

# Tristan Krause

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## Education

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### Ph.D.

x'Summer 2026

- Ph.D. Candidate, Graduate History Program, Texas A&M University
- Current German Academic Exchange Service Scholar, University of Freiburg
- Transatlantic research focused on the recovery of missing in action U.S. service members in occupied Germany following World War II
- "The Return of the Dead: Americans, Germans, and the Search for the Missing, 1945-55"

### Master of Arts

Spring 2023

- Graduate History Program, Texas A&M University

### Bachelor of Arts

Spring 2018

- History, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## Fieldwork and Research Experience

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### Cranfield Recovery and Identification of Conflict Casualties Program

09/2021-Present

#### Team Leader and Field Technician

- Direct teams of workers from Cranfield University, a partner of the U.S. Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), on archaeological excavations in Germany and Italy to recover and repatriate the remains of MIA American service members from World War II
- Analyze and identify aircraft wreckage, possible material evidence, personal effects, life support equipment, and other evidence on the excavation site
- Survey and map aircraft crash sites, construct site infrastructure, conduct extensive hand excavations, and thoroughly screen excavated soil for evidence
- Accurately label and process forensic evidence and maintain the proper chain of custody during the transfer of possible remains
- Sustain team morale on long deployments in the field and effectively coordinate with other Team Leaders on work duties, logistics, and emergency planning to ensure mission success
- Lead on-site ceremonies to remember the fallen and reinforce the importance of the mission

### UW Missing in Action Recovery and Identification Project

06/2018-08/2022

#### Field Technician and Researcher

- Worked on DPAA-sponsored archaeological excavations with the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Belgium and France to recover the remains of MIA U.S. military personnel
- Performed historical research into Indo-Pacific and European Theater casualty resolution and unidentified remains in U.S. military cemeteries
- Built case narratives using documentary research, secondary source readings, and cemetery analyses and briefed leadership on recommendations

### Texas A&M University/Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

11/2024-04/2025

#### Graduate Student Research Assistant

- Directed and mentored fifteen undergraduate student interns as they conducted historical research on MIA American service members from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War
- Supervised four paid student interns scanning records relating to the Chest Radiograph Project to facilitate the identification of remains in support of the DPAA mission

**Texas A&M University/Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency**  
History Research Intern

**01/2024-08/2024**

- Researched biographical and archival material on missing in action U.S. service members
- Maintained a database of sensitive information through detailed recordkeeping

**European Parliament Liaison Office – Washington, DC**  
Policy Trainee

**03/2021-08/2021**

- Conducted research on a diverse array of foreign and domestic policy topics and quickly provided written products or briefings
- Communicated with foreign representatives, embassies, and U.S. authorities

**Wisconsin State Assembly**  
Legislative Assistant

**01/2019-03/2020**

- Researched and drafted legislative proposals, wrote press releases and floor speeches, and liaised between constituents, local governments, and state agencies
- Coordinated a bipartisan 2019-20 legislative session bill providing state funding for the repatriation of Wisconsin MIA service members
- Performed well under pressure in a fast-paced environment and prioritized responsibilities

**Wisconsin Veterans Museum-Oral History Department**  
Transcription Intern

**06/2017-08/2017**

- Recorded, transcribed, and archived oral histories of state veterans for historical research
- Regularly met with veterans and their families, museum guests, and state officials

## **Teaching Experience**

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**Texas A&M University**

**08/2020-Present**

Graduate Assistant Lecturer

- HIST 106: U.S. History to 1877, fall 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- HIST 102: Modern Western Civilization, Dr. Jonathan Brunstedt, fall 2020
- HIST 105: U.S. History to 1877, Dr. Verity McInnis, spring 2022
- HIST 105: U.S. History to 1877, Dr. Kevin McGlone, fall 2022
- HIST 106: U.S. History since 1877, Dr. Kevin McGlone, spring 2023
- HIST 105: U.S. History to 1877, Dr. Ryan Fletcher, fall 2023
- HIST 230: American Military History, 1609-Present, Dr. Brian Linn, spring 2024

## **Publications and Reviews**

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“The Dramatic Sequel to the War: The U.S. Army, The International Tracing Service, and the Search for the Missing, 1945-50,” *Journal of Military History* 89, no. 1 (January 2025): 81-100.

