

MARIO J. BIANCHINI, PhD

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Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter
Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam
(Leibniz Center for Contemporary Historical Research Potsdam)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

History of Technology, 20th Century Europe, the Cold War, History of Eastern Europe, Public History, and Utopia Studies.

AREAS OF TEACHING EXPERTISE

History of Modern Europe, Science and Technology Studies, Sports History, Philosophy of Technology, History of the US, and Public History

EDUCATION

- 2022 **Doctor of Philosophy: History and Sociology of Technology and Science**
Georgia Institute of Technology, School of History and Sociology
Dissertation: ‘Real Existing’ Utopia: Creating a Technological Culture in the GDR 1945-1989
Advisor: Kristie Macrakis (1958-2022)
- 2016 **Master of Science: History and Sociology of Technology and Science**
Georgia Institute of Technology, Department of History and Sociology
Thesis: “Soldiers of Theory: Post-War German Economics”
- 2012 **Bachelor of Arts: Individualized Major with a focus on Nazi Guilt in German Post War Literature**
New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Mario Bianchini. “Training Future Comrades: East German Model Train Sets and the Scientific-Technological Revolution” in *Science, Technology, and Human Values*, currently published online first (2024)
2. Mario Bianchini. „Durch das Spiel zum Wissen“. Computerspielzeug als 'real-existierende Utopie' in der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik” (Through Play, Knowledge: Computer Toys as ‘Real-Existing’ Utopia in the German Democratic Republic) in *Jahrbuch für Historische Kommunismusforschung*. 87-102. (2021)
3. Mario Bianchini. “Theoretical Soldiers: German Economists and the Cold War” in *German Studies Review*, vol. 43.1. 41-58. (2020)

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

1. Mario Bianchini. “Power vs. Promise: The Bifurcation of Economics in the GDR” Book chapter for *External Drivers of the Evolution of Economic Thought under Communism*, (2025)
2. Mario Bianchini and Ken Knoespel. “The (Third) World of Ruth Fischer: The Bandung Conference and the New Left” (Under Review)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Mario Bianchini. “*Real-Existing*” *Utopia: Technological Promise and the Management of the Future in the German Democratic Republic*. Book Manuscript (In initial publishing talks)
2. Mario Bianchini. *Die Produktion und Verbreitung von Energiewissen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und der DDR 1949-1989/90*. Book Manuscript (Research currently funded by DFG (see grants and awards below))
3. Mario Bianchini. “Society as Cybernetics: The New Economic System and Cybernetics in the GDR” (With working group at the University of Vienna)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. Mario Bianchini. Introduction to Roundtable Review of Kristie Macrakis. *Nothing is Beyond Our Reach: America’s Techno-Spy Empire*, in *H-Diplo*. (2024)
2. Mario Bianchini. Eloge for Kristie I. Macrakis, in *ISIS*, vol. 115.1. 164-165. (2024)
3. Mario Bianchini. Review of Uhl, Karsten, *Technology in Modern German History*, in *H-Sci-Med-Tech*, *H-Net Reviews*. August, 2022.
4. Mario Bianchini. Review of Schlombs, Corinna, *Productivity Machines: German Appropriations of American Technologies from Mass Production to Computer Automation*, in *H-Sci-Med-Tech*, *H-Net Reviews*. June, 2022.
5. Mario Bianchini. Tagungsbericht Zwischen Sozialdisziplinierung und Vergnügen: Politik und Praktiken des Spielens im Staatssozialismus / Between Social Discipline and Pleasure: The Politics and Practices of Play and Games in State Socialism. 04.12.2019–06.12.2019, Berlin, *H-Soz-Kult* (2020)
6. Mario Bianchini. “Women on the Right Track,” *Technology’s Stories* (2017)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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| 2025-2028 | Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation) Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam, <i>Potsdam Leibniz Center for Contemporary Historical Research</i> (280,800€) |
| 2023-2024 | Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, Freie Universität Berlin <i>Free University of Berlin</i> (22,800€) |
| 2019-2020 | Fulbright Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant (Germany) / Visiting Fellow, Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam, <i>Potsdam Leibniz Center for Contemporary Historical Research</i> (15,500€) |
| 2019 | Linda Hall Library Doctoral Research Fellowship (\$12,000) |
| 2017-2018 | German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD) Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics and Scientists / Visiting Fellow, Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam, <i>Potsdam Leibniz Center for Contemporary Historical Research</i> (15,600€) |
| 2016 | Research and Teaching Fellowship, Georgia Tech Lorraine (\$8,000) |
| 2014-2022 | President’s Fellowship, Georgia Institute of Technology (\$20,000) |
| 2011 | German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD) Scholarship for German language study at Freie Universität Berlin (6,000€) |

