

Ellen Abrams

Postdoctoral Fellow | McGill University

ellen.abrams@mcgill.ca

Education

Ph.D. in Science & Technology Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, August 2020

Concentrations: American History; History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

Dissertation: “Making Mathematics American: Gender, Professionalization, and

Abstraction During the Growth of Mathematics in the United States, 1890-1945”

M.A. in Science and Technology Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, May 2017

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, June 2011

Research Awards

British Society for the History of Mathematics Early Career Prize, 2018-2019

National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council World War I Grand Prize, 2018

Sheila Jasanoff Prize for Academic Excellence in Science & Technology Studies, 2017

Grants and Fellowships

Cornell University Humanities Scholars Program Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2020-2021

American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship—alternate, 2020

American Philosophical Society John C. Slater Predoctoral Fellowship—declined, 2020

Consortium for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine Research Fellowship, 2019

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, 2018

National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council World War I Grant, 2018

Cornell University Graduate Research Travel Grant, 2018

Society for the Humanities Research Travel Grant, 2017, 2019

American Studies Research Travel Grant, 2017

Publications

“Emergent Unfairness in Algorithmic Fairness-Accuracy Trade-Off Research.” *Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society* (2021) with A. Feder Cooper.

“An Inalienable Prerogative of a Liberated Spirit: Postulating American Mathematics.” *British Journal for the History of Mathematics* (2020): 1-21.

“‘Indebted to No One’: Grounding and Gendering the Self-Made Mathematician.” *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences* 50, no. 3 (2020): 217-247.

“A Letter from Dr. Caroline Eustis Seely.” In *Women in the History of Science: A Liberating the Curriculum Sourcebook*, edited by Rebecca Martin, Farrah Lawrence-Mackey, Sadie Harrison, Erika Jones, and Hannah Wills. London: UCL Press, (forthcoming).

“Training for Trade at the Nesin Mathematics Village.” In *Modern Natural Science from the Late Ottoman to the Present*, edited by Vefa Saygın Ögütte and Sanem Güvenç-Salgırlı. Istanbul: Doğu Batı Publishers, (2019).

Review of *American Mathematics 1890-1913: Catching up to Europe*, by Steve Batterson. *BSHM Bulletin: Journal of the British Society for the History of Mathematics* 33, no. 3 (2018): 200-201.

“Sake.” In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Alcohol: Social, Cultural, and Historical Perspectives*, edited by Scott C. Martin, 1101-1103. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, 2015.

Selected Conference Presentations

Symposium co-organizer and chair: “Placing Mathematical Knowledge in a World of and Beyond Nations.” *The International Congress of History of Science & Technology*, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2021 (online)

“Global Mathematics and Local Masculinities.” *The International Congress of History of Science & Technology*, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2021 (online)

“‘Logical Fate’ and ‘Intellectual Freedom’.” *American Mathematical Society and Mathematical Association of America Joint Mathematics Meeting*, Washington, DC, January 2021 (online)

“American Masculinities and Modern Mathematics, 1890-1945.” *American Historical Association Annual Meeting*, Seattle, WA, January 2021 (online)

“The Scripta Mathematica Library and the “Survival” of Mathematics in America.” *The History of Science Society Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, November 2020 (in-person meeting postponed)

“‘Indebted to No One: Grounding and Gendering the Self-Made Mathematician.’” *American Historical Association Annual Meeting*, New York, New York, January 2020

“‘An Inalienable Prerogative of the Liberated Spirit’: Postulating American Mathematics.’” *The History of Science Society Annual Meeting*, Utrecht, The Netherlands, July 2019

- “Invisible Labor in American Mathematics: 1894–1945.” *European Society for the History of Science Biennial Conference*, London, UK, September 2018
- “Making Mathematics American: Postulate Theory and American Mathematics, 1900–1945.” *The History of Science Society Annual Meeting*, Toronto, ON, November 2017
- “The Practice of Postulates in American Mathematics, 1900–1945.” *The Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA, August 2017
- “Backwards Graphs: Negotiating the Local and the Global at the Nesin Mathematics Village.” *The International Congress of History of Science & Technology*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 2017
- “Training for Trade at the Nesin Mathematics Village.” *The History of Science Society Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, November 2016
- “Participant Observation at the Leavitt Path Algebras and Graph C^* -algebras CIMPA Research School.” *Northeast Science and Technology Studies Graduate Student Conference*, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, March 2016
- “Swimmability: Values and Metrics in Cayuga Lake.” *The Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO, November 2015
- “In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Samba,” *The International Conference on Intercultural Communication Studies*, Louisville, KY, November 2008

