

## ALEXIS TURNER

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
Department of the History of Science  
Science Center, Room 371  
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Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Harvard University, Department of the History of Science, estimated 2023

Dissertation: *Lost Souls Delivered: The Political Life of LSD in the 50s, 60s, and 70s*  
Committee: Elizabeth Lunbeck (chair), Rebecca Lemov, Sophia Roosth

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

technopolitics / history of the social sciences / science, technology, & society

### PUBLICATIONS

#### *Essays*

Turner, Alexis. "Gurus Behaving Badly: Anaïs Nin's Diary and the Value of Gossip," *Chacruna*, March 10, 2021, <https://chacruna.net/anais-nin-diary-and-timothy-leary/>.

#### *Chapters*

Erika Dyck, Lucas Richert, and Alexis Turner. "LSD as Mental Medicine in a Battle for Hearts and Minds," in *The War on Drugs: A History*, edited by David Farber. New York: New York University Press, 2021.

#### *Book reviews*

Turner, Alexis. "Review of *The Trials of Psychedelic Therapy: LSD Psychotherapy in America*," by Matthew Oram. *Social History of Alcohol and Drugs* 34, no. 2 (2020).

#### *Contributor*

Vito Campanelli and Danilo Capasso, *Cultura e nuovi media: Cinque interrogativi di Lev Manovich*. Napoli: MAO – Media & Arts Office Onlus, 2011.

## PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS, LECTURES

- The Secret History of LSD / invited podcast / Oct 2020  
The Lex Files, episode 21
- Creativity and LSD / invited talk / Feb 2019  
“Visionary New England” Working Group, de Cordova Sculpture Garden and Museum
- A Priest, a Panther, and a Witch Walk into a Brawl / paper / Apr 2018  
How Psychotropic Substances Transformed the World: Harvesting, Producing and Consuming  
LSD, Psilocybin and Mescaline, Universität Bern
- Cool Medium: Art, Television, and Psychedelia / invited talk with the curator / Feb 2018  
de Cordova Sculpture Garden and Museum
- An Oblique Complement: Hannah Arendt’s Scientific Engagement / paper / Mar 2014  
Hannah Arendt Circle
- Plato and the Logic of Desire / paper / Mar 2013  
Western Political Science Association annual conference
- Physics Duds, Forensic Studs: On the Popularity of Forensic Science / invited lecture / May 2003  
Sarah Lawrence College
- Man or Astro-man? Cyborgs and the Genetic Frontier / paper / Mar 2000  
Equinoxes 2000: Science and Culture, Literature/Theory/Action, Brown University

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT): Teaching Assistant, 2022  
A History of Science
- Harvard University: Mini-course Instructor, 2022  
What Do You Meme? (Public Communication course, co-taught w Kerry Spencer Pray,  
Stevenson University)  
Harvard University: Teaching Fellow, 2017 –  
The Psychopathologies of Modern Life  
Digital Storytelling  
History of the American Obesity Epidemic  
Humans in Space  
Junior Tutorial in the History of Science (Research and Writing course)  
Sophomore Tutorial in the History of Science (Approaches and Issues course)  
History of the Psychotherapies
- Indiana University: Instructor, 2014  
Scientific Reasoning
- Indiana University: Assistant Instructor, 2011 – 14  
Introduction to Political Theory  
Modern Political Thought  
Introduction to American Politics  
American Political Controversies

## HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

- 2020 John and Elizabeth Armstrong Graduate Student Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2020 Hiebert Dissertation Fellowship in the History of Science, Harvard University
- 2020 Fellow, Source Research Foundation
- 2018 Hiebert Dissertation Fellowship in the History of Science, Harvard University
- 2016 Language Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
- 2014 Graduate Conference Travel Award, College Arts & Humanities Institute, Indiana University
- 2013 Best Paper in Political Theory, Indiana University Political Science Grad Student Association
- 2012 Department of Political Science Fellowship, Indiana University
- 2009 University of Chicago Scholarship, University of Chicago
- 2001 Ed Cogan Prize in Science and Mathematics, Sarah Lawrence College
- 2000 Gaylord Donnelly Family Scholarship, Sarah Lawrence College

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### *Affiliations*

American Historical Association, History of Science Society, Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)

### *Service: Leadership & governance*

Advisor to the Council, GSAS Student Council, Harvard University, 2022 –

President, GSAS Student Council, Harvard University, 2020 – 22

Boston Grad Federation, 2020 –

Cambridge Student Alliance, Cambridge City Hall, 2020 – 21

At-Large Representative for the Social Sciences, GSAS Student Council, Harvard University, 2019 – 20

Representative for the History of Science, GSAS Student Council, Harvard University, 2018 – 20

### *Service: Committees & working groups*

Committee on Graduate Education, Harvard University, 2020 – 22

Student Health Planning Committee, Harvard University, 2020 – 22

Student IT Advisory Board, Harvard University, 2020 – 22

FAS Task Force on Visual Culture and Signage, Harvard University, 2020 – 21

Harvard Safety Committee, Harvard University, 2019 – 21

Web Committee, Department of Medical Informatics & Clinical Epidemiology, Oregon Health & Science University, 2006 – 07

Curriculum Committee, Department of Medical Informatics & Clinical Epidemiology, Oregon Health & Science University, 2005 – 07

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (CONT.)**

*Service: Technical assistance*

Webmaster, Philosophy of Science Association Women's Caucus, 2014 – 15

**LANGUAGES**

Reading knowledge: Spanish