# Other

### Zhiyu Li

# Ancient/Medieval

### Carey (Thompson) Wells

# Early Modern Europe

### Synthia Hynes

**Kavey 2** Synthia Hines—I am not well qualified to evaluate her review of the field, but she writes well and clearly and seems capable of engaging with the sources; motivated; only 2 recommendations but both are positive—the 2nd more personal and effective; personal statement got much more compelling after the first few lines; good time management skills; 2

### Sean Kane

**Kavey** **1.5** Sean Kane: GRE verbal is low but the writing was strong. 2 of 3 letters excellent. 3rd was written by a rather self-important individual who seemed invested in demonstrating her own standards by lightly damning this kid. I bet my Latin isn’t good enough for her either. I found his writing sample deeply boring but it is acceptably organized and well enough written. I am a bit confused by his description of his thesis approach—and amused by his claim that his analysis to this well beaten topic will somehow be new because of his language skills. I am also confused by his enthusiasm about working with me, but I am happy to work with him if he is admitted and decides to come. He is clearly motivated to do the PhD, has a good academic background, and already has the language skills. So 2 but could be moved to 1.

### Angela Kun-Gazda

**Kavey 2** Angela Kun-Gazda: while this student should by all rights make me very excited, her writing sample just makes me sad. What are they doing over at Columbia if this is her historiographic review and approach to witchcraft? Keith Thomas died two more times because of the way she framed his work, and she missed the most substantial works in the history of witchcraft and magic. Also where is David Underdown? And there are really excellent reasons not to use anthropology to discuss magical history,--see Christopher Lehrich as example 1. OK, enough ranting! I am concerned about her poor analytical writing score and quantitative GRE score. Letters 1 and 2 damn with faint praise; letter 3 is far more specific and positive. Grade: 2.

### Francisco Manitas

**Kavey 1** Francisco Manitas—weird trajectory to get here until you remember he looks like 98% of historians of modern science and technology; he should work with David Munns; worried about the GREs—as you knew by now I would be; only two letters but both are specific and strong; he is likely not going to come here—and to be frank, he should not because he is a better fit for a more HST program, but I’d admit this one. He’s interesting, the writing sample is good, and he is clearly motivated to find intellectual bridges between periods of intellectual inquiry. This is a strong HST project. 1

### Camila Marcone

**Kavey 1** Camila Marcone—1. Her GREs do not make me anxious, her performance at Columbia makes more sense given her explanation, her writing is clear and blessedly jargon free, she did her Masters program in another language and her letters speak to how well she handled that, she also worked while doing her Masters and did not crumble, and her project is interesting and extremely needed as it should fill a sad gap in medieval history. We would be lucky to get this one. 1

### Jessica Minieri

**Kavey 3** Jessica Minieri—3

### Ryan West

**Kavey 1** Ryan West—I think he is an excellent candidate; good background in teaching, interesting research focus, excellent GREs and recommendations; 1.

# Early US

### Sam Benedict

### Martin Carlino

### Edward Charnley

### Matthew Grace

### Jack Harman

### Jessica Johnson

### David Pultz

### Gina Rossetti

### Andrew Sanders

### Rebecca Stout

# Latin America

### Eduardo Dawson

### Bryan Guichardo

### Maria Hernandez Amarante

### Charles Sherrard

### Tatiana Sousa

# Middle East

### Gamze Akbas

### Mir Alikhan

### Zekeriya Efe Antalyali

### Nour Hachem

### Rebecca Irvine

### Fadi Kafeety

### Isaac Miller

### Fathima Ruqaiyah Mohamed Zarook

### Idil Onen

### Melinda Reeder

### Michael Schuster

### Salma Shash

### Bedros Torosian

# Modern Europe

### Madeline Adams

**Herzog 1 3rd choice:** **Madeline Adams** (Sneeringer, Hett, Killen, etc. etc.). German gender history and history of childhood, especially boyhood in the run-up to colonialism and then fascism. Professional-quality sample on US soldiers and sexual harassment of/ relationships with Maori women in WW2 New Zealand; she has an extraordinary range. Glowing letter from Paul Lerner; experience at the Wende Museum; German and Spanish language skills.

