

DAN JOSLYN

They/them

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EDUCATION

New York University, MA, 2018; PhD expected December 2024

Fields (passed with distinction):

United States History: 1820-1930

American Jewish History: 1820-1930

Modern Middle Eastern History

Dissertation: "Social Reform and the Orgasm in the Long Nineteenth Century"

Advisor: Martha Hodes

Committee: Michele Mitchell; Steven Hahn; Linda Gordon; Greta LaFleur (Yale University)

Hampshire College, BA, 2016

Interdisciplinary Concentration: Forgiveness and Reconciliation

TEACHING

Social Cultural Analysis 101, Assistant Instructor, New York University, Fall 2024

American History to 1865, Assistant Instructor, New York University, Fall 2023

Sex, Drugs and Socialism in the Americas, Adjunct Instructor, New York University, Summer 2021

American Radicalism, Adjunct Instructor, New York University, Summer 2020

The Black Atlantic, Assistant Instructor, New York University, Fall 2018

Civil War and Reconstruction, Teaching Assistant, Hampshire College, Spring 2016

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Fellowships: Long Term

Diamonstein-Spielvogel Fellowship, New York Public Library, New York, NY, 2023-2024.

Margaret Brown Fellowship for Women's History, New York University, New York, NY, 2023-2024, declined.

Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Institute for Citizens and Scholars, Princeton, NJ, 2022-2023.

New York University Center for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, Alternate, 2022-2023.

Religion, Spirituality and Democratic Renewal Fellowship, Social Science Research Council, New York, NY, 2020-2021.

Berger-MacCracken Fellowship, Department of History, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University, 2016 – 2022.

Fellowships: Short Term

NYU Graduate Research Initiatives Grant, 2021, declined.

NYU Digital Humanities Summer Fellowship, NYU Center for the Humanities, 2021.

Carel B. Germain Fellowship, Smith College, 2020.

William P. Heidrich Research Fellowship, Labadie Collection, University of Michigan, 2020.

Alwin C. Carus Research Grant, Southern Illinois University, 2019.

Lilian Gary Taylor Fellowship in American Literature, University of Virginia, 2019.

James P. Danky Fellowship, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, 2019.

Mainzer Summer Research Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University, 2018.
Dean's Summer Research Fellowship, Department of History, New York University, 2017.
Research and Translation Fellow, Wexler Oral History Project, Yiddish Book Center, Amherst, MA, Summer 2016.

Grants: Project Related

Humanities NYC Public Humanities Grant (to support programing for a community garden in the South Bronx).
Humanities NYC Public Humanities Grant (support for organizing library), 2021.
Villanova University, History in the Public Interest Covid-19 Response Grant (to make an introductory video on mutual aid), 2020.
METRO Library Council, Equity in Action Grant (to build an open-source library by and for mutual aid organizers), 2020.

Honors

Howard Reese Prize, New York University Department of History.
David Smith Scholars Award in American Studies, Hampshire College.
Presidents' Award Scholarship, Hampshire College.

PUBLICATIONS

Essays

"Ernest Crosby," "Walt Whitman," "New Thought" and "Free Thought" in Paul Buhle and Mari-Jo Buhle eds. *The Encyclopedia of the American Left*, forthcoming.

"Frederick Douglass's Egypt and the Limits of Liberalism," revise and resubmit, *Modern Intellectual History*.

Dan Joslyn, Tyesha Maddox, and Robert Soden, "Mutual Aid, Technology, and the Problem of History," in Scott Knowls ed, *COVID Studies: New Directions in Social Science Disaster Research* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2023).

Public Media

"Theorizing Marianne Williamson," *The Immanent Frame*, forthcoming.

Co-founder, [Notariot.com](https://notariot.com), (informational resource on 2020 uprisings and their historical context), 2020.

"The Broken Promise of *The Goop Lab*," *Religion Dispatches*, February 4, 2020.

"Is Trying Good Enough?: The Good Place Has A C-Word Problem," *Religion Dispatches*, January 9, 2020.

"People Need People to be People; Or: How Cynicism is Hurting the Left," *The Revealer* (therevealer.org, published by the Center for Religion and Media, New York University), Nov. 16, 2018.

“‘A Reform Which Has Stifled All Other Reforms’: Islam in the Nineteenth-Century American Black Press,” blog of the *Journal of the History of Ideas*, March 27, 2017.

“‘Good Men Are God in the Flesh’: Frederick Douglass, Virtue Philosopher,” blog of the *Journal of the History of Ideas*, Oct. 17, 2016.

“Teaching an Oral History Class: Five College Oral History White Paper,” with Laura Lovett, et al., *Valley Women’s History Collaborative*, 2015.

Book Reviews

“The (Lost) Radicalism of Positive Thinking,” review of Shannon Wakoh Hickey, *Mind Cure: How Meditation Became Medicine*, in *Marginalia Review of Books-Los Angeles Review of Books*, forthcoming.

Nancy Hewitt, *Radical Friend: Amy Kirby Post and her Activist Worlds*, in *Reviews in History*, forthcoming.

