

Alex Reiss-Sorokin

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Shelby Cullom Davis Center, Department of History, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 2024-2026

Member, Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ 2024-2026

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA

Ph.D., Program in History, Anthropology, Science, Technology, and Society 2024

Dissertation: "From Research to Search: Technologies and Techniques of Legal Research, 1880-1980"

Committee: Susan Silbey (chair), William Deringer, Eden Medina, Chris Capozzola

New York University School of Law, New York, NY

LL.M., International Legal Studies 2016

Thesis: "The World's Largest Neighborhood Watch: Between the Local and the Global in Facebook's Regulation of Online Speech"

Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

B.A., *magna cum laude*, The Multidisciplinary Program in Humanities 2015

Areas of focus: History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas, Comparative Literature

LL.B., *magna cum laude*, The Buchman Faculty of Law 2013

PUBLICATIONS AND WORK IN PROGRESS

"The Computer in the Law Firm: The Early Automation of Legal Research Work, 1964-1970" (Accepted for publication, *Technology & Culture*)

Honorable Mention, Martha Moore Trescott Prize, Business History Conference 2025

"Stewards of the Organization: The Management of Repair and Maintenance Work in Large Organizations," *Engaging Science, Technology, and Society* 9, no. 3 (2023)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

William Nelson Cromwell Foundation Early Career Scholar Fellowship, American Society for Legal History 2025

Julien Mezey Dissertation Award, Law, Culture and the Humanities Association 2025

Honorable Mention, Martha Moore Trescott Prize, Business History Conference 2025

IEEE Life Member Fellowship in the History of Electrical and Computing Technology, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Piscataway, NJ 2024-2025

Adelle and Erwin Tomash Fellowship in the History of Information Technology, Charles Babbage Institute, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN 2023-2024

ABF/AccessLex Doctoral Fellowship in Legal and Higher Education, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, IL	2021-2023
Human Rights and Technology Fellowship, Center for International Studies, MIT	2020-2021
Summer Study Fellowship, Center for International Studies, MIT	2020
Research Grant, Kelly Douglas Fund, MIT	2019, 2020, 2023
Walter A. Rosenblith Presidential Fellowship, MIT	2017-2018
Future Stars Scholarship Award, Newport Corporation	2012
Dean's list for outstanding academic achievements, The Buchman Faculty of Law, TAU	2011-2012

INVITED TALKS

“The Computer in the Law Firm: The Early Automation of Legal Research in the United States, 1964-1974,” Speaker Series of the Minerva Fast Track Research Group “Artificial Justice,” Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, September 2025 (virtual).

“Trust in Search: Credibility and Doubt in Early Legal Information Technologies, 1970-1976,” Legal History Workshop, Harvard Law School, March 2025.

“The Mechanics of Legal Research,” Law and Technology Workshop, Tel Aviv University Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv, Israel, January 2025.

“From Research to Search: Legal Research Technologies, 1964-1980,” Program in Law and Normative Thinking Seminar, Princeton University, October 2024.

“From Research to Search: Legal Research Technologies, 1964-1994,” Tomash Lecture, Charles Babbage Institute, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, virtual, May 2024.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Select)

“Lawyers and Their Computers,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 2025.

“The Computer in the Law Firm: The Early Automation of Legal Research Work, 1964-1970,” Business History Conference Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, March 2025.

“Trust in Search: Credibility and Confidence in Early Computerized Legal Research,” American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, October 2023.

“The Mechanics of Legal Research, 1964-1970,” The Special Interest Group for Computing, Information, and Society Annual Meeting, virtual, September 2023.

“The Mechanics of Legal Research,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, PR, June 2023.

“From Research to Search: Automated Research for the Legal Profession (1964-1969),” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Graduate Student/Early Career Workshop, Lisbon, Portugal, July 2022.

“The Costs of Accessing Law: Legal Information Technologies and Access to Justice,” Reimagining Justice: From Ideas to Impact, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, IL, June 2022.

“A Complete Record of the Past: Trusting Early Computerized Legal Databases (1966-1970),” Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Annual Meeting, virtual, November 2021.

“Trust in Search: Credibility and Confidence in Early Computerized Legal Research (1966-1970),” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, virtual, May 2021.

