

Valdis O. Lumans

Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History
USC Carolina Trustee Professor

University Address:

Department of History, Political Science, and
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Education:

1972-1979 Ph.D., History, December, 1979, Univ. of North Carolina Chapel Hill
1970-1972 M.A., History, June, 1972, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville
1967-1970 U.S. Army, OCS, Viet Nam
1962-1967 B.A., History, December, 1967, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville

Academic Employment:

University of South Carolina-Aiken, Aiken, S.C. Fall, 1981
thru June, 2011.
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Visiting Assistant
Professor. Spring, 1981.
North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, N.C., Visiting Assistant
Professor. Fall, 1979 through Spring, 1981.

Scholarship:

Paper, October, 1979: "The Ethnic Germans and the Slovak State." Annual Conference of the
American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, New Haven, Conn.

Paper, October, 1980: "The Military Obligation of the Ethnic Germans in Eastern Europe
Towards the Third Reich." Duquesne University History Forum, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Paper, November, 1981: "The Historiography of the Russian Revolution." USC-Aiken Faculty
Seminar.

Paper, April, 1982: "Nazi Racial Doctrine and Policy: An Interpretation." Annual Meeting of the
South Carolina Historical Association, Lander College, Greenwood, S.C.

Article, "Nazi Racial Doctrine and Policy: An Interpretation." *The Proceedings of the South*

Carolina Historical Association, 1982, 64-76.

Article, "The Ethnic German Minority of Slovakia and the Third Reich, 1938-45." *Central European History*, 15, No.3 (1982), 266-296.

Paper, December, 1982: "An Error in American Foreign Policy: The Association of Third World Nationalism with Communism." USC-Aiken Faculty Seminar.

Paper, March, 1983: "Russian Expansionism: A Historical Perspective." Presented to the Physicians for Social Responsibility, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Ga.

Paper, November, 1983: "The SS Personnel of the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle: A Study in the Nature and Composition of the SS." Annual Conference of the Southern Historical Association, Charleston, S.C.

Article, "The Writing of History in the Soviet Union: An Example of Censorship in the Humanities." *Social and Behavioral Science*, 1983-1984, 65-75.

Paper, April, 1986: "Soviet Interests in Eastern Europe: A Historical Perspective." Presented to the Aiken AAUW, Aiken, S.C.

Paper, March, 1988: "The Camps of the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle; Another Kind of SS Camp." Presented at the annual meeting of the S.C. Historical Association, Charleston.

USC-Aiken Faculty Seminar, April, 1988, with Dr. Don Blount, "N. G. Chernyshevsky: What Is to Be Done?"

Article, "The Camps of the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle; Another Kind of SS Camp." *The Proceedings of the South Carolina Historical Association*, 1988.

Article, "The Military Obligation of the Volksdeutsche of Eastern Europe Towards the Third Reich," *East European Quarterly*, XXIII, No. 3 (September, 1989), 305-325.

Paper, "The Diplomacy of Resettlement: Eliminating Trouble Spots in the Third Reich's Foreign Relations." Presented at the Annual Conference of the German Studies Association, Milwaukee. October, 1989.

Paper, "The German National Minorities of Europe as Fifth Columns: A Reappraisal." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association. Lexington, Kentucky. November, 1989.

Article, "The Nordic Destiny; The Peculiar Role of the German National Minority in North Schleswig in Hitler's Plans and Policies for Denmark." *Scandinavian Journal of History*, 15 (1991), 109-123.

Book Chapter, "The Diplomacy of Resettlement: Eliminating Trouble Spots in the Third Reich's Foreign Relations," in *German Minorities in Poland and Italy During the Second World War: Beiträge aus dem Fachbereich Pädagogik* (Hamburg: Bundeswehr Universität Hamburg, 1990), 15-37.

Article, "The SS Personnel of the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle: A Study in the Nature and Composition of the SS." *Social and Behavioral Science*, 1990-91.

Paper, August 13, 1990, "Main Themes of East European History and How They Relate to the Present Situation in the Region." Presented to the Journal Club, Augusta, Ga.

