

Robert Thorp – Curriculum vitae

Academical merits

Distinguished University Teacher, Uppsala University 2026

Docent (Reader) of Curriculum Studies, Uppsala University, 2021

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (History Education), Umeå University, 2016

Licentiate of Philosophy (History Education), Umeå University, 2014

Master of Education (ME) in English, History, and Philosophy, Uppsala University, 2007

Employment history

2020 - Associate Professor in Curriculum Studies, Uppsala University

2019 - 2020 Lecturer in Humanities Education, The University of Newcastle

2017 - 2020 Senior lecturer in Education, Stockholm University

2016 - 2017 Lecturer in Education, Dalarna University

2015 - 2016 Associate Lecturer, Dalarna University

2014 - 2016 Research student, Dalarna University

2013 - 2016 Research fellow, Georg Eckert Institute

2012 - 2016 Doctoral candidate, Umeå University

2011 Upper secondary school teacher , Gävle municipality, Vasaskolan

2006 - 2016 Upper secondary school teacher, Gävle municipality, Borgarskolan

2005 - 2006 Upper secondary school teacher, Härnösand municipality

2002 - 2005 Upper secondary school teacher, Gotland municipality

Publications

Books

Christophe, B., Gautschi, P. & Thorp, R. (Eds.) (2019). *Teaching the Cold War: International Perspectives on Memory Practices in Educational Media and in the Classroom*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Thorp, R. (2016). *Uses of History in History Education*. Umeå University.

Thorp, R. (2014). *Historical Consciousness, Historical Media, and History Education*. Umeå University.

Book chapters

- Thorp, R. (2025). "Inclusive history education, historical thinking, and historical consciousness" in Barsch & Rein (eds.), *Think! Historically: Teaching history and the dialogue of disciplines*. Kiel University Press, pp. 61-75.
- Gautschi, P., Christophe, B. & Thorp, R. (2019). "Introduction to part III: Memory practices in the classroom" in Christophe, Gautschi & Thorp (Eds.), *Teaching the Cold War: International Perspectives on Memory Practices in Educational Media and in the Classroom*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 347-360.
- Christophe, B. & Thorp, R. (2019). "Teachers' memories and the Cold War: Introduction to part II," in Christophe, Gautschi & Thorp (Eds.), *Teaching the Cold War: International Perspectives on Memory Practices in Educational Media and in the Classroom*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 251-258.
- Thorp, R. (2019). "History didactical entanglements and the Cold War: A comparative study of the opening lessons on the Cold War in Sweden and Switzerland" in Christophe, Gautschi & Thorp (Eds.), *Teaching the Cold War: International Perspectives on Memory Practices in Educational Media and in the Classroom*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 423-448.
- Nygren, T., Vinterek, M., Thorp, R. & Taylor, M. (2017). "Promoting a Historiographic Gaze Through Multiperspectivity in History Teaching" in Elmersjö, H. Å., Clark, A. & Vinterek, M. (Eds.), *International perspectives on teaching rival histories: Pedagogical responses to contested narratives and the history wars*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 207-228.
- Thorp, R. (2016). "Historiemedvetande, historiska medier och historieundervisning" in *Medier i historieundervisningen: Historiedidaktisk forskning i praktiken*, Anna Larsson (ed.), Umeå: Umeå University, pp. 214-241.
- Thorp, R. (2014). "Contextualising and Representing School: To Contextualise and Contextualisation or the Importance of the Historiographic Gaze" in *Engaging with Educational Space: Visualizing Spaces of Teaching and Learning*, Catherine Burke, Ian Grosvenor, and Björn Norlin (eds.), Studies in History and Education 8, Umeå: Umeå University, pp. 78-87.
- Thorp, R. (2013). "Vad är ett historiemedvetande egentligen och varför är det viktigt?" in *Kritiska perspektiv på historiedidaktiken*, David Ludvigsson (ed.), Aktuellt om historia 2013:2, Eksjö: Historielärarnas förening, pp. 97-119.
- Thorp, R. (2013). "The Concept of Historical Consciousness in Swedish History Didactical Research" in *Cultural and Religious Diversity and Its Implications for History Education*, Joanna Wojdon (ed.), Yearbook of the International Society for History Didactics, vol. 34), Schwalbach: Wochenschau Verlag, 207-224.

