

## SIMON STEVENS

Department of History, University of Sheffield  
Jessop West, 1 Upper Hanover Street, Sheffield, S3 7RA, UK  
[simon.stevens@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:simon.stevens@sheffield.ac.uk) / (+44) (0)1223 338675

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

---

University of Sheffield	Lecturer in International History	2016–
St John's College, University of Cambridge	Research Fellow	2016–17
European University Institute	Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow	2015–16

### EDUCATION

---

Columbia University	Ph.D., International and Global History	2016
<i>Dissertation:</i> 'Boycotts and Sanctions Against South Africa: An International History: 1946–1970.'		
<i>Dissertation Committee:</i> Matthew Connelly (sponsor); Mark Mazower; Susan Pedersen; Saul Dubow (University of Cambridge); Marilyn Young (New York University)		
Columbia University	M.Phil., International and Global History	2011
<i>Oral Examination Fields:</i> Twentieth Century International and Global History; Twentieth Century South Africa; The United States in the World; The British Empire and After.		
University of Cambridge	M.Phil., Historical Studies	2008
<i>'Distinguished Performance'</i>		
Harvard University	Joseph Hodges Choate Memorial Fellow	2006–07
University of Cambridge	B.A. (Hons), History	2006
<i>'Double Starred First' class degree</i>		

### PUBLICATIONS

---

#### Peer-Reviewed Articles

'Violence, Political Strategy and the Turn to Guerrilla Warfare by the Congress Movement in South Africa,' *Journal of Southern African Studies* 47, no. 6 (2021): 1011–1028.

'The Turn to Sabotage by the Congress Movement in South Africa,' *Past & Present* 245, no. 1 (2019): 221–55.

“‘From the Viewpoint of a Southern Governor’: The Carter Administration and Apartheid, 1977–1981,' *Diplomatic History* 36, no. 5 (2012): 843–80.

## Book Chapters

‘Bloke Modisane in East Germany.’ In *Comrades of Color: East Germany in the Cold War World*, ed. Quinn Slobodian (New York: Berghahn Books, 2015), 117–30.

‘Why South Africa? The Politics of Anti-Apartheid Activism in Britain in the Long 1970s.’ In *The Breakthrough: Human Rights in the 1970s*, eds. Samuel Moyn and Jan Eckel (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania University Press, 2014), 204–25.

*Previously published as:* ‘Warum Südafrika? Die Politik des britischen Anti-Apartheid-Aktivismus in den langen 1970er Jahren.’ In *Moral für die Welt? Menschenrechtspolitik in den 1970er Jahren*, eds. Samuel Moyn and Jan Eckel (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2012).

## Books

*The Siege of South Africa: Anti-Apartheid Boycotts and the Transformation of Global Politics* [monograph in progress]

## Review Essays

‘The External Struggle Against Apartheid: New Perspectives.’ *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development* 7, no. 2 (2016): 295–315.

## Reviews

‘Non-Alignment and the United States.’ Essay-review of *Kennedy, Johnson, and the Nonaligned World* by Robert B. Rakove, *H-1960s H-Net Reviews* (August 2014).

*Re-posted as:* ‘How to Make Sense of the US and the Post-Colonial World’ in ‘This Week’s Top Picks in Imperial & Global History,’ *Imperial & Global Forum*, 15 August 2014.

‘A Grand Design.’ Contribution to ‘Turning the Lens on Film and Foreign Relations’ [forum on *Have You Heard from Johannesburg*, a seven-part documentary series on the history of the global anti-apartheid movement], *Diplomatic History* 36, no. 5 (2012): 797–800.

## MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS AND HONOURS

Research Fellowship, St John’s College, University of Cambridge	2016–17
U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security Postdoctoral Fellowship, Dartmouth College <i>[declined]</i>	2016–17
National Predoctoral Fellowship, Miller Center for Public Affairs, University of Virginia	2014–15
Josephine De Karman Graduate Fellowship	2014–15
Whiting Fellowship <i>[declined]</i>	2014–15
Center for the United States and the Cold War Dissertation Fellowship, New York University	2013
Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship in Post-1945 International History, George Washington University <i>[declined]</i>	2013–14
Research Exchange Fellowship, London School of Economics	2011–12
Columbia University GSAS International Travel Fellowship	2011–12
Columbia University Richard Hofstadter Fellowship	2008–11, 2012–13, 2014
AHRC Research Preparation Master’s Scheme Award	2007–08
Robert Owen Bishop Research Scholarship in History, Christ’s College, Cambridge	2007–08
Joseph Hodges Choate Memorial Fellowship, Harvard University	2006–07

