

Curriculum Vitae:  
**Michael Ferguson**

Department of Sociology  
6 East 16th Street, 9th floor  
New York, NY 10003  
U.S.A.  
[1] 212-229-5737  
fergusom@newschool.edu

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**EDUCATION**

2014: Ph.D. in History, McGill University  
Dissertation: “The African Presence in Izmir in the late Ottoman Period and Beyond.”  
(Supervisor: Gwyn Campbell)  
2006: M.A. in Islamic Studies, McGill University  
2004: B.A. in History, Carleton University

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Jan 2017-present: Visiting Scholar  
Department of Sociology  
The New School for Social Research

Feb 2016: Post-Doctoral Fellow  
The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition  
Yale University

2015-2016: Post-Doctoral Fellow  
Department of History, School of Oriental and African Studies  
University of London

**AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING**

The Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey (nineteenth century to present); African slavery; global African Diaspora; world history; migration studies; minorities, identity, and race; urban studies and the production of social space; cultural history; oral history; historical sociology.

**PUBLICATIONS**

[Solicited] “Kurds in the History of Displacement in Izmir, 1850-present” in Ayça Alemdaroğlu and Fatma Müge Gökçek, eds., *Kurds and Kurdish Politics in Turkey*. Publisher TBD.

[Forthcoming, 2017] “Abolitionism and the African Slave Trade in the Ottoman Empire (1857-1922)” in Gwyn Campbell and Alessandro Stanziani, eds., *Human Rights in Afro-Eurasia from the Seventeenth Century to the Present, Vol.1, The Longue Durée of Bondage in Afro-Eurasia, 1600-1900*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

with Ehud Toledano, “Slavery and Emancipation in the late Ottoman Empire” in David Eltis and Stanley L. Engerman, eds., *The Cambridge World History of Slavery, Volume 4*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017: 174-196.

“White Turks, Black Turks, and Negroes: the Politics of Polarization” in Umut Özkırmılı and Spyros Sofos, eds., *Occupy Gezi: The Making of a Protest Movement*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2014: 77-88.  
“Clientship, Social Indebtedness and State-Controlled Emancipation of Africans in the Late Ottoman Empire,” in Gwyn Campbell and Alessandro Stanziani, eds., *Debt and Slavery in the Mediterranean and Atlantic Worlds*, London: Pickering and Chatto, 2013: 49-62.

“Enslaved and Emancipated Africans on Crete,” in Terence Walz and Kenneth M. Cuno, eds., *Race and Slavery in the Middle East: Histories of Trans-Saharan Africans in Nineteenth-Century Egypt, Sudan, and the Ottoman Mediterranean*. Cairo and New York: The American University in Cairo Press, 2010: 171-95.

### **ARTICLE MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

“Localizing Transitions to Modernity: The Tomb of St. Polycarp in Late Ottoman and Early Republican Izmir,” *Journal of the Social and Economic History of the Orient*.

“Under Fire: Curfews in Turkey’s Kurdish Cities- Lost in Translation,” *New Perspectives on Turkey*.

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

[Forthcoming, late 2017] *Is the Turk a White Man?: Race and Modernity in the Making of Turkish Identity*, by Murat Ergin. Leiden: Brill, 2017. *International Journal of Turkish Studies*.

### **INVITED TALKS AND PUBLIC LECTURES**

30 March 2018 [Scheduled] “Memorialization of Enslavement in the Making of Afro-Turkishness since 2005” Ottoman and Turkish Studies Seminar, Columbia University.

13 March 2017 “African Slavery in late Ottoman Izmir and its Legacies” Brown Bag Lunch Series, Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Princeton University.

5 June 2016 “Enslaved and Emancipated Africans in the historiography of Izmir.” 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Calf Festival, Afro-Turk Solidarity Association, Izmir, Turkey.

17 Feb 2016 “A Cultural History of Enslaved and Emancipated Africans in Late-Ottoman Izmir.” The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Yale University.

5 Nov 2015 “African and Circassian slavery at the end of the Ottoman Empire: 1850-1922.” Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation, University of Hull, Hull, UK.

### **DEPARTMENTAL TALKS**

9 March 2015 “Enslaved and Emancipated Africans in Ottoman Izmir: The Calf Festival, 1880-1927.” Near and Middle East History Seminar Series, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, UK.

25 Oct 2012 “A Micro-History of the African Slave Trade in the Late Ottoman Empire: The Case of the Mahrousa (1887-1889).” Indian Ocean World Centre, McGill University.

### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

1 Month Post-Doctoral Fellowship (\$3500) 2015  
The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition  
Yale University

<b>Post-Doctoral Fellowship (\$40 500)</b> <b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada</b>	<b>2014</b>
Graduate Excellence Fellowship (\$7000) Department of History and Classics, McGill University	2013
Graduate Excellence Fellowship (\$500) Department of History and Classics, McGill University	2012
<b>Fellowship in Turkish Culture and Art (\$10 000)</b> <b>Turkish Cultural Foundation</b>	<b>2012</b>
Graduate Fellowship (\$750) Conference, Obermann Center, University of Iowa	2010
Provost's Scholarship (\$5000) McGill University History Department	2008
<b>Joseph Armand Bombardier Doctoral Scholarship (\$35 000/year)</b> <b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada</b>	<b>2008-2011</b>
Canada Graduate Scholarship - Master's (\$17 500) Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2005
<b>AWARDS AND HONOURS</b>	
Arts Graduate Student Travel Award (\$5 000) Faculty of Arts, McGill University	2011
Graduate Student Expenses Bursary (\$300) Modern Greek Studies Association	2009, 2011
Entrance Scholarship (\$1000) Ottoman and Turkish Summer School, Ottoman Studies Foundation	2011
<b>TEACHING EXPERIENCE</b>	
"Greece from Ottoman to EU" – Teaching Assistant Department of History and Classics, McGill University	Fall 2013
"Modern African History" – Teaching Assistant Department of History and Classics, McGill University	Winter 2013
"Introduction to Russian History to 1801" – Teaching Assistant Department of History and Classics, McGill University	Fall 2012
"Introduction to Modern African History" – Teaching Assistant Department of History and Classics, McGill University	Winter 2011
"Introduction to European History" – Teaching Assistant	Fall 2009, 2010, and 2011

Department of History and Classics, McGill University

“The History of the Indian Ocean World” – Assistant Lecturer  
Department of History and Classics, McGill University

Fall 2010

“Introduction to Modern African History” – Teaching Assistant  
Department of History and Classics, McGill University

Winter 2010

“Introduction to African History” – Teaching Assistant  
Department of History and Classics, McGill University

Fall 2008 - Winter 2009

English Language and Literature – Secondary School Teacher  
Bahçesehir College, Istanbul, Turkey

Sept 2006 - June 2007

“Introduction to World History” – Teaching Assistant  
Department of History and Classics, McGill University

Winter 2006

“Introduction to African History” – Teaching Assistant  
Department of History and Classics, McGill University

Fall 2004 - Fall 2005

“Introduction to Roman History” – Teaching Assistant  
Department of Classics, Carleton University

Winter 2004

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

- Nov 2017 [Scheduled] “African Slavery and Archival Violence in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.” Reckoning with Slavery: New Directions in the History, Memory, Legacy, and Popular Representations of Enslavement. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York, New York.
- April 2017 “Kurds in the History of Displacement in Izmir, 1850-2016.” Migration and Mobility in Turkey: Past and Present. Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, New School for Social Research, New York, New York.
- Feb 2017 “The Artistic Legacy of Displaced Syrians in Izmir.” College Art Association (CAA) Annual Conference, New York, New York.
- Nov 2016 “Kurds in the History of Displacement in Izmir.” Historical and Comparative Perspectives on Kurdish Politics. Buffet Institute, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.
- Nov 2016 “African Slavery in the Ottoman Empire and the Violence of the Archive.” Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Sept 2016 “Izmir as a City of Displacement, 1875-2015.” Transregional Academy : De-Framing the Mediterranean from the 21st Century: Places, Routes, Actors (10-day workshop). Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Rethymno, Greece.
- May 2016 “Izmir as a City of Displacement, 1850-2015.” The Global City, Past and Present. Centre for Metropolitan History, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, London.

