow</b> University of Pennsylvania	2001-2002

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

#### **Saint Joseph's University**

Director, Justice and Ethics in the Law (JEL) Program	Fall 2019-Present
Member, JEL Advisory Board	Fall 2014-Present
Member, CAS Dean's Research Travel Award Committee	Spring 2019-Present
Member, Medieval-Ren-Ref Studies (MRRS) Advisory Board	Spring 2013-Present
Member, World History Curriculum Committee	Fall 2023-Present
Elected Member, Faculty Senate Executive Council	Fall 2022-Spring 2024
Member, Core Curriculum Reform Task Force	Fall 2022-Fall 2023
Member, BOSAR	Fall 2021-Spring 2023
Chair, Writing Intensive Certifying Committee	Fall 2021-Spring 2022
Member, Writing Intensive Certifying Committee	Spring 2016-Spring 2022
Member, Burton Fellow Search Committee	Fall 2021-Spring 2022
Co-chair, History Department Curriculum Review Committee	Spring 2014-Spring 2018
Member, Academic Integrity Council	Fall 2013-Spring 2018
Interim Faculty Pre-Law Advisor	June 2016-May 2017
Elected Member, Faculty Senate Executive Council	Fall 2015-Spring 2017
Member, African History Search Committee	Fall 2012-Spring 2013
Faculty Speaker, MRRS film series	Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2014

#### **Peer Reviewer for Academic Publications**

Brill Academic Press, *Religions*, Routledge Press, *Sixteenth Century Journal*

**Routledge Resources Online – The Renaissance World**

Subject Editor for Religion

July 2024-Present

**German Studies Association**

Member, Conference Program Committee

October 2023-Present

**Society for Reformation Research**

Member, Nominating Committee

October 2020-October 2022

*Archive for Reformation History, Literature Review*

Field expert, History of the Holy Roman Empire

2012-2018

**Princeton University, Princeton Writing Program**

Member, Outreach Committee

Spring 2011

Member, Curriculum Committee

Fall 2010

Member, Associate Director Faculty Search Committee

Spring 2009, Spring 2010

New Faculty Mentor

Fall 2008-Spring 2012

Small Group Leader, New Faculty Orientation

Spring 2008-Spring 2012