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## Curriculum Vitae

### EMPLOYMENT

#### Mississippi College

Professor, American History, August 2022

Associate Professor, American History, since August 2018

Assistant Professor, American History 2012-2018

### EDUCATION

#### University of Southern Mississippi, 2008-2012

Ph.D., May 2012

#### University of Southern Mississippi, 2005-2008

Master of Arts in History, 2008

#### University of Bonn, Germany, 2002 – 2005

Major: North America Program, passed field exam: August 2004

Minor: Economics, Political Science, passed field exam: August 2005

#### University of Cologne, Germany, 2002 – 2005

Minor (as part of North America Program): Anglo – American History,  
passed field exam: January 2005

## MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Complexion of Empire in Natchez: Race, Law, and Slavery in the Lower Mississippi Valley*, University of Georgia Press, February 2021.

*Winner of Best Book in Mississippi History Award from Mississippi Historical Society 2021.*

*A Borrowed Land: A History of Colonial Mississippi*. Heritage of Mississippi Series. Co-authored with Charles Weeks, University Press of Mississippi, March 2021.

*Finalist, Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, Nonfiction, 2022.*

### Manuscripts

*A Black Frontier: The Spanish Slave Trade in the Lower Mississippi Valley, 1763-1803.*

*Mississippi's African American History*. Edited Volume

### Articles and Book Chapters

“American Adventurers in the Mississippi Borderlands: Thomas Green and Georgia’s 1785 Bourbon County Scheme in Spanish Natchez” in *Republic of Scoundrels*, eds. David Head and Timothy Hemmis (New York: Pegasus Books), forthcoming 2023.

“Colonizing Race: How Laws of Bondage Shaped Race in America’s Colonial Borderlands” in *Contact, Conquest, and Colonization: How Practices of Comparing Shaped Empires and Colonialism Around the World*, eds. Rohland, Eleonora, Epple, Angelika, Flüchter, Antje, Kramer, Kirsten (New York: Routledge, 2021), 245-267.

“The Cultural Transfer of Racial and Legal Traditions: The Natchez District During the Age of Revolutions,” in *Cultural Mobility and Knowledge Formation in the Americas*, eds. Volker Depkat and Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson (Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2019), 51–72.

“Slavery, Race, and Freedom in the Spanish Anglo Borderlands” in *The Latin Americanist*, Special Edition in Honor of Richmond Brown, Volume 61, Issue 4, December 2017.

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

### Grants

CESU National Park Service, Forks of the Road Slave Market, September 2019 until July 2021

### Fellowships

Bright Institute Fellow, Knox College, Illinois, 2022-2024. (13 awarded every three years)

William D. McCain Research Fellowship, Department of History, University of Southern Mississippi, 2011-2012. (1 awarded annually)

William and Madeline Welder Smith Research Travel Award, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, 2009-2010. (5 awarded nationally)

Short Term Doctoral Fellowship of the German Historical Institute, Washington D.C., 2010. (8 awarded internationally)

Louisiana History Research Fellowship, The Special Collections Division of the Louisiana State University Libraries, 2010. (10 awarded nationally)

## **Awards**

Professor of the Year, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2022

Professor of the Year, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2021

Humanities Teacher of the Year, 2019-2020, Mississippi College

Professor of the Year, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2019

The Pittman Young Faculty Award, August 2017, Mississippi College

Faculty Development Grant, October 2017, Mississippi College

Faculty Development Grant, November 2016, Mississippi College

Travel Stipend, Bavarian American Academy, for Invited Talk at Bavarian America Academy conference on Cultural Mobility, July 2016.

Faculty Development Grant, November 2015, Mississippi College

Travel Stipend, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), July 2014 for Invited Talk at John F. Kennedy Institute, Freie Universität Berlin (Fahrtkostenzuschuss im Rahmen des Programms "Rückgewinnung deutscher Wissenschaftler aus dem Ausland, Juli 2014, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)).

Faculty Development Grant, January 2013, Mississippi College.

Faculty Development Grant, October 2012, Mississippi College.

Yarbrough Scholar Award for Top Paper in Arts and Humanities, 2011 Graduate Student Research Symposium, University of Southern Mississippi.

History Department Best Paper Award, 2011 Graduate Student Research Symposium, University of Southern Mississippi.

Cleanth Brooks Dissertation Forum Travel Award, St. George Tucker Society, 2010. (3 awarded nationally)

Graduate Student Teaching Award, University of Southern Mississippi, 2010.

