

Curriculum vitae

Philip A. Wight

Assistant Professor of History & Northern Studies
 Department of History & Arctic and Northern Studies
 University of Alaska Fairbanks

Academic Employment

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks AK.

Assistant Professor of History, and Arctic & Northern Studies	August 2021-Present
Term Assistant Professor of History and Northern Studies	May, 2020-August 2021
Lecturer in History	December 2019- May, 2020

Brandeis University, Waltham MA.

Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Year Fellow	August 2019-May 2020
Rose and Irving Crown Fellow, Brandeis University	August 2013-May 2019

Ohio University, Athens OH.

Contemporary History Institute Fellow	August 2011-May 2013
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Education

2013- 2020	BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY, Waltham, MA. History Ph.D. Qualifying Examinations passed <i>with Distinction</i> , December, 2015. Dissertation: "Arctic Artery: The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the World it Made." Defended with no revisions (<i>highest honor</i>), Dec. 5 th , 2019.
2011- 2013	OHIO UNIVERSITY, Athens, OH. History M.A. <i>with Distinction</i> , Contemporary History Institute graduate.
2005- 2008	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, College Park, MD. History B.A. <i>with Honors</i> , Minor in Astronomy

Peer-Reviewed Publications

2024. (Forthcoming) "Energetic Archipelago: A History of Alaskan Electricity, 1893-2023"
 Peter Asmus, ed. *Alaska's Energy Pioneers: How Communities are Responding to the Climate Crisis*. Fairbanks AK: University of Alaska Press.

2023. (Forthcoming) "Atomic Currents: The U.S. Military & Nuclear Energy in the Alaskan Pacific", in *An American Lake? The United States, War and Environment in the Recent Pacific World*. Ed. Beth Baily, Andrew Isenberg, Paul Landsberg. Lawrence KS: University of Kansas Press.
2023. (Forthcoming) "'Blue Eyed Arabs' & the Silver Snake: Petrocultures of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System", *Journal of Energy History/Revue d'Histoire de l'Énergie [Online]*.
2023. "Petroleum Development and the State in Arctic North America, 1919-1977". *Cambridge History of the Polar Regions*. Ed. Adrian Howkins and Peder Roberts. Cambridge UK: Cambridge University Press.
2021. "[Energy Heartland: How the Mid-Continent Pipeline System Fueled and Fouled the Great Plains](#)" in *The Greater Plains: Rethinking a Region's Environmental Histories*. Ed. Brian Frehner and Kathleen Brosnan. Lincoln NE: University of Nebraska Press. National Science Foundation (NSF) funded project.
2017. "The Countercultural Roots of Green Consumerism," in [Shopping for Change: Consumer Activism and the Possibilities of Purchasing Power](#). Ed. Louis Hyman and Joseph Tohill. Ithaca, NY: ILR/ Cornell University Press.

Other Publications and Reviews

2023. (Forthcoming). "Alaska's Spine Road: Access, Equity and Safety on the Dalton Highway, 1974-2024"
2022. "[Bolt to Alaska! Energetic Lessons from a 4,300-mile Electric Road Trip](#)", *Network in Canadian History and Environment* (NiCHE). December. Quoted in [Electrek](#) and [Reporting from Alaska](#).
2017. "[How the Alaska Pipeline Is Fueling the Push to Drill in the Arctic Refuge](#)", *Yale Environment* 360. 16th November. Quoted in [The Seattle Times](#), November 24th and the [Anchorage Daily News](#), November 26th.
2017. "[Hope Beyond Progress](#)", part of mini-series "Hope and Environmental History", *Network in Canadian History and Environment* (NiCHE). 7 June.
2017. "[Down the Line: Exploring the Environmental History of Pipelines](#)", Part of *Seeds*:

New Research in Environmental History series for the *Network in Canadian History and Environment* (NiCHE).

2015. Committee Report, Lead Co-Author. "[Final Report and Recommendations.](#)"
Brandeis' Exploratory Committee on Fossil Fuel Divestment.
2013. "[Has Civil Disobedience Become Too Predicable?](#)" Review of Lewis Perry's *Civil Disobedience: An American Tradition* (Yale University Press, 2013), in *Waging Nonviolence*.