“Maintenance in Time: Managing Time in Repair and Maintenance Work,” European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST) and Society for the Social Study of Science (4S) joint conference, virtual, August 2020.

“From ‘Run it ‘til it breaks’ to Preventative Care: Innovation in Repair and Maintenance Work,” Maintainers III: Practice, Policy, and Care, Washington, D.C., October 2019.

“Satellites, Drones & Balloons: The Right to Connect and Above the Ground Internet Infrastructure,” Infrastructures as Regulation, Institute for International Law and Justice, NYU School of Law, New York, NY, September 2018.

“The World’s Largest Neighborhood Watch: Between the Local and the Global in Facebook’s Regulation of Speech Online,” The 20th Congress of the International Academy of Comparative Law, Fukuoka, Japan, July 2018.

ORGANIZED CONFERENCES, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

Organizer, Panel on “Managing Memories: Technologies as Memory Devices and Objects to be Remembered,” Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Annual Meeting, November 2021.

Co-organizer, Cross-STS, monthly seminar series, Program in History, Anthropology, Science, Technology, and Society, MIT, Spring 2020.

Organizer, North-East STS Graduate Student Conference (NESTS), Spring 2019.

Co-organizer, History, Anthropology, and STS colloquium series, MIT, 2018-2019.

Co-organizer and Moderator, Arthur Miller Lecture in Science and Ethics, MIT, 2018-2019.

Co-organizer, Human Computer Interaction Salon, MIT, 2018.

EDITORIAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *Business History Review* 2025

Associate Editor, *Law & Social Inquiry* 2022-2023

Associate Editor, *Tel Aviv University Law Review* 2011-2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, MIT

Experiential Ethics Summer 2022,
Summer 2023

Teaching Assistant, MIT

Data and Society (Professors Eden Medina and Sarah Williams) Spring 2020

From Coca to Cocaine: Drug Economies in Latin America (Professor Tanalís Padilla) Spring 2019

Finance and Society (Professor William Deringer) Fall 2018

Teaching Assistant, Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law

Labor and Employment Law (Professor Guy Mundlak) Spring 2015

Labor and Employment Law (Professor Yofi Tirosh) Fall 2014

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY

Volunteer, Fair Employment Project, Boston, MA 2020

Member, History, Anthropology, and STS admissions committee, MIT 2020

Member, Grad Student Life Grants review panel, MIT 2019

Volunteer work coordinator, Student Union, Tel Aviv University 2010-2011

LEGAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Center on Law and Security, NYU School of Law, New York, NY, USA 2015-2016

Research Assistant to Justice Dorit Beinisch

Libai, Mann & Co., Advocates, Tel Aviv, Israel

Criminal Defense Attorney 2014-2015

Intern 2012-2014

The Buchman Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Student Associate, Criminal Justice Clinic 2010-2011

Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv, Israel

Research Assistant to Professor Eyal Benvenisti 2010-2011

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), Tel Aviv, Israel

Coordinator, Human Rights Panels and Educational Activity 2010-2011

Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, Tel Aviv, Israel

Coordinator, Central and Eastern European Fund 2009

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC TRAINING

European Law and Economics Summer School, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany 2012

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND LICENSES

Registered Attorney, New York State Unified Court System 2020-2026

Israel Bar Association 2014-2016

Law and Society Association Current

Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Current

Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Current

The Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) 2022-2023

The American Society for Legal History Current

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English, Hebrew, and Russian

REFERENCES

Susan S. Silbey
Leon and Anne Goldberg Professor of Humanities, Sociology and Anthropology
Professor of Behavioral and Policy Sciences, Sloan School of Management
Department of Anthropology
MIT
ssilbey@mit.edu

William P. Deringer (including teaching reference)
Associate Professor of Science, Technology, and Society
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Eden Medina (including teaching reference)
Professor of Science, Technology, and Society
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Christopher Capozzola
Professor of History
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Hendrik Hartog
Class of 1921 Bicentennial Professor in the History of American Law and Liberty, Emeritus; Professor of
History, Emeritus
Department of History
Princeton University
hartog@princeton.edu

Ekaterina Pravilova
Rosengarten Chair of Modern and Contemporary History; Professor of History
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Robert Nelson
Professor of Sociology and MacCrate Research Chair at the American Bar Foundation
Department of Sociology
Northwestern University
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