Jeremy C. Young, *The Age of Charisma: Leaders, Followers, and Emotions in American Society, 1870-1940*, in *American Nineteenth-Century History*, June 9, 2019.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Panels Organized

“Bourgeois Deviance, Bourgeois Decadence: Sexuality and the American Left,” American Historical Association, New York City, 2025

“Alternative Intimacies at the Fin de Siècle,” Queer History Conference, Riverside, 2024.

“Religion and Cultural Radicalism in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Chicago, 2021.

“The Politics of Utopia” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, online, 2020.

“Sexual Healing and Sexual Mysticism at the Fin de Siècle,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, New Religious Movement Unit, San Diego, 2019.

“The Greater Abolition: Radical Reformers in the Long 19th Century,” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, The New School for Social Research, New York, 2019.

“Female Sexual Mystics and Magicians at the Turn of the Twentieth Century: Ecstatic Sex and Altered Consciousness in the writings of Alice Bunker Stockham and Dion Fortune,” European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism, University of Amsterdam, 2019.

“The Shared Stories of Socialism and Religion,” Left Forum, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 2019.

Papers Presented

“The Act of Sex in the Age of Anthony Comstock,” John Hopkins University Modern American History Seminar, 2024.

- “The Battle Axe: Antebellum Social Reform and the Impossibility of Queer Politics,” Massachusetts Historical Society History of Women and Gender Seminar, 2023.
- “The Political Economy of Sex Without Orgasm,” United States Intellectual History Conference, 2023.
- “Sexual Mysticism and the Modernization of Marriage,” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, 2023.
- “How Love Came of Age: God, Sex and Socialism in the Long Nineteenth Century,” Emerging Scholars Panel, Religion and American Culture Biennial Conference, Indianapolis, 2022.
- “Love’s Coming of Age: Socialist Politics and the Redemption of the ‘Primitive,’” Utopian Studies Conference, Charleston, 2022.
- “The Organizing Resource Library,” Urban Listeners, online, 2021.
- “Karezza: The Socialist Politics of Sexual Mysticism,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Online, 2021.
- “Karezza: The Sometimes Socialist Politics of the New Woman,” Princeton Religious Studies Writing Seminar, 2020.
- “The Socialist Politics of Love in the Writings of Edward Carpenter,” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, online, 2020.
- “Karezza, Socialism and the Futures of Oneida,” Communal Studies Association, online, 2020.
- “Ida Craddock: Sex with Ghosts and God and the Healing of Self and Society,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, New Religious Movement Unit, San Diego, November 21, 2019.
- “Ernest Crosby, Anarchism and the Abolitionist Legacy,” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, New School, New York, November 9, 2019.
- “‘No Ordinary Fanatics’: Islam, Ecstasy and Respectability at the Turn-of-the-Century,” European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism, University of Amsterdam, 2019.
- “How Karezza Conquered the World: The Many Lives of Alice Bunker Stockham’s Sexual Mysticism,” European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism, University of Amsterdam, 2019.
- “‘No Ordinary Fanatics’: Islam, Ecstasy and Respectability in Turn-of-the-Century New York City,” conference on “Excess? Images of Body, Health, Morality and Emotions across the Media,” Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Center for the History of Emotions, Berlin, Germany, 2018.

“Poets, Prophets and Reformers; or, How Frederick Douglass Went to Egypt to Save the World, Free His People and Civilize the ‘Sable Children of the Desert,’” British Association for American Studies, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, 2017.

“‘As free as I Am Now,’ Ambrose Douglass’s Story of Emancipation,” Converse College Conference on Southern Culture, Spartanburg, SC, 2016.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Digital Organizing During a Pandemic,” [CovidCalls](#), Villanova University, 2020.

“Karezza: New Women and Socialism at the turn of the Twentieth Century,” University of Wisconsin, Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture, 2020.

“This is Not a Riot: Discussion of the 2020 Uprising,” Columbia University Medical Center, Staff Diversity Initiative, 2020

Guest speaker, undergraduate seminar, “The Witch: Magic and Resistance in the 20th Century,” Professor Siofra McSherry, Free University of Berlin, 2018.

SERVICE AND ORGANIZING WORK

Core Member, Co-Founder, Organizing Resource Library, archive/library collecting and making available to organizers in the wider mutual aid movement foundational resources for organizing work 2020-present.

Core Member, Co-Founder, [MutualAid.NYC](#), city-wide mutual aid group supporting the growth and development of the mutual aid movement in the city, 2020-2022.

Steering Committee Member, Religion and Socialism Working Group, New York City Democratic Socialists of America, 2019-2020

Secretary, History Graduate Student Association, New York University, 2017-18.

Judge, New York City History Day, Museum of the City of New York, 2017.

Co-Founder, Editor-in-Chief, *Five College Undergraduate Research Journal*, 2013-2016.

Research assistant for Professor Nicholas Bromell, University of Massachusetts. Compiled literature section of Norton Critical Edition of Frederick Douglass, *My Bondage and My Freedom*, 2016.

Conducted Oral History of Northampton, MA, women’s shelter “Safe Passage,” 2015.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

English, German, Yiddish, French, Arabic (Modern Standard), Dutch, Spanish

DIGITAL HUMANITIES

WordPress, Aeon Timeline, Python, Abbyy Finereader

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
American Academy of Religion
American Studies Association
Organization of American Historians
Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era
Communal Studies Association