Refereed journal articles

- Thorp, R. & Persson, A. (2023). Sobre pensar historicamente e o desafio da educação histórica. *Historia & Ensino* 29(1): 10-29.
- Elsaied, N. & Thorp, R. (2023). Using history to protect children from extremist ideologies: The example of *Noor Magazine* in Egypt. *Historical Encounters* 10(1): 114-129.
- Nygren, T., Löfstedt, M., Tväråna, M., Kramming, K., Bengtsson, S., Arrhenius, M. & Thorp, R. (2022). Lärarstudenters ämnesdidaktiska reflektioner i geografi, historia, religion och samhällskunskap. *Nordidactica* 12(3): 122-148.
- Thorp, R. & Vinterek, M. (2020). Controversially uncontroversial: Swedish pre-service teachers' relations to their national pasts. *Acta Didactica Norden* 14(4): 1-21.
- Thorp, R. (2020). How to develop historical consciousness through uses of history: A Swedish perspective. *Historical Encounters* 7(1): 50-61.

- Åström Elmersjö, H. & Thorp, R. (2020). The Cold War, historical culture, and history education: Swedish teachers' entangled narratives of memory and history. *Acta Didactica Norden* 14(1): 1-21.
- Thorp, R. & Persson, A. (2020). On historical thinking and the history educational challenge. *Educational Philosophy and Theory* 52(8): 891-901.
- Thorp, R. (2017). Experiencing, using, and teaching history: two history teachers' relations to history and educational media. *Journal of Educational Media, Memory, and Society* 9(2): 129-146.
- Vinterek, M., Donnelly, D. & Thorp, R. (2017). Tell us about your nation's past: Swedish and Australian pre-service history teachers' conceptualisation of their national history. *International Journal of Research on History Didactics, History Education and History Culture*, 51-72.
- Thorp, R. & Törnqvist, E. (2017). Young children's historical consciousness: A Swedish case study. *International Journal of Research on History Didactics, History Education and History Culture*, 215-234.
- Persson, A. & Thorp, R. (2017). Historieundervisningens existensialisierande potential. *Nordidactica* 7(2): 59-74.
- Thorp, R. (2017). Deconstructing Karlsson, part 1: Historical consciousness. *Historical Encounters* 4(2): 1-10.
- Thorp, R. (2015). Popular history magazines and history education. *Historical Encounters* 2(1): 102-112.
- Thorp, R. (2015). Representation and interpretation: Textbooks, teachers, and historical culture. *IARTEM e-Journal* 7(2): 73-99.
- Thorp, R. (2014). Historical Consciousness and Historical Media: A History Didactical Approach to Educational Media. *Education Inquiry* 5(4): 497-516.
- Thorp, R. (2014). Towards an epistemological theory of historical consciousness. *Historical Encounters* 1(1): 20-31.

Refereed conference papers and other publications

- Thorp, R. & Persson, A. (2025). Vad vill vi med historieläraryrket?: Några historiedidaktiska reflektioner. *Historisk tidskrift* 145(2): 348-355.
- Thorp, R. (2024). Om stormaktstiden i svenska läroböcker i historia för gymnasieskolan. *Historielärarnas förenings årsskrift 2024*: 33-56.
- Thorp, R. (2018). Perspektiv på historiebruk. *Tidskriften SO-didaktik* 5: 56-60.
- Thorp, R. & Persson, A. (2018). "On historical thinking and the history didactical challenge," paper presented at the 12th annual conference of the Swedish history didactical network.
- Thorp, R. (2015). "Remembering our pasts: National and international perspectives on domestic history," paper presented at the 9th annual conference of the Swedish history didactical network.
- Thorp, R. (2015). "Navigating historical cultures – teachers' relations to and perceptions of the Cold War in Swedish historical culture." Paper presented at international PhD Candidate symposium at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa.
- Thorp, R. (2014). "Teaching the Cold War – Memory Practices in the Classroom," paper presented at the 8th annual conference of the Swedish history didactical network.
- Thorp, R. (2013). "Framing the Practical Turn in Textbook Analysis Through the Concept of Historical Consciousness." Paper presented at the Annual Summer School for Young Scholars at the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, Braunschweig, Germany, September 23-27, 2013.

