

JAMES BARBER, M.A.

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Doctoral Student | Institutes of History and Musicology, University of Bern, Switzerland 10/2018-Present

- PhD candidate on the SNF Project “Hip Hop as a Transcultural Phenomenon: Jamaican and Mexican Cultural Signifiers in US Hip Hop (1970s-1990s)”

Archival Research | Cornell Hip Hop Collection, Cornell University, Ithaca, US 5/2019

- As part of a wider research visit with my professor and colleague from the “Hip-Hop Transcultural” project, I gathered, assessed and compiled rare subject materials for my PhD project during a two-day visit

Fieldwork for Doctoral Thesis | New York, US 10/2020-12/2020

- Established connections with a sample of artists, conducted interviews and consulted archival material (Schomburg Center) as part of my first fieldwork visit for the PhD thesis

Junior Sub-Editor | Oxford Business Group (OBG), Berlin, Germany 9/2017-10/2018

- Full-time editor and proofreader of chapters for OBG’s flagship annual economic reports, interviews and opinion pieces in the company’s Berlin editorial office

Editor/Proofreader | Institute of African and Asian Studies, Humboldt University, Berlin 8/2015-Present

- In my ongoing work for Professor Boike Rehbein and the institute, I edit and proofread academic books, journals, academic papers and PhD, MA and undergraduate theses in English.

Intern | Cividep, Chennai, India 6/2015-8/2015

- Interned with a leading human rights and worker’s rights NGO particularly active in the field of corporate accountability of Multinational Corporations (MNCs).

Research Assistant | Action Aid, New Delhi/Punjab, India, 2/2015-5/2015

- Collected data in the field as part of a long-term project on behalf of Action Aid’s India division working to combat poverty among casual labourers in the urban informal economy, and rural ‘indentured’ farm workers alongside my participation in an MA module in Labour Economics.

Lead Teacher of A-Level Sociology | The Sir Bernard Lovell School, Bristol, UK, 9/2009-7/2013

- Outstanding classroom teacher demonstrated in excellent attainment for students year-on-year, across a wide range of subjects (particularly A-Level Sociology).

Papers

Constructing and Contesting Community Workshop, University of Bern, Switzerland

Paper: “Negotiating nationalism(s): the construction of “traditional narratives” and their impact on transcultural readings of reggae and hip-hop, 1970 to 1995”

27th Conference of the Latin American Studies Association, Boston, US 5/2019

Paper: “African American Centrality in Historical Understandings of Hip-Hop’s Origins and the ‘Paradox’ of the Jamaican Contribution, 1970 to 1995”

Music and Society in the Americas, Swiss School of Latin American Studies, University of Bern, Switzerland 9/2019

Paper: “Badman nah minstrel: The Evolution of the Black Image and the Late Reception of Jamaicanness in New York Hip-Hop, 1987-1995”

Education

Humboldt University, Berlin (1,7: GOOD) 4/2014-7/2016
Global Studies (MA)

FLACSO Social Science University, Buenos Aires, Argentina 8/2014–12/2014

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India 1/2015-5/2015

University of Bristol, Bristol, UK (PASS) 9/2008-7/2009
Post Graduate Certificate (PGCE) in Education

University of Bristol, Bristol, UK (Upper Second Class Honours) 10/2005-7/2008
Bachelor of Science in Sociology

Language Skills

English (Native speaker), Spanish (B2.2 UNICERT qualification), German (B1.1 level), French (UK AS Level, C grade)

Additional

Independent music event organiser, including events for charities and social causes, with almost 15 years of experience, both in Berlin and Bristol, UK.

References:

Further references available on request.