

## Brief Biography

Jeremiah B.C. Axelrod received his Ph.D. in American History (with graduate certificates in Critical Theory, Feminist Studies, and Film Studies) from the University of California, Irvine, in 2001 after having graduated from Williams College in 1992, where he majored in History, Political Science, and Women's Studies.

After teaching for several years in the Film Studies and History Departments at UC Irvine and serving as Kevin Starr Fellow in California Studies at the University of California Humanities Research Institute, Dr. Axelrod has worked since 2005 at Occidental College, where he is currently Adjunct Assistant Professor in the History and American Studies Departments and in the interdisciplinary Cultural Studies Program.

In addition, he is the founding partner in two Internet-based technology start-ups, Music For Dozens and Grabbit, LLC, based in Portland, Oregon. Founded respectively in 2001 and 2007, both companies focus on the distribution of independent popular music to consumers, seeking to construct communities of interaction between artists and fans which are capable of sustaining rich cultural relationships. He is also a founding board member of Enigma Icon, Inc., a Nevada-based corporation that develops imaginative games built upon collaborative storytelling.

Professor Axelrod is the author of *Inventing Autopia: Envisioning the Modern Metropolis in Jazz Age Los Angeles*, published by the University of California Press in 2009, as well as several articles. His research generally probes the connections between visibility, urban topography, memory, gender, race, and transportation in twentieth century Southern California.

A strong believer in both collegiate pedagogy and interdisciplinary academic collaboration, Dr. Axelrod is currently co-authoring a textbook, *A Theory Toolkit* (under contract from W.W. Norton), that helps college-level undergraduates construct argumentative essays using key concepts from contemporary critical theory. He is also an elected Executive Committee Board Member of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association and regularly presents academic papers at that conference and at others around the world.

Born in Hollywood, Jeremiah Axelrod grew up primarily in Riverside, California, and has lived for the past several years in the Arts District of downtown Los Angeles.