

# **Benjamin Warren Sawyer**

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## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

August 2013-Present	<b>Lecturer in History at Middle Tennessee State University</b>
Summer 2014	<b>Visiting Professor of History at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics</b>

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## **EDUCATION:**

2013	<b>Michigan State University</b> , East Lansing, MI <i>Doctor of Philosophy in History</i> Major Field: Russian/Soviet History Minor Fields: History of American Capitalism, History of Eastern Europe
2005	<b>Appalachian State University</b> , Boone, NC <i>Master of Arts in History</i>
2002	<b>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</b> , Charlotte, NC <i>Bachelor of Arts in History w/ Concentration in Secondary Education</i>

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## **RESEARCH AWARDS AND HONORS**

Finalist, Tucker/Cohen Dissertation Award, Assoc. for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies, 2014

Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Michigan State University, Summer 2013.

Fulbright Institute of International Education (IIE) Research Grant, 2011-2012.

Don Lammers Award, Michigan State University, Spring 2011.

Milton Muelder Graduate Fellowship, Michigan State University, Fall 2010.

Muelder-Lowe Fellowship, Michigan State University, Spring 2009.

Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, Summer Workshop in Slavic and Eastern European Languages (SWEESL), Indiana University- Bloomington, Summer 2007 & 2008.

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## **TEACHING AND SERVICE AWARDS**

John T. Bragg Sr. Distinguished Service Award, MTSU Student Government Association, 2016.

Influential Educator Award, Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society, MTSU, 2016.

Distinguished Member, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, 2015 (Awarded annually to three outstanding professors at MTSU as identified by the members of NSCS honors society).

“Manufacturing Germans: Singer Manufacturing Company and American Capitalism in the Russian Imagination during World War I.” *Enterprise & Society*, Vol. 17, No. 2 (June 2016) pp 301-323.

“Shedding the White and Blue: American Migration and Soviet Dreams in the Era of the New Economic Policy.” *Ab Imperio* ( January 2013): 65-84.

*East of West: The Soviet Union as American Frontier* (manuscript in preparation).

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**SELECTED TALKS/PRESENTATIONS:**

“Institutionalizing the Revolution: Soviet Economics from the Russian Revolution to Stalin,” MTSU Economics Club Speaker Series, April 26, 2017.

“Going Back to Build a Future: Russian Reemigrants in the Era of the New Economic Policy,” 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Washington, DC, November 2016.

“A New Kind of Frontier: International Movement as a Cornerstone of Soviet Policy in the First Decade of Bolshevik Power,” 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Philadelphia, PA, November 2014. (Presented in absentia by Theodore Weeks)

“Bonded to the Bolsheviks: Tsarist Debt in American Markets after the Bolshevik Revolution,” Spring Conference in World History and Economics, Appalachian State University, April 12, 2014.

“The Unexpected American: Soviet Migration and the ‘Russian American’ in NEP-era Soviet Society,” 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Boston, MA, November 24, 2013.

“Rule of None: Soviet State Policy and the Rise and Fall of NEP-era Institutions in the 1920s,” Spring Conference in World History and Economics, Appalachian State University, April 20, 2013.

“American Immigration and the Making of Nep-era Soviet Immigration Policy,” The Carolina Seminar, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, February 21, 2013.

“Soviet State Institutions and the Management of Immigration from North America in the NEP-era,” 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), New Orleans, LA, November 2012.

“Soviet State Institutions and the Pursuit of Foreign Technology in the Era of NEP, 1921-1928,” The Great Experiment Conference, Princeton University, February 10-11, 2012.

“American Agricultural Immigration to the Soviet Union in the 1920s,” (w/ Seth Bernstein), American Center, Moscow, November 23, 2010.

“An American Company? Singer Manufacturing Company and American Capitalism in the Russian Imagination during World War I” History of Capitalism in the United States Graduate Student Conference, Harvard University, November 6-8, 2008.

University Committee Member, Fulbright Program, MTSU, 2014-present.

Faculty Advisor, Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, 2017-Present

Faculty Welcome Speaker, MTSU Preview Day Recruitment Events, 2016.

Selection Committee Member, International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), Muskie Alumni Small Grants Program, 2013-2016.

Book Review Editor, *Region: Regional Studies of Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia*, Slavica Publishers, November 2013- May 2016.

Application Evaluator, Visiting Graduate Student Program, Fulbright Program in Russia, 2015.

Peer Reviewer, *Essays in Economic & Business History*, Journal of the Economic and Business History Society, 2014.

Interview Committee Member, International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in Eurasia and Central Asia (Global UGRAD), Moscow, March 2012.

Fulbright Representative, US Embassy Briefing for Worcester Polytechnic Institute, US Embassy, Moscow, Russia, January 31, 2012.

Organizer, Midwest Russian History Workshop, Michigan State University, April 3-4, 2009.

Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Traveling Scholar, University of Michigan- Ann Arbor, Fall 2007.

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## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT/OUTREACH**

Producer/Host, *The Road to Now* podcast, May 2016-Present (Reached #12 in iTunes History Charts)

Selected Media Appearances/Interviews: *Forbes*, *Roll Call*, *NBC Today Show*, *Sirius XM POTUS Politics*, *My History Can Beat Up Your Politics*, *Radio Free Nashville*..

Development Editor at Gradhacker.org (an InsideEd.com affiliated blog), 2012-2013.

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## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

History of Economic Systems (Capitalism and Communism)  
Russia in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Transnational History  
Comparative Revolutions  
Survey of US History

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## **LANGUAGES**

Research capability in Russian and Spanish language.