

SAMUEL RUTHERFORD

Curriculum Vitae

School of Humanities
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UK

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EMPLOYMENT

2024– Lecturer in LGBTQ+ History / History of Sexuality, University of Glasgow
2022–24 MG Brock Junior Research Fellow in History, Corpus Christi College, Oxford
2020–22 Junior Research Fellow, Merton College, Oxford

EDUCATION

2020 Ph.D. (distinction), History, Columbia University
2017 M.A., M.Phil. (distinction), History, Columbia University
2014 M.Phil. (distinction), Modern British & European History, University of Oxford
2012 A.B. *summa cum laude*, History, Princeton University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2025 *Teaching Gender: The British University and the Rise of Heterosexuality, 1860–1939*
(Oxford University Press, 2025)

Responses to *Teaching Gender*:
[New Books Network podcast](#), 14 June 2025
[American Campus podcast](#), 27 August 2025
Reviewed by David Loner in *Modern British History* 36, no. 3 (2025)
Reviewed by Karen Graves in *History of Education*, 24 April 2026

Peer-reviewed journal articles

2021 'Researching and Teaching with British Newsreels', *Twentieth Century British History* 32, no. 3 (Sept 2021): 441–461
2017 'Arthur Sidgwick's *Greek Prose Composition*: Gender, Affect, and Sociability in the Late-Victorian University', *Journal of British Studies* 56, no. 1 (Jan 2017): 91–116

- 2014 'Impossible Love and Victorian Values: J.A. Symonds and the Intellectual History of Homosexuality', *Journal of the History of Ideas* 75, no. 4 (Oct 2014): 605–27

Book chapters

- 2025 'Contestations', in Heather Ellis and Tamson Pietsch, eds., *A Cultural History of Higher Learning in the Age of Industry* (Bloomsbury, 2025), 153–70

Book reviews

- 2026 Tash Walker and Adam Zmith, *The Log Books: Voices of Queer Britain and the Helpline that Listened*, *History Today* 76, no. 5 (May 2026)
Eli Erlick, *Before Gender: Lost Stories from Trans History 1850–1950*, *Women's History Review* 35, no. 1 (2026): 229–30
- 2024 Ren Pepitone, *Brotherhood of Barristers: A Cultural History of the British Legal Profession, 1840–1940*, *Urban History* 51, no. 4 (November 2024): 908–10
Stephen Vider, *The Queerness of Home: Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of Domesticity after World War II*, *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* 30, no. 2 (2024): 260–262
Jacob Bloomfield, *Drag: A British History*, *Journal of British Studies* 63, no. 2 (April 2024): 480–481
- 2023 Paul Deslandes, *The Culture of Male Beauty in Britain: From the First Photographs to David Beckham*, *Cultural & Social History* 20, no. 2 (2023): 303–305
Simon Joyce, *LGBT Victorians: Sexuality and Gender in the Nineteenth-Century Archives*, *Social History* 48, no. 4 (October 2023), 503–505
- 2022 Heidi Egginton and Zoë Thomas, eds., *Precarious Professionals: Gender, Identity and Social Change in Modern Britain*, *Cultural & Social History* 19, no. 5 (November 2022), 626–628
Sabine Chaouche, *Student Consumer Culture in Nineteenth-Century Oxford*, *Victorian Studies* 64, no. 3 (Spring 2022): 478–479
- 2021 Jen Manion, *Female Husbands: A Trans History*, *English Historical Review* 136, no. 583 (December 2021): 1657–1659
Sean Brady and Mark Seymour, eds., *From Sodomy Laws to Same-Sex Marriage: International Perspectives since 1789*, *English Historical Review* 136, no. 581 (August 2021): 1109–1111
- 2019 Jennifer Ingleheart, *Masculine Plural: Queer Classics, Sex, and Education*, *English Historical Review* 135, no. 572 (February 2020): 234–236
- 2018 James Kirby, *Historians and the Church of England*, *Victorian Studies* 60, no. 2 (Winter 2018): 294–96
William Whyte, *Redbrick: A Social and Architectural History of Britain's Civic Universities*, *Twentieth Century British History* 29, no. 2 (June 2018): 320–22

