

HISTORY OF UNIVERSITIES SEMINAR | 5 OCTOBER 2022

**MODERN HISTORIOGRAPHY IN THE MAKING: TEACHING AND RESEARCH  
AT GERMAN UNIVERSITIES, 1700-1900**

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At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, German historical scholarship had grown to great prominence. Academics around the world imitated their German colleagues. Intellectuals described historical scholarship as a foundation of the modern worldview. To many, the modern age was an 'age of history'. My recent book, *Modern Historiography in the Making: The German Sense of the Past, 1700-1900*, investigates how German historical scholarship acquired this status. It shows how scholars researched the past and discusses why they and their contemporaries cared. In my talk, I will especially focus on the role of German universities and how and why knowledge about the past became accepted as an important form of academic knowledge.

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Kasper Risbjerg Eskildsen is a historian of science. His work focuses on the history of the human sciences as well as the history of higher education in the modern era, from the 17th century to today. He received his MA from the University of Copenhagen (1999) and his PhD from the Freie Universität Berlin (2003). He has held teaching, research, and visiting positions at the University of Copenhagen, University of Chicago, Harvard University, University of California at San Diego, Max Planck Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte in Berlin and École des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris. For more information, see <https://forskning.ruc.dk/en/persons/eskild>.

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**History of Universities Seminar**

Convened by Miles Taylor (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany), Ku-ming (Kevin) Chang (Academia Sinica, Taiwan), Heike Jöns (Loughborough University, United Kingdom) and Tamson Pietsch (University of Technology Sydney, Australia). Hosted by the Humboldt University of Berlin on Zoom: <https://www.histgeog-uni.net/history-of-universities-seminar-2/>.