

ISABEL OAKES

Friedrichstraße 191–193 10117 Berlin | isabel.oakes@hu-berlin.de

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

10.2025 – 12.2028 **Post-Doc Researcher**
University of Humboldt
In the DFG-funded Collaborative Research Centre/Transregio (SFB) 294 ‘Structural Change of Property’, as part of the subproject on ‘Persona ficta? Social Figures, Property Subjects, and Investment Practices in the History of Financial Markets, 1950–1990’

EDUCATION

10.2021 – 11.2025 **University of Oxford**
DPhil History
My dissertation examines the intellectual roots of the ‘eco-social market economy’ in post-war Germany. Supervised by Professor Benjamin Jackson and Professor Patricia Clavin.

10.2018 – 08.2020 **University of Oxford**
MPhil Economic and Social History (Distinction)
Dissertation title: ‘A Genealogy of Ordoliberalism: Exploring the Parallels Between Max Weber and Ordoliberal Thought.’
Supervised by Professor Benjamin Jackson.

09.2015 – 07.2018 **King’s College London**
BA International Relations (First-Class Honours)
Dissertation title: ‘Unevenness in Postcolonial West Africa: A Comparison of English and French Colonial Legacies on Economic Development in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire’. Supervised by Professor Oisín Tansey.

VISITING POSITIONS

09.2023–09.2025 **Freie Universität Berlin**
Visiting Doctoral Researcher at the Cluster of Excellence ‘Contestations of the Liberal Script (SCRIPTS)’ mentored by Dr. Tobias Rupperecht.

LANGUAGES

English (native), German (native), French (intermediate), Luxembourgish (intermediate)

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

Isabel Oakes, ‘Subsidiarity’, in *Encyclopaedia of Neoliberalism*, eds. Dieter Plehwe, Hagen Schulz-Forberg and Isabel Oakes (Edward Elgar, in preparation)

Isabel Oakes, ‘*Idyllischer Gartenzwerghkapitalismus*: A Distinct Ordoliberal Environmental Framework?’, *Modern Intellectual History*. (in submission)

Troy Vettese and Isabel Oakes, “‘A Highly Complicated Organism:’ A Forum on Neoliberalism, the Market, and Nature’ *Modern Intellectual History*. (in submission)

Anselm Küsters and Isabel Oakes, ‘Taming Giants: How Ordoliberal Competition Theory Can Address Power in the Digital Age’, *Journal of Contextual Economics* 141, no.3 (2021): 149-199

Isabel Oakes, ‘Max Weber and Ordoliberalism: How Weber’s *Kulturkritik* Contributed to the Foundation of Ordoliberal Socio-Economic Thought’, *Journal of Contextual Economics* 140, no.2 (2020): 177–204

ACADEMIC BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Climate Obstruction* by Kristoffer Ekberg, Bernhard Forchtner, Martin Hultman, Kristi M. Jylhä, 2023’, *Journal of Energy History* 11 (2023)

‘Ordoliberal Orthodoxy?’ Review of *A Political Economy of Power* by Raphaël Fèvre, *Radical Philosophy* 215 (2023): 99–101

POPULAR WRITING

‘The Dominance of Neoliberal Environmental Thought in Climate Change Politics’, *Oxford Martin Programme on Changing Global Orders Blog*, 27 March 2024

‘A History of Green Ordoliberalism’, *Journal of the History of Ideas Blog*. 24 August 2022.

‘Lessons from the Past? How Ordoliberal Competition Theory Can Address Market Power in the Digital Age’, *Stigler Center, University of Chicago School of Business*. 14 November 2021

‘Max Weber’s Influence on German Economic Thought in the Twentieth Century’, *Oxford Centre for Intellectual History Blog*, 26 November 2021

EDITOR

The Encyclopaedia of Neoliberalism, ed with Dieter Plehwe and Hagen Schulz-Forberg (Edward Elgar Publishing, in preparation)

‘A Highly Complicated Organism’ (ed. Special issue with Troy Vettese) in *Modern Intellectual History* (in submission)

PEER REVIEW

Environmental Politics; German Political Science Quarterly

SCHOLARSHIPS, FUNDING AND PRIZES

09.2023–09.2025	Hanseatic Scholarship (€34,222)
09.2023	Winner of the Europaeum Scholarship Policy Programme. Our policy proposal was titled ‘EmPowered: Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy Communities. (€5,000)
06.2023	Colin Matthew Fund (£300)
03.2022–09.2023	Europaeum Scholarship: (approximately €10,000)
11.2022	TORCH International Partnership Scheme (£3,000)
11.2022	Independent Social Research Foundation Event Grant (£5,000)

