

Karl Philip Benziger, Ph.D.
Department of History
Rhode Island College
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Providence, RI 02908-1991
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Education

Doctor of Philosophy, International Education
January, 1999

New York University, New York, NY

Master of Arts, Social Studies

May, 1987

New York University, New York, NY

Bachelor of Music, Performance

December, 1979

SUNY, Fredonia, Fredonia, NY

Honorary Societies

Phi Alpha Theta, 1975

1999-Present

**Professor of History (2010), Associate Professor of History and
Secondary Education (2004), Assistant Professor of History and
Secondary Education (1999)**
Department of History
Rhode Island College, Providence, RI

Courses taught:

- American Foreign Policy Since 1945: The Cold War and Beyond
- The American War in Vietnam
- Movements of National Liberation and the American Civil Rights Movement in the Twentieth Century
- The Politics of Memory and Historical Narratives
- The United States on the World Stage: 1965, The American War in Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement
- Betwixt and Between: Movements of National Liberation and the Superpowers, Vietnam, Hungary, and the American Civil Rights Movement, 1944-1961
- United States History, Colonial to 1877
- United States History Since 1877
- Witches, Aliens, and other Enemies: The United States in the World
- History Matters 1: Methods and Skills
- Western History

- Political Science: Development of American Democracy
- History/Social Studies: Practicum
- History/Social Studies: Student Teaching Seminar and Supervision

Publications

Karl P. Benziger, “Civil Society and the Resurrection of Strong State Politics, or...*It Can't Happen Here*,” in *Why History Education?* Peter Gautschi, Nadine Fink, Markus Furrer eds., (Frankfurt am Main: Wochenschau Verlag) forthcoming, June 2023.

Karl P. Benziger, “Történelem tanítás, nemzeti mítosz és civil társadalom (History Teaching, National Myths and Civil Society),” *Történelem tanítás: Online Törtélem didaktikai* (History teacher: Online History Didactics), Folyóirat (LVI) Új folyam XII. 3 szám 2021. Szeptember
<http://www.folyoirat.tortenelemtanitas.hu/2021/09/3-szam-2021/>.

Karl P. Benziger, “Decolonization, National Cold War Narratives, and Contested History: The Case of Vietnam and Civil Rights,” in *History Education and (Post-) Colonialism: International Case Studies*, Susanne Popp, Katja Gorbahn, Susanne Grindel, eds., (Berlin: Peter Lang, 2019).

Karl P. Benziger, “The Strong State and Embedded Dissonance: History Education and Populist Politics in Hungary,” *Yesterday and Today*, 18 (December, 2017).

Karl P. Benziger, “The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 at Sixty Years: Liberal Reform and the Search for a Useable Past,” *Corvinus Journal of International Affairs*, 1, 3 (November, 2016) cojourn.blogspot.com.

Karl P. Benziger, “Propaganda and Dissent: The American War in Vietnam, Hungary, and the Narrative of Dissent,” in *Forms of Political and Media Propaganda in Central Europe, Czecho-Slovakia and Hungary (1938-1968)*, Barnabás Vajda, ed., (Komárno: University of János Selye Press, 2016).

Karl P. Benziger, “Music, Minstrels, and the American Civil War: Entertainment, Imagination, and Historical Interpretation,” *International Journal of Research on History Didactics, History Education and History Culture, Yearbook of the International Society of History Didactics*, 36 (2015).

Karl P. Benziger and Richard R. Weiner, “Trauma and the Limits of Redemptive Critique: Interrogating the Haunting Voices of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution,” *Current Perspectives in Social Theory*, 29 (2011).

Karl P. Benziger and Robert Cvornyek, "American Foreign Policy at an Impasse: Teaching about Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement," *Perspectives on History*, 48, 5 (May, 2010).

Karl P. Benziger, *Imre Nagy Martyr of the Nation: Contested History, Legitimacy, and Popular Memory in Hungary* (Lexington Books: Lanham MD, 2008).

Karl P. Benziger, "The Trial of László Bárdossy: World War II and Factional Politics in Contemporary Hungary," *Journal of Contemporary History*, 40, 3 (July, 2005).

Karl P. Benziger, "Imre Nagy: Martyr of the Nation," *The East European Quarterly*, 36, 2 (Summer, 2002).

Karl P. Benziger, "The Funeral of Imre Nagy: Contested History and the Power of Memory Culture" *History and Memory*, 12, 2 (Fall/Winter, 2000).

