

Dr. Irene V. Guenther

University of Houston Honors College
Instructional Associate Professor of History (now part-time) guentherirene@gmail.com
ivguenth@Central.UH.EDU

Education

Ph.D., History University of Texas at Austin August, 2001
Major Field: Modern European/Modern German history
Second Field: Modern U.S. history
Dissertation: "Fashioning Women in the Third Reich"
(U.T. History Department Dissertation Prize Winner)

M.A., History University of Houston August, 1992
Thesis: "Art and Politics during the German Occupation of France, 1940-1944"
(Thesis awarded "Distinction")

B.A., History University of Houston
Summa cum Laude December, 1989
Honors Thesis: "Modernism before the First World War"
(Thesis awarded "Distinction")

Publishing Awards

Sierra Prize, "Best History Book by a Female Historian" Awarded May, 2005
Given by the Association of Women Historians

Millia Davenport Award, "Best Book in Fashion History" Awarded June, 2005
Given by the Costume Society of America

Teaching, Research, and Service Awards

Lerner Family Faculty Award	2020
Honors College Dean's Master Teacher Award	2019
Lerner Family Faculty Fellowship Award for Academic Leadership	2019
Honoris Causa Inductee, Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society	2018
UH Provost Teaching Excellence Award	2017-18
Lerner Family Faculty Fellowship	2017-18
UH Honors College Student Board's Teaching/Service Distinction Award	2017-18
Wong Teaching Engagement Award, University of Houston	2017-18
Ross M. Lence Teaching Award, University of Houston	2016-17
Way-Klingler Research and Teaching Award, Marquette University	2009-10
NISOD Teaching & Academic Excellence National Award	2003-04
Houston Community College Teaching Excellence Award (system-wide)	2002-03
Houston Community College Teaching Excellence Award (Northwest system)	2001-02
Houston Community College Academic Excellence Award (Northwest system)	2000-01

Teaching

University of Houston: Instructional Associate Professor, History, The Honors College, 2018-2021, part-time 2022-; Instructional Assistant Professor, History, Honors College, 2013-2018; Visiting Instructional Faculty, History, Honors College, 2010-12; Adjunct Professor, History Department, 2010; Adjunct Professor, History Department and Women's Studies, 2006; Visiting Instructor, History Department, 1998-1999; Teaching Fellow, College of Humanities, 1996-1998.

Teaching and Service to the Honors College, University of Houston:

Four courses per semester; independent studies; PURS and SURF faculty advisor; Senior Honors Thesis faculty advisor and committee reader; faculty sponsor for PAIR-UH, Student Nation, and Voices of UH; human rights workshops; civic engagement events; "Writing for Change" congressional letter-writing and voter registration events; exhibitions of students' history projects; "history through food" events; off-campus school talks; invited speaker (on blues, the Great Migration, the Holocaust, genocide and human rights, etc.); faculty personnel committee 2017-18; faculty participant in 15 "summer listening sessions to address racism," summer 2020. Keynote speaker for Terry Scholars Banquet, Omicron Delta Kappa Circle induction ceremony, and UT Student Physicians for Human Rights inaugural event. "Counter Stories: The Lynn Eusan Project," with Christine LeVeaux, Alison Leland, four student interns. Research presented at two UH-sponsored events. HERU Honors Education at Research Universities, Honors College UH, 2022. Bonner Service Learning Program – faculty advisor, 8/22-8/23; member of Honors College Dean search committee 7/22-11/22; REACH faculty mentor, 2022-23, 23-24; Honors thesis reader, 2021, 2022, 2023.

Marquette University: Assistant/Associate Professor, History Department, August 2006-May 2010 (tenured 2009). Examiner for M.A./Ph.D. exams in Modern European History, 2009-2010; primary advisor/faculty member on three dissertation committees; faculty German language examiner for graduate students, History Department, 2008-2010; Undergraduate Committee, History Department, 2007-2008; faculty advisor Phi Alpha Theta, History Honor Society, 2007-10.

Rice University: 2005-2006; Visiting Professor, History Department, 2 courses/semester
Houston Community College: 1999-2005; Full-time Faculty, History Department.

Publications

Books:

Nazi Chic? Fashioning Women in the Third Reich. Oxford: Berg/Palgrave MacMillan, 2004; reprinted 2005.

Postcards from the Trenches: A German Soldier's Testimony of the Great War. London: Bloomsbury, November 2018.

Postkarten aus den Gräben: Das Zeugnis eines deutschen Soldaten über den Ersten Weltkrieg. Dresden: Kunstblatt Verlag, 2020 (translated by author)

Exhibitions and Catalogues:

Postcards from the Trenches: German and American Soldiers Visualize the Great War (with Dr. Marion Deshmukh, George Mason University); 2014-15 exhibition commemorating the centennial of World War One, co-curator and co-author of catalogue; exhibition in Washington, DC, Houston, and New York.