Awards and Honors

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| 2018-2019 | Dissertation Year Fellowship, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation |
| 2015, March | University Prize Instructorship , Brandeis University |
| 2014-2015 | Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Brandeis University |
| 2014, 2016, 2018 | Brandeis Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (BOLLI) Lectureship (x3) |
| 2013-2018 | Rose and Irving Crown Fellowship, Brandeis University |
| 2011-2013 | Contemporary History Institute Fellowship, Ohio University |
| 2008, April | Phi Beta Kappa |
| 2008, May | Senior Marshal, University of Maryland Graduation |
| 2004, November | Eagle Scout, Troop 674, Cincinnati, Ohio |

Research and Travel Grants

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| 2023, January | United Academics (UNAC) Faculty Development Travel Award |
| 2022, December | "Petrocultures" Conference Travel Grant, Göteborg, Sweden |
| 2021, September | Center for Safety Equity in Transportation (CSET) Research Grant
P.I.; Co-P.I. Dr. Nathan Belz; " Access, Equity, and Safety in Rural Road Development: Historical Evidence from the Dalton Highway " |
| 2021, October | "US, War, & the Environment" Conference Grant |
| 2020, September | UAF New Faculty Startup Grant |
| 2019, November | Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP) Travel Grant |
| 2019, September | "Energy and Scale" Conference Grant, Energy in Society, U. of Calgary |
| 2019, May | Brandeis History Department Conference Grant |
| 2019, February | Brandeis Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Travel Grant |
| 2017, December | American Society for Environmental History Travel Grant |
| 2017, December | American Historical Association Council Annual Meeting Travel Grant |
| 2017, April | Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Research Grant |
| 2017, January | Brandeis Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Travel Grant |

2016, December	Exploratory Research Grant, Hagley Museum and Library
2016, December	American Society for Environmental History Travel Grant, Chicago, IL
2016, October	“The Great Plains: An Environmental History” Conference Grant (NSF)
2016, April	Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Research Grant
2015, September	Doctoral Mentor Research Grant, Brandeis History Department
2013, December	Brandeis Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Research Grant
2012, September	Ohio University History Department Travel Grant
2012, June and December	Contemporary History Institute Thesis Research Grant

Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures

2024. (Forthcoming) Invited Colloquium: “The Petro-Welfare State: The Dilemmas of Alaska’s Oil Wealth”. Yale Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University, New Haven CT. March.
- 2023 (Forthcoming): Invited Lecture: “Children of the Midnight Sun: A Social History of Alaskan Energy”. Alaska Center for Energy and Power Microgrid Bootcamp. Fairbanks, AK. May.
- 2023 Invited Lecture: “[War and Energy: Mobilizing the Arctic Environment, 1938-1968](#)”. Arctic Environments Speaker Series. University of Washington. April.
2023. Invited Lecture: “Is Infrastructure Destiny? Path Dependence and Carbon Lock-In on The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System”. MIT Climate and Sustainability Consortium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. March.
2023. Panel Organizer & Paper Presenter: “Like an Iceberg: Reckoning with the Real Nature of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System.” Part of panel: “The Silver Snake at Fifty: Environmental Consequences & Impacts of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System”. American Society for Environmental history annual conference. Boston, MA. March.
2023. Roundtable Chair & Moderator, “Northern Environments and Northern Borderlands”, American Society for Environmental history annual conference. Boston, MA. March.
2022. Invited Speaker: “Northern Crescent: The Electrification of Fairbanks, 1898-2022”, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, UAF, Fairbanks Alaska. November.