Conference Proceedings

Karl P. Benziger, "Funerals and Memory Culture: The Funeral of Imre Nagy and the Parliamentary Debate Over Contested Memory," *The 1950's. Proceedings of the 2003 Biannual Conference of the Hungarian Association of American Studies*. Ed., Eniko Bollobás (Budapest: Eötvös Kiadó, 2005).

Karl P. Benziger and Robert Cvornyek, "Redefining the Narrative: The Collision of American Foreign and Domestic Policy in 1965, Vietnam and the Civil rights Movement," *Proceedings of the Second International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Monash University Center, Prato, International Journal of the Humanities*, 2, 2 (2004).

Karl P. Benziger, "1956 and the Politics of Memory: Legitimacy and Civil Society in Contemporary Hungary," *The Narrative of Modernity: Co-Existence of Differences, Proceedings of the 9th International Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas, University of Navarra, Pamplona*, Ed., Enrique Banus (Philadelphia: Taylor and Francis, 2004).

Educational Materials

The Malta Summit of 1989 from the Hungarian Perspective:
Related Sources after 25 Years, April, 2015.

Edited by: Csaba Békes, Béla Révész, Barnabás Vajda

Co-editors: Laura Deal, Karl P. Benziger

<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/the-malta-summit-1989-hungarian-perspective-related-sources-after-25-years>.

Workshops/Presentations/Invited Papers

- 10 May 2022 “From the Ashes to the Flame: Hungary’s Strong State, History Education, and Why it Matters”
Department of History Didactics
University of Augsburg
Augsburg, Germany
- 16 September 2021 “Civil Society and the Resurrection of Strong State Politics, or...*It Can’t Happen Here*”
Why History Education?
International Society for History Didactics Annual Conference
Institute of History Education and Memory Cultures
University of Teacher Education Lucerne
Lucerne, Switzerland
- 25 June 2021 “Reimagining the Past in Viktor Orbán’s Strong State: Hungary’s Challenge to a Europe Without Borders”
Europe’s Past, Present, and Utopias and Dystopias
Council for European Studies
University of Iceland
Reykjavik, Iceland
- 17 April 2021 “History Teaching, National Myths, and Civil Society”
Perspectives – International Trends of the Theory and Practice of History Teaching
Hungarian Historical Society, Teacher Division, Online Conference
Budapest, Hungary
- 10 September 2019 “Aliens, Ultranationalists and Migration...*Oh My!* Viktor Orbán’s Hungary and Donald Trump’s America”
Migration and History Education
International Society for History Didactics Annual Conference
Academy for Political Education
Tutzing, Germany
- 4 July 2019 “Viktor Orbán’s Sham Ideology of ‘Illiberal Democracy’ within the Embedded Authoritarian Political Culture of Hungary”
Aftershocks: Globalism and the Future of Democracy
International Society for the Study of European Ideas, 16th International Conference
The University of Zaragoza
Zaragoza, Spain

- 11 October 2018 “1968: Facing the American War in Vietnam, Historical Thinking Skills and Civic Virtue”
Agency, Citizenship and Historical Thinking Skills: Empirical Research
International Society for History Didactics Annual Conference
Universite Du Quebec Outaouais
Gatineau, Quebec
- 28 March 2018 “Hungary and Migration: Illiberal Values and an Inward Gaze...unless you can pay”
Richard Weiner, co-author
25th Annual Conference of Europeanists
Council of European Studies
Intercontinental Hotel
Chicago, Illinois
- 14 September 2017 “The Strong State and Embedded Dissonance: History Education and Populist Politics in Hungary”
History from the Core to Zero Gravity
International Society for History Didactics/South African Society for History Teaching
Riverside Sun Hotel
Vanderbijlpark, South Africa
- 14 July 2017 “The Tragedy of Orbánism: Budapest Baroque Extended”
Richard Weiner, co-author
Sustainability and Transformation
24th International Conference of Europeanists
University of Glasgow
Glasgow, Scotland
- 12 July 2016 “Hungary, the EU and the Politics of Recidivist Nationalism”
International Society for the Study of European Ideas
University of Lodz
Lodz, Poland
- 8 July 2015 “Once Upon a Republic...or the Strange Case of Viktor Orbán’s Hungary: Historical Memory and Educational Policy”
How the Past Lives On: Artifacts of European Memory
22nd International Conference of Europeanists
Sciences Po
Paris, France