“Regulation of the Digital Sector: EU-US Explainer,” European Parliament Research Service, July 2021.

“Who Does What in Security and Defence?: EU-US Explainer,” European Parliament Research Service, September 2021.

*Death at the Edges of Empire: Fallen Soldiers, Cultural Memory, and the Making of an American Nation, 1863-1921*, by Shannon Bontrager. H-Net Reviews. April, 2021.

## Select Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures

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- “Trading Our Dead for the Living: American Remains Recovery Operations in Soviet-Occupied Territory, 1945-50,” Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Mobile, AL, March 2025.
- “Bodies to Recover: Missing Americans, Displaced Persons, and the Beginning of the Cold War, 1945-1950,” National World War II Museum Emerging Scholars Colloquium, New Orleans, LA, February 2025.
- “Terrestrial Recoveries of U.S. MIA Personnel,” Conflict Archaeology and Military History Working Group, Texas A&M University, September 2024
- “Loss of Goodwill: American Recovery Operations in Cold War Europe,” Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA, April 2024.
- “World War II in Eastern Europe,” invited lecture for HIST 234: European Military History, Texas A&M University, April 2024
- “History in Action: Archival Research and the Recovery of MIA Service Members,” Never Forgotten: Conflict Archaeology and Military History at Texas A&M, College Station, TX, November 2023.
- “Lost but Not Forgotten: The Recovery and Identification of Missing in Action Service Members,” invited lecture for HIST 106: US History Since 1877, Texas A&M University, October 2023.
- “The Dramatic Sequel to the War: The U.S. Army, the International Tracing Service, and the Search for the Missing, 1945-1950,” Society for Military History Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 2023.
- “History in Action: The Recovery, Identification, and Repatriation of MIA Service Members,” invited lecture for HIST 230: The Historians Craft, Texas A&M University, March 2023.
- “Graves of Soldiers in Every Village: The U.S. Army and the Search for Missing Americans in Occupied Germany, 1945-50,” Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Fort Worth, TX, April 2022.
- “Recovering American MIA Service Members,” invited lecture for Price County Retired Educators Association, Park Falls, WI, April 2022.
- “The University of Wisconsin MIA Recovery and Identification Project,” invited lecture for HIST 230: The Historian’s Craft, Texas A&M University, March 2021.

## Professional Service

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<b>History Department Marketing and Communications Committee</b>	<b>08/2023-08/2024</b>
<u>Graduate Student Member</u>	
<b>War, Violence, &amp; Society Working Group</b>	<b>08/2023-05/2024</b>
<u>Graduate Student Convenor</u>	
<b>History Graduate Student Organization</b>	<b>05/2022-05/2023</b>
<u>Communications Officer</u>	

## Additional Skills

Languages: German

German CEFRL Levels	Listening	Reading	Speaking	Writing
	B2	B2	B1	B1

*A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user*

## Select Fellowships and Awards

**Adams Center for Military History & Strategic Analysis Dissertation Grant** 04/2025  
Virginia Military Institute

**DAAD Research Grant** 03/2025  
German American Academic Exchange Service

**Brian McAllister Linn Dissertation Research Fellowship in Military History** 02/2025  
Texas A&M University Department of History

**Russell F. Weigley Graduate Student Travel Grant** 01/2025  
Society for Military History

**Texas A&M University Dissertation Fellowship** 12/2024  
Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional School

**Graduate Residential Fellowship** 11/2024  
Melbern G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research

**Research, Travel, and Professional Development Award** 04/2024  
Texas A&M University College of Arts and Sciences

**Larry W. '73 & Judith '74 Luckett Fellowship** 11/2023  
Texas A&M University Department of History

**Graduate Research Fellowship** 04/2023  
Melbern G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research

**Dr. David L. Chapman '67 Fellowship** 02/2023  
Texas A&M University Department of History

**Humanities Cluster Internship Support Grant** 05/2022  
Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional School

**Society for Military History Registration Grant** 03/2022  
University of Kansas Center for War, Military, and Society Studies

**Albert Bernhardt Faust Research Fund** 12/2020  
Society for German American Studies