Phi Alpha Theta Graduate Student of the Year Award, University of Southern Mississippi, 2008.

Graduate Fellowship, University of Southern Mississippi, 2006-2011.

Exchange Scholarship for study in the United States, awarded by the University of Bonn, 2005 – 2006.

Travel Grant to support presentations at 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture. Awarded by the Department of History, University of Southern Mississippi, May 2010.

Travel Grant to support research at the Mississippi Department for Archives and History. Awarded by Department of History, University of Southern Mississippi, October 2008.

Travel Grant to support presentation at Great Lakes History Conference. Awarded by Department of History, University of Southern Mississippi, October 2007.

### **Encyclopedia Entries and Online Contributions**

*Slavery and Empire*, Entry in *Oxford Bibliographies* in “Atlantic History,” New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.

“Free People of Color in Colonial Natchez,” *Mississippi History Now* <http://mshistorynow.mdah.state.ms.us>. (2015).

Encyclopedia Article: “Colonial Chesapeake.” In *Encyclopedia of African American History*, edited by Leslie M. Alexander and Walter C. Rucker (ABC-Clio, 2010).

### **Book Reviews**

Review of Andrew N. Wegmans’s *An American Color: Race and Identity in New Orleans and the Atlantic World* (Athens, University of Georgia Press, 2022) in *Journal of Early American History*, forthcoming 2023.

Review of Kelly Houston Jones, *A Weary Land: Slavery on the Ground in Arkansas* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2021) in *Journal of the Civil War Era*, forthcoming 2023.

Review of Nik Ribianszky’s *Generations of Freedom: Gender, Movement, and Violence in Natchez, 1779-1865* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2021) in *H-Early America*, November 2021.

Review Article “The Many Faces of American Captivity and Its Legal Matrix” in *Tulsa Law Review*, vol. 55, Fall 2019.

Review of Karen Cox’s *Goat Castle: A True Story of Murder, Race, and the Gothic South* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2017) in *North Carolina Historical Review*, Volume 95, Summer 2018.

Comparative Book Review of Erin Greenwald’s *Marc-Antoine Caillot and the Company of the Indies in Louisiana: Trade in the French Atlantic World* and Ernesto Bassi’s *An Aqueous Territory: Sailor Geographies and New Granada’s Transimperial Greater Caribbean World* in *The Latin Americanist*, August 2018.

Review of Janelle Collins (ed.) *Defining the Delta: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on the Lower Mississippi River Delta* (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2015) in *Agricultural History*, Vol. 91, Winter 2016.

Review of Brian Ward, Martyn Bone, William A. Link (ed.) *The American South and the Atlantic World* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2013) in *Journal of Southern History*, Vol. 81, August 2015.

Review of James F. Barnett Jr.'s *Mississippi's American Indians* (Jackson: University of Mississippi, 2012) in *The Southern Quarterly*. Vol. 51, Summer 2014.

Review of Christopher L. Miller's *The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2008) on H-French.

Review of Christopher M. Span's *From Cotton Field to Schoolhouse: African American Education in Mississippi, 1862-1875* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009) in *The Journal of Mississippi History*. Forthcoming.

Review of H. Sophie Burton and Todd Smith's *Colonial Natchitoches: A Creole Community on the Louisiana-Texas Frontier* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2008) in the *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History* Vol. 11, Number 3, 2010.

Review of *Proslavery and Sectional Thought in the Early South, 1740-1829*. Edited by Jeffrey Robert Young (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2006) in *The Southern Historian* Vol. 29, Spring 2008.

Review of Gary B. Nash's *The Forgotten Fifth: African Americans in the Age of Revolution* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2006) in *The Southern Quarterly* Vol. 44, Spring 2007.

## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Lectures**

Invited Lecture "Colonial Mississippi," at the Two Museums, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, MS, August 2021

Invited Lecture "Race and Slavery in Colonial Natchez," at the Two Museums, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, MS, February 2021.

Invited Lecture "1619: Myths and Memories of Slavery in the United States," Humanities Teacher of the Year Lecture, February 2020, Mississippi College.

Invited Talk "Race and Slavery in Colonial Mississippi," South Mississippi Genealogical and Historical Society, Hattiesburg, MS, February 2020.

Invited Talk "Complexions of Empire(s)," at the Two Museums, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, MS, March 2019

Invited Talk at the Daughter of the American Revolution meeting, Ridgeland, Mississippi, "The American Revolution in the Gulf South," April 2018.