- 10 September 2014 “Music, Minstrels, and the American Civil War: Entertainment, Imagination, and Historical Interpretation”
History and Edutainment
International Society History Didactics Annual Conference
University of Wroclaw
Wroclaw, Poland
- 4 June 2014 “Facing the Past: Building Civil Society in the Twenty first Century”
Department for Didactics of History, Social Studies, and Civic Education
University of Vienna
Vienna, Austria
- 6 May 2014 “The Revised Republic: Searching for a Useable Past after the National Elections in Contemporary Hungary”
Department of History Didactics
University of Augsburg
Augsburg, Germany
- 9 April 2014 Participant: Review of Curriculum
“Shared Histories For a Europe Without Borders: Final Conference”
Council of Europe
University of Vienna
Vienna, Austria
- 31 October 2013 “The Revised Republic: Searching for a Useable Past in Contemporary Hungary”
James P. Adams Library, Fall Lecture Series
Rhode Island College
- 18 September 2013 “Decolonization, National Cold War Narratives, and Contested History: The Case of Vietnam and Civil Rights”
Colonization, Decolonization, and Post-Colonial Perspectives-Challenges for History Didactics and History Teaching in a Globalizing World
International Society for History Didactics Annual Conference
Tutzing Academy for Civic Education
Tutzing, Germany
- 6 July, 2012 “Budapest Baroque: Twisted Sister Style Policy Making”
Richard Weiner, co-author
7th International Conference in Interpretive Policy Analysis:
Understanding the Drama of Democracy
Tilburg University, The Netherlands

- 24 August, 2010 “National History in a Global Perspective: The American Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, and the American Myth,” Robert Cvornyek, co-author
21st International Congress of the Historical Sciences
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 24 October, 2009 “Contested History and National Memory: The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 and the American War in Vietnam”
History of Education Society, Annual Meeting
Double Tree Inn
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 10 May, 2008 “Trauma and the Limits of Redemptive Critique: Interrogating Voices of the 1956 Revolution,” Richard Weiner, co-author
Narrative Matters 2008 Conference
University of Toronto and Mt. Sinai Hospital
Courtyard Marriott Hotel
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 20 October, 2007 “Restless Heroes, Textbooks, and Legitimacy in the Hungarian Republic: The Meaning of 1956 in 2007”
New England Historical Association Fall Conference
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester, Massachusetts
- 30 October, 2006 “The Hungarian Revolution of 1956: Restless Heroes and the Continued Debate over History and Memory”
Department of American Studies
University of Debrecen
Debrecen, Hungary
- 25 October, 2006 “The Hungarian Revolution through an American Lens: 1956, 1989, 2006”
St Philip’s Általános Iskola
Budapest, Hungary
- 27 May, 2006 “Piacular Subjectivity and Contested Narrative in the Imre Nagy Memorials,” Richard Weiner, co-author
Narrative Matters 2006 Conference
Acadia University
Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada

- 9 September, 2005 “Piacular Subjectivity, Collective Conscience, and the Memorial of Imre Nagy,” Richard Weiner, co-author
Third European Consortium for Political Research Conference
Corvinus University
Budapest, Hungary
- 23 April, 2005 “The Collision of Foreign and Domestic Policy in 1965, Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement: America on the World Stage,”
Robert Cvornyek, co-author in a workshop with Peter Mendy and Susan Hogan
“Conflict and Cooperation in History Conference”
National Council for History Education, Annual Conference
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 20 February, 2005 “Assessment Governance: Standards, Rubrics and Self-Regulation,”
Richard Weiner, co-author
Second Annual Conference of Teaching and Learning in Political Science
American Political Science Association
Bethesda, Maryland
- 3 August, 2004 “1956 and the Politics of Memory: Legitimacy and Civil Society in Contemporary Hungary”
“The Narrative of Modernity: Co-Existence of Differences”
International Society for the Study of European Ideas, 9th Biennial Conference
Universidad De Navarra
Pamplona, Spain
- 21 July, 2004 “Redefining the Narrative: The Collision of American Foreign and Domestic Policy in 1965, Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement,”
Robert Cvornyek, co-author
New Directions in the Humanities Conference
Monash University Center
Prato, Italy
- 24 April, 2004 “Imre Nagy and the Unsettled Past: The Politics of Memory in Contemporary Hungary”
“History Matters: Spaces of Violence, Spaces of Memory” The 7th Annual
New School for Social Research Sociology and Historical Studies Joint Conference
New School for Social Research, New York, New York