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2021 - Now	Principal Researcher	<i>Economic Collectivism: Old and New. Lessons from the Communist and Post-Communist Experience</i> Universität Wien (University of Vienna) https://www.recet.at/research/project/economic-collectivism#program
2017-2022	Contributing Editor	Technology's Stories
2015	Research Assistant	German Research and Translation School of History and Sociology Georgia Institute of Technology
2011-2012	Research Assistant	German Research and Translation Gallatin School of Individualized Study New York University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1. **Instructor** – History, Politics, and Memory (History B) – Barenboim-Said Akademie (Berlin, Germany)
2. **Instructor** - Culture and Technology (HTS 3084) – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
3. **Instructor** - Science, Culture, and Politics in Nazi Germany (HTS 3046A) – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
4. **Instructor** – Sport, Science, and Technology (HTS 3089) – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
5. **Graduate Student Instructor of Record** – Science, Culture, and Politics in Nazi Germany (HTS 3046A – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
6. **Graduate Co-Instructor** - European Intellectual History (HTS 3032A) – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
7. **Graduate Teaching Assistant** - Science, Technology, and the Modern World (HTS 2100A) – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
8. **Graduate Teaching Assistant** - History of Sports in America (HTS 2015) – Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)

AWARDS

2022	Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Award – Awarded to the top graduate student across the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts for embodying “Mayor Allen’s visionary urban policies and his values of social courage, social justice, and ethical action,” Georgia Institute of Technology (\$1,000)
2020	Winner, Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Instructor Award, School of History and Sociology, Georgia Institute of Technology (\$500)
2019	Winner, Graduate Paper Competition: Career, Research, Innovation, and Development, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology (\$1,000)
2017	Homer Rice Award for Community Service, School of History and Sociology, Georgia Institute of Technology (\$1,000)
2017	Comprehensive Exams: Completion with Honors, Georgia Institute of Technology
2016	Winner, Graduate Paper Competition: Career, Research, Innovation, and Development, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology (\$1,000)

2012 Founders Day Award for Academic Excellence, New York University

ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

2019 Center for Teaching and Learning “Tech to Teaching” Certificate, Georgia Institute of Technology

2014 Science and Technology Studies Certificate, Georgia Institute of Technology

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

1. **Bianchini, M.** *“Noch-nicht-geworden:” Technological Promise as a Management of the Present in the German Democratic Republic* *Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association Atlanta, GA (2024)*
2. **Bianchini, M.** Commentary for Dissertation Exposé of Nina Neuscheler *Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam (2024)*
3. **Bianchini, M.** *““Through Play: Knowledge”: Computer Toys and the Scientific Technological Revolution in the GDR”* *Annual Meeting of the International Committee for the History of Technology Prague, Czech Republic. (2021)*
4. **Bianchini, M.** *““Real Existing’ Utopia: The Contours of Technological Utopianism in East Germany”* *Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Digital (2020)*
5. **Bianchini, M.** *“East German Computer Toys as ‘Real Existing’ Utopia.”* *Invited Talk at Charles University’s Media Studies Speaker Series Prague, Czechia. (Cancelled due to Covid-19 border restrictions) (2020)*
6. **Bianchini, M.** *“A Society for Sport and Technology: East German Sport and the Creation of a Socialist Technological Culture”* *International Conference on Sport and Society Grenada, Spain. (2020)*
7. **Bianchini, M.** *“Computing Utopia”* *Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology Milan, Italy. (2019)*
8. **Bianchini, M.** *“East Germany and the Spirit of Technological Utopia”* *Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology St. Louis, MO. (2018)*
9. **Bianchini, M.** *“From Sports Field to Factory: Sport as Technological Consciousness in East Germany”* *Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology St. Louis, MO. (2018)*
10. **Bianchini, M.** *“Modelleisenbahnen und die Entwicklung der sozialistischen/technischen Kultur in der DDR”* *Kolloquium der Abt. II: Wirtschaftsgeschichte Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam, Germany. (2018)*

11. **Bianchini, M.** “On Track to Utopia” *Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology* Philadelphia, PA. (2017)
12. **Bianchini, M.** “Engineered Athletics: Cold War Science, Technological Consciousness, and Sport in East Germany” *Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science* Boston, MA. (2017)
13. **Bianchini, M.** “Training Future Comrades” *Career, Research, Innovation, and Development Conference* Atlanta, GA. (2017)
14. **Bianchini, M.** “Modeling the Future: East German Model Train Sets and Utopian Socialism” *Annual Meeting for the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts* Atlanta, GA. (2016)
15. **Bianchini, M.** “Engineering Metal Count: East German Technology and the Display Value of Sport” *Annual Meeting for the North American Society for Sport History*. Atlanta, GA. (2016)
16. **Bianchini, M.** “Soldiers of Theory: Cold War German Economists in Comparison” *Career, Research, Innovation, and Development Conference* Atlanta, GA. (2016)

SERVICE

2016 – 2022	Chair, Graduate Student Advisory Board (Georgia Institute of Technology)
2016 – 2017	Departmental Graduate Student Representative (Georgia Institute of Technology)

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- German (Fluent)
- Russian (Beginner)