Invited Talk at the Clinton Lions Club, Clinton, Mississippi, "A Colonial History of Mississippi," April 2017.

Invited Talk at the Clinton Historical and Genealogical Society, Clinton, Mississippi, "An Inauspicious Beginning: Spanish Roots and Cotton Blossoms in Colonial Natchez," September 2014.

Invited Presentation at John F. Kennedy Institute, Freie Universität Berlin, "Fulcrum of Democracy: Slavery, Gender, and the Westward Movement in the Southern United States' Borderlands," Berlin, Germany, July 2014.

*Gulf States Early American History Workshop*, "Backcountry of Empire: Colonial Natchez, Liminal Legal Spaces, and African Slavery," Lafayette, University of Louisiana Lafayette, February 2014.

Invited Presentation at Historic Natchez Conference, *From Civil War to Civil Rights*, "Slaves, Dons, and American Planters: Issues of Slavery and Empire in Colonial Natchez, 1779-1808," Natchez, Mississippi, April 2013.

McCain Fellowship Lecture, "Peril on Slavery's Frontier: Empire and Bondage in Colonial Natchez," University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, April 2012.

Invited Talk at the Mississippi Department for Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi, "Creating a Cotton Kingdom: The Spanish Origins of Antebellum Natchez, 1779-1798," August 2011.

Invited Talk at the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians, Natchez, Mississippi, "Testing Empire: Spanish Natchez and the Atlantic World, 1779-1798," May 2011.

Invited Dissertation Presentation at the German Historical Institute's Doctoral Seminar for Short Term Ph.D. Fellowship recipients, Washington, D.C., June 2010.

### **Conference Papers**

"Colonizing Race: How Laws of Bondage Shaped Race in America's Colonial Borderlands" *Contact, Conquest, Colonization: Practices of Comparing between Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, From Antiquity to the Present*, Bielefeld, Germany, October 2018.

"Manumission in the Borderlands: Legal Change and the Pursuit of Liberty" *American Society for Legal History*, Las Vegas, October 2017.

"Slavery, Race, and Freedom on the Spanish Anglo Borderlands," *Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies*, Chapel Hill, March 2017.

"Cultural Transfer of Racial and Legal Traditions: Natchez Mississippi During the Age of Revolution," *Cultural Mobility and Knowledge Formation in the Americas*, Munich, Germany, June 2016.

"Transformations of Slave Societies: The lower Mississippi Valley, Slavery, and liminal Stages of Empire," *Southern Historical Association Meeting*, Little Rock, Arkansas, November 2015.

"Defining Race in the Colonial Gulf South: Spanish Law, Anglo Settlers, and Atlantic Africans in Natchez, 1760-1798," *Gulf South History and Humanities Conference*, Natchez, Mississippi, October 2015.

“Slaves, Dons, and American Planters: Issues of Slavery and Empire in Colonial Natchez, 1779-1808,” *Historic Natchez Conference*, Natchez, April 2013.

“Law and Freedom: The Crucible of Legal Change on the American Slave Frontier,” *2013 American Historical Association Meeting*, New Orleans, January 2013.

“Overwhelming Odds: Race, Slavery, and Freedom in an Anglo-Hispanic Colony, Natchez, 1788-1805,” Kimberly Hanger Memorial Panel. *Southern Historical Association Meeting*, Mobile, November 2012.

“Slavery, Freedom, and Gender in Colonial Spanish Natchez, 1781-1799,” *Slavery, Colonialism and African Identities in the Atlantic World*, Kent, Ohio, April 2012.

“Race, Slavery and Liberty: Transitions of Power in Colonial Natchez, 1779-1820.” *2012 Louisiana Historical Association Meeting*, New Orleans, March 2012.

“Africans in Colonial Mississippi: Mastering the Atlantic World in Spanish Natchez.” *2012 American Historical Association Meeting*, Chicago, January 2012.

“Amy versus Slavery and Empire: A Quest for Liberty in Spanish Natchez, 1790-1799,” *2011 Gulf South History and Humanities Conference*, University of West Florida, Pensacola, Florida, October 2011.

“Slavery in Colonial Mississippi: Mastering the Atlantic the Atlantic World in Spanish Natchez, 1781-1798.” *2011 Graduate Student Research Symposium*, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, March 2011.

“Slavery and Empire: The Development of Slavery in the Natchez District, 1720-1820.” Cleanth Brooks Dissertation Forum, *18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the St. George Tucker Society*, Augusta, Georgia, July 2010.