Book: *Himmler's Auxiliaries: The Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle and the German National Minorities of Europe, 1933-1945*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1993. Received the Charles E. Smith Award for 1994, presented by the European Section of the Southern Historical Association, as the best book in European History published by a southern press. Reviewed in twelve periodicals, including the *Times (London) Literary Supplement*, *American Historical Review*, and *Historische Zeitschrift*.

Paper, "Where the Heck Is Herzegovina?: A Historical Background to the Bosnian Civil War," International Studies Lecture Series, USC-Aiken, February 17, 1994.

Article, "A Reassessment of the Presumed Fifth Column Role of the German National Minorities of Europe." *Essays in European History*, Vol. II (1996), 191-212.

Paper, "Why Didn't We See It Coming? Predicting the Soviet Future: An Exercise in Futility," Presented at the Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Historical Association, March 8, 1997.

Article, "Why Didn't We See It Coming? Predicting the Soviet Future: An Exercise in Futility." *The Proceedings of the South Carolina Historical Association*, 1998, 69-77. Rewritten for publication; peer reviewed by editorial board.

Paper, "The Volksdeutsche Minorities of Europe: Legacies of the Great War, Potential for Future Strife." Presented at the Conference on the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, at Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, Ga., March 26, 1999.

Faculty Symposium, "Kosovo," USC Aiken, April 12, 1999.

Paper, "The Ideological Significance of the Resettlement of Ethnic Germans." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Historical Association, March 4, 2000.

Paper, "The Ethnic Germans and the Third Reich: A Lesson in Ethnicity." Presented to the Academy of Life-Long Learning, USC Aiken, April 2001.

Paper, "Terrorism: A Historical Perspective." Presented to the Aiken International Association, USC Aiken, October 5, 2001.

Paper, "Solidarity and Beyond: The Historical Context." Presented at the Symposium on Polish Culture through its Poster Artists, USC Aiken, October 15, 2001.

Book Chapter, "Werner Lorenz: Chef der Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle," in Smelser, Ronald and Enrico Syring, *Die SS: Elite unter dem Totenkopf; 30 Lebensläufe*. Paderborn: Verlag Ferdinand Schöningh, 2000. 332-345. Reprint in 2003.

Book Chapter, "Reassessment of Volksdeutsche and Jews in the Volhynia-Galicia-Narew Resettlement." *The Impact of Nazism: New Perspectives on the Third Reich and Its Legacy*.

Edited by Alan E. Steinweis and Daniel E. Rogers. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 81-100.

Paper, "Expert Witness: The Volksdeutsche, Waffen-SS, Denaturalization and Extradition." Presented at the USCA-Augusta State History-Political Science Forum, Augusta State U., Augusta, Ga., February 4, 2005.

Paper, "The Disintegration of the Latvian Legion and the End of the War for Latvia, 1944-1945," Siena College Conference on World War II, Siena College, Loudonville, NY, June 2, 2005.

Book Review: Karel C. Berkhoff, *Harvest of Despair: Life and Death in Ukraine under Nazi Rule* (Cambridge: Harvard-Belknap, 2004) in *Central European History*, vol. 39, no. 1 (2006), 160-63.

Book Review: Wendy Lower, *Nazi Empire-Building and the Holocaust in Ukraine* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005) in *Central European History*, 2006.

Paper: "A Small State in a Big War: Writing the History of Latvia in World War II; The Principal Issues," Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Historical Association, Columbia, S.C., March 4, 2006.

Paper: Featured speaker at New York Military Affairs Symposium, "The Latvian Army in World War II," New York, April 7, 2006.

Book Review: Mariana Hausleitner and Harald Roth, eds., *Der Einfluss der Faschismus auf Minderheiten in Ostmittel-und Südosteuropa* (München: IKGS Verlag, 2006) in *Central European History*. (Publication 2007).

Book: *Latvia in World War II*. New York: Fordham University Press, 2006. Part of series, *The Global, Human, Ethical Dimension of World War II*, No. 11, edited by Kurt Piehler, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Article: "A Small State in a Big War: Writing the History of Latvia in World War II; The Principal Issues," *Proceedings of the 2006 Meeting of the South Carolina Historical Association*. March, 2007. 53-70. Expanded for publication and peer reviewed by editorial board.