**OTHER GRANTS, PRIZES, AND AWARDS**


---

British Institute in Eastern Africa Thematic Grant	2016
Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations Bemis Dissertation Research Grant	2013
Harvard Business School Alfred D. Chandler Jr. Travel Fellowship in Business History	2013
Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation Moody Research Grant	2013
Bush School of Government O'Donnell Grant	2013
Columbia University GSAC Research Student Travel Grant	2013
Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Research Grant	2012
Elected Bachelor Scholar, Christ's College, University of Cambridge	2006
Sir John Plumb Dissertation Prize, Christ's College, University of Cambridge	2006
Holland Rose Historical Essay Prize, Christ's College, University of Cambridge	2006
Glenfield Trust Sir John Plumb Prize Studentship in History	2006
Mrs Vincent Astor Prize in History, Christ's College, University of Cambridge	2005, 2006
Cromwell Association Essay Prize (Under 18)	2002
Matriculation ('EE') Entry Offer to Christ's College, University of Cambridge	2001
Vellacott Sixth Form Historical Essay Prize, Peterhouse College, Cambridge	2001

**INVITED SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS**

- 
- 'The Campaign for Sanctions against South Africa, 1940s to 1960s.' World History Seminar, University of Cambridge, 10 November 2016.
- 'The United Nations and Sanctions against South Africa, 1946–1965.' Centre for Modern and Contemporary History research seminar, University of Birmingham, 9 November 2016.
- 'Boycotting South African Goods: Political Consumerism in Britain and Beyond, 1953–1963.' 'These Islands': Ireland, Britain and the Empire Working Group, European University Institute, 27 January 2016.
- 'Internationalizing the Struggle Against Apartheid: Pan-Africanists, Labor Activists, and the First Boycott of South Africa, 1958–1960.' Center for the United States and the Cold War Seminar, New York University, 27 March 2014.
- 'Sanctions and ANC Strategy: From Sharpeville to the Morogoro Conference.' Department of Historical Studies Seminar, University of Cape Town, 18 March 2013.
- “'Moral Gestures and Protests are not Enough': The Transformation of Ideas about International Economic Pressure against Apartheid in Britain and South Africa, 1958–1969." Cold War Research Seminar, London School of Economics, 2 May 2012.

**INVITED RESIDENTIAL SEMINAR PARTICIPATION**

- 
- International Seminar on Decolonization, National History Center, Washington, DC, June 2015
- Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations Summer Institute: 'Freedom and Free Markets: Histories of Globalization and Human Rights,' June 2011

**CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION****Papers Presented**

- 
- 'The U.S., Britain, and the Defeat of Anti-Apartheid Sanctions in the 1960s.' Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) annual meeting, New Orleans, LA,