Panel Organizer, “Violence in the Backcountry: Race, Ethnicity, and Labor in the Colonial Southeast.” *16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture*, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, June 2010.

“A Southern Middle Ground: Slaves, Indians, and Empire in the Natchez District, 1717-1732.” *16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture*, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, June 2010.

“A French Pursuit of Happiness – The Creation of a Slave Frontier in the lower Mississippi Valley.” *Chartering New Courses in the History of Slavery and Emancipation*, Center for the Study of the Gulf Coast, The University of Southern Mississippi – Gulf Coast, Long Beach, Mississippi, March 2010.

“Settling a Slave Frontier: Empires, Westward Expansion, and Slavery in the Natchez District, 1720-1820.” *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Graduate Association for African-American History*, The University of Memphis, “From Slavery to Freedom: The African American Experience,” Memphis, Tennessee, September 2009.

“Unlikely Rebels: Revolutionary Citizens in Natchez.” *2009 Graduate Student Research Symposium* at The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, March 2009.

“George Washington: Elite Planters and the Problem of Revolutionary Rhetoric 1763-1803.” *Great Lakes History Conference* at Grand Valley State University, “The History of Racism, Slavery and its Aftermath: Recognizing the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade,” Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 2007.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Associate Professor, Mississippi College**

*United States History to 1877*

*United States History from 1877*

*African American History Survey*

*African American Studies Survey*

*Colonial American History*

*History of Colonial South*

*History of the American Revolution*

*History of Latin America*

*Mississippi History*

*History of the Old South*

*Graduate Seminar on Mississippi History*

*Graduate Seminar on the Colonial South*

*Graduate Seminar on Atlantic Slavery*

*Graduate Seminar on Slavery and the LaW*

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Board Member, Mississippi Historical Society, 2018 to 2021.

Panel Organizer, “The Long Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi,” *Mississippi Historical Society Meeting*, Jackson, MS, 2018

Panel Chair, “Segregation and Resistance in the Deep South,” *St. George Tucker Society*, Jackson, Mississippi, 2017.



Panel Chair, “Family, Gender, and Politics in Nineteenth-Century Spanish America,” *Southern Historical Association Meeting*, St. Pete Beach, Florida, 2016.

Panel Chair and Commentator, “Identity and Power” *Empire, Power, Identity, and Conflict (EPIC) Conference on History and Power in the Public Sphere*, Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi, 2016.

Member of Honors Council 2016-

Member of Faculty Council (Senate) 2015-2021

Member of Insurance Committee 2015-

Member of Academic Research Committee 2015-

Phi Alpha Theta Faculty Advisor 2013-

History Club Faculty Advisor 2013-

Member of Deans Advisory Council 2013-

Member of Graduate Council 2013-2016

Member of Instructional Oversight Committee, Department of History and Political Science 2013-2015

Committee Member, Online Learning & Development Advisory Committee, Mississippi College 2013-2017

Co-Chair, Brooks Dissertation Forum, St. George Tucker Society, 2014-2015

Co-Organizer, Phi Alpha Theta Conference, Mississippi College, March 1-2, 2013.

Panel Chair, “Industrialization in the Nineteenth-Century South,” *Southern Industrial Project Meeting*, The University of Southern Mississippi – Gulf Coast, Long Beach, Mississippi, June 3-4, 2011.

Organizing Committee, Conference of the Center for the Study of the Gulf South: “*Charting New Courses in the History of Slavery and Emancipation*,” March 4-6, 2010.

Founding President of The History Graduate Society at the University of Southern Mississippi, 2008.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association

Southern Historical Association

Conference of Latin American History

Omhundro Institute of Early American History

Mississippi Historical Society

Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

English – Fluent  
German – Native Speaker  
Latin – Reading  
Spanish – Reading

## **REFERENCES** (contact information available upon request):

Patrick Connelly, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Chair, Mississippi College

Sarah Franklin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, University of North  
Alabama

Max Grivno, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, University of  
Southern Mississippi

Louis Kyriakoudes, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History and Director of the  
Center for Oral History, University of Southern Mississippi

Larry Logue, Ph.D., Professor of History, Senior Research Fellow, Syracuse  
University

Jonathan Randle, Ph.D., Professor of English and Dean, Mississippi College

Mark M. Smith, Ph.D., Carolina Distinguished Professor, University of South  
Carolina

Kyle F. Zelner, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History and Department Chair,  
University of Southern Mississippi