

# Zak Leonard

5468 S Woodlawn Ave 1E Chicago IL 60615  
leonardzt@gmail.com

## Education

2019 (anticipated)	University of Chicago	PhD in History
2014	University of Chicago	MA in History
2011	University of Edinburgh	MSc in History
2010	Brown University	BA in History with Honors

**Dissertation Title:** *Against "Anomaly": India Reformism and the Limits of Liberal Empire*

**Dissertation Committee:** Dipesh Chakrabarty (co-chair), Fredrik Albritton Jonsson (co-chair), Jennifer Pitts

**Exam Fields:** Modern South Asia, Modern Britain, Liberalism and the Political Theory of Empire

## Teaching Experience

- Winter 2019 *The Colonial Construction of Race* - Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture Lectureship
- Examines the rise of scientific racism in the metropole, as well as the connection between race-thinking and governmental policy in Jamaica, New Zealand, and India
- Spring 2018 *Prophecy and Insurgency in the British Empire* - Global Studies Prize Lectureship
- Analyzes insurgent, “fanatical,” and millenarian movements in England, Ireland, South Africa, New Zealand, and India
- Winter 2017 *Colonizations II* Lectureship – Civilizations Core
- A comparative course that provides an overview of eighteenth and nineteenth-century empire-building in the South Pacific, India, and the Dutch East Indies
- 2018-2019, 2016-17 Bessie Pierce Prize Preceptorship
- Spring 2019 /2017: Instructor, HIST 29801 *BA Thesis Seminar I* (methodology)
    - Introduces students to “histories from below,” Subaltern Studies, and the historical study of human rights
  - Winter 2019 /2017: Instructor, HIST 29802 *BA Thesis Seminar II* (writing)
  - Fall 2018 /2016: Instructor, HIST 29802 *BA Thesis Seminar II* (research)
- Spring 2015 Teaching Assistant for *Introduction to Political Theory* (Instructor: Sankar Muthu)
- Spring 2015, 2014 Course Assistant for *Introduction to South Asian Civilizations II* (Instructor: Dipesh Chakrabarty)
- Winter 2014 Teaching Intern for *Colonizations II* (Instructor: Kenneth Pomeranz)

## Published Work

- “‘A Blot on English Justice’: India Reformism and the Rhetoric of Virtual Slavery,” *Modern Asian Studies* (forthcoming, 2019)
- “Muslim ‘Fanaticism’ as Ambiguous Trope: a Study in Polemical Mutation,” in *Mountstuart Elphinstone in South Asia: Pioneer of British Colonial Rule* (London: Hurst Publishers, Oxford University Press, 2018), 91-116.
- “Colonial Ethnography on India’s North-West Frontier, 1850-1910,” *Historical Journal* 59, no. 1 (2016): 175-196.
- Review of Chandra Mallampalli’s *A Muslim Conspiracy in British India? Politics and Paranoia in the Early Nineteenth-Century Deccan*, no. 2225 (March 22, 2018), *Reviews in History*, Institute of Historical Research

## Works Under Revision

- “Law of Nations Theory and the Native Sovereignty Debates in Colonial India,” *Law and History Review*

**Languages:** Advanced Urdu, Intermediate Russian and Spanish

## Academic Honors and Awards

2018	Sinkler Travel Grant - University of Chicago History Department
Summer 2018	FLAS Fellowship – Advanced Urdu, SASLI program, University of Wisconsin
2017-18	William Rainey Harper / Provost Dissertation-Year Fellowship
2017	Cochrane Travel Grant – University of Chicago History Department
2017-18	Center for International Social Science Research Doctoral Fellowship
2018, 2016	Committee on Southern Asian Studies Dissertation Write-Up Fellowship
2016	Social Sciences Division Overseas Research Travel Grant [declined]
2015	Freehling Travel Grant - University of Chicago History Department
2017, 2015	Graduate Fellowship - The Nicholson Center for British Studies
2013-14	FLAS Fellowship for Urdu
Summer 2014	FLAS Fellowship for Urdu – American Institute of Indian Studies program in Lucknow
2011-16	Five-Year Social Sciences Fellowship – University of Chicago
2010	Honors in History for the undergraduate dissertation <i>A Church on Trial: The Role of the Anglican Clergy in Deterring Revolution</i> – Brown University
2010	Rabbi Baruch Korff Endowment Fund Scholarship - Brown University

