

HISTORY

NEWSLETTER

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UNC Charlotte History and Latin American Studies students meet with Department Chair Jurgen Buchenau



UNC CHARLOTTE

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Department of History

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Dr. Jürgen Buchenau, Department Chair

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Greetings from the UNC Charlotte Department of History! After a year spent in Hickory Hall, close to the Botanical Gardens, we have relocated to our old home: the Garinger building in the Academic Complex. I deeply appreciate the help of Ms. Linda Smith and Ms. Gloria Davenport—our two staff members who make our work possible each and every day—working extra hard to allow us to complete both of these moves.

Last year was like no other due to the horrific events of April 30, 2019, when a random act of violence claimed the lives of two UNC Charlotte students and injured four others. Within a few seconds, the place that we call our intellectual and professional home—a community devoted to teaching, research, and learning—made national headlines for senseless gun violence. In the aftermath of this tragedy, faculty and administrators struggled to bring the semester to a close, working with grief-stricken students while also facing the trauma of the shooting. Faculty and students returned this fall to a campus still reeling from this tragedy. Yet we carry on: while nothing can undo the events of April 30, they have brought us closer together and have also highlighted the importance of higher education in attempting to make this world a better place. We appreciate each one of our students who returned to continue their education and promise that we are here for them, as well as the hundreds of new students who enrolled in our programs and classes this semester.

Our year in Hickory was busy. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will learn about the overhaul of our undergraduate methods courses and learning outcomes assessment procedures.

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I am particularly excited and honored that the department and College secured a generous gift of \$500,000 from the Dowd Foundation, Inc., to support a new minor in Capitalism Studies to be housed in our department. An outgrowth of our Dowd program in the History of Capitalism, the new minor will expand into other departments our interrogation of capitalism into other departments, as well as into the Belk College of Business. Our own Dr. Mark Wilson will be the founding director of the new minor. We deeply acknowledge the generosity of the Dowd Foundation.

In August 2018, we welcomed Dr. Dan Du as an assistant professor specializing in the history of China, as well as U.S.-Chinese trade relations. Last December, we bid farewell to Dr. Cheryl Hicks, who accepted a position at the University of Delaware after 12.5 years at UNC Charlotte. We will miss her presence in our department, as well as her courses on African-American women's history and the Progressive Era. In the spring, we recruited Dr. Kristina Shull as a new assistant professor. Featured elsewhere in the Newsletter, Dr. Shull is currently finishing a post-doctoral appointment at Harvard University and will join our faculty in Fall 2020. A specialist in race, foreign relations, immigration, and prison privatization, she will teach courses on recent United States history, once she arrives in Charlotte.

We have one tenure and promotion decision to report. Dr. Christine Haynes, an expert in nineteenth-century French history and the Age of Revolutions more generally, earned promotion to full professor. Congratulations to Dr. Haynes for this significant professional accomplishment, which reflects an international stature in her field, as well as leadership in teaching and service.

We also continued our community outreach with salons in Charlotte and Kings Mountain: the latter allowed us to award our graduate Kings Mountain scholarship for a second straight year. History faculty led successful short-term study abroad seminars in Tokyo (Dr. Maren Ehlers), Jerusalem (Dr. Robert McEachnie), the United Kingdom (Dr. Peter Thorsheim) and Eastern Europe (Dr. Aaron Shapiro) – the latter supported generously by the Blumenthal Foundation and other private donations.

I am honored to be part of a highly productive History faculty known widely for its high-quality scholarship, teaching, service, and public outreach. In 2018, our faculty published five books, nine refereed journal articles, and ten book chapters and received more than \$80,000 in external funding. Five of our colleagues edit book series. Another two edit scholarly journals in our department, the *Journal of Urban History* and the *Journal of First World War Studies*. Yet another journal housed in our department, *The Latin Americanist*, upgraded its presence in its interdisciplinary field by means of a publication agreement with the University of North Carolina Press.



In Fall 2018, Dr. Heather Perry was a finalist for the Bank of America Award for Teaching Excellence, and this fall, Dr. Oscar Lansen was a finalist for the inaugural UNC Charlotte Award for Teaching Excellence, which recognizes the pedagogical accomplishments of faculty members not on the tenure track.

This newsletter contains a new feature in the form of short stories about some of our part-time faculty in our department. Part-time faculty teach a high percentage of our student credit hours, particularly in lower-level and Liberal Studies courses, and it would be impossible to fulfill our instructional obligation to our students without them. Paid far less than they are worth and lacking the benefits and job security of our permanent faculty, this highly qualified group of historians and professionals plays a very significant role in our teaching mission. We are featuring half of our part-time faculty members in this issue, and we plan to introduce the rest in the 2020 edition of the newsletter.

Finally, I appreciate the help of three student assistants: Tabitha Wood, Ana Vásconez, and especially Nashaly Ruiz-González, who is responsible for the design and formatting of this newsletter. Over the past three years, Nashaly—who recently graduated with a dual M.A. in Spanish and Latin American Studies—has taken our publication to a new level. We will miss her greatly and wish her good luck in her future endeavors.

Best wishes,

Jürgen Buchenau
Professor and Chair

Dr. Carlos Coria-Sánchez: Director of Latin American Studies

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It has been a pleasure to serve as the LTAM program director since 2012. For the last years, the undergraduate program has maintained an average of 25-27 majors per semester. As in previous years, the LTAM B.A. program was represented at events such as Explore UNC Charlotte, WCIDWAMI Day, and the Admitted Student Day to recruit students. As part of the program for recruiting, there were class visitations and blast emails to students in other majors about double majoring in two different disciplines such as Spanish/History/Political Sciences/Anthropology/Art History and LTAM. Both the B.A. and M.A. programs show healthy numbers, although more recruiting is necessary in the B.A. program due to an increase in the number of graduates in the last semesters. Our goal is to reach no fewer than 32 students in the major in the next year. Also, program leaders held several meetings with some of our best students to talk to them

about the M.A. early entry program. LTAM continued to work on making the program more attractive to students in the B.A. program through personal meetings with them to learn about their current experiences with both classes and professors. I spent many hours talking to students in other majors about the advantages of having a double major with a B.A. in LTAM; some of them decided to enroll in the program. I had a meeting with one of our best former students in the program, Juan Zavala, who is willing to come to our classes to talk to current students about his experience as a LTAM major.