Next are two that I would rank at the same level, although they are very different from each other, but I don’t want to choose between them; they both look so good.

### Victoria Apostol-Marius

**Herzog 1.75 Victoria Apostol-Marius** (Herzog, Bemporad, Sneeringer). Soviet femininity after Stalin, good question about the tension between pop mags recommending fashion fluff and the stereotypical image of Soviet socialist strong womanhood. Romanian and Russian language skills, from Moldova. Positive letters from Mehilli and Bhagavan. Sweet but alas a bit wiki-level sample on Alexandra Kollontai. I have met her and she has followed up on recommendations I gave her.

### Miranda Brethour

**Herzog 1 Absolute top choice:** **Miranda Brethour** (Herzog-Weitz-Bemporad-Sneeringer-Hett). Brethour already has publications; her scores are strong (93V, 99A); her letters are superlative; her languages are Polish, German, and French; her prior work on the Jugendweihe in the GDR and the role of visits to the sites of Nazi concentration camps for training in shaping the antifascist human being, as well as the involvement of students from what was then called the Third World, is fascinating; she has extensive experience working in primary sources, including court files, ledgers, and memoirs; her proposed dissertation topic of sexualized violence against Jewish women in hiding in Poland during WW2 is extraordinarily important and she has already done significant pre-work identifying key primary sources. I can’t express strongly enough how much this topic has moved to the fore within Holocaust and genocide studies – it is one of the current areas of greatest and most contested interest. We are living, someone has said, in a kind of #metoo moment in Holocaust studies, and it is crucial to provide sober, multidirectionally sensitive, empirically grounded evidence and analyses and I respect Jan Grabowski hugely and he assures us not only that she is one of the best students he has ever worked with but also that she has the ability to do this work well. We have the right range of expertise (Herzog-Weitz-Bemporad-Sneeringer-Hett) and can also draw on Bemporad’s and my wonderful friend and colleague Natalia Aleksiun at Touro, who works on Polish Jews in hiding, for additional expertise whenever needed. To put my point about Brethour another way: She is someone from whom *we* will learn.

### Sorcha Fatooh

**Herzog 3 Sorcha Fatooh/ Seth Majnoon** (we are not the right fit – this is not history)

### Lauren Fedewa

**Herzog 1 6th choice:** **Lauren Fedewa** (Herzog-Weitz-Sneeringer-Bemporad). I consider somewhat unfortunate that she is confused about Bemporad’s geographical specialty (apparently mistaking it for Germany rather than SovU). Also, although the topic she proposes is terrific – the orphanages/killingsites for the newborns of foreign forced laborer women in the Third Reich – I found the actual sample a tiny bit thin. And scores are low. Nonetheless, I am impressed that she is in Germany now collecting many more primary sources and I do think this will become a very important project. She has excellent training from internships at the USHMM and at Vermont, which has superb Holocaust scholars. She may be a better fit at Toronto with Doris Bergen, but I think we should take the application seriously indeed.

### Jared Granato

**Herzog 1.25 Jared Granato** (Alborn, Trumbach, Davis, Bhagavan, Markowitz). British public health and urban renewal at the intersection of imperial renewal and rise of welfare state – big, interesting themes – not sure what the source bases would be but that’s TBD. Sample on Irish self-determination 1919 and US involvement solid and fluidly written. Has teaching experience and students were enthused. Some French. Pos letters from Gullace et al.

### Olivia Grasso

**Herzog 3 Olivia Grasso** (naïve tone in the applic statement on Brit cultural history; in sample, claims there is a “glaring lack of research” on German POWs).

### Elizabeth Grumer

**Herzog 1 5th choice:** **Elizabeth Grumer** (Alborn, Sassi, Killen). British history of occult and its reception also in US (with special curiosity about reception in Jewish and in Latinx/Catholic communities), but also history of photography, popular culture, childhood, religion/science. Also a UChicago product (MA). Great sample from the project on fairies and belief-based fraud and working-class girlhood (with an intriguing subplot about processing the upheavals of WWI and absent fathers, and another on how fairies were used in children’s literature to teach substantive subjects like geography and botany). Spanish and French language skills. Truly wonderful letters, also endorsing her other prior project on cartes de visite, as well as a paper on Germans’ looting of ordinary daily-life objects owned by Jews.

