

Christopher S. Thompson
Professor of History, Ball State University

Employment

- 1996-present: Ball State University: Professor of History, 2010-present; Associate Professor of History, 2001-2010; Assistant Professor of History, 1996-2001. Tenured August 2003.
- 1995-1996: Instructor in European History, Department of History, New York University.
- April 1995-Sept. 1995: Consultant in French History, Interpretive Programs Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC for the Library of Congress's exhibition, "Creating French Culture: Treasures from the Bibliothèque Nationale de France" (September 8-December 31, 1995).
- June 1993-May 1994: Speechwriter and Special Assistant for the Honorable Pamela Harriman, United States Ambassador to France.
- 1984-1987: French Teacher, The Maret School, Washington, D.C.
- 1982-1984: French Teacher, Saint Mark's School, Southborough, MA.

Education

- New York University, Ph.D. in French Studies and Modern European History, 1997. Dissertation: "The Third Republic on Wheels: A Social, Cultural, and Political History of Bicycling in France from the Nineteenth Century to World War II." Awarded New York University's 1996-97 Outstanding Dissertation Prize.
- New York University, M.A. in French Studies, 1988. Awarded with distinction.
- Middlebury College, M.A. in French, 1987.
- Harvard University, B.A. in French Literature, 1981.

Scholarship

Current Book Project

"The Reckoning: Battling over the Legacies of Empire in Contemporary France" (to be submitted in 2016 to Cornell University Press, which has expressed interest in publishing the manuscript—email correspondence available on request). This book manuscript examines how the French colonial empire continues to shape attitudes and debates in contemporary France about the complex relationship between race and ethnicity, republicanism, and national identity. It focuses notably on "ethno-racial" discrimination, debates about whether and how to address it, and recent initiatives to do so.

Principal Publications

Book

The Tour de France: A Cultural History (University of California Press, 2006). Paperback edition with a new preface (University of California Press, 2008).

Articles and Book Chapters

"From *Black-Blanc-Beur* to *Black-Black-Black*? 'L'affaire des Quotas' and the Shattered 'Image of 1998' in Twenty-First-Century France," *French Politics, Culture & Society*, Vol. 33, No. 1 (Spring 2015), 101-21.

Historical Introduction to Dr. Ludovic O'Followell, *Bicyclette et Organes génitaux* (Toulouse: Le Pas d'Oiseau, 2009), re-publication of a work originally published in 1900, 1-17.

"René Vietto and the 1934 Tour de France: A Heroic Sacrifice or a Hero Sacrificed?" in *Histoire et Sociétés: Revue européenne d'histoire sociale*, no. 7, Fall 2003, 35-46.

"The Tour de France in the Interwar Years: Political Ideology, Athletic Excess, and Industrial Modernity" in *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, vol. 20, no. 2, 2003, 79-101.

"Bicycling, Class, and the Politics of Leisure in Belle Epoque France" in Koshar, Rudy (ed.), *Leisure in Modern Europe* (Oxford and New York: Berg Publishers, 2002), 131-46.

"Controlling the Working-Class Sports Hero in order to Control the Masses?: The Social Philosophy of Sport of Henri Desgrange" in *Stadion*, vol. XXVII, Fall 2001, 139-51.

"A Third Sex? Middle-Class Women and the Bicycle in Fin-de-Siècle France" in *Le Mouvement Social*, no. 192, July-September 2000, 9-39.

"Regeneration, *Dégénérescence*, and Medical Debates about the Bicycle in Fin-de-Siècle France" in Terret, Thierry (ed.), *Sport and Health in History* (Sankt Augustin: Academia Verlag, 1999), 339-45.

"Body, Sex, and the Bicycle" in *Cahiers de Médiologie*, no. 5, April 1998, 61-69.

"Prologue to Conflict: De Gaulle and the United States from First Impressions through 1940" in Paxton, Robert O., and Nicholas Wahl (eds.), *De Gaulle and the United States* (Providence and Oxford: Berg Publishers, 1994), 13-32. Also published as "Prologue au conflit: De Gaulle et les Etats-Unis: Les premières impressions et l'année 1940", in *De Gaulle en son siècle*, volume IV, *La sécurité et l'indépendance de la France* (Paris: Institut Charles de Gaulle, Plon, La Documentation Française, 1992), 239-53.