The LTAM program ensures there are course offerings every semester in both the B.A. and M.A. programs in accord with other departments. Program leaders accomplish this by working with the chairs of affiliated programs to keep LTAM as interdisciplinary as always. The LTAM website continues to go through important changes through the year. The website looks very inviting for those who would like to get more information about our B.A. and M.A. programs. We still have a translation in Spanish for those parents for which English is not their first or second language.

Graduate student Nashaly Ruiz-González was the first student to receive a dual-degree M.A. in Spanish and Latin American Studies in August 2019. She and Sofia Paiva de Araujo will hold M.A. Fellowships in the Languages and Culture Studies in this academic year. Sofia also presented at the SECOLAS conference in Mexico: “Brazilian Transitional Justice on the Big Screen: Cinematic Depictions of 1979’s Amnesty Law and Party Reform Law.” She also presented at the NC/CLAS 2019: “Anti Communism, Paramilitarism and Memory in El bulto (1991).” She participated in the round table discussion “Understanding Bolsonaro’s Brazil” at the William Brown Conference on campus and presented at LASA 2019 “Memorial Cinema in Brazil: Filmic Representations of the 1979’s Amnesty Law and the Party Reform Law.” At the Marian Beane Crossing Borders Writing Competition, Sofia received Honorable Mention in the graduate category with the essay “How international experiences have transformed me.” Janine Rodriguez Ranges de Assis, a recent MA LTAM graduate (2017) was accepted in the PhD program in Public Policy at UNC Charlotte with a full scholarship to start in August 2019. LTAM welcomed a new Affiliate Faculty Members: Dr. Olga-Padillo-Falto from LACS.

The LTAM program continues to encourage students to participate in study abroad programs and to hold internships with local organizations that help the Latin American community as part of the major’s requirement. Our students have traveled to countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica. LTAM keeps in constant communication with several non-profit organizations in the area: churches, medical clinics, The Latin American Coalition, etc., to ensure internships for our students.

On April 5 and 6, 2019 LTAM held the Annual William Brown Jr. Conference in Latin American Studies. This event is of immense value for the LTAM program, UNC Charlotte and the region. The title of the conference was “Latin American Environments: Approaches from the Sciences and the Humanities.” The conference was a success thanks to the leadership of Dr. Oscar De la Torre and Dr. David Dalton.

Dr. Aaron Shapiro: Director of Public History

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As the public history program completed another successful academic year, the events of April 30 struck at the heart of the university. In appointing the Niner Nation Remembrance Commission, Chancellor Dubois tasked it to “lead the difficult conversations that will address how best to memorialize the victims and remember the tragedy that occurred on April 30.” Chaired by former Levine Museum president and executive direct Emily Zimmern and joined by university archivist Katie Powell and architectural history professor Emily Makas, the Commission will confront a fundamental question that public historians regularly address—how (and why) societies choose to memorialize and remember.

Last year in this space, I highlighted the Preserving Memory in the Digital Age: Charlotte Eastern-Europe Cemetery Experience Project, which continues for another year as a partnership between Queens and UNC Charlotte. This year it takes on special resonance not only because of the events on campus but also

because of the need to confront surging white nationalism and anti-Semitism in the United States and across the globe. On the Saturday before our group’s arrival in Poland, marchers took to the streets of Warsaw wearing shirts emblazoned with “I will not apologize for Jedwabne.” In class, students already read Jan Gross’ *Neighbors*, which explores the 1941 Jedwabne massacre carried out by local Polish residents against the town’s Jews. Throughout the semester and during our time in Poland, students explored questions about how and why societies choose to remember, as well as conscious efforts made to forget or minimize the memories of difficult and tragic events. Last year, the project helped connect U.S. and Polish students in preserving the memory of the Jewish community in a small Polish town working on a local cemetery preservation and education project. This work continued with a new group of students this year, expanding the project’s impact and depth. As our local partner previously commented, “This project is not only about Jews who used to live in Brzesko, it’s also about educating young people in the most important values and giving back to the city the part of its history which was almost forgotten.” The project immerses students in public history, providing them a unique opportunity to consider how historians partner with the public and engage questions of memory. This effort expands on our undergraduate public history offerings, helping undergraduate majors and minors explore opportunities and conduct research in public history in a global context.

One major program accomplishment this year was the U.S. Forest Service “Reunion at the Cradle” oral history project involving ten graduate students, including recent alum David Hunt who is now serving in Afghanistan, conducting and preparing oral histories. Completed under an agreement with the agency, the project provided workshops, training, and funding resources to support student oral history efforts. We spent three days in Asheville, completing nearly 50 interviews with Forest Service retirees, transcribing the interviews, and developing thematic podcasts based on the interviews. Several of the students who participated in the project took Professor Karen Flint’s Oral History graduate seminar in the spring, conducting a range of oral history interviews exploring Charlotte’s food and agricultural history.



Course projects and partnerships continue to connect students, faculty and the community, providing opportunities for students to implement projects, drawing on their academic studies. This year, students in History in the Digital Age completed a range of digital projects, including two connected to recently completed M.A. theses by Savannah Brown and Sarah Wilds that use digital tools to bring their research to a wider audience and provide guides for current and future students. Their theses were “Unheard History: A Student Friendly Guide to Conducting Oral Histories” and “What We Knew: The North Carolina Eugenics Program Through Newspapers”. Laura Burgess’s Beyond the Scope: A Cultural History of the Microscope expands on her ongoing cataloguing and exhibition work for Graduate School Dean Thomas Reynolds. Rachael Gaskin’s Dr. Madge Baker Digital Archive explores the history of one of the first female medical students in South Carolina. These projects linked below are just a sampling of the many student-initiated digital projects that emerged from the class.