Book Review: Commission of the Historians of Latvia, *The Hidden and Forbidden History of Latvia under Soviet and Nazi Occupations, 1940-1991* (Riga: Institute of the History of Latvia, 2005) in *European History Quarterly*. (Publication 2007).

Presentation: "Latvia in World War II: A Summary." Aiken International Association, Aiken, S.C. November 1, 2006.

Book Review: Richard J. Evans, *The Third Reich in Power* (London: Penguin Books, 2006) in *European History Quarterly*. (Publication 2007).

Book Review: Alex J. Kay, *Exploitation, Resettlement, Mass Murder: Political and Economic Planning for German Occupation Policy in the Soviet Union, 1940-1941* (New York: Berghan Books, 2006), *Central European History*. (Publication 2008)

Seminar Participant: "Sources of and Limits of German Power in a Wider Europe: Germany

and Latvia in the European Union,” *Studienforum Berlin*, Berlin and Riga, June 28-July 10, 2007.

Featured Speaker; Fall Academic Convocation: “The Academic Community: A Partnership of Faculty and Students,” August 22, 2007, USC Aiken. Invited by academic “peers.”

Presentation: “Latvia: A Search for My Roots.” International Affairs Symposium, USC Aiken, November 1, 2007. Power Point Presentation of Latvian part of Berlin-Riga Seminar, Summer 2007.

Presentation: “Latvia in World War II: The Research, Writing, and Publication of a Book.” Humanities and Social Sciences Brown Bag Series, USC-Aiken, November 8, 2007.

Discussant: “Memories of World War II, the Holocaust and Nationalism;” April 10, 2008, New York, Columbia University, Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities. Invited by conference (international) organizers.

Chair: “Shaping Identities in the Baltic States,” April 10, 2008, New York, Columbia University, Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities. Invited by conference (international) organizers.

Book Review: Jean W. Sedlar, *Hitler’s Central European Empire* (Booklocker, 2007), for *Central European History*. To be published in 2009.

Paper: “Critique of *Murder without Hatred: The Holocaust in Estonia*.” April 15, 2010, New York, Columbia University, Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities. Invited by author, Anton Weiss-Wendt, of the Norwegian Holocaust Center, Oslo.

Book Review: Hans Safrian, *Eichmann’s Men* (Cambridge, 2009), for *Central European History*. Published in 2010.

Book Review: Andrej Angrick and Peter Klein, *The ‘Final Solution’ in Riga: Exploitation and Annihilation, 1941-1944*, transl. by Ray Brandon (New York: Berghan Books, 2009) for *European History Quarterly*. Publication 2011.

Discussant: Panel on “Group Conflict, Anti-Semitism and Racism in Central European History: From Ideas to Massacres,” Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, New York, April 14, 2011.

Book Review: Andres Kasekamp, *A History of the Baltic States*, (London: Palgrave McMillan, 2010) for *English Historical Review*. February 2013, 128 (530), 199-202.

Book Review: Daniel Blatman, *The Death Marches. The Final Phase of Nazi Genocide*, transl. by Chaya Galai (Cambridge: Harvard-Belknap Press, 2011), for *European History Quarterly*, January 2013, 43 (1), 121-124.

Book Review: Jonathan C. Friedman, ed. *The Routledge History of the Holocaust*, (New York: Routledge, 2011) for *European History Quarterly*, January 2013, 43 (1), 144-46.

Book Chapter: “Recruitment of The Ethnic Germans for the Waffen-SS: From Skimming the

Cream to Scraping the Dregs.” *Scraping the Barrel: Military Use of Sub-Standard Units*. Ed., Sanders Marble. New York: Fordham University Press, 2012. 197-224.

Book Chapter: “Volksdeutsche in the Waffen-SS in Combat: Dregs or Gems?” *Scraping the Barrel: Military Use of Sub-Standard Units* Ed., Sanders Marble. New York: Fordham University Press, 2012. 225-253.

Book Review: Robert van Voren, *Undigested Past: The Holocaust in Lithuania*, (New York: Rodopi, 2011) for *European History Quarterly*, 2013.

