

Curriculum Vitae

THOMAS A. KOHUT

Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III Professor of History, Emeritus
Williams College
Williamstown, MA 01267 USA

Employment

Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III Professor of History
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (1995 to 2024)

Chair, Department of History
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (2016 to 2018)

Director, Williams-Exeter Programme at Oxford University
Visiting Fellow and Tutor for Visiting Students at Exeter College (2008 to 2010)

Dean of the Faculty
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (2000 to 2006)

Acting Provost
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (2003)

Associate Professor of History
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (1990-1995)

Assistant Professor of History
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (1984-1990)

Faculty Member, Cincinnati Center for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis (1984 to present)

Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry
Department of Psychiatry, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio (1982-1984)

Psychotherapist
Delta Psychiatric Associates, 820 Delta Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio (1983-1984)
Mental Hygiene Clinic of the Veterans' Administration Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, and
the Central Psychiatric Clinic of the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio (1981-1983)

Professional Memberships and Service

American Historical Association
Central European History Society
German Studies Association

Member of Program Committee for the 2014 German Studies Association Convention in Kansas City

PEN for German-Speaking Authors Abroad

College Service

Member, Athletics Committee (2021-2022)

Chair, Library Committee (2020-2021)

Chair, Faculty Lecture Committee (2019-2020)

Member of the Presidential Search Committee (1999-2000)

Chair, Faculty Steering Committee (1998-2000)

Chair, Lecture Committee (1997-1998)

Chair, Committee on Educational Policy (1994-1996)

Member of Committee on Educational Policy (1993-1994)

Member of Faculty Steering Committee and Faculty Compensation Committee (1988-1990)

Member of Committee on Educational Policy (1985-1987)

Board Service

President of the Board of Directors of the Freud Foundation, U.S. (2019-present)

Member of the Board of Directors of the Freud Foundation, U.S. (2016-present)

Board of Directors of the Austen Riggs Center, Stockbridge, Massachusetts (2002-2014 and 2016-2021)

Chair of the Council of Scholars of the Erikson Institute, Austen Riggs Center (2005-2013)

Member of the Council of Scholars of the Erikson Institute of the Austen Riggs Center (2005-present)

Education

Graduate of the Cincinnati Psychoanalytic Institute
Cincinnati, Ohio (8 June 1984)

Ph.D. in history from the University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota (19 March 1983)

M.A. in history from the University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota (14 June 1975)

B.A. from Oberlin College
Oberlin, Ohio (21 May 1972)

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards Received

Fulbright-Freud Visiting Scholar of Psychoanalysis at the Freud Museum in Vienna (2015-2016)
Visiting Professor of History, Institute for History, University of Vienna (2015-2016)

World Fellowship from Williams College for research in Vienna (2015-2016)

Visiting Fellow at Exeter College, Oxford University (2014-2015)

Nelson Bushnell '20 Prize for Writing and Teaching, Williams College (2012-2013)

World Fellowship from Williams College for research in Germany (2000-2001) – declined

Grant from the Köhler Foundation for research in the Federal Republic of Germany (1996)

Guest Professor and Member of the Academy of Science at the University of Siegen (1995-1996)

Guest Professor and Member of the Graduate College in the Humanities at the University of Siegen (1991-1992)

Guest Professor at the University of Munich (1988)

Fulbright Scholar Award for research in the Federal Republic of Germany (1987-1988)

University of Minnesota Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (1980-1981)

International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) grant for research in the German Democratic Republic (1979) – declined

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) grant for research in the Federal Republic of Germany (1978-1979)

Publications

Empathie in der Geschichtswissenschaft: Einführendes Verstehen der menschlichen Vergangenheit (Frankfurt a.M.: Brandes & Apsel, 2023). This is the German translation of *Empathy and the Historical Understanding of the Human Past*.

Empathy and the Historical Understanding of the Human Past (Abingdon and New York: Routledge, April 2020).

“History Flows through Us: Psychoanalysis, Historical Trauma, and the Shaping of Experience,” *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context* 15 (2020), pp. 21-24, DOI: [10.1080/24720038.2019.1688330](https://doi.org/10.1080/24720038.2019.1688330).

“Die Geschichte fließt durch uns hindurch—Psychoanalyse, historisches Trauma und die Ausgeltung des Erlebens,” *Krise und Kreativität. Jahrbuch Selbstpsychologie* 2, Andrea Harms and Martin Gossmann, eds. (Frankfurt a.M.: Brandes & Apsel, 2019), pp. 53-61.

With Roger Frie, "Psychoanalysis and History in Conversation: A Dialogue with Thomas Kohut," *Psychoanalysis, Self, and Context* 14 (2019), pp. 62-85,
DOI: [10.1080/24720038.2019.1549896](https://doi.org/10.1080/24720038.2019.1549896)

History Flows through Us: Germany, the Holocaust, and the Importance of Empathy, Roger Frie, ed. (Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2018). This is a collection of eleven essays that respond to my work. The volume concludes with an interview with me conducted by Roger Frie, "Psychoanalysis and history at the crossroads: A dialogue with Thomas Kohut," pp. 157-87.