Thorp, R. (2013). "Historical consciousness as an interpretive frame for historical media," paper presented at the 7th annual conference of the Swedish history didactical network.

Participation in scientific projects

- 2024 - SO-lärarstudenters konceptioner och uppfattningar om undervisning i SO-ämnena. Uppsala University.
- 2014 – 2016 "Comparing Our Pasts [COP] International Pilot Project." Funded through the Faculty of Education and Arts Strategic Networking and Pilot Projects Scheme, at the University of Newcastle, Australia. Directed by Dr Robert Parkes.
- 2014 "Remembering Australia's Past [RAP] Pilot Project." Funded through the Faculty of Education and Arts Strategic Networking and Pilot Projects Scheme, at the University of Newcastle, Australia. Directed by Dr Robert Parkes.
- 2013 – 2016 "Teaching the Cold War – Memory Practices in the Class Room." Funded by Leibniz Association SAW, Germany. Directed by Dr Barbara Christophe, Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research. Braunschweig, Germany.
- 2012 – 2014 "EHISTO – European history crossroads as pathways to intercultural and media learning." Funded by the European Union Lifelong Learning Programme. Directed by Professor Susanne Popp, University of Augsburg, Germany.
-

University teaching

- 2020 - Teaching, supervision, and administration of courses in Primary and Secondary Education Teacher Education at Uppsala University, Sweden.
- 2019 - 2020 Teaching and administration of courses in Secondary Teacher Education and Curriculum Theory at the University of Newcastle, Australia.
- 2017 - Teaching and administration of courses in Education and Curriculum Studies at the Department of Education at Stockholm University. Supervision of student essays (12 in total).
- 2014 - 2017 Supervision and examination of student essays in History Education, Curriculum Studies, Education, and History at Dalarna University (18 essays in total)
- 2016 - 2017 Planning and teaching of courses in History Education. (app. 400 hours)
- 2016 - 2017 Teaching of courses in Teacher Education (pedagogiskt arbete) (Primary and Secondary School) (app. 300 hours)
-

Upper secondary school teaching experience

- 2006 – 2016 Borgarskolan Gävle municipality - Upper Secondary School teacher of English, History, and Philosophy at *Samhällsvetenskapsprogrammet*, *Handelsprogrammet*, and *Fordonsprogrammet*.
- 2011 Vasaskolan, Gävle municipality - Upper Secondary School teacher of History, Philosophy, Cultural Studies, and Cultural History at *Internationella programmet* and *Samhällsvetenskapsprogrammet*
- 2005 – 2006 Härnösands gymnasium, Härnösand municipality – Upper Secondary School teacher of English and Philosophy at *Samhällsvetenskapsprogrammet* and *Tekniska programmet*.

2002 – 2005 Elfrida Andréegymnasiet, Gotland municipality – Upper Secondary School teacher of English and History at *Omvårdnadsprogrammet*, *Hotell- och restaurangprogrammet*, *Estetiska programmet*, and *Handelsprogrammet*.

Scientific referee

2025 Invited external reviewer for Isabella Varicchio's 50% seminar for her dissertation in the didactics of philosophy at Stockholm University.

2023 Peer reviewer for book manuscript at Routledge History Monographs.

2022 Invited member of referee panel for the appointment of Senior Lecturer of History Education at Stockholm University, Sweden.

2022 Invited member of referee panel for the appointment of Senior Lecturer of History and History Education at Södertörn University, Sweden.

2019 Invited member of international referee panel for the appointment of Senior Lecturer in Social Science Education at the University of Barcelona, Spain.