Research Grants

2013-2014: Ball State University Foundation Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Fellowship: \$19,780.00
2013: Ball State University Faculty Summer Aspire Research Grant: \$6,000.00
2013: Ball State University Supplemental Equipment and Travel Grant: \$3,000.00
2008: Ball State University Faculty Summer Research Grant: \$12,270.00
2008: Ball State University Supplemental Equipment and Travel Grant: \$3,000.00
1999: National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Research Stipend: \$4,000.00
1999: Ball State University Faculty Summer Research Grant: \$8,630.00
1999: Ball State University Supplemental Equipment and Travel Grant: \$1,500.00

1998: Ball State University New Faculty Summer Research Grant: \$1,500.00
1996: New York University Remarque Institute Summer Research Grant: \$3,350.00
1992-1993: New York University Dean's Dissertation Fellowship: \$10,000.00
1991-1992: Chateaubriand Dissertation Research Scholarship, Government of France: \$18,000.00

Reviews

Review of Lindsay Sarah Krasnoff. *The Making of Les Bleus: Sport in France, 1958-2010* (Lanham, Boulder, New York, Toronto, Plymouth, UK: Lexington Books, 2013) for *H-Diplo Review* (2015).

Review of Hugh Dauncey, *French Cycling: A Social and Cultural History* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2012) for *H-France Review* (2013).

Review of Stéphane Beaud (with Philippe Guimard), *Traîtres à la nation? Un autre regard sur la grève des Bleus en Afrique du Sud* (Paris: La Découverte, 2011) in *French Politics, Culture & Society*, Vol. 31, No. 1 (Spring 2013).

Review of Laurent Dubois. *Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the Future of France* (Berkeley and London: University of California Press, 2010) for *H-France Review* (2011).

Review of Stephen L. Harp, *Marketing Michelin: Advertising and Cultural Identity in Twentieth-Century France* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001) in *Social History* (2004).

Review of Geoff Hare, *Football in France: A Cultural History* (Oxford and New York: Berg, 2003) for *H-France Review* (2004).

Review of Georges Vigarello, *Du jeu ancien au show sportif: La Naissance d'un mythe* (Paris: Seuil, 2002) for *H-France Review* (2003).

Review of Anne Saouter, *Être Rugby: Jeux du masculin et du féminin* (Paris: Editions de la Maison des sciences de l'homme, 2000) in *French Politics, Culture and Society*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (Spring 2002).

Review of Philip Dine, *French Rugby Football: A Cultural History* (Oxford and New York: Berg, 2001) for *H-France Review* (2002).

Review of Pascal Charroin and Thierry Terret, *Une Histoire du Water-Polo: L'eau et la balle* (Paris: L'Harmattan, 1998) in *Journal of Sport History* (2001).

Conference Report on "A Century of Organized labor in France: A Union Movement for the Twenty-First Century?" (organized by New York University and Columbia University, New York, February 1996) in *International Labor and Working-Class History* # 50 (Fall 1996).

Review Article on "Sport in French Society" in *Revue* # 1 (Spring 1991).

Refereed Conference Papers and Panel Comments

March 2009: Commentator for the panel: "French Railway Companies and the Creation of Bourgeois Identity in the Third Republic." Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, St. Louis, MO.

April 2007: Commentator for the panel: "Urban Identity in Twentieth-Century Europe." Small Cities Conference: The Small City in Global Context, Muncie, IN.

March 2007: Commentator for the panel: "Politics, Culture, and Celebrity in Twentieth-Century France." Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, Houston, TX.

January 2002: "The Changing Frontiers of Twentieth-Century France: The Tour de France Bicycle Race and the Construction of French National Identity." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, San Francisco, CA.

March 2001: Chair and Commentator for the panel: "Art, Fiction, and Organizations: Approaches to the Study of Community." Annual Conference of the Great Lakes American Studies Association, Muncie, IN.

November 1999: Commentator for the panel: "Authentic Culture?: Selling 'Frenchness' and Modernism." Annual Meeting of the Western Society for French History, Monterey, CA.

March 1999: "'Ouvriers de la pédale' or 'Forçats de la route'?" Representations of Work and Workers in the Tour de France Bicycle Race under the Third Republic." Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, Washington, DC.

March 1998: "The Bicycle in Fin-de-Siècle France: Symptom of or Solution to the Social Question?" Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, Ottawa, Canada.