- April 2016 “The Perception of Crisis: Displacement in Izmir, 1875-Present.” Conable Conference in International Studies: Migration Crisis? What Crisis? Why Crisis? Thinking, Framing, and Theorizing Mass Mobility in a Globalized Age. Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York.
- Nov 2014 “State versus private care of emancipated African children in late Ottoman Izmir.” MESA Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
- March 2013 “It’s not destruction, it’s urban renewal’: the transformation of urban space atop Kadifekale, Izmir.” Quatrième Journée d’étude du groupe d’études turques et ottomanes (GÉTO): « La République Turque : histoire, culture, société », Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal.
- Nov 2012 “Enslaved and Emancipated Africans in 19th century ‘Cosmopolitan Izmir.’” Ottoman Slavery Workshop, CETOBAC (Centre d’études turques, ottomanes, balkaniques et centrasiatiques) and CNRS-EHESS-Collège de France, Paris.
- Feb 2012 “The Tomb of St. Polycarp in the urban history of late Ottoman and early Republican Izmir (1880-1940).” Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, New York.
- Dec 2011 “The Emergence of an ‘Afro-Turk’ Identity since 2005.” MESA Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
- Oct 2011 “The Tomb of St. Polycarp and the Overlap of Religious Practices in Late Ottoman Izmir.” Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA) Annual Meeting, New York University, New York.
- Feb 2011 “Sharing Sacred Space: The Tomb of St. Polycarp in Izmir in the late nineteenth-century.” Sixteenth Annual Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Conference, Concordia University, Montreal.
- March 2010 “Leyla Saz and Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil’s Writings on sub-Saharan Africans in the late Ottoman Empire.” McGill-Queen’s Graduate Conference. McGill University, Montreal.
- Nov 2009 “‘Slave Religions’ in Comparative Perspective: Zar / Bori in Ottoman Lands and Candomblé in Brazil.” MESA Annual Meeting, Boston.
- Oct 2009 “The Sub-Saharan Africans of Chania, Crete in the Nineteenth Century: A Comparative Perspective.” MGSA Annual Meeting, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.
- May 2009 “Sultan, Caliph and Patron: Centralization of Patron-Client relations and Indebtedness in the late Ottoman Empire.” Debt and Slavery: The History of a Process of Enslavement. Indian Ocean World Centre, McGill University, Montreal.
- Nov 2008 “Towards a Social History of Afro-Ottomans: Preliminary Results for the Case of Crete.” MESA Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.

March 2008 “Environmental Factors shaping the slave trade through Libya in the Nineteenth Century.” Underhill Colloquium, Carleton University, Ottawa.

### **WEB-BASED PUBLICATIONS**

"Under Fire: Translating the Growing Crisis in the Kurdish Cities of Turkey's Southeast," *Jadaliyya*, 19 January 2016. [[http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/23617/under-fire\\_translating-the-growing-crisis-in-the-kn](http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/23617/under-fire_translating-the-growing-crisis-in-the-kn)]

"White Turks, Black Turks, and Negroes: The Politics of Polarization," *Jadaliyya*, 29 June 2013. [[http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/12484/white-turks-black-turks-and-negroes\\_the-politics-o](http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/12484/white-turks-black-turks-and-negroes_the-politics-o)]

### **OTHER MEDIA**

June 2017 [Forthcoming] Ferguson, Michael (producer), “Visual Sources of Late Ottoman History” *Ottoman History Podcast* (recorded 20 April 2017)

May 2017 [Forthcoming] Shaffir, Nir (producer), “The Social Life of the Olive in the Mediterranean,” *Ottoman History Podcast* (recorded 20 September 2016)

August 2016 Gratien, Chris (producer), “African Slavery and Abolition in the late Ottoman Empire,” *Ottoman History Podcast* (recorded 27 Feb 2016)

### **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

[Scheduled] Panel Discussant, “Blackness in the Middle East: a Comparative Perspective.” MESA Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. - November 2017.

Conference Organizer, “Migration and Mobility in Turkey: Past and Present.” Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, New School for Social Research, New York - April 2017.

Panel Organizer, “African Slavery and its Legacies in the late Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey.” MESA Annual Meeting, Boston - November 2016.

Panel Organizer and Chair, “Situating Slavery in the Context of the Nineteenth-Century Middle East.” MESA Annual Meeting, Boston - November 2009.

Panel Organizer, “Official and Unofficial Discourses on Culture and Society in Late Ottoman and Modern Turkey.” McGill-Queen’s Graduate Conference, McGill University, Montreal - March 2010.

Panel Chair, “Health and Morality in the Indian Ocean World.” First Annual Graduate Conference on Indian Ocean World History, Indian Ocean World Centre, McGill University, Montreal - October 2012.

### **GUEST LECTURES**

“The Ottoman Empire in Historical Perspective.” History of the Middle East, McMaster University, Hamilton – [Scheduled] November 2017.

“The Early Ottoman Empire.” History of the Middle East, McMaster University, Hamilton – 12 January 2012.

“Africans and African slavery in the Late Ottoman Empire and Beyond.” Slavery in the Indian Ocean World, McGill University – 5 October 2011.

“The Ottoman Empire and ‘the West’ in Historical Perspective.” Introduction to European History, McGill University – 22 October 2010.

## **LANGUAGES**

- English: native speaker
- Turkish: fluent
- French: advanced
- Ottoman Turkish: reading
- Arabic: intermediate reading
- Greek: intermediate reading
- Kurdish (Kurmanji): intermediate reading and oral comprehension

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association (AHA)

Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA)

Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

New School Middle East North Africa (MENA) Working Group

Columbia University Ottoman and Turkish Studies Seminar

Indian Ocean World Centre (IOWC)