- 2017 Natalie Thomlinson, *Race, Ethnicity and the Women's Movement in England, 1968-1993*, *Journal of British Studies* 56, no. 4 (October 2017): 932–33
- Dominic Janes, *Picturing the Closet: Male Secrecy and Homosexual Visibility in Britain*, *English Historical Review* 132, no. 555 (April 2017): 427–429
- 2014 Kate Fisher and Sarah Toulalan (eds.), *Bodies, Sex and Desire from the Renaissance to the Present*, *Sexualities* 17:3 (2014): 365–66

Other publications

- 2025 'Imagining Trans Futures', *History Workshop Online*, 23 September 2025
- 2024 'What Have Historians Been Arguing About ... Modern British LGBTQ+ History', *Teaching History* 197 (December 2024)
- 2023 'Symonds's Facts, Our Future', *Public Books*, July 7, 2023
- 2021 'In Plain Sight' (review of *Unspeakable: A Life beyond Sexual Morality* by Rachel Hope Cleves), *History Today* (April 2021), 100
- 2020 'Can We Talk About Sex? Please?', *Public Seminar*, September 11, 2020
- 2019 'What's Missing in Naomi Wolf's "Outrages: Sex, Censorship, and the Criminalization of Love"', *Public Seminar*, June 25, 2019 (mentioned in the *New York Times*, July 9, 2019)
- '"Never in the Presence of Any Woman": Male Homoeroticism and Elite Education', *History Workshop Online*, January 21, 2019
- 2018 'The 1970s Gay Sex Scandal That Enthralled Britons Is Back' [on the Jeremy Thorpe scandal and *A Very English Scandal* (BBC)], *Public Seminar*, June 26, 2018
- 'Dare to Speak its Name: Pederasty in the Classical Tropes of Call Me By Your Name', *Eidolon*, February 2018
- 2015 'Hellenism and the History of Homosexuality', *Eidolon*, June 2015
- 2014–17 Blog posts on intellectual history for the *Journal of the History of Ideas* Blog, collated at <http://jhiblog.org/index-of-contributors/>

TEACHING

University of Glasgow

Graduate Teaching

- Gender, Politics and Power (MSc *Gender History* core course) (2024, 2025, 2026)
- Gender, Culture, Text (MSc *Gender History* core course) (2024)
- Gender History Concepts (MSc *Gender History* core course) (2024, 2025)
- Approaches to Queer and Trans Histories (PGT *optional course*) (2024, 2025, 2026)

Undergraduate Teaching

History of Queer Ideas (*Special Subject—final-year year-long seminar course*) (2026, 2027)

British LGBTQ+ History (*Honours optional course*) (2025, 2026, 2027)

Becoming a Historian (*Honours core course*) (2024, 2025, 2026)

Doctoral Supervision

Fred Morrish, "'Dr Randell gave me a choice — man or woman?': Transgender community, subjectivity, and medicalisation in Britain, 1966–1992' (lead supervisor, in progress)

Poppy Watson, "'Only Gays in the Village are the Gay Gordons': An Oral History of Growing Up Queer in the Scottish Highlands and the Queer Highland Diaspora' (lead supervisor, in progress)

A. Ivan Sanchez Hervas, 'Corrected Registry Entries and the Diagnosis of Sex at Birth' (co-supervisor, in progress)

Ashley Brown, 'Fraternity, feuds, and the academic bubble: Masculinities at Scotland's universities between 1560-1606' (2nd supervisor, in progress)

Lou Hindle, 'Trans Outings as Gendered Social Violence in the Nineteenth-Century American West' (2nd supervisor, in progress)

Mercury Natis, 'Queer masculinity and male intimacy in Tolkien's Legendarium: Context, Text, Readership' (2nd supervisor, in progress)

Peter White, 'The History of Women's and Gender Studies: 1968 - Present' (2nd supervisor, in progress)

Master's & Undergraduate Supervision

Supervise approx. 4–7 undergraduate and 2–4 master's dissertations per year on topics related to women's, gender and LGBTQ+ history in the UK, British Empire, and US in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

University of Oxford

Graduate Teaching

Approaches to Queer and Trans Histories (2022, 2023, 2024)

