

## **Jared L. Benson**

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### **Teaching Philosophy (brief):**

My courses introduce students to humanities-oriented concepts that not only inform them of previous times, but challenge incomplete, mythological, or popularly accepted notions of the past. Additionally, my instructional approach to history seeks connectivity to modern issues; often this includes drawing humanity's current trajectory into question using lessons from our collective experiences. I focus on context, primary sources, and in-depth conversation to help students recognize how social, cultural, environmental, ideological, economic, and political discourses affect historical perspective. Students also learn how to research, implement inductive and deductive reasoning, communication skills (both verbal and written), and critical thinking through varied pedagogical approaches. Moreover, I aim to help students use these tools to consider the socializing effects of historical narrative, both "then" and now, motivating them to engage deeper perspectives about both themselves and others; I believe it is through constant inquiry that self-cultivated identity, empowerment, mutual understanding, and intercultural respect manifest. Essentially, my courses emphasize "why history matters."

### **Teaching Experience:**

#### **Assistant Teaching Professor (8/2011—Current)**

*University of Colorado at Colorado Springs*

- History 1020: "The Medieval World"
- History 1300: "Global Revolutions: A Comparative History" (Created, developed)
- History 1370: "The World Since 1945" (in-person and *online*)
- History 1510: "United States: Birth of a Nation, 1607-1789" (in-person and *online*)
- History 1540: "United States: Recent History, 1918-Current"
- History 1600: "The Making of the Modern Middle East"
- History 1900: "Nation-Building: Stories, Identity, Conflicts, and Resources" (Created, developed)
- History 3000: Special Topic: "Social and Environmental Justice; Challenging History" (This was a travel course to Montreal, Canada to attend the 2016 World Social Forum)
- History 3300: "Colonialism and Power" (Created, developed)
- Humanities 3990: "Climate Culture" (Created, developed)
- Humanities 3990: "Resistance and Revolution" (Created, developed; in-person and *online*)
- Humanities 3990: "Ideologies and Isms" (Created, developed; in-person and *online*)
- Humanities 3990: "Stateless Societies" (Created, developed; in-person and *online*)
- GPS 1010: "Actually Solving Problems" (Created, developed)

#### **Instructor (8/2011—Current)**

*Pikes Peak Community College*

- History 1110: "World Civilization I"
- History 1120: "World Civilization II"
- History 1210: "United States History to Reconstruction"
- History 1220: "United States History to Current"

- History 1310: “Western Civilization I”
- History 2015: “20<sup>th</sup> Century World” (in-person and *online*)
- History 2145: “The U.S. Since 1945”
- History 2500: “Islamic Civilization”
- Humanities 1015: World Mythology
- Humanities 1021: “Early Civilization”
- Humanities 1022: “Medieval to Early Modern”
- Political Science 2020: “Introduction to Political Science”

### **Education:**

**2011 Master of Arts Degree, Graduate School of Letters, Arts, and Sciences at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs;** emphasis on social movement in the Modern Middle East, Modern Mexico, and Native American Ethnohistory.

- “Undoing the Revolution in Egypt: Anwar Sadat’s *Infithah*”
- “Alcatraz: Reasserting Indigenous Pride”
- “The Left’s Endeavor for a Symbolic Leader”

Primary Advisors: Dr. Christina Jimenez, Dr. Carole Woodall, and Dr. Bernice Forrest

**2009 Bachelor of Arts Degree, College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs**

- Senior Thesis: “Media Influence in Vietnam”
- *Graduated with Distinction*
- 2009 Dean’s List acknowledgement

Primary Advisors: Dr. Carole Woodall, Dr. Chris Hill, and Dr. Paul Harvey

### **Awards:**

- 2017 Winner of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs Outstanding Teacher Award (Lecturer) for the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences.
- Tier III Adjunct Advancement Status in May 2016 at Pikes Peak Community College.
- Tier II Adjunct Advancement Status in May 2015 at Pikes Peak Community College.

### **Grants:**

- 2024 Letters, Arts, and Sciences Online Education Grant at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
- 2022 Textbook Review and Edit Grant at Pikes Peak State College.
- 2018 FRC High Impact Teaching Practice Grant at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
- 2015 Writing Across the Curriculum grant for course design on “Writing Intensity” at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
- 2015 Compass Curriculum Grant for course design on “Inclusiveness” at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