- <https://unheardhistory933259028.wordpress.com/>
- <https://svwilds.wixsite.com/hblnc>
- <https://lburge10.wixsite.com/beyondthescope/women-literature>
- <https://rgaskin2.wixsite.com/mysite>

Internships continue to remain a major part of our graduate program. This year, students are interning with the Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton, VA; the State Archives of North Carolina in Raleigh; Historic Charlotte/Charlotte Museum of History on a local historic preservation project; as an oral history intern at the Mint Museum of Art; and at the Carolina Room at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library. Finally, congratulations to recent graduates Savannah Brown, Sarah Wilds, Tom Grover, Nick Kane, Melissa Barnett and Rachel McManimen, who all completed their M.A. theses and public history projects this academic year. Melissa has secured a position with the National Park Service at the Booker T. Washington National Monument, and Rachel has started working at the Carolinas Aviation Museum. From a local to a global setting, and from undergraduate studies to our M.A. concentration in public history, UNC Charlotte students continue to address questions about memorialization and public engagement with the past.

Aaron Shapiro, Associate Professor and Director of Public History

The screenshot shows a website with a header image of a microscope and a bird. The main title is "BEYOND THE SCOPE" with the subtitle "A CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE MICROSCOPE". The navigation menu includes "Home", "Timeline", "Early History", "Women & Literature", and "More". The main content area is titled "The Female Scientist" and contains a paragraph about the historical challenges women faced in science. A sidebar on the right lists "Scientific Discovery", "Industry & Manufacturing", "Online Catalogue", and "Podcast".

Pictured above is a screenshot of one of the projects mentioned in the story.

Dr. Oscar Lansen, Director of Undergraduate Studies

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With about 400 majors and 100 minors, our undergraduate program continues to thrive. This fall, we will welcome over 30 new freshmen to our history learning community. Together, they will co-research and co-teach a seminar on the Holocaust while getting acquainted to the rigors of university studies. This yearlong program is now an integral part of our major, and has had a measurable effect on our majors' academic performance and graduation rates. One of its alums, Kellie Giordano, is the recipient of the Department's 2019-2020 Sanford V. Davenport Scholarship. Kelly spent her spring break study abroad experience at the British National Archives and Wellcome Collection Library in London in preparation for her dual history honors/early entry M.A. studies this fall on the history of oral surgery. Next year, the department will investigate ways to offer an equivalent bridge program to transfer students. Many other undergraduates have distinguished themselves as well this past year. Susanna Olson was the recipient of the Department's Patterson Prize for the best undergraduate paper with "Carolinians in the Margins: Two Case Studies of Racial Conflict in North Carolina History Textbooks, 1950-2016." She also won the Atkins's Library Research Award at UNC Charlotte's Undergraduate Research Conference. Anne Wade was our second recipient (out of five total awards) of this prestigious prize. Jansen Cole, won the Dowd Prize for best undergraduate paper in the field of capitalism or business history for his "New Changes for North Carolina Migrant Workers: A History of H2A Workers and the Importance of the Mt. Olive Pickle Company Boycott." Susanny Acosta and Kalei Woodford were the recipients of the Dowd Summer Research Grants. Acosta spent the summer researching the history of illicit massage businesses in North Carolina in the 21st century. Woodford explored the rise of sleeping pills in the USA from the 1950s to the 1970s. Both represented our department at the undergraduate research symposium. This fall, 14 undergraduates will start our yearlong honors program under the leadership of our new Honors Director Dr. Amanda Pipkin. Congratulations to everybody!



This year, the Department also underwent several changes of note (besides our temporary relocation due to renovations to Garinger). The most formidable was a major revision of the undergraduate program to further optimize the ways the Department progressively trains its undergraduates in the prized analytical and expressive skill sets native to historical studies. The first step was to reformulate our core expectations per course level, introducing primary source analysis and essay writing earlier in the program; while coordinating the introduction, training and proofing of core skills over all course levels. The second step was to revise the Department's foundational skill seminar History 2600 by articulating a new curriculum that allows for more time to progressively develop core research and writing skills. The third step was to introduce an oral communication training component to our 4000 level historiography courses to better spread the verbal skill training between the freshman and senior seminars. The final step was to design a new assessment model that measures the efficacy of the student learning outcomes of this new integrative curriculum in the two senior seminar courses, History 4000-4 and 4600.

The revision will go into effect in the Fall 2019 semester. I am grateful to everybody who assisted in this formidable task and look forward to reporting to you about its effects in the next newsletter.

This fall semester, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences will welcome its first minors in Capitalism Studies. Initially conceived in 2014 as a collaboration between the History Department and the Dowd Foundation to educate our undergraduates on various aspects of capitalism and for them to gain skills and experience in the business environment, the Dowd Initiative has blossomed over the years into a full-fledged business history program under the leadership of Dr. Mark Wilson. Having grown beyond the confines of history, the program has now been shaped in to an interdisciplinary studies minor housed in our Department. Dr. Wilson will direct the new minor.

Finally, there is truth to the old adage that one is never too young or too old to learn. Where our department already takes an active role in teaching the next generation of college students – providing course seats for Early College High School students on campus, as well as guest lecturing in the community – we also welcome the elder generation to our classrooms for mutual learning. The latter often takes the form of eyewitnesses of history: a Vietnam Vet and a Vietnamese refugee on their shared and divergent experience of war; the Cuban Missile Crisis from the perspective of those who were college freshmen in 1962; childhood under the Nazi regime, etc. However, this year, the Department has invited senior citizens to audit select courses as students, with our students. This past spring, Robert Gefaell, a semi-retired entrepreneur, joined our history majors to study the rise of Nazism in Germany. It is a mutually rewarding experience to see different generations learn from each other and enrich the course environment. This coming year, we look forward to continuing this initiative.