Sources and Historiography in Women's, Gender and Queer History (2021, 2022)

Sources and Historiography in Modern British History (2020)

Theory and Methods (*general introductory historiography module*) (2023)

Undergraduate Tutorial and Seminar Teaching

History of the British Isles V, VI, and VII (*British history survey courses/core modules for first- and second-year undergraduates, covering 1680–present*) (2022, 2023, 2024)

European and World History: Society, Nation and Empire, 1815–1914 (*European history survey course/core module for first-year undergraduates*) (2023)

Bodies of Feeling: Gender and Sexual Identity since c. 1500 (*team-taught second-year undergraduate elective*) (2021, 2022, 2023)

Masculinity and Its Discontents, c. 200–2000 (*team-taught second-year undergraduate elective*) (2021, 2022, 2023)

History and English Bridge Paper: Women's Life Writing: Gender and Social Change, Britain, 1870–1930 (*team-taught second-year undergraduate elective*) (2021, 2022, 2023)

Approaches to History (*methods course for first-year history undergraduates*) (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Disciplines of History (*methods course for second-year history undergraduates*) (2022, 2023, 2024)

Advising & Supervision

2023–24 Supervised master's theses on: radical and trans feminisms in 1970s US; trauma and psychoanalysis in First World War Britain; literature and queer masculinities in mid-twentieth-century Scotland

2022–23 Supervised master's thesis on trans experiences of the HIV / AIDS crisis in Britain

2021–22 Supervised master's thesis on bachelors in interwar Britain

Supervised 4–6 undergraduate theses per year in women's, gender & LGBTQ+ history and in modern British history

Columbia University

Instructor of Record

Contemporary Civilization (*year-long mandatory course for second-year undergraduates in Western political and moral philosophy, c. 400 BCE to present*) (2019–20)

Teaching assistant

Europe from 1789 to the Present (2017)

Nineteenth-Century Britain (2016)

US Intellectual History since 1865 (2016)

British History since 1870 (2015)

Fellowship for Senior Thesis Research in European Archives (2019–20, 2014–16)

COMPETITIVE GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONOURS

2026 Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick Grant, Rubenstein Library, Duke University

2020 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (CAN\$90,000) (declined)

2018–19 Heyman Center Graduate Fellowship, Columbia University

- 2017–18 GSAS International Travel Fellowship (year-long fellowship), Columbia University
- 2016 Pre-Dissertation Grant, North American Council for British Studies
- 2014 Graduate Sidgwick Prize, Corpus Christi College, Oxford
- 2012–14 Marshall Scholarship
- 2012 Phi Beta Kappa
- Walter Phelps Hall Prize in European History, Princeton University
- Laurence Hutton Prize in History, Princeton University
- William Koren Jr. Memorial Prize in History, Princeton University
- University Center for Human Values Senior Thesis Prize, Princeton University
- David F. Bowers Prize, Princeton University
- 2011 Carter Kim Combe ('74) History Prize, Princeton University
- Stone/Davis Prize, Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University

INVITED TALKS

- 2026 'Scottish Trans Pasts, Useable and Otherwise', LGBTQ+ History Month Annual Lecture, University of Edinburgh, February 2026
- 2025 '100 Years of Scottish Queer History', National Library of Scotland, June 2025
- 'Teaching Gender: Women's History, Trans Possibility, and Moral Panic in Interwar Britain', History of Sexuality Seminar, Institute for Historical Research, February 2025
- 2024 'Teaching Gender: The British University and the Rise of Heterosexuality', History Seminar, Queens University Belfast, December 2024
- 'How to Bring Your Canon Up Gay: John Addington Symonds, Eve Sedgwick, and the Intellectual History of Male Homosexuality', OutStories Bristol John Addington Symonds annual lecture, Bristol, October 2024
- 2023 'Oxbridge and the Invention of Male Homosexuality, 1850–1939', Brock Memorial Lecture, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, October 2023
- 'Historians Will Say They Were Just Good Friends: University Histories, Queer Histories', Brown College, University of Virginia, September 18, 2023
- 'From Uranian Poetry to "Western Civilization": The Intellectual History of Anglophone Gay Studies', Modern Cultural History Seminar, University of Cambridge, May 2023
- 'Higher Education, Feminism, and National Efficiency: The Case of "Domestic Science"', Modern History Seminar, University of Oxford, February 2023
- 2022 'Historicizing Sexuality: A Conversation', event marking the retirement of Prof. Laura Doan, University of Manchester, May 2022