Liebe Irma: Kunst und Liebe inmitten des Ersten Weltkriegs; 2017-18 exhibition in Salzwedel, Stuttgart, Dresden, Berlin, curator and text panel author; sponsored by Federal Republic of Germany Foreign and Cultural Ministries.

Imagined Fronts: The Great War and Global Media, Los Angeles County Museum of Art; upcoming December 2023-July 2024; consultant, lender, and catalogue biographer.

Journal Articles, Book Chapters, and Essays:

“Hate Speech and Antisemitism.” In *Hate Speech: A Global Crisis Facing Policy Makers, Researchers, and the Public*, edited by Emran El-Badawi and Paula Sanders. London: Oneworld, 2024); 1-35, article submitted to editors.

“Out of the Ruins: Fashioning Berlin, 1945-1952.” In *Fashion Theory: The Journal of Dress, Body, and Culture* 21, no. 4 (2017): 391-421.

“Fashioning Women in the Third Reich.” In *Life and Times in Nazi Germany*, edited by Lisa Pine, 101-130. London: Bloomsbury, 2016.

“Die Zerstörung einer Kultur und einer Industrie.” In *Zerrissene Fäden: Die Zerstörung der jüdischen Modeindustrie in Deutschland und Österreich*, edited by Roberta S. Kremer, 133-161. Göttingen: Lagerfeld, Steidl, Druckerei Verlag, 2013.

“Die Uniformierung der Gesellschaft im ‘Dritten Reich.’” In *Hitler und die Deutschen. Volksgemeinschaft und Verbrechen*, edited by Hans-Ulrich Thamer and Simone Erpel, 104-112. Berlin: Deutsches Historisches Museum and Dresden: Sandstein Verlag, 2010.

“Dress and Fashion in Austria from 1800 to the Present.” In Joanne B. Eicher, ed., *Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion*, vol. 8 – Western Europe. Oxford: Berg/OUP, 2010 (10,000 words, commissioned).

“Dress and Fashion in Germany from 1800 to the Present.” In Joanne B. Eicher, ed., *Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion*, vol. 8 – Western Europe. Oxford: Berg/OUP, 2010 (15,000 words, commissioned).

- “Jews in the German Fashion World.” In Joanne B. Eicher, ed., *Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion*, vol. 8 – Western Europe. Oxford: Berg/Oxford UP, 2010 (8,000 words, commissioned).
- “Jews and the Fashion Industry in Germany.” In *Cultures Entwined: German-Jewish Relations, Historical and Contemporary Perspective*, edited by Ruth H. Sanders, 43-63. Oxford, Ohio: Miami University, 2009.
- “Нацистский “Шик”? Политика германии и Женская Мода в 1915-1945 годах.” Revision and translation of “Nazi ‘Chic’? German Politics and Women’s Fashion, 1914-1945.” In тм: теориямоды одежда тепло культура 11, no. 4 (2009).
- “The Destruction of a Culture and an Industry.” In *Broken Threads: The Destruction of the Jewish Fashion Industry in Germany and Austria*, edited by Roberta Kremer, 76-97. Oxford: Berg Publishers, 2007.
- “Modern German Art and Its Demise, 1914-1945.” In *Broken Brushes: German Art from the Kaiser to Hitler*, edited by Gus Kopriva, 20-37. Los Angeles: Redbud, 2006.
- “Nazi Dress – Fascist Fashion.” Essay in Valerie Steele, ed., *Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion*, 3 vols. Detroit: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2005.
- “American Women in Postwar America,” “Peace Corps,” and “Students for a Democratic Society.” Essays in Allan Winkler, ed., *Postwar United States, 1946-1948*, vol. 9 of *Encyclopedia of American History*. New York: Facts on File, 2003.
- Revisions, rewrites, chapter summaries for Chapters 1-6, 13-15 of James Martin, Randy Roberts, et al., *America and Its People*, 4th ed. New York: HarperCollins, 2000.
- “Aryanization: The Purging of the German Fashion World.” In *The Destruction of the High Fashion Industry – From Aryanization to Cultural Loss*, exhibition catalogue. Vancouver: Holocaust Education Centre, 1999.
- “American/Emergency Rescue Committee,” “Expatriate Artists in France,” “Expatriate Artists from France,” “Decadence and Degenerate Art,” and “Arno Breker.” Essays in Bertram Gordon, ed., *Historical Dictionary of World War II France: The Occupation, Vichy, and the Resistance*. Westport: Greenwood Press, 1998.
- “Nazi ‘Chic’? German Politics and Women’s Fashion, 1914-1945.” In *Fashion Theory: The Journal of Dress, Body, and Culture* 1, no. 1 (1997): 29-58.
- “Magic Realism, New Objectivity, and the Arts during the Weimar Republic.” In *Magical Realism: Foundations, Theory, History, Community*, edited by Lois Zamora and Wendy Faris, 33-73. Durham: Duke University Press, 1995.