July 1997: "Regeneration, *Dégénérescence*, and Medical Debates about the Bicycle in Fin-de-Siècle France." Annual Conference of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport, Lyon, France.

March 1997: Commentator for the panel: "Faux France: Mass Culture and the Commodification of French Identity." Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, Lexington, KY.

October 1996: "The Bicycle in Fin-de-Siècle France: A Contested Symbol of Progress." Annual Meeting of the Western Society for French History, Charlotte, NC.

November 1990: "Prologue au conflit: De Gaulle et les Etats-Unis: Les premières impressions et l'année 1940." International Conference, "De Gaulle en son siècle", organized by l'Institut Charles de Gaulle, Paris, France.

April 1990: "Prologue to Conflict: De Gaulle and the United States, from First Impressions through 1940." International Conference, "De Gaulle and the United States," organized by New York University and Columbia University, New York, NY.

Invited Lectures

November 2008: "Booing the Marseillaise: Immigration, Citizenship, and National Identity in Modern France." Presented at the University of New Haven/Cultural Experiences Abroad, Paris, France.

October 2008: "Giants of the Road or Dopers? The Contested Heroism of Tour de France Racers." Organized by the Remarque Institute of New York University and presented at the European Institute, Florence, Italy.

October 2008: "The Tour de France: Challenges and Opportunities of the Cultural History of French Sport," presented to the History of Sport Graduate Seminar of the University of Franche-Comté, Besançon, France.

October 2008: "The Tour de France: The Historiography and History of French Sport." Presented to the members of the History of Sport Graduate Seminar of the Institute for Political Science of Paris at the Museum of Sport, Paris, France.

July 2008: "Cycling in Modern France and the Writing of European Sports History." Presented at the Symposium on "Sport in Modern Europe: Perspectives on a Comparative Cultural History," Cambridge, England.

July 2008: "The Tour de France: A Window into French History and Culture." Presented at the University of New Haven/Cultural Experiences Abroad, Paris, France.

2007-2008 Alliance Française Lecturer for the United States: lectures on the cultural history of the Tour de France in:

1. Birmingham, AL (January 2008);
2. San Diego, CA (January 2008);
3. Greensboro, NC (February 2008);
4. Fresno, CA (May 2008);
5. Atlanta, GA (May 2008);
6. Washington, DC (May 2008).

April 2008: "The Tour de France and French Identities." Presented at "Modern Sports and the Formation of European Identities," a symposium organized by the Institute for European Studies at the University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

April 2007: Harrison Distinguished Lecture, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY: "'Giants of the Road' or Dopers? The Contested Heroism of Tour de France Racers, 1903 to the Present."

March 2007: Keynote Address, Honors Colloquium, Marian College, Indianapolis, IN: "Heroes or Dopers? The Evolving Image of Tour de France Racers."

February 2007: Burkhardt Lecture, Ball State University, Muncie, IN: "Cycling in Search of France: The Tour de France and French Identities."

September 2006: "'Giants of the Road,' 'Pedal Workers,' 'Slave Laborers,' or Dopers? The Contested Heroism of Tour de France Racers, 1903 to the Present." Organized by the Maison Française, New York University, New York, NY.

September 2006: "Diversity and Unity, Division and Exclusion: The Tour de France's Itinerary and French Identities, 1903-1952." Organized by the French-American Foundation and the French Institute-Alliance Française, New York, NY.

July 2006: "Sporting Heroism, Work, and Doping: A Cultural History of the Tour de France." Organized by California House, University of California, London, England.

May 2001: "The Tour de France and Twentieth-Century France." School for International Training of the United States State Department, Washington, DC.

September 1999: "Exploits and Exploitation: Work, Class Conflict, and the Politics of Athletic Excess."
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

March 1999: "The History of Sport as a History of Work: 'Les ouvriers de la pédale' and the Tour de France Bicycle Race." Institute of French Studies, New York University, New York, NY.

June 1996: "The Third Republic on Wheels: A Social, Cultural, and Political History of Bicycling in France from the Nineteenth Century to World War II." Centre d'Histoire Culturelle des Sociétés Contemporaines of the University of Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France.

January 1995: "Class and Bicycling under the Third Republic." History Department of Loyola University, Chicago, IL.

May 1994: "Speechwriting and Diplomacy." Schiller University, Paris, France.