The History Learning Community: Mine the Past, Explore the Future

The History Learning Community is one of the oldest freshmen programs on campus. As the freshman cohort learns, explores, lives, and studies together under dedicated year-long mentorship, HLC members report higher satisfaction in their course and learning experience, outscore their peers on GPA and time to completion data, are more likely to pursue honors and less likely to drop out of college; and form tight friendships that carry through the remaining college years and beyond. The History Learning Community program is funded by the Office of Academic Affairs.

The HLC program is directed by Oscar Lansén, a social historian of war and conflict and member of the honors faculty, who holds the distinction of Teaching Professor.



Dr. Peter Thorsheim: Director of Graduate Studies

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Looking back over the past year, I'm tremendously proud of all that our students and recent graduates have accomplished, including challenging courses taken here and around the world, assistantships, research projects, exhibits, public presentations, internships, admission to Ph.D. programs, and entry into professional positions. Our students once again did a superb job organizing and running the 31st annual Graduate History Forum, which provided many with their first experience of an academic conference and an opportunity to exchange ideas and discoveries with students and faculty from this and other institutions. The theme of this year's forum was "Changing the Narrative: Recognizing Marginalized Voices in History." The Friday evening keynote address, which wove together the history of the senses, environmental disaster, and diplomacy, was delivered by Dr. Mark Smith, Carolina Distinguished Professor of History and Director of Research for the Institute for Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina. On Saturday, Dr. Ritika Prasad, Associate Professor in our department, delivered a fascinating lecture about railway bookstalls and political culture in India.



I offer hearty congratulations and best wishes to the 16 students who graduated with an M.A. in History during 2018-19! They include Melissa Barnett, Nancy Battista, Savannah Brown, Mitchell Croot, Anna Culbreth, Collins Few, Yasmin Forbes, Tom Grover, Alex Jutila, Nick Kane, Elizabeth King, William Kunz, Kristina Lance, Rachel McManimen, Maddy Rhinehart, and Sarah Wilds. Here are some of the other things that our students and recent graduates accomplished over the past year and what they are doing next: Savannah Brown interned with the Levine Museum of the New South, and she was a recipient of the Mary Tilly Bessemer Scholarship (an external scholarship). Laura Burgess researched and curated an exhibit in Atkins Library titled "Beyond the Scope: The Microscope in History." After defending his graduate thesis this summer, Chris Ellingwood will enter the Ph.D. program in History at the University of Cincinnati in the fall. Collins Few spent the past year as the 7th and 8th grade history teacher at Gaston Day School in Gastonia, N.C., where he is also a soccer coach and head of the Middle School Student Government. He plans to continue in both positions in the year ahead. Rachael Gaskin presented at the Digital Humanities Forum in Atkins Library in Spring 2019, and she volunteered at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, where she created a digital exhibit and assisted the archivist in processing collections in the Robinson Spangler Carolina Room. In summer 2019, she interned at the Mint Museum on an oral history project. During the 2019-20 academic year, she will continue to serve as a graduate assistant for the Levine Scholars Program on campus. Nick Kane was recently hired for a seasonal position as a historical interpreter at Fort Ticonderoga in New York State. Rachel McManimen recently accepted a position in the Collections Department of the Carolinas Aviation Museum. In January 2019 the North Carolina Historical Review published her book review of David Doddington's *Contesting Slave Masculinity in the American South*.

Christine Morgan (Plough) gave a presentation about Mary Boleyn at the 4th Tudor Summit, which reached thousands of viewers online and on social media. Maddy Rhinehart interned with International House in its Citizen Diplomacy Program and with the Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency. Before pursuing further education, she will spend a year in Sacramento as a team leader for AmeriCorps. Kei Roberson is a recipient of the 2019 Pharr-Buchenau Award, which allowed her to conduct thesis research in Germany on LGBT resistance against Nazi persecution. She has been elected Graduate History Association president for 2019-20. Wesley Thompson, who is beginning his graduate study in August, worked at the North Carolina Collection Gallery while an undergraduate at UNC-Chapel Hill, and he also worked at the Museum of the Waxhaws and the Andrew Jackson Memorial. Tommy Warlick was awarded the 2019 Kings Mountain Scholarship for research on the North Carolina Black Code of 1866. Tabitha Wood is a recipient of the 2019 Pharr-Buchenau Award, which she used to conduct thesis research on women's involvement in paramilitary activity during the Troubles in Northern Ireland. During the 2019-20 academic year, she will serve as vice president of the Graduate History Association.

Five students enrolled in the History M.A. program in January 2019, and 13 others will begin their work toward a master's degree in History this August. Several of these students are participating in the Early Entry path to graduate study, which allows them to begin taking graduate courses after earning 90 undergraduate credit hours. Up to four master's-level courses can now be double counted, allowing Early Entry students to earn simultaneous undergraduate and graduate credit, saving both time and money.

Faculty Spotlight: Part-Time Faculty

Dan Cozart

Dan Cozart's research focuses on the history of Afro-Peruvians after the abolition of slavery in 1855. Dan completed his B.A. in Spanish at the University of Richmond in 2005, his M.A. in Latin American Studies at UNC Charlotte in 2011 and his Ph.D. in History (Latin America) at the University of New Mexico in July, 2017. The dissertation, titled "Afro-Peruvian Creoles: A Social and Political History of Afro-Descended Peruvians," examines Afro-Peruvian historical agency, demographic erasure and the politics of censuses, contested definitions of race and citizenship, self-representation in politics, culture, and the arts, as well as labor history. Cozart has published academic articles on inter-American relations in the twentieth century and collective memory of Peru's Dirty War (1980-2000). He enjoys teaching modern and colonial Latin American History with a focus on race, ethnicity, and gender, U.S.-Latin American relations, and Latin American history through film. He recently published a chapter from the dissertation in the journal *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies (LACES)*. The article is titled "Peruanidad and blackness in national and local perspectives: Popular Literature and Racial Science." He enjoys connecting his research to the material he teaches and is currently revising his dissertation and working on a book proposal. As a PhD student, he won a Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) grant to study Brazilian Portuguese, which has helped him understand Brazilian history and current events.



