

Curriculum Vitae – Cornelius Beckers

Personal Details

Date of Birth: 02.07.1993
Address: DFG Graduate School 2571 “Empires”
Milchstraße 3a
79098 Freiburg im Breisgau
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Work Experience

Academic Employee

**University of Freiburg,
GRK 2571 “Imperien”**

11.2021 – Present

→ Research on the British Empire in the context of the DFG-funded Research Training Group
(Working Title: *Knowing Form, Knowing India: Company Poetry and the Consolidation of Imperial Power in British India, c.1780–1857*)

Research Assistant

**University of Duisburg-Essen,
Chair of Postcolonial Studies
(Dr. Katrin Althans)**

04.2021 – 10.2021

→ Research assistance in the DFG-funded project
“Narratives of Flight and Migration in Law & Literature”
→ Creation of a storytelling website via Storymaps

Freelance Work

**Volkshochschule Essen/Landesverband der
Volkshochschulen Nordrhein-Westfalen e.V.
(Dr. Günter Hinken; Arne Cremer)**

06.2020 – 10.2020

→ Participation in the pilot project “Politische Grundbildung an Volkshochschulen in NRW”
→ Assistance with developing the first trial
→ Assistance with preparing learning material

Research Assistant

**University of Duisburg-Essen,
Chair of American Literary and Media Studies
(Prof. Dr. Florian Freitag)**

01.2020 – 10.2021

→ Proof-reading publication projects
→ Administration of Moodle courses

Research Assistant**University of Duisburg-Essen,
Chair of Postcolonial Studies
(Prof. Dr. Patricia Plummer)**

09.2019 – 10.2021

→ Assistance with publication projects
→ Website and Moodle administration
→ Research tasks**Research Assistant****University of Duisburg-Essen,
Health Economics Research Centre CINCH
(Jun.-Prof. Dr. Katharina Blankart)**

04.2018 – 03.2021

→ Administrative assistance with the organization
of the CINCH research seminar
→ Administrative and organizational duties connected to
the seminar
→ Proof-reading (CINCH Working Paper Series)**Education**

11.2021 – Present

University of Freiburg

PhD Student in English Studies

Thesis Title: “Knowing Form, Knowing India: Company
Poetry and the Consolidation of Imperial Power in British
India, c.1780–1857”

10.2018 – 09.2021

University of Duisburg-Essen

Master of Arts – 2 Fächer (1,1; with distinction)

*Subjects: Anglophone Studies (British and Postcolonial Studies),
Geschichtspraxis Interkulturell*Thesis Title: “(Re-)Imagining a Time of Upheaval: The
Construction of an ‘Authentic’ Weimar Setting in Jason
Lutes’ *Berlin* (2018)”

10.2014 – 09.2018

University of Duisburg-Essen

Bachelor of Arts – 2 Fächer (1,5)

*Subjects: Anglophone Studies, History*Title of Thesis: “‘Iron Turds’ and ‘Satanic Mills’ –
The Description of Industrially Produced Goods and
Self-Fashioning in Condition of England novels by
Elizabeth Gaskell and David Lodge”

08.2004 – 07.2013

Geschwister-Scholl-Gymnasium Velbert

Degree: Abitur (bilingual)

Publications→ Beckers, Cornelius. 2024. “Calcutta, 1824. ‘The City of Palaces’ by James Atkinson”. *Imperial
Moments: An Anthology*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.6094/UNIFR/249555>.URL: <https://www.imperial-moments.org/calcutta-1824>.

→ Beckers, Cornelius. 2024. "I too in couplets would attempt to paint/ Our varied woes and versify complaint": Poetic Form and Knowledge in Early Nineteenth-Century Satirical Poetry by East India Company Employees." *Global Nineteenth-Century Studies* 3.1: 51–64.

Presentations

→ "Knowing India, Knowing Form: Company Poetry and the Consolidation of Imperial Power in British India, c. 1780–1857". DFG GRK 2571 "Imperien" Colloquium, Freiburg i. Br., 18 July 2024

→ "Playing through the Ages of Empire: Politics of Imperial Temporality in Strategy Games". *Playing the Field IV: Video Games and Politics*. Dortmund, 11–13 July 2024.

→ "Through Pen and Paper: Ordering Knowledge and the Consolidation of Imperial Power in Early British India, c. 1750–1830". DFG GRK 2571 "Imperien" Colloquium, Freiburg i. Br., 11 November 2021.

Teaching Experience

→ Proseminar in Cultural Studies: **"A State in the Guise of a Merchant' – The East India Company in (Contemporary) British Culture from the 18th Century to the Present"** (University of Freiburg, English Department, Winter Semester 2022/2023)

Academic Organization

→ Member of the organization committee of the RTG's summer school, 19–22 September 2022

→ **Co-Convener** (with Meta Cramer) Panel *Knowledge Production in Empires* Panel at the RTG's summer school

→ Member of the organization committee of the RTG's first annual conference **"Politics of pasts and futures in (post-)imperial contexts"**, 1–3 December 2022 (key responsibilities: correspondence with speakers and logistical organization)

→ Advisory member of the organization committees for the RTG's autumn school (9–12 October 2024) and third annual conference **"The Empire and I.' Individuals in Empires and Postimperial Spaces"** (28–30 November 2024)

Voluntary Work and Internships

→ Internship at the Volkshochschule Essen (February 2020 – April 2020)

→ Voluntary work as elected member of the student council "Fachschaft 1a" at the University of Duisburg-Essen (January 2016 – August 2021)

→ Elected student member of the faculty council, Faculty of Humanities, University of Duisburg-Essen (July 2015 – December 2020)

Languages and Skills

→ German (first language)

→ English (excellent oral and written communication skills)

→ French (serviceable oral and written skills)

→ Russian (basic skills, A1)

→ Latin (Latinum acquired in school)

→ Experience with content management systems for website administration (Imperia, Typo3)