2022. Paper: "Atomic Currents: The U.S. Military and Nuclear Power in the Alaskan Pacific." CLA Works-in-Progress Seminar. Fairbanks, AK. November.
2022. Paper: "Whose Haul Road? How the Dalton Highway Became Public, 1968-2001", Alaska Historical Society annual conference. Anchorage AK and online. October.
2022. Invited Speaker: "A Historic Perspective on GVEA's Strategic Generation Plan", Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP) convening. Fairbanks, Alaska. October.
2022. Introduction to Bathsheba Demuth's keynote lecture: "History from a Dogsled: The Yukon and the Stakes of Telling the Past", Alaska Historical Society annual conference, Anchorage AK and online. October.
2022. Invited Speaker: "Cracking Open the North? Contesting Access on the Dalton Highway, 1968-1994" for "Arctic Infrastructures: Histories of Exploration, Colonization and Industrial Development" conference. Lulea University of Technology (Sweden) & online. June 14th-15th.
2022. Paper: "Blue Eyed Arabs & the Silver Snake: Petrocultures of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System", *Journal of Energy History* workshop. Gothenburg, Sweden & online. May and November.
2021. Paper: "Atomic Currents: The Cold War & Nuclear Powers in the Alaskan Pacific" for "The United States, War, & the Environment in the Twentieth-Century Pacific World" conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence KS, October 15-16, 2021.
2021. Paper: "Right of Way: The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act". Alaska History Society annual conference. October 14th.
2021. Invited Speaker: "[Nature, Knowledge, and Infrastructures of Colonialism in Alaska](#)", TEK Talks: Working with Indigenous Peoples, UAF, March 1st.
2021. Panelist: "[Northern Animals and Borders Virtual Workshop](#)", Network in Canadian History and Environment, Whitehorse, Yukon (virtual), January 22nd.
2020. Panelist: "Climate Politics and Political Climate: A Four-Year Forecast." International Arctic Research Center (IARC). University of Alaska Fairbanks. November 19th.

2020. Commenter on Bathsheba Demuth's lecture, "Do Whales Judge Us?" University of Alaska Fairbanks. Online. Fairbanks Alaska, October 26th.
2020. Paper: "Roadblock: The Origins of Alaska's Anti-Roads Movement, 1960-1980". Alaska History Society annual conference. Online. Oct 9th.
2020. Invited Speaker. "Black Veins: An Environmental History of U.S. Petroleum Pipelines, 1865-2020". Spring 2020 Distinguished Speaker Series. Brandeis Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Waltham, MA. April 24th.
2020. Invited Speaker. "A Private Enterprise? The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the Public Interest." Fahrenkamp Luncheon. Fairbanks, Alaska. March.
2020. Invited Speaker. "A Brief History of Alaska's Extractive Political Economy". Alaska's Just Transition Summit. Fairbanks, Alaska. January.
2019. Panelist. "Railbelt Electric Grid." Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP) Speaker Series. Anchorage Museum. Anchorage, Alaska. November.
2019. Paper: "The Weight of a Thread: Interconnection, Inertia, and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System". Energy and Scale: Trans-Scalar and Multi-Scalar Interactions in Energy Transitions. University of Calgary & Max Plank Institute for History of Science. Banff, Canada. September.
2019. (Accepted but not delivered) Paper: "PIGS, Spills, and Spies: Maintaining the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System". 3rd World Congress of Environmental History, Florianapolis Brazil. July.
2019. Paper: "Slick Promises: (Mis)regulating the Marine Segment of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System." American Society for Environmental History. Yearly Conference. Columbus, OH. April.
2019. Lecture: "Valdez to the Refuge: The Irony of the Petro-Welfare State", Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition. Stone Soup, Fairbanks AK, March.
2018. Lecture: "State of Nature: Petroleum and Preservation on the Alaskan Frontier".
- NewBridge on the Charles. Harvard Medical School Affiliate. May.
 - Dedham, MA. May. Briarwood Retirement Community. Worcester, MA. April.

2018. Paper: "No Refuge: The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the Industrialization of the Arctic." New Perspectives in Environmental History Conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT. April.
2018. Paper: "[Native Life on Native Terms: Wilderness, Oil Development, and Indigenous Self-Determination in the Battle for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge](#)," American Historical Association. Washington, D.C. January.
2018. Panel Organizer & Paper Presenter: "No Refuge: The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the Industrialization of the Arctic," part of panel: "[Manifold Destines: Exploring the Environmental History of Pipelines](#)," American Society for Environment History annual conference. Riverside, CA. March.
2017. Paper: "Creating an Energy Heartland: How Pipelines Fueled the Great Plains", for National Science Foundation-funded Conference, "[The Great Plains: An Environmental History](#)." Norman, Oklahoma. May, 2017.
2017. Paper: "Hope Beyond Progress: Christopher Lasch and the Origins of the 'Thin Green Line'" American Society for Environmental History Conference. Chicago, IL. March-April.
2016. Invited Lecture Series: "Calling All Elders: The Fierce Urgency of Climate Change."
 - Briarwood Retirement Community, Worcester, MA. May.
 - 2-part series: NewBridge on the Charles, Dedham, MA. January.
2016. Moderator. "Money Matters: Divestment as Political Power." Bill McKibben, Craig Altemose, Dr. Dan Perlman, Abbie Goldberg. Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. February.
2015. Paper: "The Violence of Economic Growth as God: E.F. Schumacher's Green Economic Vision". Peace History Society. University of St. Joseph, West Hartford CT. October.
2015. Paper. "The Carbon TAP in the Anthropocene." Center for Interdisciplinary Teaching & Learning 3rd Annual Conference: "Poles Apart, Melting Together: Science and the Humanities Confront the Anthropocene". Boston University, Boston, MA. June.