Jeremy Canipe

I am a first-generation college graduate, having earned a B.A. in History at UNC-Chapel Hill. Thereafter, I earned my M.A. in American History at Wake Forest University and a J.D. at the School of Law of the University of South Carolina.

At UNC Charlotte, I enjoy teaching History 1160, the History of the United States until 1865. I also draw on my legal training when teaching courses regarding American legal history. In the upper level legal history course, students are required to develop an original research paper. Topics from the Fall 2018 semester included North Carolina's 1835 state constitutional convention, North Carolina's regulation of alcohol before Prohibition, and recent developments in death penalty jurisprudence at the United States Supreme Court.

At present, I am researching two topics. First, I am studying the court-ordered apprenticeship of indigent and orphaned children in New Hanover County, North Carolina prior to the Civil War. My second project focuses on the manumission of enslaved African Americans through the Court of Common Pleas in New Hanover County before this role was shifted to the state's Superior Courts in 1830.

Sharon Simmons

I have been working at UNC Charlotte as an adjunct since spring semester 2000, so this semester marks 19 years. I am a Charlotte native who received my undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNC Charlotte, so I have spent a lot of time on this campus witnessing its amazing growth! Before the liberal studies requirement, I taught a class on 20th century world history, and I continue to offer that study through my LBST 2102 course. I have taught various American history courses and LBST 2101. My particular interests are Revolutionary America, Turn of the Century America, and presidential politics since 1945. In my personal time I enjoy landscape and vegetable gardening, cooking, and spending time with my family. I travel every opportunity I get, and I love visiting historic sites!

Richard Austin Lockton

I am a cultural historian of the 18th century British Atlantic Empire, and of the early modern European and Atlantic World more generally. I received my undergraduate degree (in philosophy and anthropology) from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, the experience of which gave me a deep love for Scottish culture and history. This passion became the focus of my research in graduate school at Indiana University Bloomington, where I received my masters and my doctorate in history. My doctoral dissertation explored the relationship of Scottish Highlanders to 18th century British imperialism and warfare, how Britons perceived and shaped this relationship through the press of the period, and how these dynamics influenced the development of British and Scottish national identity. My general historical and teaching interests are in the relationship between warfare and culture in early modern Europe, and the importance of European imperialism to the early stages of globalization. I am also interested in and teach about the so-called “witch craze” of 16th and 17th century Europe, and the cultural history of the scientific revolution. I am currently working on publications based on my doctoral research, and am also developing an undergraduate course on consumption in the British Empire. My passion for history is almost equally matched by my love for an eclectic range of music genres, from jazz and hip hop to heavy metal and electronica.

Bethany Johnson

Bethany L. Johnson (MPhil, University of Glasgow; M.A., The New School) is an instructor in history at the UNC Charlotte. She studies how science, medicine, and health discourses are framed and reproduced by institutions and individuals from the 19th century to the present. She has been published in interdisciplinary journals such as *Health Communication*, *Women & Language*, *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research* and *Women's Reproductive Health*. Her book *You're Doing it Wrong! Mothering, Media and Medical Expertise* was released in April 2019, by Rutgers University Press.

Maria Labbato

I'm thrilled to be at UNC Charlotte again, teaching LBST 2101 History of Sexuality and HIST 2152/WGST 2050 European Women's History. I love that these courses allow me to combine history with current debates and issues pertaining to people's daily lives. My teaching interests include women, gender, and sexuality in an Atlantic scope. I have taught courses that take cultural and social approaches to US, European, and Latin American history. I have a B.A. in History from UCF in 2007 and M.A. in History from our very own UNC Charlotte, where I researched Spanish Civil War Exiles in Mexico City from a gendered perspective. My experience motivated me to pursue my Ph.D. in History, which I am currently ABD at FIU. I am researching women's experiences in Spain during the Spanish Civil War and in exile against the feminist conceptual tool, Rosi Braidotti's “Nomadic Subject.” I'm looking at both American and Spanish women to contribute to an expanded, Atlantic narrative that a women's history and a history of emotions affords. I'm often found at a coffee shop or brewery in South End, in my spare time I dog-sit and dog walk, occasionally I work at Diamonds Direct, and I'm a volunteer with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

David Lee McMullen

History is Dr. McMullen's second career. His first was in journalism and corporate communications, where he spent more than two decades, working in Florida, Chicago and Charlotte. He returned to academia in 2000, first to teach writing and then to earn a doctorate in history from the University of Aberdeen in Scotland.

For his doctoral research, he focused on the life of a Scottish immigrant to the United States – Ellen Dawson – who became a leading communist labor activist during the 1920's. Involved in several major strikes, she was co-director of the 1929 Loray Mill strike in Gastonia. His research was published as *Strike: The Radical Insurrections of Ellen Dawson*. (University Press of Florida, 2010).

He also earned a M.A. from Northwestern University and a B.A. from Florida State University, where he was editor of the daily student newspaper and studied with Michael Shaara, the Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Killer Angels*.

At UNC Charlotte, he teaches courses in British history and assassination. He also taught at the University of South Florida and Florida State. He is currently working on a collection of essays dealing with Twentieth Century Florida. A copy of his most recent essay can be found at:

http://www.journaloffloridastudies.org/files/vol0107/MCMULLEN_Star%20Banner.pdf

Leah Walton: My Time with SECOLAS: Finding an Organizational Home

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Greetings from the UNC Charlotte. My name is Leah Walton, and I recently graduated from the M.A. Program in Latin American Studies at UNC Charlotte. I am writing this short piece on the eve of beginning my first semester as part-time faculty at UNC Charlotte, and I am reflecting on my time in the Latin American Studies program. While I developed valuable friendships and had many wonderful experiences during my three years in the department, today I want to share my experience working as the Graduate Assistant for the Southeastern Conference of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) and Administrative Assistant, or, as I like to refer to myself, the Managing Editor of SECOLAS's journal, *The Latin Americanist*.