- 2020 'Gender Trouble in Interwar Student Life', presented at Modern British History Seminar, University of Oxford, October 2020; University of Birmingham Research Centre for History and Cultures, December 2020; History Faculty, University of York, January 2021
- 'In Conversation: Queer Scholarship and Classical Reception', Corpus Classical Seminar, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, November 2020
- 2018 'Masculine Sociability and Women's Degrees in Cambridge', University Seminar in British History, Columbia University, November 2018
- 'Institutions and Interpersonal Relationships: Women Academics, 1880–1914', Women's History Seminar, Institute for Historical Research, June 2018
- 'Opposition to Coeducation in British Universities, 1860–1935', presented at University Histories Seminar, Manchester University, May 2018 and Modern Cultural History Seminar, University of Cambridge, May 2018

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 'Trans History Now', roundtable, University of Oxford, April 2026
- 2025 'Towards a Trans History of Modern Scotland', Women's History Scotland Conference, Glasgow, September 2025
- Chair and organizer, roundtable, 'Teaching Trans History in the Undergraduate Classroom', American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, January 2025
- 2024 "'The Invisible and Impassable Line'? Queerness and Gender Crossing in Scottish Student Life, 1890–1939', Homosexuality and Scottish Culture, 1880–1945, University of Stirling, June 2024
- 2023 'The Atmosphere of the Residential College and the Invention of Male Homosexuality', Queer Atmospheres: Histories and Phenomenologies of the Long Nineteenth Century, Johns Hopkins University, September 2023
- 'Residential Higher Education and the Production of Homosexual Knowledge in Early Twentieth Century Britain', American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, January 2023
- 2022 'Pedagogic Eros: Greats, Pederasty, and Homosexuality', Oxford's Antiquity: A Critical Appraisal of Oxford and Classical Studies, University of Oxford, September 2022
- 'Pederasty, Classical Reception, and the Intellectual History of Male Homosexuality', Queer History Conference, San Francisco, June 2022
- 2021 'Pederasty and Genealogies of Male Homosexuality in Modern Britain', North American Conference on British Studies, Atlanta, GA, November 2021
- 'Drag and the Maintenance of Gender Norms: A Case from Early Twentieth Century British Universities', International Film and Theatre Research Conference (virtual conference), July 2021

- 'Majority–Minority Relations: The Hetero/Homo Binary', Majorities and Minorities in Contemporary Britain, KCL Contemporary British History Conference (virtual conference), July 2021
- 2020 'Gender Difference and Gender Segregation in British Higher Education, 1890–1930', North American Conference on British Studies (virtual conference), November 2020
- 'Conceptualizing the Masculine University Community: Opposition to Coeducation at Oxford and Cambridge, c. 1890–1930', Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, Johns Hopkins University, May 2020 (*cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- 2019 'Conservative Homosexualities and Normative Masculinities in Early-Twentieth-Century Cambridge', paper presented at Modern British Studies, University of Birmingham, July 2019; and North American Conference on British Studies, Vancouver, November 2019
- 'Conservative Homosexualities and Normative Masculinities in Modern Britain', Sexuality and Erudition: Institutions, Texts, Practices, Princeton University, May 2019
- 'Efficiency, Centralization, and State Intervention in UK Higher Education in the Early Twentieth Century', Education for What?, Yale University, February 2019
- 2018 'Donors and the Politics of Gender in British Universities, 1870-1930', North American Conference on British Studies, Providence, RI, October 2018
- 'Education and Elite Masculinities in Modern Britain', Masculinities in Twentieth Century Britain, University of Birmingham, June 2018
- 2017 'Academic Writing for Digital Spaces: A Roundtable', International Conference of Europeanists, July 2017
- 'Institutions and Interpersonal Relationships: Women Academics, 1880-1914', Modern British Studies, University of Birmingham, July 2017
- 'Defenders of Male Homosociality in Early-Twentieth-Century Oxbridge', Homosociality Across Time Symposium, University of Oxford, June 2017
- 'Rethinking University Coeducation in Modern Britain: The Case of EP Warren', Pacific Coast Conference for British Studies, March 2017
- 2016 'Higher Education and Visions of Women's Internationalist Community, 1890-1925', North American Conference for British Studies, November 2016
- 2015 'Sidgwick's *Greek Prose Composition*: Gender, Affect, and Sociability in the Late-Victorian University', North American Conference for British Studies, October 2015
- 'Affect and the Intellectual Aristocracy: Reading Arthur Sidgwick's Diaries', Mid-Atlantic Conference for British Studies, March 2015
- 2014 'Living and Teaching Liberalism in Late-Victorian Britain', MSt/MPhil Research Conference, History Faculty, University of Oxford, May 2014