Eine deutsche Generation und ihre Suche nach Gemeinschaft: Erlebte Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts (Giessen: Psychosozial Verlag, 2017). This is a translated and significantly revised version of *A German Generation: An Experiential History of the Twentieth Century*.

"Heinz Kohut und Wien," *Luzifer-Amor: Zeitschrift zur Geschichte der Psychoanalyse* 57 (2016): pp. 7-13.

"Reflections on Empathy as a Mode of Observation in History," *Sinn Geschichten. Kulturgeschichtliche Beiträge für Ute Daniel*, Christian Frey, Thomas Kubetzky, Klaus Latzel, Heidi Mehrkens, and Christoph Friedrich Webers, eds. (Cologne: Böhlau Verlag; 2013), pp. 190-97.

"Psychoanalyse und Geschichtswissenschaft: Theorie, Praxis, Kritik. Ein Kommentar," *Zeitzeugen des Hamburger Feuersturms 1943 und ihre Familien: Forschungsprojekt zur Weitergabe von Kriegserfahrungen*, Ulrich Lamparter, Silke Wiegand-Grefe, Dorothee Wierling, eds. (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht; 2013), pp. 58-63.

A German Generation: An Experiential History of the Twentieth Century (New Haven: Yale University Press; 2012).

"Wilhelm Busch: Die Erfindung eines literarischen Nationalhelden, 1902-1908," *Zeitschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Linguistik* 134 (2004), pp. 147-57.

"Psychoanalysis as Psychohistory or Why Psychotherapists Cannot Afford to Ignore Culture," *The Annual of Psychoanalysis, Psychoanalysis and History*, Jerome A. Winer and James William Anderson, eds., 31 (2003), pp. 225-36.

"History, Loss, and the Generation of 1914: The Case of the Freideutsche Kreis," *Generationalität und Lebensgeschichte im 20. Jahrhundert: Schriften des Historischen Kollegs, Kolloquien* 58, Jürgen Reulecke, ed. (Munich: R. Oldenbourg Verlag; 2003), pp. 253-77.

"Plädoyer für eine historisierte Psychoanalyse," *Psychotherapie in Zeiten der Veränderung—Historische, kulturelle und gesellschaftliche Hintergründe einer Profession*, B. Strauß and M. Geyer, eds. (Berlin: Westdeutsche Verlag, 2000), pp. 41-50.

“The Creation of Wilhelm Busch as a German Cultural Hero, 1902 -1908,” *Enlightenment, Passion, Modernity: Historical Essays in European Thought and Culture*, Mark S. Micale and Robert L. Dietle, eds. (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2000), pp. 286-304.

“Commentary on Robert Jay Lifton’s ‘Reflections on Aum Shinrikyo’ and on the 25th Anniversary of the Group for the Use of Psychology in History,” *The Psychohistory Review* 25 (1997), pp. 234-239.

With Jürgen Reulecke, “‘Sterben wie eine Ratte, die der Bauer ertappt’. Letzte Briefe aus Stalingrad,” *Stalingrad: Ereignis, Wirkung, Symbol*, Jürgen Förster, ed. (Munich and Zurich: Piper Verlag, 1992), pp. 456-71.

This volume was translated and published in Russia in 1994 by Progress-Academia Press.

Wilhelm II and the Germans: A Study in Leadership (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991). A chapter of the book has been translated into Polish and appeared in Tomasz Pawelec, ed., *Psyche I Klio: Historia W Oczach Psychohistorykow* (Lublin: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 2002), pp. 165-94.

“Empathizing with Nazis: Reflections on Robert Jay Lifton’s *The Nazi Doctors*,” *The Psychohistory Review* 16 (1987), pp. 33-50.

“Psychohistory as History,” *The American Historical Review* 91 (1986), pp. 336-354. This article has been translated and appeared in China in *History and Theory Quarterly* 2 (15 June 1987), pp. 140-55, and has been translated into Polish and appeared in Tomasz Pawelec, ed., *Psyche I Klio: Historia W Oczach Psychohistorykow* (Lublin: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 2002), pp. 73-94.

“Mirror Image of the Nation: An Investigation of Kaiser Wilhelm II’s Leadership of the Germans,” *The Leader: Psychological Essays*, second edition, Charles B. Strozier, Daniel Offer, and Oliver Abdyli, eds. (New York: Springer Press, 2011), pp. 77-117.

“Kaiser Wilhelm and his Parents: An Inquiry into the Psychological Roots of German Policy Towards England Before the First World War,” *Kaiser Wilhelm II: New Interpretations*, John C. G. Röhl and Nicolaus Sombart, eds. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1982), pp. 63-89.

Book reviews in *The American Historical Review*, *Central European History*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *The Journal of Modern History*, *The Psychohistory Review*, and *Patterns of Prejudice*.