2019 External reviewer for Marianne Dietz WiP-seminar at Aarhus University, Denmark, 22nd of August, 2019.

2017 Peer reviewer for Nordiska historikermötet (Nordic Historical Conference).

2013 – Peer reviewer for *Learning, Culture, and Social Interaction*; *Acta Didactica Norden*; *International Journal of Research on History Didactics*, *History Education and History*; *Historical Encounters*; *Education Inquiry*; *Curriculum Inquiry*; *Space and Culture*; *Teaching and Teacher Education*; *Nordidactica*; *European Journal of Psychology of Education*; *Journal of Curriculum Studies*; *Paedagogica Historica: International Journal of the History of Education*; *Journal of Educational Media, Memory, and Society*; *History Education Research Journal*; *Citizenship, Social and Economics Education*; *Routledge History Monographs*; *The Curriculum Journal*; *Pedagogy, Culture, and Society*; *Sex Education*.

International contacts

Visiting academic

2015 – 2016 Visiting academic at the University of Newcastle, Faculty of Education and Art, October 2015 – January 2016.

International project collaboration

2020 – Partner of collaboration with researchers from Ain-Shams University in Egypt on public history for children in the Islamic world.

2014 – Partner of “Comparing Our Pasts [COP] International Pilot Project”. Funded through the Faculty of Education and Arts Strategic Networking and Pilot Projects Scheme, at the University of Newcastle, Australia. Directed by Dr Robert Parkes.

2013 – 2016 Partner of “Teaching the Cold War – Memory Practices in the Class Room”. Collaboration with Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research in Braunschweig and University of Teacher Education in Lucerne Switzerland Directed by Dr. Barbara Christophe.

2012 – 2014 Partner of “EHISTO – European history crossroads as pathways to intercultural and media learning”. Collaboration between Dalarna University (Sweden), University of Augsburg (Germany), University of East Anglia (United Kingdom), University of Salamanca (Spain), and Academy of Management (Lodz, Poland).

International collaborations

2016 – Invited organizer of history didactical sessions at the Nordic Meeting of Historians (Nordiska historikermötet) in Aalborg 2017.

Recent conference presentations

2026 Robert Thorp, "Historians and their trade: historical thinking revisited." Presentation at HEIRNET international conference for history education, Padua, Italy, August 25-28 2026.

2025 Robert Thorp & Anders Persson, "Vad vill vi med historieläraryrket?" Presentation at the annual national conference of history didactics at Karlstad University, April 28-29 2025.

2024 Robert Thorp, "Powerful knowledge in history education?" Presentation at HEIRNET, international conference for history education, Stirling, United Kingdom, August 28-30 2024.

2023 Invited keynote presenter at the international research conference "History didactics meets special needs education - interdisciplinary perspectives on historical thinking and disabilities." University of Cologne, Germany, March 29-30, 2023.

2022 Robert Thorp, "Using history to protect children from extremist ideologies: The example of *Noor Magazine* in Egypt." Presentation at the annual conference of the Swedish history didactical network, Dalarna University, May 17-19, 2022.

2019 Thomas Nygren & Robert Thorp, "Some of them are biased and perspectives change the facts": using history magazines to stimulate a historiographic gaze of multiperspectivity." Presentation at *Another Brick in the Wall: Rethinking Education*. Amsterdam IEAE, November 11-15, 2019.

2018 Robert Thorp, "Controversially uncontroversial: Swedish national narratives in an educational context and their didactical implications." Presentation at *Controversial societal issues in education and democracy*, research conference held at Umeå University, October 24-25, 2018.

2018 Robert Thorp & Monika Vinterek, "Narrating the nation: Swedish history teacher students' use of narrative strategies when representing the Swedish national past." Presentation at the 4th international conference of the IRAHSSE, Université Diderot, Paris, France, June 4-6, 2018.

2018 Thorp, Robert & Persson, Anders. "On historical thinking and the history didactical challenge," Presentation at the 12th annual conference of the Swedish history didactical network, Malmö University, April 27-28, 2018.

Commission of trust

2024 Appointed auditor of judicial assessment of placement courses at teacher programmes at Uppsala University.

2023 – Member of the faculty board of the Faculty of Educational Sciences at Uppsala University.

2012 – 2016 Convenor of the doctoral students' council at Dalarna University