

GARRETT FELBER

APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of U.S. History, University of Mississippi

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Michigan, American Culture, 2017

M.A., Columbia University, African-American Studies, 2009

B.A., Kalamazoo College, English and American Studies, 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- *Those Who Know Don't Say: The Nation of Islam, The Black Freedom Movement, and the Carceral State* (The University of North Carolina Press, 2020)
- *The Portable Malcolm X Reader*, with Manning Marable (New York: Penguin, 2013).

Current Book Projects:

- *We Are All Political Prisoners: The Revolutionary Life of Martin Ramirez Sostre*
- *The Norfolk Plan: The Community Prison in the Age of Mass Incarceration*

Journal Articles:

- “‘Integration or Separation?’ Malcolm X’s College Debates, Free Speech, and the Challenge to Racial Liberalism on Campus,” *The Journal of Social History*, forthcoming, 54, 4 (Summer 2020).
- “‘Shades of Mississippi’: The Nation of Islam’s Prison Organizing, the Carceral State, and the Black Freedom Struggle,” *The Journal of American History* 105, 1 (June 2018): 71-95.
- “‘Harlem is the Black World’: The Organization of Afro-American Unity at the Grassroots,” *The Journal of African American History*, 100, 2 (Spring 2015): 199-225.
- “Tracing Tribe: Hugh Tracey and the Cultural Politics of Retribalization,” *SAMUS: South African Music Studies* 30 and 31 (2012): 31-43.
- “‘A Writer is What I Want, Not an Interpreter,’ Alex Haley and Malcolm X: Conceiving the Autobiographical Self and the Struggle for Authorship,” *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society* 12, 1 (2010): 33-53.

Book Reviews:

- *In the Heat of the Summer: The New York Riots of 1964 and the War on Crime*, by Michael W. Flamm, *The Journal of Social History* (August 2017).
- *The Revolution Has Come: Black Power, Gender, and the Black Panther Party in Oakland*, by Robyn Spencer, *The Journal of Civil and Human Rights* (December 2017).

Public Scholarship:

- “The Missing Malcolm X,” *The Boston Review*, November 28, 2018.

- “Organizing the Prisons in the 1960s and 1970s,” a three-part roundtable conversation, *Process: A Blog for American History*, September 20-22, 2016.
- “Black Nationalism and Liberation,” *The Boston Review*, August 30, 2016.
- “What Black Lives Matters Means Beyond Policing Reform,” *The Conversation*, July 11, 2016.
- “The United Coalition for Racial Justice and the ‘Speak Out,’” with Austin McCoy, *Viewpoint Magazine*, November 12, 2015.
- “Justice Breyer and Malcolm X,” *The Marshall Project*, July 2, 2015.
- “Malcolm X Assassination: 50 Years On, Mystery Still Clouds Details of the Case,” *The Guardian*, February 21, 2015.

Guest Editor:

- Guest editor, “Malcolm X: The New Sources” and “Malcolm X: The New Scholarship,” *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society*, 12, 1-2 (2010).

Encyclopedia Entries:

- “Martin Sostre,” *African American National Biography* (forthcoming)
- “Malcolm X,” *Black Power Encyclopedia, 1965-1975* (2018)
- “Apollo Theater,” “Malcolm X,” and “Jazz,” *Encyclopedia of New York City*, 2nd ed. (2010).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2019 Lead organizer, *Making and Unmaking Mass Incarceration Conference*

Organized a three-day prison abolition conference in Oxford, MS with leading scholars and activists to connect grassroots struggles against mass incarceration with policy, research, and advocacy.

2019 Project Director, *Parchman Oral History Project*

Director of annual 10-week collaborative oral history internship with five students from Harvard University, University of Mississippi, and Tougaloo College to document the history of incarceration in Mississippi.

2018 Founder, *Radical Books to Revolutionary Communities*

Founded a radical books-to-prisons program which coordinates with publishers and incarcerated scholars to facilitate self-led radical study groups in men’s and women’s prisons in Alabama, Florida, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, and Washington. The program is funded and coordinated with help from the Harvard student group HOPE (Harvard Organization for Prison Education and Advocacy).

2018 Co-founder, *Beyond the Gates Initiative*

Led an initiative to help develop an accredited college-in-prison program in Massachusetts through Harvard University.

2016 Blogger, *Black Perspectives* (blog of the African American Intellectual History Society)

Contributed monthly blog entries on black intellectual history and contemporary politics.

2016 Co-founder, *Liberation Literacy*

Co-founded community racial justice reading group inside a minimum-security prison in Portland, Oregon which is now a 501(C)(3) led by formerly-incarcerated people. Also established a Freedom Library at the prison with over 500 books on the African diaspora and social justice.

