

Eugene M. Avrutin  
University of Illinois  
Department of History  
309 Gregory Hall  
810 S. Wright Street  
Urbana, IL 61801  
[eavrutin@illinois.edu](mailto:eavrutin@illinois.edu)

## EMPLOYMENT

2020 - Tobor Family Endowed Professor of Modern European Jewish History,  
University of Illinois

## EDITORIAL POSITIONS

2023-2028 Editor-in-Chief of *Slavic Review*

2018- Co-editor of book series "Russian Shorts," Bloomsbury Publishing

- More than 20 books in preparation

2017-2019 Co-editor of *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*

## ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

2022-2026 Director of Jewish Studies, University of Illinois

2018-2022 Associate Director of Jewish Studies, University of Illinois

## EDUCATION

1997-2004 Ph.D. University of Michigan

1999-2000 The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Fulbright Scholar

Summer 1998, 1999 YIVO Institute, Intensive Yiddish Program

1992-1996 B.A. University of Texas at Austin

## BOOKS

*Jews and the Imperial State: Identification Politics in Tsarist Russia* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2010)

*The Velizh Affair: Blood Libel in a Russian Town* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018)

- Russian edition published by Academic Studies Press, 2020
- Paperback edition, 2022

*Racism in Modern Russia: From the Romanovs to Putin* (London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2022)

- Available as an open access resource:  
<https://www.bloomsburycollections.com/book/racism-in-modern-russia-from-the-romanovs-to-putin/>

## EDITED VOLUMES

*Pogroms: A Documentary History*, ed. Eugene M. Avrutin and Elissa Bemporad (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021)

*Ritual Murder in Russia, Eastern Europe, and Beyond: New Histories of an Old Accusation*, ed. Eugene M. Avrutin, Jonathan Dekel-Chen, and Robert Weinberg (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2017)

Anna Pavlovna Vygodskaia, *The Story of a Life: Memoirs of a Young Jewish Woman in the Russian Empire*, ed. and trans. Eugene M. Avrutin and Robert H. Greene (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2012)

*Jews in the East European Borderlands: Essays in Honor of John D. Klier*, ed. Eugene M. Avrutin and Harriet Murav (Brighton: Academic Studies Press, 2012)

*Russia in Motion: Cultures of Mobility since 1850*, ed. John Randolph and Eugene M. Avrutin (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2012)

*Photographing the Jewish Nation: Pictures from S. An-sky's Ethnographic Expeditions*, ed. Eugene M. Avrutin, et al. (Waltham: Brandeis University Press, 2009)

## ARTICLES, ESSAYS, and BOOK CHAPTERS

"The End of Everything? Pogroms in Wars and Revolutions," *Journal of Modern History* (forthcoming, 2023)

"Pogroms in Russia's Borderlands, 1881-1884," in *Pogroms: A Documentary History*, ed. Eugene M. Avrutin and Elissa Bemporad (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021), 23-46.

“Ritual Murder in a Russian Border Town,” *Jewish History*, vol. 26, no. 3/4 (2012): 309-326; reprinted in slightly revised form in *Ritual Murder in Russia, Eastern Europe, and Beyond: New Histories of an Old Accusation*, ed. Eugene M. Avrutin, Jonathan Dekel-Chen, and Robert Weinberg (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2017), 56-72; and *Evrei pogranich'ia: Smolenshchina* (Moscow: The Moscow Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization “Sefer,” 2018), 191-206.

“Pogroms in Russian History,” *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, vol. 14, no. 3 (2013): 585-598.

“Jewish Neighborly Relations and Imperial Russian Legal Culture,” *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*, vol. 9, no. 1 (2010): 1-16; reprinted in revised form as “Economic Entanglements and Neighborly Disputes in the Northwest Provinces of the Russian Empire,” in *Religion in the Mirror of Law: East European Perspectives from the Early Modern Period to 1939*, edited by Yvonne Kleinmann, Stephan Stach, and Tracy Wilson (Frankfurt am Main: Vittorio Klostermann, 2016), 329-346.

“Racial Categories and the Politics of (Jewish) Difference in Late Imperial Russia,” *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, vol. 8, no. 1 (2007): 13-40.

“Returning to Judaism after the 1905 Law on Religious Freedom in Tsarist Russia,” *Slavic Review*, vol. 65, no. 1 (2006): 90-110.

“The Politics of Jewish Legibility: Documentation Practices and Reform during the Reign of Nicholas I,” *Jewish Social Studies*, vol. 11, no. 2 (2005): 136-169.

“Kreshchenye evrei, etnicheskii konflikt, i politika povsednevnoi zhizni v Rossii vo vremia pervoi mirovoi voiny [Baptized Jews, Ethnic conflict, and the Politics of Everyday Life during Russia’s Great War],” in *Mirovoi krizis 1914-1920 godov i sud’by vostochnoevropetskogo evreistva* [The World Crisis of 1914-1920 and the Fate of East European Jewry], edited by Oleg Budnitskii, et al. (Moscow: ROSSPEN, 2005), 99-123.

“The Power of Documentation: Vital Statistics and Jewish Accommodation in Tsarist Russia,” *Ab Imperio*, no. 4 (2003): 271-300.

## **NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS**

2020	American Academy for Jewish Research (AAJR) Cross-Institutional Grant for “Second Bi-Annual Junior Scholars Workshop”
2017	Blavatnik Archive Foundation Subvention Grant for <i>Pogroms: A Documentary History</i>
2016-2017	National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship

2013, 2010	Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society
2012-2013	Charles A Ryskamp Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies
2012-2013	Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Fellowship
Spring 2011	National Council for Eurasian and East European Research Fellowship
2009	Global Migration and Human Mobility Conference Grant, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, "Russia's Role in Human Mobility: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives," co-organizer with John Randolph
Spring 2008	Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.
2008	Subvention Grant, Lucius N. Littauer Foundation, for <i>Photographing the Jewish Nation: Pictures from S. An-sky's Ethnographic Expeditions</i>
2006-2007	Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Fellowship
2006	Hadassah-Brandeis Institute Research Award for Critical Edition of <i>The Story of a Life: Memoirs of a Young Jewish Woman in the Russian Empire</i>

**FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS (University of Illinois)**

2021-2022	Humanities Research Institute Cluster Award for "Russia and the Global Color Line"
Spring 2021	Humanities Release Time, Research Board
2017-2018	IPRH Cluster Award for New Directions in East European Jewish Culture

Arnold O. Beckman Research Board Award: 2017, 2013, 2011, 2010

2015, 2012, 2008	Research Grant, Research Board
2012-2014	INTERSECT Grant, Graduate College, for interdisciplinary research group on "Cultures of Law in Global Contexts" (\$250,000 for two-year program)

Fall 2012 Beckman Fellow, Center for Advanced Study

2010 Hewlett Travel Grant, International Programs and Studies

2009 Hewlett Conference Grant for “Jews in the East European Borderlands: Daily Life, Violence, and Memory,” co-organizer with Harriet Murav

Spring 2008 Humanities Release Time, Research Board

**AWARDS and PRIZES**

2022 Winner of the Association of Jewish Libraries Award for Reference (for *Pogroms: A Documentary History*)

2020 NEH Open Book Award (for *The Velizh Affair*)

2013-2014 Workmen’s Circle/Dr. Emanuel Patt Visiting Professor at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York

2010 Finalist, National Jewish Book Award, Visual Arts Category (for *Photographing the Jewish Nation*)

2009 Cahnman Publication Prize awarded by the Association for Jewish Studies (for *Jews and the Imperial State*)