## **Speaking Engagements, Panels, Presentations:**

- Co-organized the media-attended event “The People and the Police: Examining the Divide” *Just Talk* event at UCCS in light of the shooting of De’Von Bailey (12/3/2019).
- Keynote speaker for the 5/26/19 service at High Plains Unitarian Universalist Church on the topic of “Affecting Social Change.”
- Served on the academic Q/A panel for the student feature film debut of *Pink Champagne* by Paige Von Bank (May 2019).
- Keynote speaker for *Fin: A Going Away Party* (for the Earth): a satirical public art event for Climate Change awareness; Organized by UCCS Visual and Performing Arts instructor, Marina Eckler (2018).
- Served on the panel for the Green Party of the Pikes Peak Region’s Forum on U.S. Policy and Immigration (2017).
- Introductory Speaker at the Pikes Peak Community College Discussion Series on Syrian Refugee ‘Crisis’ (Spring, 2016).
- Panel member at the 2014 Rocky Mountain Play Tester’s conference on *Reacting to the Past* at Pikes Peak Community College.
- Presented at the *Research in Modern Middle East History Forum* for the panel “Overstepping Boundaries: Origins, Implementations, and Responses to Notions of Progress” at the University of Colorado in August of 2010.

## **Service:**

- Chair of the Navigate Advisory Committee for the Compass Curriculum (8/23 to current)
- Serving on the UCCS History Department’s Undergraduate Studies Committee (8/22 to current).
- Moderator for the 2023 UCCS History Graduate Conference.
- Moderator for the 2022 UCCS History Graduate Conference.
- Creator, grant writer, coordinator, and judge for the UCCS and All Pikes Peak Reads program (“Erasure, Continuum, or Empathy: Hearing Other Narratives”) in 2017.
- Coordinator of the 2017 All Pikes Peak Reads contest (“Whitewashing, Murals, or Graffiti: How We Paint Ourselves”) at Pikes Peak Community College.
- Authored the questions for the “Debating America” event at Pikes Peak Community College featuring U.S. House of Representatives hopefuls Dr. Stephany Rose Spaulding and Owen Hill.
- Travel course at the 2016 World Social Forum in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and hosted UCCS faculty-attended conference on student experiences.
- Uncompensated Teacher’s Assistant for the University of Colorado course History 3000: “From Baghdad to Burgos: Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Medieval Mediterranean World” taught by Dr. Roger Martinez (2011).

## **Publications:**

- Benson, J. and Lee, N. *Revolution and Ideology*. YouTube channel/podcast (appx. 22,100 subscribers as of April 2024).
  - Episodes cited in *Australian Universities’ Review* (Vol. 64, 2022); also garnered personal attention of Eric Selbin, Ph.D. of Southwestern University and Matt Negrin, writer for the *Daily Show with Trevor Noah*.

- Editor for Pikes Peak State College OER textbooks in U.S. History (2023).
- Benson, J. and Lee, N. “Academia amid Standardized Students, ‘Alternative Facts,’ Emerging Technologies, and Corporate Models.” *Watched* manuscript compiled by Dr. Stephany Rose Spaulding. 2018.
- Entry development for the Middle Eastern history encyclopedia project published by Anaxos for the Gale Online Reference Library (2012).
- Benson, J. “Undoing the Revolution in Egypt: Anwar Sadat’s *Infitah*,” “The Left’s Endeavor for a Symbolic Leader,” “Manufacturing the Extremist: What Modern Propagandists Learned from the Church.” *Yahoo Contributor Network* (Politics). 2012.
- Benson, J. “Book Review of *Atlantic Diasporas*.” *Journal of Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian Crypto Jews*. School of International and Public Affairs at Florida International University, Miami, Florida. Summer 2011.

### **Certifications:**

- Completed “Unlocking Digital Inclusion” certificate Colorado Online Faculty Development (2024)
- Completed certification in the Online Facilitation Program at UCCS (2018).
- Completed the UCCS Teaching Online Certificate Program (2016).
- Attended the 2014 Knapsack Institute for teaching social justice and sustainability at the University of Colorado.
- Certified to teach online offerings through PPCC ELearning Boot Camp (2014).

### **Community Outreach:**

- Cofounder, board member, and volunteer of the nonprofit (501C3) Chinook Center Community for Research and Social Change.
- Served on the Board of Directors for the Coalition for Compassion and Action in Colorado Springs through 2016.

### **Other Teaching Experience:**

#### **Writing Tutor (8/2012—5/2015)**

*Pikes Peak Community College Writing Center*

- Helped students at numerous different levels of writing proficiency attain the understanding of the writing process. Focused heavily on student attainment of college level writing skills for all stages of the writing process including reading comprehension, outlining, idea development, thesis-forming, paper structure, research, rhetoric, evidence, mechanics, and grammar.

#### **Substitute/Guest Teacher (10/2009—5/2012)**

*Colorado Springs School District #11 and Falcon School District #49*

- Consistent work through two of the major city school districts as well as a smaller charter academy that facilitated the development of a very flexible teaching discourse. Regularly established working relationships with faculty, administrators, and students within short periods of time.