Assisting in the review process for *The Latin Americanist* was my main responsibility. Through participating in this process, vetting manuscripts, selecting and inviting potential reviewers, communicating with authors, the editors, and reviewers, copyediting, and preparing manuscripts for the typesetter, I gained numerous valuable skills that will benefit me as I continue with my academic career. First, I have learned what not to do as a submitting author, particularly to refrain from harassing the editorial staff of an academic journal and to meet revision dates. I learned what to expect when my future papers undergo review, how to suggest potential reviewers to shorten the review process, and that page or word-count limits are there for a reason. Second, the interdisciplinary scope of the journal gave me the opportunity to read a wide variety of interesting work that I would never have come across pursuing my own research interests, both strengthening my own self-identification as an academic and presenting the reality of the blurry lines between disciplines and the connections to be found between divergent topics and research methods. Third, my tenure coincided with the journal's transition to a new publisher and a new publishing platform. While negotiations with the publisher were above my pay grade, the transition of our manuscripts and learning the new platform were within my purview.

I gained the professional experience of learning a new system from scratch, developing a separate reviewer tracking system, and communicating with the company which owns the platform. While the bulk of my responsibility was with the journal, the most lasting memories of my time working for SECOLAS came from the two annual conferences I attended. As the Graduate Assistant, I did not spend much time planning for the conferences, but I managed the registration tables, offering me the opportunity to meet everyone in attendance, strike up conversations, and develop connections with scholars from across the Southeast and Latin America with interests at once similar and divergent to my own. Sporting my Mardi Gras hat for easy identification, I became the face of SECOLAS for a few days in March 2018 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville and a few days in March 2019 in Oaxaca, Mexico. Of course, one of the best things about SECOLAS is its annual conference, full of free events for attendees. In Nashville, we ended the conference with one of SECOLAS's famous networking events. Even better than the free drinks, however, were the conversations I had with such a diverse group of people with a multiplicity of life experiences, all with a passion for Latin America. Last year's conference in Oaxaca was an even better experience. Seated outside beneath the shade of flowering trees, I met hundreds of scholars while I struggled to untangle their nametag strings. We bonded over that impossible puzzle, mariachi music, ceviche, mole, mezcal, tequila, and, of course, panels. Joining the SECOLAS community, forged out of a passion for Latin America and maintained through its annual conferences, that has been one of the most valuable outcomes of my time working with SECOLAS and *The Latin Americanist*. For while UNC Charlotte has become a home to me while working on my M.A., SECOLAS has become my organizational home and will far outlast my tenure at UNC Charlotte, my doctoral studies, and, perhaps, my professional academic career.

John E. Holmes III: All Roads Lead to Rhetoric

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It was decided that I would be the best man for a wedding this year for a friend that I had known for quite some time, but no longer knew quite so well. What little opportunity I had to protest this decision, I abstained, and instead pretended to be honored by this decision. I would, of course, have to give a speech, which was fine because I have always relished opportunities to be visibly sweaty and nervous in front of a crowd of people. The part I wasn't too fond of was having to talk to those people individually over topics that I might not care for. When I arrived to the wedding, and began to mingle with the crowd, my fears were well-founded. A middle-aged man, wearing a haircut that indicated a rocky relationship with his barber, sat next to me and asked me a whole manner of questions. "Oh, you go to school? What do you study?"

"History," I told him.

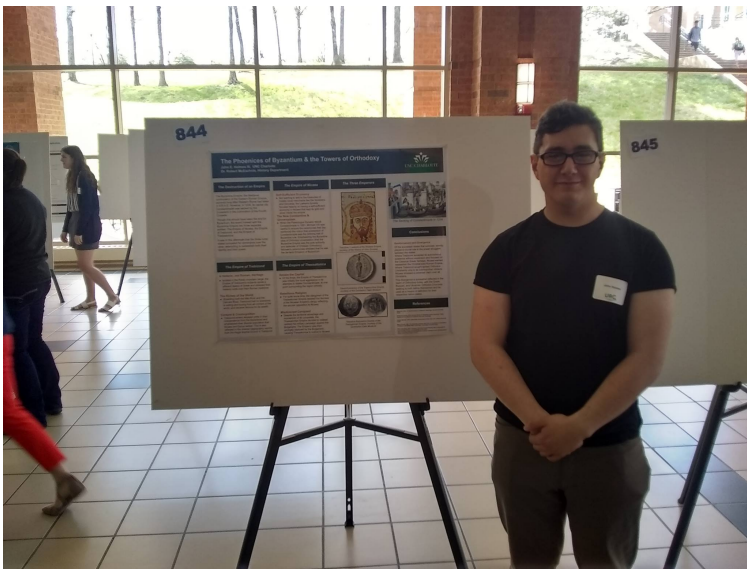
He politely nodded, and then pointed to his son, an awkward boy in his puberty years. "You know," he continued, "my son is into history." The father then immediately directed his son to berate me with a slew of questions, most of which I was happy to answer. I asked the son what his favorite historical period was, and the answer I received was that he was particularly fond of World War II. He regaled me with his favorite battles, vivid images of snow-capped fields being adorned with the blood of Europeans amidst Soviet monuments, fresh-faced Americans scaling cliffs while taking fire, and hordes of Japanese warriors rushing headlong into the fires of battle.

While this is history, it isn't the entirety of history. What this person didn't know was everything else that happened, every ounce of context and unscrupulous (sometimes unflattering) details that provided a snapshot of those time periods. While the stories of war are often exciting, daring, and impactful, these stories rarely betray the larger picture.



"Have you read 'The Good War' by Studs Terkel?" I asked him. He hadn't, and I promptly explained to him why he should, detailing every monumental and human detail that I could scavenge from my lone reading of it ten years ago. The school girls rushing past mortar shells in Leningrad to find food, the Marines patrolling irradiated Nagasaki only to be fraught with cancer themselves down the road, the Native American protesters arrested for their anti-war efforts, the African American soldiers that were shot and killed by their fellow Caucasian servicemen overseas, the government-sanctioned beatdowns of Latino men for the crime of wearing a Zoot Suit, the anguish of a closeted homosexual who cried every day on the front in the hopes that his lover survived, P.O.W.s executed for a joke, and the relief of small children when they were no longer being pressed into military service. Details that challenged his reality of what the war was like, what it was about. Anecdotes that revealed an underlying reality he was previously unaware of. He was, to a large extent, horrified, but also intrigued.