- 18–20 June 2020 [*cancelled due to Covid-19*].
- ‘The Turn to Boycotts and Sanctions in the Struggle against Apartheid.’ Conference on ‘Perceptions of Apartheid in Western Europe 1960–1990,’ Research Centre for Contemporary History, Hamburg, 13–15 September 2018.
- ‘From International to Transnational: The Transformation of British Anti-Apartheid Activism in the 1960s.’ Conference on ‘Citizens of the World? The Place of the International in British Politics since 1918,’ Queen Mary, University of London, 16–17 March 2017.
- ‘The “turn to armed struggle” and the “turn to sanctions,” 1960–1969.’ Conference on ‘The Politics of Armed Struggle in Southern Africa,’ University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 23–26 November 2016.
- ‘Tom Mboya, Pan-Africanist and Labour Networks and the Boycott of South Africa.’ Conference on ‘Afro-Asian Networks in the Early Cold War,’ University of Bristol, 16–17 September 2016.
- ‘Kwame Nkrumah, the Government of Ghana, and Anti-Apartheid Boycotts of South Africa, 1957–1966.’ African Studies Association of the UK biennial conference, University of Cambridge, 7–9 September 2016.
- ‘The Turn to Sanctions by the Anti-Apartheid Movement.’ International Seminar on Decolonization Capstone Conference, National History Center, Washington, DC, 5–7 July 2016.
- ‘Humanitarian Critique, Anti-Imperialism, and the Anti-Corporate Turn in Anti-Apartheid Activism in Britain.’ Conference on ‘Empire and Humanitarianism,’ University of Exeter, 13–14 June 2016.
- ‘Rethinking the ANC’s “turn to armed struggle” in South Africa, 1960–1963.’ Max Weber Programme Social Issues for Social Sciences Conference, 8–10 June 2016.
- ‘Boycotting South African Goods: Political Consumerism in Britain and South Africa, 1953–1963.’ Workshop on ‘The Political Consumer: Consumer Boycotts in the Twentieth Century,’ Center for Modern European Studies, University of Copenhagen, 17 March 2016.
- ‘Rethinking the ANC’s “turn to armed struggle” in South Africa, 1946–1965.’ Max Weber Multidisciplinary Workshop on ‘Challenging Injustice: The Ethics and Modalities of Political Engagement,’ 25 February 2016.
- ‘Humanitarianism, Anti-Capitalism, and Anti-Apartheid Activism.’ Workshop on ‘Humanitarianism in Historical Perspective,’ European University Institute, 25 November 2015.
- “‘The Special and Only Form in Which the Armed Liberation Struggle Can Be Launched’: The African National Congress and Guerrilla Warfare, 1964–1969.’ African Studies Association annual meeting, Indianapolis, 20–23 November 2014.
- ‘The African National Congress, Armed Struggle, and the “Turn to Sanctions,” 1960–1963.’ North Eastern Workshop on Southern Africa (NEWSA), Burlington, VT, 17–19 October 2014.
- “‘The UN has now become a stronghold of the anti-colonial forces’: The Rise and Fall of the Campaign for UN Sanctions against South Africa, 1960–64.’ Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) annual meeting, Lexington, KY, 19–21 June, 2014.
- “‘A Gesture of Sympathy’: Labor’s Cold War in Decolonizing Africa and the Internationalization of the Anti-Apartheid Boycott, 1958–1960’ [*delivered in absentia*]. North American Labor History Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, 24–26 October 2013.
- “‘An Unusual Ministry with Money’: The American Ecumenical Churches and Investments in South Africa, 1966–1973.’ Historians of the Twentieth Century United States (HOTCUS) Annual Conference, Northumbria University, 5–7 July 2013.

- “‘Bank of Apartheid’: The Barclays Bank Boycott and the Anti-Apartheid Disinvestment Campaign in Britain, 1969–1986.’ International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism conference on ‘Boycotts – Past and Present,’ Birkbeck College, University of London, 20–21 June 2013.
- “‘Setting the Ball Rolling’: The First All-African People’s Conference and the Origins of the Sanctions Campaign Against South Africa.’ Ghana Studies Association Conference, Kumasi, Ghana, 23–26 May 2013.
- “‘A Weak, Indecisive Body’: The United Nations in African National Congress Strategy for the Liberation of South Africa, 1960–1969.’ Conference on ‘From the League of Nations to the United Nations: New Approaches to International Institutions,’ European University Institute, 21–23 March 2013.
- ‘Opposing “apartheid in sport” and opposing apartheid through sport: the objectives of activists in the international sports boycott of South Africa, c.1954–c.1980.’ Institute for Contemporary British History’s conference on ‘Contemporary Histories of Modern Activism and Its Impacts,’ Liverpool John Moore’s University, 27–30 June 2012.
- ‘The Politics of Anti-Apartheid Activism in Britain in the Long 1970s.’ Conference on ‘A New Global Morality? The Politics of Human Rights and Humanitarianism in the 1970s,’ Institute for Advanced Studies, University of Freiburg, 10–13 June 2010.

### **Invited Comment**

- Discussant, ‘International Organizations as Platforms for Anti-Colonial Struggles.’ Conference on ‘International Organizations and Decolonization,’ Centre for Global History, University of Munich, 25–26 January 2019.

### **Conference Panel Organization**

- ‘Decolonization and Non-State Actors: Opportunities and Constraints in the Postcolonial Moment.’ Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) annual meeting, Lexington, KY, 19–21 June, 2014.