## Service

- Coordinator, Empires and Atlantics Forum (2018-2019)
- Conference Organizer, “Lines of Control: Rethinking Borders and Borderlands in South Asia,” University of Chicago (March 2-3, 2017)

## Conference Participation

### 2019

- Paper presenter, “Securing Succession: the Legal Defense of Native Rule in South India,” *Struggling for Sovereignty: Reactions to Imperialism Across Asia*, Association for Asian Studies 2019 Annual Conference

### 2018

- Panel organizer and paper presenter, “Public Works and the Demand for Colonial Publicity,” *Building the Empire: New Approaches to the Study of Colonial Public Works*, North American Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting (October 28, 2018)
- Panel chair and paper presenter, “Fanaticism and ‘False News’: Allahabad, 1870,” *Technology, Subversion, and the Colonial Experience*, Annual Conference on South Asia – Madison (October 12, 2018)
- Invited lecturer, Center for International Social Science Research, University of Chicago (May 18, 2018)
- Paper presenter, “Off the Rails: India Reformism and the Public Works Debacle,” Princeton South Asia Conference (April 6, 2018)
- Paper presenter, “Politicizing Decline: Reformist Approaches to Indian Cash Crop Agriculture, 1835-1885,” Historical Capitalisms Workshop, University of Chicago, (January 9, 2018)
- Paper presenter, “Law of Nations Theory and the Native Sovereignty Debates: the Mysore Restoration,” *Making International Law in Africa and Asia, 1850-1900*, American Historical Association Annual Meeting (January 7, 2018)

### 2017

- Paper presenter, “‘A Blot on English Justice’: India Reformism and the Rhetoric of Virtual Slavery,” Theory and Practice of South Asia Workshop, University of Chicago (May 4, 2017)
- Paper presenter, Mid-Atlantic Conference for British Studies, University of Maryland (April 1, 2017)

### 2016

- Paper presenter, Legal History Graduate Student Conference, Brown University (April 23, 2016)
- Paper presenter, Modern British Studies: a Collaborative Workshop, BRIDGE Initiative (April 8, 2016)

### 2015

- Invited paper presenter, Mountstuart Elphinstone and the Historical Foundations of Afghanistan Studies Conference, SOAS (November 6, 2015)
- Discussant on “Mestizo International Law” panel, New Directions in Global History Conference, University of Chicago (April 9, 2015)

### 2014

- Paper presenter at the Newberry Seminar in British History, Newberry Library (October 17, 2014)
- Paper presenter at University of Alabama Birmingham Annual Graduate History Forum (March 8, 2014) – Winner of best paper award for “Beyond the Census: Colonial Ethnography on India’s North-West Frontier”

### 2013

- Paper presenter at Loyola University Chicago History Graduate Student Conference (November 9, 2013)

## **Employment Experience**

- Summer 2010                      Watson Institute for International Studies (Brown University)
- New Media Producer, Curator of “India at Brown” blog
- 2009-10                              Watson Institute for International Studies
- Media and Communications Assistant
- Summer 2008                      Historic New England (Boston-based preservation organization)
- Corporate development intern

## **References**

Prof. Dipesh Chakrabarty  
University of Chicago, History Department  
773-702-8373  
dipesh.chakrabarty@gmail.com

Prof. Fredrik Albritton Jonsson  
University of Chicago, History Department  
773-702-0638  
fljonsso@uchicago.edu

Prof. Jennifer Pitts  
University of Chicago, Political Science Department  
773-702-8868  
jpitts@uchicago.edu