Invited Talks

- Moderator: “Science, Technology, and Antiracism: A Researchers’ Roundtable.” Cornell University, May 2021
- “Which shall be regarded as the best?’: Axiom Systems and American Mathematics.” Philadelphia Area Society for the History of Mathematics, March 2021
- “American Postulate Theory.” Colorado College Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, February 2021
- “Making Mathematics American.” The Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, January 2020
- “Diversity and Mathematics.” Universals’ Locals History of Mathematics Workshop, University of Edinburgh, January 2020
- “Postulating American Mathematics.” Science Studies Research Group, Cornell University, May 2019

“‘My Dear Sir’ and ‘My Dear George’: The Relevance and Rhetoric of American Mathematics During and After World War I.” World War I and the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council Public Conference for Invited Applicants, Washington, D.C., October 2018

“Monthly Biographies and the ‘Average Mathematician’.” Science Studies Research Group, Cornell University, May 2018

“The Nesin Mathematics Village as Trading Zone.” Science Studies Research Group, Cornell University, February 2016

Conference Travel Grants

American Historical Association Conference Travel Grant, 2020

Commission on Women in Science and Gender Studies Conference Travel Grant, 2017, 2021

International Commission for History of Mathematics Conference Travel Grant, 2017, 2021

History of Science Society Conference Travel Grant, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Cornell University Conference Travel Grant, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

British Society for the History of Science Butler-Eyles Conference Travel Grant, 2018

Research Assistantships

Prof. Stephen Hilgartner, “Ethics-in-the-Making: Changing Practices in Data Science,” Cornell University, 2020

Dr. Luisa Cortesi, grants and publications editor, Cornell University, 2019-2020

Dr. Diego DiBernardo, publications editor and IT assistant, Telethon Institute of Genetics and Medicine, 2012-2013

Teaching Positions

Instructor, Cornell University, 2016-2021

SHUM/STS 2750 Introduction to the Humanities: Science and Human Culture

STS 1101 Science, Technology, and Politics (summers 2019, 2020, 2021)

STS 1126 Knowledge, Power, and Mathematics

Instructor, Cornell Prison Education Program, Auburn Correctional Facility, 2015-2017

HIST 105 American History Since 1865

CPEP Prep: College Math and Writing

Instructor, University Heights High School, The Bronx, NY, Fall 2017

Power Writers College Prep,
Teaching Assistant, Warrior-Scholar Project, Cornell University Summer 2020
College Writing Workshop for Veterans
Teaching Assistant, Cornell University, 2015-2020
STS 2841 Viruses, Humans, Viral Politics
STS 3561 Computing Cultures
STS 2061 Ethics and the Environment
STS 2051 Ethical Issues in Health and Medicine

Teacher Training

Learning Community for Inclusive Teaching, Cornell Online, Fall 2020
“Going Online” Distance Learning Workshop, Cornell University, Spring 2020
Theater Techniques for Teaching, Cornell University, Fall 2019
Teaching and Learning in the Diverse Classroom, Cornell Online, Fall 2018
Teaching Writing, Cornell University, Summer 2016

Teaching Awards

Cornell STS Abraham Zito Boczkowski Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2020
Cornell Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines James Slevin Assignment Sequence
Prize, 2017

Service

Co-organizer, Cornell Science and Technology Studies Anti-racist Working Group
Graduate and Early Career Representative, History of Science Society Committee on
Diversity and Inclusion, 2018-2019
Diversity Co-Chair, History of Science Society Graduate and Early Career Caucus,
2018-2019
Treasurer, Science and Technology Studies Graduate Student Association, Cornell
University, 2015–2017
Conference Organizer, Intersectional Feminisms on Campus: A Workshop, Cornell
University, November 2015

Professional Associations

The American Historical Association

The History of Science Society

The Society for the Social Studies of Science

Language/Technical Skills

Certified CELI Italian Language Speaker: Proficient, June 2013

Early Intermediate Spanish Language Speaker

Programming Experience: SQL; HTML/CSS; Matlab; Stata; CAD (NX 5.0)

References

Professor Suman Seth
ss536@cornell.edu
Morrill Hall, Room 321
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
6072556325

Professor Ronald Kline
rrk1@cornell.edu
Morrill Hall, Room 323C
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
6072554307

Professor Aaron Sachs
as475@cornell.edu
Mcgraw Hall, Room 325
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
6072551978