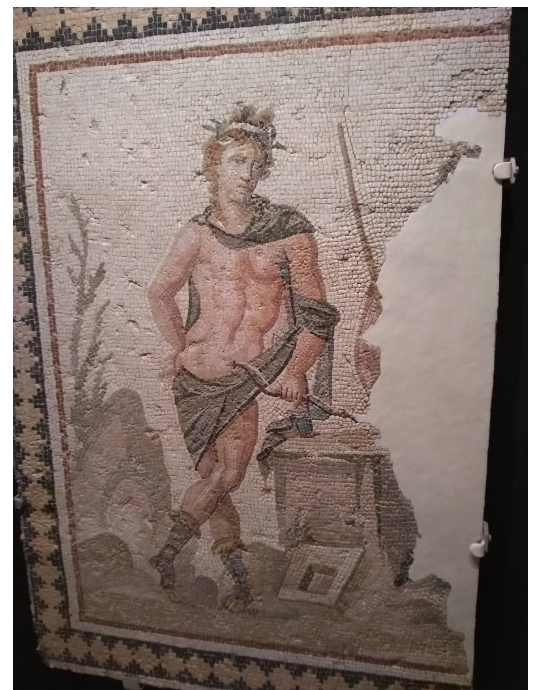
What I realized in that conversation though, was something vital. Too often, the people that say they love history in truth love an idealized, romantic version of it. Some grand battle that captures the essence of right and wrong, good versus evil, a moral lesson that is infallible and everlasting. But that isn't history, instead, that's a fable, better suited to be among the works of Tolkien and Beowulf. No, instead, history is something that urges you to challenge preconceived notions, demands that you fully realize the realities of the people that lived, accept it on its own terms without imparting your own beliefs onto it, and develop a much broader, human reality of what happened.

Because of this effort to illuminate everything, oftentimes historians are discredited for espousing "liberalized" or "unpatriotic" views. During the

groundbreaking ceremony for a Veteran's Memorial on campus, a woman in her fifties approached me after discovering that I worked for the Veteran Affairs department on-campus and accidentally confessed such feelings when proposing a potential civics class that "only talked about the good stuff the United States has done, not the bad." The issue with that, of course, is that historians are not in the habit of holding back punches, hiding bruises, or tidying up the house. You ask the hard questions, uncover unpleasant truths, and dispel perpetuated myths. You're not supposed to care if the memory of someone is honored, but rather that the reality of that person is fully realized and understood.

In addition, you're there to hear the voices of the oppressed generations of so many peoples: the Greek slaves under Roman thumbs, the massacred Native Americans who had signed treaties with the United States, the Mesoamerican tribes who fought for the Spanish only to find themselves tortured and brutalized, the homosexuals that hid themselves off from the world in fear of reprisal, and so forth. They, having not been able to speak for so long, now find you to give them a voice. You will always know of the dominant voices in those times, but history always encourages synthesizing all accounts together into that broader reality.

All of this I have learned and perfected from just two lone years as an undergraduate in UNC Charlotte. Dr. Higham, Dr. McEachnie, and Dr. Ferdinando alone have all patiently allowed me to barrage them with questions, pushed me to take harder courses, sat down with me to study long-dead languages, and granted me the opportunity to work on campus as an assistant to them. They, and the rest of the faculty, are invaluable resources and wonderful people that I will forever cherish and be thankful for having known. From that first day where I bicycled three miles to campus in a draining summer heat to my most recent motorcycle adventure across the United States, I've always been excited to learn more about the past. I'm fortunate that I've been able to learn about it here.



Jacob Taylor: Sleepless in Scotland (And London, Too)

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As with all trips, my study abroad seminar trip began innocuously enough. The flight from Charlotte to Edinburgh was unfortunately sleepless, but the skies were clear of most turbulence and the airline was able to accommodate my disability. Edinburgh was as beautiful as I could imagine a medieval city to be, with the grotesque nature of old stonework in the closes giving a whimsical but unsettling feeling. The only problem that I ran into in the early days was the difficulty I had in accessing my room at the Grassmarket Hotel. This was remedied, though at the expense of a further sleepless night.

Much of the wonder in Edinburgh is found in the numerous museums, such as the National Museum of Scotland, and in the sprawling and fascinating Edinburgh Castle. Upon leaving Scotland, we passed through the town of Jedburgh on our way to see Hadrian's wall. My disability impeded my ability to access the ruins proper; however, the Roman ruins of Vindolanda more than made up for my frustration at missing the wall. At that, we were in England and out of Scotland. To sum up my experience of Scotland, it was an unbelievably scenic location filled with utterly hospitable and friendly people, shockingly good food, and decent accommodations and weather (apart from the odd windstorm).

England was an entirely different creature to Scotland. The train ride to London was quick and painless, but the tube and the Underground underscored just how massive London truly is. We stayed at the Ibis in Shepherd's Bush. Surprisingly for a hotel chain, the room was excellent, with a unique kind of character. It also provided a full English breakfast every morning, to its benefit. The Museum of London was hands-down the best free museum that we went to during the trip, especially since I found the Imperial War Museum underwhelming. We lunched at the SkyGarden, which was terrifying for someone with an extreme fear of heights. With a day trip to the historic city of Oxford, a brief excursion to Wellcome Library, and the chance to personally engage with primary source materials at the National Archives dating back to the fourteenth century, my group and I personally engaged with the materials of England's past. Oxford was a difficult trip for me due to my disabilities, though it was an interesting experience. In the same day, we went to the Pitt-Rivers Museum. There, I ran into an interesting problem. With so many interesting artifacts and exhibits, I was unable to focus my attention on any one set of things, which made the experience overwhelming—I was definitely spoiled for choice.