Peter Guenther (with Irene Guenther), *Deutscher Expressionismus: German Expressionism Toward a New Humanism*, exhibition catalogue. Houston: Sarah Campbell Blaffer Gallery, reprint edition, 1995.

Book Reviewer, Conference Reporter, Manuscript Reader:

American Historical Review

Central European History

German Studies Review

H-Net Humanities

H-German

H-SOC-KULT

H-War and Human Rights

H-Women

Reader reports and manuscript reviewer for Berg Publishers, Bloomsbury Publishers, Pearson, Stanford UP “Human Rights” series, *Fashion Theory*, among others.

Selected Presentations, Lectures, Papers, Conferences, 2015-2023:

“Antisemitism – Its History and Current Manifestations,” Anti-Defamation League, Southwest, September 2023

“Hate Speech and the Return of Antisemitism,” invited speaker, hosted by Rice University and The Boniuk Charitable Foundation (1st in a series of summits on “Hate Speech – Crisis and Conversation”), November 3, 2022

“Unravelling Threads: Tracing and Transforming Violence and Trauma through Fashion” conference; invited speaker, hosted by The Courtauld Institute and London College of Fashion, May 6-7, 2022

“20th-century Ukrainian History,” lecture, Rice University, April 2022 (onset of war)

“The Fragility of Democracy,” special lecture, Women’s Institute, March 2022

“George Floyd Comes Home: Social Media, Listening Session, and Where Do We Go from Here?” presenter with William Monroe, Christine LeVeaux, and Alison Leland, at Association of American Colleges and Universities, January 2021

Invited speaker at UT-Jewish Studies event commemorating liberation of Auschwitz

Invited speaker, organized by German Consulate, “Cultural Politics in Postwar Europe”

Facing History and Ourselves, invited panelist for restorative justice event, webinar

“1968 Protests/2020 Protests – Are They the Same?” City of Houston, George Floyd lecture series

Facing History and Ourselves, invited panelist for event on youth civic engagement

Invited speaker for “voting rights, voter suppression” event, sponsored by U of Texas

Museum of London, “Post World War Two Austerity,” invited speaker

National Jewish Women’s Council, New York, invited speaker

Friench Simpson Memorial Library, WWI centennial series, invited speaker

Houston Baptist and St. Thomas University, “Art and the Great War,” invited speaker

Marquette University, invited speaker, WWI centennial series

University of Missouri at Kansas City, invited speaker
National World War One Museum, Kansas City, plenary speaker, WWI Centennial
Combat Paper Peace Project, Los Angeles, invited speaker
Miami University of Ohio, invited speaker
German Studies Association conferences, panelist, responder, moderator (multiple years)
American Historical Association conferences, panelist and moderator (multiple years)
Costume Society of America, invited speaker
German Consulate/Houston, “Pop-Up,” invited speaker (multiple times)
University of Texas Gender Symposium, invited speaker
Courtauld Institute, London, invited speaker
German Historical Institute, Washington DC, invited speaker
UTMB-Galveston, Student Physicians for Human Rights, plenary speaker
Houston Independent School District, multiple high schools, speaker/workshop facilitator
Federal Republic of Germany Cultural Ministry and Goethe Institut, Washington, D.C.

Interviews

University of Houston Public Art Collection 50th anniversary video and panel
“Houston Matters” featured segment, NPR local KUHF radio program, “How Postcards from WWI Made Their Way from a Battlefield to Houston”
BBC Radio 4 Interview for BBC World Service/NewsHour, “Schubert and the Great War”
Fashion At War: Crafting the Nazi Brand, M2M documentary, dir. Alexa Karolinski, 2017; featured “talking head.”
“Houston Matters” featured segment, NPR local affiliate KUHF radio program, students’ exhibition on *The Great Migration: Race and Place in the U.S.* (2016, 2018, 2019).
“Houston Matters” featured segment, KUHF radio program, World War One soldiers’ art
“UH Moment” on World War One exhibition that I curated for The Printing Museum
BBC Interviews, “The Woman’s Hour” and “Thinking Allowed” radio programs
KALX Interview, Berkeley, “Women Hold Up Half the Sky” radio program
“The Walt Bodine Show,” NPR Radio and KCUR 89.3, Kansas City, Missouri, on WWI.
Interviews with local affiliates ABC, KUHF-PBS, Channel 39, NBC on WWI centennial.
Interviews with *Vice*, *Washington Post*, *New York Times* regarding current “fascist” trends in “alt right” and “white supremacist” movements, current refugee policy

Scholarships

Peter W. Guenther Art History Scholarship at the University of Houston; endowed and ongoing
Andrea Guenther Piano Scholarship at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Houston (HSPVA); endowed on January 13, 2023, ongoing