### Theoren Hyland

**Herzog 3 Theoren Hyland** (sweet letter from Hett, re: learning from his paper on masculinity in German revolution of 1919, but the language of the applic is naively emotional, with clumsy, awkward phrasing, e.g. invoking feminist epistemology)

### Lauren Kirk

**Herzog 1 2nd choice:** **Lauren Kirk** (Cliff Rosenberg, Troyansky, Wilder). French intellectual history, ideas about the revolutionary cell and contagion, reading history of biology with and against history of politics, from the 19th c. into the era of the Resistance and then of decolonization. Super letters from Verhoeven and Geroulanos; fully fluent in French; Comp Lit and theory background; already teaching experience at Cornell. I recognize that the writing sample (and indeed Verhoeven comments on this too) is a bit free-associative, but that is exactly why Lauren – and I have spoken with her, as have CR and DT – very much wants to come to us, in order to get that basic disciplinary retraining. She is already networked in the private school/Ivy scene (NYU, Cornell) and that is also a plus, in that it will give her that extra edge for publication opportunities and postdocs that students need these days. The prior work on the post-1968 reconceiving of the medieval university was another good sign of how imaginative and original she is.

### Michael Kowalchuk

**Herzog 3 Michael Kowalchuk** (French comm party 1930s gender politics would be a fine topic, but no background in history; rather architecture and Cuban cinema)

### Daniel Levine

**Herzog 3 Daniel Levine** (security strategies for the postmodern world would in principle be an interesting topic, Homeland Security background would be a boon, but unfortunately the application is bombastic and grandiose; we are not a good fit)

### Emily Maloney

**Herzog 3 Emily Maloney** (mediocre participant in class discussions, only top 15-20% as undergrad at NYU, “I fear I don’t know her”, Napoleon the Corsican sample fairly simplistic)

### Eric Martinez

**Herzog 3 Eric Martinez** (imperial military history, naïve application, Zulu-Brit sample used mostly 2ndary sources and had simplistic concept of different “military cultures”). Note: Latino/Asian.

### Henry McLaughlin – Application withdrawn

**Herzog 2 Henry McLaughlin** (Wolin, Killen, Weitz). Frankfurt School and related theories of authoritarianism, possibly as put to use in anti-Vietnam War protest. Intriguing sample on Tel Aviv urbanity. Pos letter from Finchelstein. German, Arabic, Spanish skills.

### David Murray

**Herzog 2.5 David Murray** (Wolin, Rosenblatt). How the familial experiences of radical intellectuals – including Mill and Engels – shaped their thought, and how they incorporated ideas about the family into their political theories. The sample struck me as weak. However: Strong scores. MALS training, with extremely positive letters from Naddeo and Rosenblatt, brief but pos also from Wolin.

### Darian Nayfeld-Worden

**Herzog 2 Nayfeld-Worden** (Lewis, Bemporad). Positive letters from Killen and Daigle; left libertarian activist could make for an original perspective also on historical matters; sample on diplomatic history around the Helsinki accords fine; high scores. Topic on food supply and the environment in postwar Poland does seem a bit far afield from our collective expertise, but could be ok.

### Anna O'Meara

**Herzog 3 Anna O’Meara** (Bronx history teacher with touching devotion to students, works as a French translator, but sample on Guy Debord and religion simply confusing)

### Bradford Pelletier

**Herzog 1.5 Bradford Pelletier** (Troyansky, Killen, Markowitz, Waldstreicher). French history of psychiatry, with special attention to veterans’ mental health issues, but with strong comparative interest in the US. The work on US civil war Confederate soldiers’ breakdowns and medical care is super-interesting and the Americanists should be asked to read the file. French language skills, currently with the Columbia in Paris program. I have spoken with him on the telephone and think he would be a solid bet.

### Rachael Self

**Herzog 2 Rachael (Ray) Self** (Killen, Harvey, Wolin). Metropolitan architecture. Solid writing sample on Ludwig Hilbersheimer. Enthusiastic letters, also from Ben Lazier. Graphic novelist. Some French.