While in London, we had the chance to engage in the traditional tourist experiences, such as taking a ride on the London Eye and watching *Witness for the Prosecution*, an Agatha Christie play. On the tube, I found that I was able to relax, though the expense would prohibit people of modest income from wasting a trip. I was disappointed to find that Westminster Abbey prohibited photography, though snapping clandestine pictures is easier than ever with smartphones. Of all the restaurants, Nando's hit the spot for flavor and heat for me. The best moment of the entire trip for me, however, came on the last day with the Churchill War Rooms. As one of my personal heroes, seeing the cramped quarters where he conducted the global war effort was a dream come true. The British Museum followed, and was phenomenal, though slightly smaller in scale than the Smithsonian.

After I left, I had time to ruminate on the entire experience: London was less enjoyable for me compared to Scotland. London is a fantastic city, but it is simply too large for someone used to rural and exurban America to feel entirely comfortable in. The public transportation was a blessing, but with how large the city was, a healthy person could stay entirely in one Borough and not see everything after a month. As a whole, Edinburgh was a more unforgettable experience. All-in-all, however, I would absolutely do the trip again, but would try to be more mindful of my physical and mental limitations. I would have liked an additional day in Edinburgh or perhaps a smaller English city like Manchester, Bath, or York. I will hold on to my experiences in the UK as one of my highlights of my time here at Charlotte. I will absolutely return if given a chance.





Phi Alpha Theta Chi-Beta Chapter

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Phi Alpha Theta (ΦΑΘ) is a nationally recognized honor society for history undergraduate and graduate students. Members of this society can present their work at local conferences and compete for national prizes. New members receive a year's subscription to the Phi Alpha Theta publication, *The Historian*. Members also are entitled to graduate with the Phi Alpha Theta honor cord. The society has over 400,000 members, with some 9,000 new members joining each year through 970 chapters nationwide.

The Chi-Beta chapter at the UNC Charlotte grew during the 2017-2018 school year through adding new members and holding a variety of events.

The UNC Charlotte chapter added 21 members who fulfilled the high academic requirements of the society. The chapter also served as a history club, sponsoring a number of activities. A new reoccurring event this past academic year was Docu-Discussion, with the showing of a documentary followed by a chance for discussion. Documentaries included *Sin City Jamaica*, a fascinating piece about Jamaican buccaneers and the "wickedest city on earth," and *Pocahontas Revealed*, which examined the reality behind the Pocahontas myth through not only the historical documents but also the recent archaeological work in Virginia. Another success was combining the initiation of new Phi Alpha Theta members with an end-of-the-semester Undergraduate Gathering. There was interesting conversation among the assembled students and faculty, along with the heavily advertised pizza.

The Chi-Beta chapter takes Phi Alpha Theta memberships in the fall and spring semesters, with the deadlines usually in early November and early March. The chapter's faculty advisor, Dr. Peter Ferdinando will email membership information and requirements to all active history majors and minors prior to those deadlines. Incoming President Anne Wade has some great plans for the coming academic year. In consultant with Kellie Giordano and John Holmes, Anne's plans include movie and documentary nights, chances for student-faculty discussions on research and career skills, and an overhaul of Chi-Beta chapter's social media presence.



Graduate History Association

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The Graduate History Association is an organization at UNC Charlotte open to all graduate students studying under the History and Latin American Studies departments. As a student organization on campus, the GHA aims to provide our members academic opportunities, a dynamic community, and support. The GHA strives to build strong relationships among UNC Charlotte Master's degree students through social and academic activities, including our annual back to school picnic, trivia nights, pot lucks, peer-review sessions, and tailgates. This year, our annual back to school picnic was held in early

September. We provided free food and drink to those who attend to celebrate the commencement of the 2019-2020 academic year. More details about the picnic are available on the GHA Facebook page. We will also be hosting our annual GHA Conference next spring, in which we will focus on our theme, "New Decade, New Perspectives." We look forward to hearing from a variety of speakers and panelists! Becoming a member of the GHA is quite simple – all it requires is paying the \$20 in annual dues and volunteering or attending at the annual conference. The GHA is a great place to make new friends and network with colleagues! The GHA officers are looking forward to this upcoming year and are very excited about our 2019-2020 events. If you have any questions about what the GHA does or how to become a member, feel free to contact President Keira Roberson or Vice-president Tabitha Wood.

Welcome, Dr. Kristina Shull!

The History Department is pleased to announce the hire of Dr. Kristina Shull, who will join our faculty in August 2020, following the completion of a post-doctoral appointment at Harvard University. Kristina Shull is a public historian and interdisciplinary scholar specializing in race, foreign relations, immigration control, and prison privatization in the modern United States. She received her Ph.D. in History from UC Irvine. Her book manuscript, *Invisible Bodies: Immigration Crisis and Private Prisons Since the Reagan Era*, explores the concurrent rise of immigration detention and prison privatization in the early 1980s at the intersections of Cold War nationalism and growing public xenophobia after the Vietnam War. It illustrates the mutually constitutive relationship between migration and foreign policy, and the immigrant detention center as a transnational, imperial space. The book concludes that limiting the visibility of migrant populations was an integral part of Reagan's rightward shift from a "welfare" to a "warfare" state during this time, as many of the enforcement structures established to address a perceived immigration crisis and to silence opposition movements further accelerated the rise of mass incarceration.



Dr. Shull is the creator of *IMM Print* and *Climate Refugee Stories*. Her research and work in immigration detention storytelling has been supported by a National Geographic Documenting Human Migrations education grant, the Open Society Foundations, the Goizueta Foundation, and the Immigration and Ethnic History Society. Dr. Shull teaches courses on U.S. and the World, immigration, race and mass incarceration, Cold War culture, and climate change.

Reporting and editing by Graduate Assistants Tabitha Wood, Ana Vásconez Carrera, and Nashaly Ruíz-González
Photographs courtesy of the UNC Charlotte History Department

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