2014. Moderator. "The Good News on Climate Change: Brandeis and a World of Solutions." John Ballantine, Charles Chester, Judy Herzfeld, Frank Lowenstein, Eric Olson, Sabine von Mering. Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. November.
2014. Invited Lecture. "Direct Action and the Rise of Supply-Side Environmentalism." 350 Massachusetts. Wayland, MA. October.
2012. Invited Lecture: "Steward Brand's *Whole Earth Catalog* and the Politics of *Ecotopia*." Dr. Paul Milazzo's Environmental History course. Ohio University, Athens, OH. November.

Graduate Conference Papers

2014. Paper: "A Historical View of the Future: The 40th Anniversary of Ernest Callenbach's *Ecotopia*." Tuft's Graduate Humanities Conference. Tufts University, Medford, MA. October.
2013. Paper: "John Kenneth Galbraith, Barry Commoner, and the Origins of American Eco-Socialism." Ohio University's History Graduate Conference. Yearly conference. Athens, OH. February.
2012. Paper: "The Countercultural Roots of Green Consumerism." University of Colorado, Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference. Boulder, CO. September.

Opinion-Editorials (Opeds)

2022. "[Should We Blow Up the 'Magic Bus'?](#)" *Anchorage Daily News*. December 21st.
- 2021, "[GVEA's Biggest Energy Customers Want More Renewables](#)", *Fairbanks Daily News Miner*, November 7th.

Earned Media

2023. "[Why Are Alaska Natives Supporting a US Oil Mega Project?](#)" *Al Jazeera*, March 22nd.
2023. Zoya Teirstein & Jake Bittle, "[The Dubious Economic Calculus Behind the Willow Project](#)", *Grist*, March 16th.
2023. Ben Hulac, "[As Willow Project Decision Nears, Alaska Ponders Ties to Oil](#)", *CQ Roll Call*, February 15th.

2023. Subject Matter Expert: "[Battle for Alaska's Oil](#)", *National Geographic*. February 9th.
2023. Subject Matter Expert. "[Fairbanks, Alaska: Cooperation Between the US and Soviet Union](#)", *Alhurra*. January 20th.
2022. Lois Parshley, "[How Long Until Alaska's Next Oil Disaster?](#)", *The Atlantic*, December 24th.
2022. Dan Bross, "[Arctic Road Rally to demonstrate electric-vehicle potential in Alaska](#)", *KUAC Morning News*, August 12th.
2022. Victoria Peterson, "[In Alaska, coal is dwindling as green energy is on the rise](#)", *High Country News*, July 13th. Reprinted as "[Alaska's largest coal plant closes, as green energy takes hold](#)", *Popular Science*, July 14th.
2022. Morgan Krakow, "[Interior Alaska electric cooperative moves to shutter troubled coal plant and pursue construction of large wind farm](#)", *Anchorage Daily News*.
2022. Subject Matter Expert: "[Alaska Pipeline](#)" Documentary, *American Built* series. *Fox Business*.
2022. Andy McGlashen, "[Critics Say Biden Must Do More To Keep Arctic Oil in the Ground](#)", *Audubon Magazine*, January 24th.
2021. David Hasemyer, "[Raging Flood Waters Driven By Climate Change Threaten the Trans-Alaska Pipeline](#)", *Inside Climate News*, October 12th.
2021. "On This Day: The Sale of Alaska", *Times Radio*, London, UK. March 30th.
2021. Andy McGlashen, "[The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Faces Its Biggest Threat Yet This Week](#)", *Audubon Magazine*, January 4th.
2020. John Dougherty, "[Pearl Harbor Day: Tragedy in Hawaii shaped Alaska's place in history](#)," KTVF 11, December 7th.
2020. Victoria Petersen, "[Why the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge may not be drilled](#)", *High Country News*, September 11th.