10.2022	Institute for New Economic Thinking Event Grant (\$5,000)
08.2022	Past & Present Conference Funding (£1,500)
08.2022	European Society for Environmental History Conference Funding (€500)
06.2022	Arnold, Bryce and Read History Fund. University of Oxford History Department (£500)
06.2022	Robert Gildea International Travel Fund. University of Oxford History Department (£200)
09.2020	Lincoln College Oxford Graduate Distinction Prize
10.2019	Lincoln College Oxford Graduates' Research Fund (£500)
10.2019	Clark Fund. University of Oxford History Department (£500)
09.2015–08.2025	Luxembourg Government CEDIES scheme (approximately €100,000)

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

TALKS GIVEN AT CONFERENCES

- 'Green Ordoliberalism: An Alternative to Fossil Capitalism?', Neoliberalism and the Capitalists Conference, University of Lausanne, May 2025
- 'Ordoliberalism and The Environment: The Role of Economic Expertise and Epistemic Communities', Sustainability, Expertise and the Global Order Workshop, Sciences Po. Paris, May 2025
- 'Idyllischer Gartenzwerghkapitalismus: A Distinct Ordoliberal Environmental Framework?'*, Green Capitalism—A New Regime of Accumulation? Conference, Humboldt University, November 2024
- 'Idyllischer Gartenzwerghkapitalismus: A Distinct Ordoliberal Environmental Framework?'*, BIRT Colloquium, Freie Universität Berlin, November 2024
- 'German Neoliberalism and the Environment: A History of the Eco-Social Market Economy', Historical Materialism Conference, SOAS London, November 2023
- 'EmPowered: Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy Communities', Leadership in European Policy, Freie Universität Berlin, September 2023
- 'Ordoliberalism and Environmentalism in Twentieth Century Germany (1920-2000)', Modern European History Graduate Workshop, University of Oxford, June 2023
- 'Ordoliberal Engagement with Environmentalism and Ecology', 'Neoliberal Environmental Thought II' Workshop, University of Oxford, June 2023
- 'A History of Green Ordoliberalism: The Theoretical Foundation of an Eco-Social Market Economy?', 'Sustainable Pasts and Resilient Futures' Workshop, University of Oxford, November 2022
- 'A History of Green Ordoliberalism: The Theoretical Foundation of an Eco-Social Market Economy?', 'Neoliberal Environmental Thought I' Workshop. Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, August 2022
- 'Ordoliberalism', Summer School of the National Research School Political History: 'Neoliberalism as idea and practice', University of Utrecht (online) July 2021

‘A Genealogy of Ordoliberalism: Exploring the Parallels Between Max Weber and Ordoliberal Thought’, Economic and Social History Annual Graduate Workshop. University of Oxford, April 2019

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

‘Neoliberal Environmental Thought II’ Workshop, University of Oxford, June 2023

‘Nature and the Social Order since the 1970s’ Conference, Maison Française d’Oxford, May 2023

‘Neoliberal Environmental Thought I’ Workshop. Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, August 2022

INVITED DISCUSSIONS, TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Talk on ‘Max Weber and Neoliberalism’, invited by the Max Weber Scholars Network, virtual, January 2025

Poster presentation for ‘Celebration of the 300th Anniversary of the Regius Chair in History’, University of Oxford, June 2024

Discussant for Roundtable on ‘Scarcity: A History from the Origins of Capitalism to the Climate Crisis’, Maison Française d’Oxford, May 2023

TEACHING

05.2023	‘History of European Economic Thought: 1776–present’, introductory lecture to Stanford undergraduate students visiting Oxford
10.2022–12.2022	‘Neoliberalism and Postmodernism: Ideas, Politics and Culture in Europe and North America, 1970-2000’, third year undergraduate specialist subject coordinated by Professor David Priestland
10.2022	Preparation for Learning and Teaching at Oxford (PLTO) course, University of Oxford

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

12.2023–09.2025	Oxford Martin School Research Assistant I assist the ‘Changing Global Orders’ research programme which includes archival research, assisting with publications and organising conferences and workshops.
11.2023–12.2023 and 11.2022–12.2022	History Faculty, Worcester College, University of Oxford HAT Undergraduate Admissions Marking History Aptitude Tests for history undergraduate applications.
10.2022	Balliol College, University of Oxford Research Assistant for Dr. Andrew Graham I undertook specialist research for Dr. Graham which included finding and contacting potential donors for the

'Europaeum Scholarship' as well as managing and organising a conference

04.2022

Lincoln College, University of Oxford

Exam Invigilator

I oversaw and assisted undergraduate exams.

02.2021 – 07.2021

International Shareholder Services (ISS)

Junior Research Analyst

I analysed corporate governance and financial information to write detailed research reports on publicly traded companies, with focus on the DACH region.