- 2012 'Impossible Love and Victorian Values: J.A. Symonds and the Intellectual History of Homosexuality', Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-century Culture Forum, University of Oxford, November 2012
- 'J.A. Symonds and the Making of Male Homosexual Identity', Queer Places, Practices, and Lives, Ohio State University, May 2012

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

- 2026 DIY Queer and Trans History Research, Glasgow Solidarity Pride, July 2026
- Researching Scotland's Trans History, workshop at Lavender Menace Queer Books Archive, Edinburgh, July 2026 and LGBT Health and Wellbeing, Glasgow, October 2026
- Trans History Night, Birmingham LGBT Centre, June 2026
- Trans archiving workshop, Small Trans Library, Glasgow, May 2026
- 2025– Trans History Night, recurring bimonthly workshop series, Category Is Books, Glasgow

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2026 Organiser, Modern British Trans History developmental workshop, Modern British Studies Conference, University of Birmingham, June 2026
- 2025 PhD external examiner, Pernille Svare Nygaard, 'Professional Women at Aarhus University 1938-1968: Following the archival trails of women who pursued higher learning within nursing and home economics', Aarhus University, Denmark, February 2025
- 2023 Co-organizer, 'Queer Atmospheres: Histories and Phenomenologies of the Long Nineteenth Century', conference, Johns Hopkins University, September 2023
- 2020–21 Rights Task Force (equalities committee), North American Conference on British Studies
- 2018– Peer reviewer for journals including *Classical Receptions Journal*, *History of Education*, *Twentieth Century British History*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Social & Cultural History*, *English Historical Review*
- 2018–19 Co-organizer, "Sexuality and Erudition: Institutions, Texts, Practices," two-day workshop, Princeton University, May 2019
- 2014–17 Editor, *Journal of the History of Ideas* Blog

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2025– Co-chair, Glasgow Lab for Intersex, Non-Binary and Trans Studies
- 2024– Member, LGBTQ+ Subcommittee, UCU Glasgow

2024–	Convenor, MSc in Gender History, University of Glasgow
2022–24	Member, Equality and Diversity Committee, Oxford History Faculty
2021–24	Founder and member, LGBTQ+ Equality Working Group, Oxford History Faculty
2020–22	Member of Governing Body, Merton College, Oxford Student Support Sub-Committee (2021–22); Library and Archives Committee (2021–22); Charitable Giving Working Group (2021)
2016–18	Convener, Columbia British History Graduate Workshop
2015–16	Co-president, Columbia Graduate History Association

OTHER SERVICE

2019–22	Application reader, New York Regional Selection Committee, Marshall Scholarships
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RELATED EMPLOYMENT

2018–20	Graduate writing consultant, GSAS Writing Studio, Columbia University <i>(First employee hired to help launch new graduate writing center. Advised and supported dissertation writers; facilitated writing groups; developed educational programming)</i>
2014–20	Freelance copywriter, W.W. Norton <i>(wrote image captions, educational materials and other copy for history textbooks)</i>

LANGUAGES

French (highly proficient reading, proficient speaking)
 German (proficient reading and speaking)
 Latin (intermediate reading)
 Ancient Greek (intermediate reading)
 Danish (elementary reading and speaking)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Historical Association
 North American Conference for British Studies
 LGBTQ+ History Association