- 27 June, 2003 “The United States on the World Stage: Teaching Post 1945 History in the Secondary Classroom” with Robert Cvornyek, Susan Hogan, and Matthew Mancini
Innovations in Collaboration: A School-University Model to Enhance History Teaching K-16
American Historical Association, National Council for the Social Studies, Organization of American Historians
Alexandria, Virginia
- 6 March, 2003 “Funerals and Memory Culture: The Funeral of Imre Nagy and the Parliamentary Debate Over Contested Memory”
“The 1950’s” The Hungarian Association of American Studies Biennial Conference
Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary
- 2 November, 2002 “The United States on the World Stage: Teaching Post 1945 History in the Secondary Classroom” with Robert Cvornyek, Susan Hogan, and James Smith
“Promising Practices: A Multi-Cultural Conference and Media Fair”
Rhode Island College, Rhode Island
- 25 July, 2002 “War Crimes Trials, Factional Politics and Civil Society in Contemporary Hungary”
European Culture in a Changing World: Between Nationalism and Globalism
International Society for the Study of European Ideas, 8th International Conference
Aberystwyth, Wales
- 3 May, 2002 “The Funeral of Imre Nagy: Contested History and the Power of Memory Culture”
New England Political Science Association, Annual Conference
Portland, Maine
- 24 April, 2002 “Sustaining an Educational Exchange: Teaching American Studies in the United States and Hungary,” with Tamás Magyarics
Fulbright - Challenges and Responses
The Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Budapest, Hungary
- 13 April, 2002 “1965, The Turning Point: The American War in Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement,” with Robert Cvornyek, Howard Dratch, Tamás Magyarics, Peter Mendy, and James Smith
Organization of American Historians, Annual Meeting
Washington, D.C.

- 12 March, 2001 "From Selma to Saigon," with Robert Cvornyek
Guest lecture
Szeged University, Szeged, Hungary
- 8 March, 2001 "From Selma to Saigon," with Robert Cvornyek
"The Turning Points Project"
Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary
- 4 November, 2000 "1965: The Turning Point: The American War in Vietnam and the Civil
Rights Movement," with Robert Cvornyek
"Promising Practices: A Multi-Cultural Conference and Media Fair"
Rhode Island College, Rhode Island
- 23 September, 2000 "Imre Nagy Martyr of the Nation"
New York State Association of European Historians
50th Anniversary Conference
Lemoyne College, Syracuse New York
- 17 September, 1999 "The Funeral of Imre Nagy: Contested History and the Power of
Memory Culture"
Rush Holt Conference
West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia
- 28 March, 1998 "American Voices from the 1850's: Sectional Interest and the
Coming of the American Civil War," with Matthew Mancini
The Second Regional Workshop on Teaching Strategies in Higher
Education, sponsored by the Civic Education Project and UNESCO,
Rendezvényház, Szeged, Hungary
- 5 December, 1997 "The Meaning of 1956 in 1997: A Reflection on the Power of
Memorialization in Hungary"
Fulbright "brown bag" Luncheon,
Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest, Hungary
- 16 October, 1997 "The American *Character* in Music" with Tom McHugh
Lecture/Workshop presented by the Civic Education Project and the
Hungarian Fulbright Commission, Deák Ferenc Gimnázium, Szeged,
Hungary
- 16 August, 1996 "Development and Introduction of American Studies Curricular
Materials in the Bilingual Classroom"
Fulbright Alumni Conference, Academy of Science, Budapest, Hungary

