

Ian Merkel is an intellectual historian primarily concerned with the twentieth century. His work examines exchange across Latin America and European empires with an emphasis on the emergence of the social sciences. His first book, *Terms of Exchange: Brazilian Intellectuals and the Remaking of the French Social Sciences*, will be published in 2022 with the University of Chicago Press. *Terms of Exchange* sheds new light on the Annales School, structuralism, and racial democracy, all while examining the process of knowledge formation through fieldwork and exchange more broadly. By highlighting the role of Brazil and Brazilians in the formation of the French social sciences, it reveals connections that help to rethink the history of modern social thought, empirically and theoretically.

For the purposes of the Mediterranean Seminar, it is worth mentioning Ian's article "Fernand Braudel, Brazil, and the Empire of French Social Science," published in *French Historical Studies*. Braudel's essay "The Concept of a New Country," which appears for the first time in English, sheds new light on the influence of Braudel's Algerian and Brazilian years in shaping the contours of *The Mediterranean*.