Interviews about Research

July 2014: *Wall Street Journal*
July 2014: *Red Kite Prayer*
June 2014: *Cyclist*
July 2013: *The Guardian* (London)
June 2013: *Velo*
June 2013: *Gazet van Antwerpen* (Belgium)
June 2013: *Christian Science Monitor*
June 2013: *Toronto Globe and Mail*
Mar. 2013: *Sport Vélo* (France)
Jan. 2013: velonews.com
Oct. 2012: *Indianapolis Star*
July 2012: BBC's World Service Radio, "World Business Report"
July 2012: Resonance FM (London), "The Bike Show"
Jan. 2009: Radio France Internationale (RFI), "Signes Particuliers"
Aug. 2006: BBC Radio 4, "Thinking Allowed"
July 2006: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Memberships

American Historical Association
Society for French Historical Studies

Teaching

Classes Taught

HIST 150: The West in the World
HIST 152: World Civilization since 1500
HIST 299X: "Global Citizenship and the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century"
HIST 454: Europe in the Era of World War I, 1871-1918
HIST 456: The Cold War and Europe since 1945
HIST 471: France since 1815
HIST 497: The Social, Cultural, Political, and Economic History of Sport in Modern Europe"

HIST 497: Comparative European-American Immigration History (co-taught with Professor Jim Connolly)
HIST 612: Historiography
HIST 632: Modern Europe
HIST 633: "Myth, Memory, History, and the Construction of Identity in Modern Europe"
HIST 633: "Immigration, Identity, Islam, and the Legacies of Imperialism in Modern Europe"

Teaching Awards

2011-1012: Excellence in Teaching Award, Ball State University
2008-2009: Excellence in Teaching Award, Ball State University
2003: Outstanding Master's Thesis Advisor Award, Ball State University
2002-2003: Excellence in Teaching Award, Ball State University
1998: Outstanding Faculty Member, Clavia Chapter, Mortar Board, Ball State University

Service

Departmental Service

Director of Graduate Studies, History Department, 2004-2008.

Standing Committees

Curriculum Committee, 2010-2016 (chair, 2011-2012, 2013-2014, 2015-2016).
Merit Committee, 2005-2007.
Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2003-2004, 2006-2008, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015 (chair, 2006-2007).
Advisory Committee, 2003-2006, 2008-2009.
Graduate Programs Committee, 2000-2002, 2003-2008 (chair, 2001-2002, 2003-2004), 2009-2010.
Honors, Scholarships, and Recognitions Committee, 1997-2000, Spring 2009 (chair, 1998-1999).
Advisory Committee, 1998-1999, 2000-2001, Spring 2009.
Undergraduate Programs Committee, 1997-2000 (secretary, 1997-1999).
Student History Conference Organizing Committee, 1997-1999, 2001-2002 (co-chair, 1998-1999, 2001-2002).

Search Committees

Member, Early Modern European History Search Committee, 2009-2010.
Chair, Modern Central/Southern European History Search Committee, 2004-2005.
Member, Ancient History Search Committee, 2003-2004.
Member, Secondary Social Studies Methods Search Committee, 1997-1998.

Other

History Department Liaison to the Center for International Programs, 1997-2001.
Member, Task Force on HIST 150 (The West in the World), 1996-1997.

College Service

Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2006-2007.
Member, Executive Committee for the European Studies Program, 2003-2007.

Member, NEH Proposal Internal Review Committee, 1999-2001.
Member, Graduate Faculty Committee, 1997-2002.

University Service

Member, Higher Learning Commission Criterion 1 committee, 2011-2013.
Member, Higher Learning Commission Criterion 1-A subcommittee, 2011-2013.
Member, Graduate Education Committee, 2009-2011.
Member, Curriculum Sub-committee of the Graduate Education Committee, 2009-2011 (chair, 2009-2010).
Member, Provost's Committee on Excellence in Teaching Award, 2009-2010.
Member, Advisory Board of the Sports Studies Minor, 2009-2010.
Alpha Day Workshop Presenter, Fall 2007.
Member, Excellence in Teaching Award Selection Committee, 2005-2006, 2009-2010 (chair, 2009-2010).
Member, Committee for an Interdisciplinary Minor in Sports Studies, 2001-2002.
Participant in the Freshman Connections Program for Student Retention, Fall 2001.
Member, Committee for an Interdisciplinary Minor in Sports Studies, 2000-2001.
Faculty Advisor to the Ball State Cycling Club, 1997-2008.