2013 Co-founder, *United Coalition for Racial Justice*

Co-founded a coalition of students, faculty, and staff to push for greater access to higher education, higher enrollment of underrepresented minorities, and establishment of a racial justice mandate

TEACHING

Undergraduate courses:

History 131 – Intro to U.S. History since 1877

History 490 - Women in the Black Freedom Movement

History 490 – The Missing Malcolm X

History/AAS 423 – The History of Mass Incarceration in the United States

Graduate courses:

History 698 – Readings in the Carceral State

History 613 – Readings in the Long Civil Rights Movement

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships:

2017-2018 Scholar-in-Residence, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

2017-2018 Faculty Fellow, Charles Warren Center, Harvard University

2016-2017 One-Term Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Michigan

2016-2017 John H. D'Arms Spring/Summer Fellowship, University of Michigan

2015-2016 Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan

2015-2016 Mayers Fellowship, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California

2014-2015 Sweetland Dissertation Writing Institute Fellowship, University of Michigan

2013-2014 Research Fellowship, Program in Race, Law and History, Michigan Law School

2013-2014 Larry J. Hackman Research Residency, New York State Archives

2013-2014 Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship, University of Michigan

2010-2015 Department of American Culture Fellowship, University of Michigan

2008-2009 Paul Robeson Fellowship, Columbia University

Awards and Honors:

2019 Margaret W. and John M. Moore Research Fellowship, Swarthmore Peace Collection

2018 C.L.R. James Research Fellowship, African American Intellectual History Society

2016 Samuel and Marion Merrill Graduate Student Travel Grant, OAH

2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of Michigan

2015 Robert W. Woodruff Library Research Travel Award, Atlanta Clark University

2015 Louis Pelzer Memorial Award finalist, OAH

2015 Rackham Graduate School Travel Grant, University of Michigan

2015 American Culture Graduate Student Travel Award, University of Michigan

- 2012 Walter Rodney Graduate Essay Award, University of Michigan
 2009 Zora Neale Hurston Award for Thesis in the Social Sciences, Columbia University

CONFERENCES AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations:

- 2019 “Building Abolitionist Movements,” Roundtable, American Studies Association (November).
- 2018 “Registered with Allah: The Nation of Islam, World War II, and the First Prisoners’ Rights Movement,” American Studies Association (November).
- 2018 “Law, Resistance, and the Forms of Prison History: Roundtable on Rethinking the American Prison Movement,” Organization of American Historians (April)
- 2017 “Pedagogy of the Prison: Theorizing and Practicing Prison Education as Dissent,” American Studies Association (November)
- 2016 “‘Negro Liberation or Black Liberation?’ Black United Front Politics Before Black Power,” American Studies Association (November)
- 2016 “Black Power Reconsidered: Rethinking the Provenance and Paths of Black Power Thought and Praxis,” ASALH (October)
- 2016 “‘No Thurgood Marshalls’: The Jailhouse Lawyer and Civil Rights Law,” Organization of American Historians (April)
- 2015 “‘The New Prisoner’: 1960s Prison Activism and the Social Movement Paradigm,” Organization of American Historians (April)
- 2015 “‘A Bandung in Harlem’: The Nation of Islam and 1950s Afro-Arab Solidarity,” Malcolm X’s World 50 Years Later, Lehigh University (February)
- 2014 “Dialectics of Discipline: Civil Rights Prison Organizing and State Racial Formations,” Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium, University of Oregon (November)
- 2014 “‘Black Muslim’ or Muslim? The State Logics of the Nation of Islam in Prisons,” Policy History Conference (June)
- 2013 “‘Shades of Mississippi’: The Nation of Islam, Muslim Prison Rights, and the Forgotten Politics of the Civil Rights Era,” American Studies Association (November)
- 2013 “‘The Fighting Man Cannot Win a War Without the Moral Support of the Home Front’: The Nation of Islam and Muslim Prison Rights,” ASALH (October)

Invited:

- 2019 “The Afterlife of Mass Incarceration: Reform or Abolition,” Mass Incarceration and Modern-Day Slavery,” Tougaloo College (October)
- 2018 “Prison Abolition 101,” Harvard Law School (April)
- 2018 “The Norfolk Plan: The Community Prison in the Age of Mass Incarceration,” States of Incarceration, Northeastern University (March)
- 2017 “‘You’re Brutalized Because You’re Black’: Malcolm X and Police Brutality in the Civil Rights Era,” UMass - Lowell (November)
- 2017 “Humanities Beyond Humanization: The Role of Education in Prison Abolition,” Life Sentences Conference, Alexander Grass Humanities Institute, Johns Hopkins University (November)
- 2016 “The Norfolk Plan: The Community Prison in the Age of Mass Incarceration,” Race and Public Space Workshop, Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University (March)
- 2015 “The Politicized Prisoner: Martin Sostre and the Origins of the Prisoners’ Rights Movement,” Harvard University (October)
- 2015 “Reconsidering the Place of Prison Organizing in the Civil Rights Movement,” American Studies Colloquium, Reed College (October 14)

Service:

- 2019 Dalrymple Funding Committee, Department of History, University of Mississippi
- 2019 C.L.R. James Research Fellowship Committee, African American Intellectual History Society
- 2018 Conference Committee, African American Intellectual History Society, Brandeis University

REFERENCES

Nathan Connolly, Johns Hopkins University
Herbert Baxter Adams Associate Professor of History
nconnol2@jhu.edu

Farah Jasmine Griffin, Columbia University
William B. Ransford Professor of English and African-American Studies
fig8@columbia.edu

Elizabeth Hinton, Harvard University
John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences
Department History and the Department of African and African American Studies
ehinton@fas.harvard.edu

Michael Ralph, New York University
Associate Professor
Department of Social and Cultural Analysis and the School of Medicine
michael.ralph@nyu.edu