- 5 May, 1995 "The Content based Language Practice Class Using American History" with Matthew Mancini
American Studies Conference, Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary
- 28 April, 1995 "Integrating Music into the American Studies Classroom"
Workshop/lecture for the Croatian Association of Teachers of English and the U.S.I.A.,
Split/Brela, Croatia
- 20 March, 1995 "Labor Unrest in the 1930's" with Howard Dratch and Tom McHugh
Eszterhazy Teacher Training College, Eger, Hungary
- 13 - 17 March, 1995 "A Multidisciplinary Approach to the American Depression," A series of workshop/lectures for the faculty and students of Eotvos Lorand University, the Fulbright Commission and the U.S.I.A., with Howard Dratch, Tom McHugh, and Matthew Mancini.
Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary
- 8 November, 1994 "American Blues as an example of Cultural Diffusion"
Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary
- 17-19 June, 1993 "The Benefits of Interdisciplinary Curricular Planning and Alternative Classroom Strategies"
Gimnazium #2, Zagreb, Croatia
- 9 March, 1993 "Interdisciplinary Models and their Application in Hungary and the United States" with Jaimie Cloud and John Gilleece.
Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary
- 1-5 March, 1993 "Interdisciplinary Humanities Curriculum Planning and Implementation: A workshop for teachers of Deak Ferenc, Jozsef Attila University and the U.S.I.A." with Jaimie Cloud and John Gilleece.
Deak Ferenc Gimnazium, Szeged, Hungary
- 9 December, 1992 "America and the "other" America: Alternative Teaching Strategies and Learning Styles" with Tom McHugh.
Deak Ferenc Gimnazium, Szeged, Hungary
- 4 December, 1992 "Music and Geography" with Tom McHugh.
Karinthy Frigyes Gimnazium, Budapest, Hungary

26 March, 1991 "Interdisciplinary Curriculum in Action: A Demonstration for the Trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation" with Susan Jasper, John Gilleece, Carl Gussin and Kit Wainer.
South Shore High School, Brooklyn, New York

13 July, 1990 "Interdisciplinary Curriculum Development and Implementation at South Shore High School" with Susan Jasper, John Gilleece and Kit Wainer.
Columbia University, Teachers College, New York City

Grants

2022 Mini Grant, Travel, Sabbatical
"Modernity and the Post-Cold War Exceptional State: Hungary's Strong State Ascendent and the National Elections of 2022"
Budapest, Hungary

2019 Mini Grant, Travel, Paper
"Aliens, Ultranationalists, and Migration...Oh My! Viktor Orbán's Hungary and Donald Trump's America"
International Society of History Didactics Annual Conference
Institute for Political Education
Tutzing, Germany

2012 Research Grant, Rhode Island College
School of Arts and Sciences
"The Revised Republic: Hungary, National Memory, and Christian National Politics"
Budapest, Hungary

2009 Research Grant, Rhode Island College
School of Arts and Sciences
"Miklós Horthy, Christian National Politics, and Greater Hungary: The Politics of Memory and Socialization of the Young."
Budapest, Hungary

2007-2008 Research Grant, Rhode Island College
School of Arts and Sciences
"Hungary, Movements of National Liberation, and the Cold War"
Budapest, Hungary

2002-2006 Research Grant, Rhode Island College
School of Arts and Sciences
"A Kingdom Restored? Reshaping the Past: Interpretations of the Modern Nation State in Hungary (continuation)"
Budapest, Hungary

- 2001** Research Grant, Rhode Island College
School of Arts and Sciences
Budapest, Hungary
- 2000** Research Grant, Rhode Island College
School of Arts and Sciences
Budapest, Hungary
- 1997-1998** Visiting Lecturer, Civic Education Project Grant
Soros Foundation
Szeged, Hungary
- 1997-1998** Research Fellow, Covering History Institute
Open Society Archives
Budapest, Hungary
- 1994-1995** Fulbright Teacher Scholar
U.S. Information Agency
Budapest, Hungary
- 1992-1993** Fulbright Teacher Exchange
U.S. Information Agency
Szeged, Hungary
- 1991** Independent Study
American Forum
St. Cecilia's Cathedral, Albi, France

Grants Related to Teacher Training

- 2007-2009** Rhode Island Teacher Education Renewal TQE-P
Feinstein School of Education
“The World System: Building World History and Global United States
History Curriculum”
History and the Social Sciences Seminar, Objective 1
- 2001-2003** Eisenhower Grant
Rhode Island Office of Higher Education
“The United States on the World Stage: Teaching Post World War II
History in the Secondary Classroom”
with Robert Cvornyek and Ronald Dufour

2001

Professional Development Grant, Rhode Island College
Feinstein School of Education
“The American War in Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement”
Teacher Exchange
Rhode Island College, Eötvös Loránd University

Educational Materials Produced from Grants

The United States on the World Stage: Teaching Post 1945
American History in the Secondary Classroom, 2005.
www.ric.edu/worldstage/

1965, The Turning Point: The American War in Vietnam and the
Civil Rights Movement, 2002.