## **PUBLIC TALKS**

- 
- ‘Building a Boycott Movement.’ Public event in the series ‘Evolution of Struggle: Legacies of the Anti-Apartheid Movement,’ University of East Anglia, 15 October 2018.

## **TEACHING**

---

### **University of Sheffield, Primary Instructor (2017–present)**

- International Order in the Twentieth Century (MA module)  
Resistance and Liberation in South Africa: Gandhi to Mandela (3<sup>rd</sup>-year ‘special subject’)  
Decolonisation: The End of Empire and the Future of the World (2<sup>nd</sup>-year module)

### **University of Sheffield, Team-taught Modules (2017–present)**

- The World in Connection: Themes in Global History (MA core module)  
Modernity and Power: Individuals and the State in the Modern World (MA core module)  
Historians and History (2<sup>nd</sup>-year core module)  
The Making of the Twentieth Century: A Global History (1<sup>st</sup>-year module)

**University of Sheffield, BA dissertation supervision (2017–present)**

Supervised 29 BA dissertations (senior theses) to completion (and co-supervised another 12), in American, British, international, and South African history.

**University of Sheffield, MA dissertation supervision (2017–present)**

Supervised 6 MA dissertations to completion (and co-supervised another 8), on topics in African, American, British, and international history.

**European University Institute, co-taught module (2015)**

International History Seminar (for 1st and 2nd year Ph.D. students)

Co-taught with Dirk Moses and Federico Romero.

**Columbia University, Teaching Fellow (2009–14)**

Decolonization: Studies in Political Thought & Political History (module leader: Anupama Rao)

Introduction to African History, 1700–present (module leader: Abosede George)

World War II in History and Memory (module leader: Carol Gluck)

The United States in the Era of Civil War and Reconstruction (module leader: Eric Foner)

Revolutionary America, c.1750–1815 (module leader: Evan Haefeli)

---

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Peer Review**

National Research Foundation (South Africa), *Diplomatic History*, *Historical Journal*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, *Safundi: the Journal of South African and American Studies*, *South African Historical Journal*, *Twentieth Century British History*

**Conference and Workshop Organization**

‘The Changing Role of Sanctions: History and Current Practice.’ Max Weber Multidisciplinary Research Workshop, European University Institute, 14 April 2016. Co-organized with members of the Department of Economics and the Department of Law.

‘Challenging Injustice: the Ethics and Modalities of Political Engagement.’ Max Weber Multidisciplinary Research Workshop, European University Institute, 15 February 2016. Co-organized with members of the Department of Political and Social Sciences.

‘Biopolitics Across Borders: Ideas and Practices.’ Graduate Student Conference on International and Global History, Columbia University, 9 April 2010.

‘Claiming the World: Universalisms as Doctrine and in Action.’ Graduate Student Conference on International and Global History, Columbia University, 27 March 2009.

---

**UNIVERSITY, FACULTY, AND COLLEGE SERVICE**

**University of Sheffield**

University Academic Workforce Consultative Group, 2021–present

University Special Collections and Archives Advisory Committee, 2018–present

University Research Ethics Committee, 2019–2022

University Academic Workload Working Group, 2019–2021

University of Sheffield/Sheffield UCU Joint Committee, 2018–2021

**University of Sheffield, Faculty of Arts & Humanities**

Faculty Workload Working Group, 2019–present

**St John's College, University of Cambridge**

Junior Members' Extracurricular Activities Committee, 2016–17

General Athletic Club Sub-Committee, 2016–17

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

---

**University of Sheffield, Department of History**

Research Ethics Officer, 2018–20, 2021–present

Library Liaison and Open Access Coordinator, 2021–present

Department Research Committee, 2018–20, 2021–present

BA (3rd-year) dissertations & second-year research projects convener, 2019–2021

Workload Allocation Working Party, 2018–2021

Race, Equality, and Decolonisation Working Party, 2019

Level 3 Tutor (head of undergraduate third year),

2017–18 (dual honours), 2018–19 (single honours)

**Columbia University, Department of History**

Graduate student member, Search Committee in Byzantine History, 2014

Organizing Committee, Center for International History, 2009–10

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

---

American Historical Association

African Studies Association

African Studies Association (UK)

Britain and the World

Historians of the Twentieth Century United States (HOTCUS)

Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR)

Higher Education Academy (fellow)