Book Review: Joachim Ludewig, David T. Zabecki, Ed., *Rückzug: The German Retreat from France, 1944* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2012), for *European History Quarterly*, 2013.

Book Review: Donald Bloxham and Robert Gerwarth, eds. *Political Violence in Twentieth-Century Europe*, (Cambridge: 2011), for *Central European History*, 2013.

Book Review: Istvan Deak, *Europe on Trial: The Story of Collaboration During World War II*, (Boulder: Westview Press, 2015), for *Central European History*, 2016.

Book Review: Mark R. Hatlie, *Riga at War 1914-1919: War and Wartime Experience in a Multi-ethnic Metropolis*, *Herder Institut Studien zur Ostmitteleuropaforschung*, No. 30 (Marburg: Verlag Herder-Institut, 2014), for *The American Historical Review*, 2018.

Book Chapter: “The Baltic States: Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia.” *Joining Hitler’s Crusade: European Countries and the Invasion of the Soviet Union*. Ed. David Stahel. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. 343-368.

Works in Progress:

Writing Project in Progress: *The Baltic Guard*. A book-length study of post-WW II Baltic refugee paramilitary units used by the US Army of occupation in Germany. This is based on the preliminary research and publications of Col. Vilmaris Kukainis, a Latvian member of one such unit. Most of his work was published in Latvian, whereas mine will be in English, entailing new research and writing, along with translating Col. Kukainis’ works from Latvian to English.

Project in Progress: Translating and editing the diary of Latvian Legionnaire Olgerts Lumans during his years in a DP (Displaced Persons) Camp in post-war Germany.

Project in Progress: Translating and editing the diary of Skaidra Lumans for the last six months of WWII in Germany and the first year of the post-war period.

Scholarly Consultation: (Volksdeutsche Waffen-SS Extradition Cases)

Expert Witness: The United States vs. Schiffer, 1995-1996.

Expert Witness: The United States vs. Breyer, 1993, 2001-2003.

Consultant: The United States vs. Friedrich. 2003.

Expert Witness: The United States vs. Wittje. 2004-05.

Expert Witness: The United States vs. Kumpf, 2004-05
Expert Witness: The United States vs. Geiser, 2005-06

Expert Witness Report: Baumhammers Case, Pittsburgh, Pa. March, 2011.

Academic Program Review

Chair, Georgia Board of Regents Review, History and Political Science Programs, Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, Ga. March, 2004.

Awards and Grants:

University of North Carolina Teaching Fellowship, Spring, 1977.
University of North Carolina Travel Grant, Fall, 1979.
USC-Aiken Teacher of the Year Award, 1982-1983.
University of South Carolina Faculty Exchange Grant, July-August, 1985.
National Endowment for the Humanities, Coherence Grant from the Division of Education, April, 1985-May, 1987.
USC-Aiken Faculty Service Award, 1986-1987
University of South Carolina Faculty Exchange Grant, May-June, 1990.
USC-Aiken Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award, 1989-1990.
USC-Aiken Faculty Community Service Award, 1990-1991.
USC-Aiken Faculty Alumni Award, 1992-1993.
USC-Aiken Faculty Research Sabbatical, Spring, 2003
USC-Aiken Inaugural Freshmen Convocation Speaker, 2007.
Cleora Toole Murray Chair in History, 2003-2006, 2006-2009, 2009-2011.
Rotary Centennial Service Award for Professional Excellence, 2005.
University of South Carolina, Carolina Trustee Professorship, 2007.
Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, Political Science and Philosophy, 2011.

Classes Taught:

Western Civilization, Ancient Times to 1650.
Western Civilization, 1650 to Present.
Introduction to Non-Western Civilizations.
World Civilizations, Ancient Times to 1750.
World Civilizations, 1750 to Present.
Modern Germany.
Modern Russia and Soviet Union.
Modern Eastern Europe.
Modern Europe (Western).
Early Modern Europe.
East Asia.
The Holocaust
Independent Studies

Faculty Service and Activities at USC-Aiken:

USC-Aiken International Exchange Coordinator, 1981-86

Social & Behavioral Sciences Club Faculty Advisor, 1981-85.
 USC-Aiken Teacher Education Committee, 1981-94.
 USC-Aiken Secondary Education Task Force, 1996-2011.
 USC-Aiken Scholastic Standing & Petitions Comm., 1982-85.
 USC-Aiken Honors, Awards & Scholarship Comm., 1982-85; Chair, 1984-85.
 USC-Aiken Library Committee, 1983-84.
 USC-Aiken New Courses & Curriculum Comm., 1984-86; 1997-99.
 Chair, Ad Hoc Comm. for Part-Time Faculty Policy, 1982-83.
 Chair, Ad Hoc Comm. to Write USC-Aiken Student Honor Code, 1982-84
 Editor, *The Proceedings of the South Carolina Historical Association*, 1982-86.
 Editor, *Polis*, Department Newsletter, 5 Editions, 2004-2009.
 USC-Aiken Representative to the South Carolina Scholar's Forum, 1983-1986.
 USC-Aiken Student Retention Task Force, 1983-84.
 USC-Aiken Financial Aid Appeals Committee, 1984-86.
 NEH Coherence Grant Committee, 1983-86.
 Co-Director, USC-A, NEH Humanities Focus Program, 1984-86.
 Organizer, South Carolina Historical Assoc. Annual Meeting, 1984.
 Thirty-four USC-Aiken Faculty Search Committees, 1981-2011.
 Secretary-Treasurer S.C. Historical Assoc., 1984-87.
 Executive Board, S.C. Historical Assoc., 1982-1990.
 USC-Aiken Faculty Advisory Committee, 1985-87; 1989-92; Chair, 1993-96.
 USC-Aiken Representative to USC System Teacher of the Year Committee, 1985-1987.
 USC Aiken Junior Writing Portfolio Reader, 2001-02.
 USC Aiken Vice-Chancellor Search Committee, 1987-88.
 USC Aiken Vice-Chancellor Search Committee, 2001-02.
 Four-Year Campus Representative to the USC Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and
 Faculty Liaison Committee, 1988-89.
 USC-Aiken Self-Study Steering Committee, 1988-89.
 USC Aiken Self Study Instit. Effectiveness Subcommittee, 1999-2001.
 USC System Academic Policy Coordinating Committee, 1988-89.
 Parliamentarian, USC-Aiken Faculty Assembly, 1990-93, 1995-98, 2001-02.
 Vice-President, Program Chair, SCHA, 1990-1991.
 USC-A Representative, SC Conference of Univ. Faculty Chairs, 1992-2006.
 Executive Council, SC Conference of Univ. Faculty Chairs, 1996-97, 1998-2000.
 USC UNIV 101 Workshop, 1999.
 USC System Task Force: Review of USC Library System, 1992-1993.
 USC System Academic Advisory Committee, 1993-94.
 USC-Aiken Chancellor's Cabinet, 1992-2003
 College Council, USCA Coll. of Humanities & Social Sciences, 1993-2011.
 USC-Aiken Academic Council, 1993-2011
 USC-Aiken Ad Hoc Teaching Evaluation Comm., 1994-95.
 USC-Aiken Ad Hoc First Year Experience Comm., 1998-2001; Chair, 1998-99.
 USC-Aiken First Year Advisor, 2001-2011.
 USC-Aiken Freshman Convocation Discussant, 2007-2010.
 USC-Aiken Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee, 2007-11.
 USC-Aiken Enrollment Planning Committee, 1994-2011.
 USC-Aiken Students at Risk Sub-Committee, 2004-2008.
 USC-Aiken Ad Hoc Committee on USC System, 1995-96.
 USC-Aiken Graduate Advisory Council. 1996-97.
 USC-Aiken Campus Master Plan Committee, 1997-2007.

USC-Aiken Sabbatical Selection Committee, Chair, 2005-06; 2010-2011.
USC-Aiken General Education Review Task Force, 2006-09.
Medical College of Georgia Dental School Patient Advisory Committee, 2007-2012.
USC-Aiken Family Fund Co-Chair, 2010.
Chair, USC-Aiken Faculty Assembly, 1986-89. (3 terms).
USC President Search Committee, 2008.
President, South Carolina Historical Association, 1991-1992.
Chair, Department of History, Political Science, and Philosophy, 1985-2011.