2019. Dermot Cole. "[Nobody's Paying Attention to Alaska's Biggest Deal in A Generation](#)", *Reporting From Alaska*, October 22nd.

2017. Hal Bernton and Lynda V. Mapes, "[Drilling for Oil in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is in the GOP Tax Plan. Can Maria Cantwell Block the Effort?](#)" *Seattle Times*, November 24th.

Courses Taught

University of Alaska Fairbanks

- HIST 275: Perspectives on History ("The Craft of History")—Fall, 2021, 2022.
- HIST 461/661 ACNS 662: History of Alaska—Fall 2020, 2021, 2022.
- HIST 434: North American Energy History—Spring, 2021.
- HIST 434: "Fire, Ice & The Fate of Humanity: A History of Energy and Climate Change"—Spring 2022, 2023.
- ACNS 201: Introduction to Arctic and Northern Studies, Fall 2020, 2021
- HIST 411/ ACNS 611: Environmental History: Fall, 2020, 2022.
- HIST 483/ ACNS 683: Twentieth Century History of the Circumpolar North. Spring, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023.
- "Silver Snake: The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and the World It Made", Osher Lifelong Learning Course, UAF. Fall 2021; OLE, Anchorage, Fall 2022.
- "The Carbon TAP: 50 Years of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System", UAF Climate Scholars Intensive, Fairbanks-Cordova. Summer 2023.

Boston Metropolitan Institutions

2018, Spring. "Wilderness Gas Station: An Environmental History of Alaska"

- NewBridge on the Charles, Harvard Medical School Affiliate, Dedham, MA
- Brandeis Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Lectureship, Brandeis University.

2016, Summer. "Cheaper, Faster, Farther: A Global History of Human Mobility"
NewBridge on the Charles, Harvard Medical School Affiliate, Dedham, MA

2016, Spring. "The United States of Energy: Power, Labor and Technology in American History". [University Prize Instructorship](#) course, Brandeis University, Waltham MA

2016, Spring. "The Burning Question: A History of Energy Poverty and Climate Justice"
Brandeis Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Lectureship, Waltham, MA

2015, Spring & Summer. "Heating Up: The History of the Climate Change Debate"

- Brandeis Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Lectureship, Waltham, MA

- NewBridge on the Charles, Harvard Med. School Affiliate, Dedham, MA

Other Teaching Experience

Teaching Fellow, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

2018, Spring American Environmental History

2016, Spring Early Modern Europe, 1500-1700

2015, Fall Japan and Korea in Modern World History

2015, Spring The Global Opium Trade, 1755-Present

2014, Fall East Asian Civilization

2013-2016 Writing Tutor, Brandeis University Writing Center, Waltham, MA

2008, May-August Cincinnati Museum Center, History Museum

“Freedom Sisters” Exhibit Interpreter; exhibit on prominent female civil rights activists

Service

Peer Reviewer:

--Environmental History

--Georgetown Journal of International Affairs

October 2022- Present. Board Member, Alaska Historical Society.

December 2020-Present. [Bus 142 Interpretive Advisory Team](#), University of Alaska Museum of the North.

January 2020- Present. Advisory Board Member. [Alaska Energy Transparency Project](#).

May, 2014- 2016. Senator, Brandeis Graduate Student Senate, Waltham, MA
Chair, Senate Sustainability Committee

Sept. 2015- 2016. Doctoral Mentor, Brandeis History Department Graduate Program

2015- 2016. Member, President’s Task Force on Campus Sustainability, Brandeis University

Sept. 2014- May 2015. Member, Brandeis Fossil-Fuel Divestment Exploratory Committee.

Graduate Student Theses and Dissertations (Chaired)

2023 Dan Berriochoa

References

By Request