### Kaitlin Shine

### Marybeth Tamborra

**Herzog 1 4th choice:** **Marybeth Tamborra** (Wolin, Weitz, Sneeringer, etc. – also Killen, I would think). Fascist Interiors: great proposed diss topic. She means it in the sense of kitchens in Mussolini-sponsored public housing (and the project has great comparativist potential – whether with Soviet Union or other dictatorial public housing initiatives of the era – and she has also useful experience in an architecture firm), but one can glean from the background in Anthropology (with an interesting study of the self-understandings of service workers at a resort in the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean, juxtaposed with Moishe Postone-inflected theories of capitalism, labor, value) that she could easily extend it into questions of subjectivity as well. UChicago product (BA); great letters (“intrepid”, “positively charming”, repeatedly took grad classes as an undergrad and performed well); Italian, Spanish, and French language skills. Wonderful self-starter in foodie/wine/tourism gigs and now personal chef to NY political and money elites: all positive signs of perspicacity and flexibility.

# Recent US

### Elijah Beaton

### Faith Bennett

### Robert Brenner

**Herzog 2** NYC tours, independent author, software developer. Vividly and effectively written samples, one on Coney Island and one a review of Lepore's Wonder Woman. Could be a fabulous nontraditional student. Energetic. I would put him at the very top of the 2 pile. Might he be a candidate for one of the new self-paying slots? I think he would raise the conversation in seminars in wonderfully positive ways.

**Wallace 1** Robert Brenner has worked in several fields and done well at all of them;  as a past and present public historian i applaud his bridging of academic and popular history; and while I don't know where he'll wind up -- Allen Street archives (shades of Paul Buhle!), historic software development? -- I suspect it'll be interesting.

### John Calhoun

### Shakti Castro

### Stephen Cerulli

**Wallace** The other two candidates are harder to gauge. Both of their supporters emphasize they would need to be worked with to flourish, and maybe it's part of the mission of the program.  I'm not versed in anarchist theory but Stephen Cerulli doesn't seem to  be advancing fresh perspectives (Bencivenni is a name to conjure with but she's hardly super enthusiastic). And William Smith's survey of the state of environmental history seems more like clearing the field, than constructing a project.

### Jahanzaib Choudhry

### Joni Christel

### Owen Clow

### Ethan Cohen

### Deena Ecker

### Joanna Federico

### Valerie Fendt

### Dwjuan Frazier

**Oakes 1** Now that I know I will be here four more years, and that I can supervise his thesis so long as he passes his orals before I retire, I would be happy to work with him should he be admitted.

### Daniel Frett

### Kathleen Goulding

### William Heiden

### Molly Henderson

**Wallace 1** Very different prospects seem to be in the offing for Molly Henderson. She's got her teeth into a front line area of historical scholarship, and her work to date gives every promise of her being a major player. Her eyepopping letters of recommendation confirm her manifold credentials.

### Cynthia Hoover

### Madison Ingram

### Riley Kellogg

**Herzog 1.5** Riley Kellogg (Kornhauser, Sassi, Burke) religion and constitutional law in the US, esp with regard to sex- and gender-related and other social justice matters, Kornhauser will be ideal mentor; has great background in comparative religions and topics at the boundary of religion and spirituality; training at Union Theological; has taught history of Christianity and Burned-Over District and Revivalism and general US Hist of Reli at Queens (and has a nice positive teaching ref from Queens); weirdly there are 3 grumpy comments on ratemyprof for her at Hunter, these should not factor into our decision - who hasn't had grumpy undergrads - but there they are; extensive (and surely ethnographically relevant) global travel. The writing sample was a bit odd - extremely important core question (how to reconcile freedom of religion with gender justice, with the central example being Hmong marriage by capture - and with a crucial insight that one of the problems for constitutional law is how we define "religion"), but the discussion gets a bit derailed into an argument w Sunstein, although the criticisms of Sunstein are valid.

### Ann King

### John Maiocco

### Ena Ozaki

### Natalia Shevin

### William Smith

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### Jonathan Soucek

### Natalia Spiegel

**Herzog 3** Natalia Spiegel. I have met with her. Completely inappropriate. Narrow focus, zero comprehension of what doctoral work entails.

### William Stratford

### Madeleijn Van Den Nieuwenhuizen

### Sarah Ward

### Tiffany Wheatland-Disu