

Paul J. Polgar

Curriculum Vitae

The University of Mississippi
319 Bishop Hall
P.O. Box 1848
University, MS 38677

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Department of History, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York, 2013
M.A. Department of History, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 2007
B.S. Department of Journalism, Boston University, May 2004

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2015-Present Assistant Professor, Arch Dalrymple III Department of History, The University of Mississippi
2013-2015 Postdoctoral Fellow, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, The College of William & Mary

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Standard-Bearers of Equality: America's First Abolition Movement
(Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, on behalf of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, 2019)

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

"Race and Belonging in the New American Nation: The Republican Roots of Black Abolitionism," in *Race and Nation in the Age of Emancipations*, ed. Whitney Nell Stewart and John Garrison Marks (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2018): 143-163.

"'To Raise Them to an Equal Participation': Early National Abolitionism, Gradual Emancipation, and the Promise of African American Citizenship," *Journal of the Early Republic*, Vol. 31, No. 2 (Summer 2011): 229-258.

"'Whenever They Judge It Expedient': The Politics of Partisanship and Free Black Voting Rights in Early National New York," *American Nineteenth Century History*, Vol. 12, Issue 1 (March 2011): 1-23.

"Fighting Lightning with Fire: Black Boston's Battle against The Birth of a Nation," *Massachusetts Historical Review*, Vol. 10 (2008): 85-114.

Review Essay

"The Inescapable Problem," *Reviews in American History*, Vol. 43, No. 2 (June 2015): 254-261.

Book Reviews

Illusions of Emancipation: The Pursuit of Freedom & Equality in the Twilight of Slavery, by Joseph P. Reidy, *Virginia Magazine of History & Biography*, Vol. 127, No. 3 (2019): 247-248.

Warner Mifflin: Unflinching Quaker Abolitionist, by Gary B. Nash, *Journal of American History*, Vol. 5, No. 3 (December 2018): 660-661.

New Directions in the Study of African American Recolonization, ed. Beverly C. Tomek and Matthew J. Hetrick, in *Journal of Civil War History*, Vol. 8, No. 5 (September 2018): 540-543.

Eighty-Eight Years: The Long Death of Slavery in the United States, by Patrick Rael, in the *Journal of the Early Republic*, Vol. 37, No. 3 (Fall 2017): 567-570.

The Counter-Revolution of 1776: Slave Resistance and the Origins of the United States of America, by Gerald Horne, in the *Journal of Southern History*, Vol. 81, No. 3 (August 2015): 700-701.

From Peace to Freedom: Quaker Rhetoric and the Birth of American Antislavery, 1657-1761, by Brycchan Carey, in *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. 70, No. 3 (July 2013): 606-609.

Encyclopedia Entries

Encyclopedia of African American History, ed. Joe Trotter (New York: Facts on File), Vol. 1, "African Free School"; Vol. 2, "The Boston Guardian" (forthcoming)

African American National Biography, ed. Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higginbottom (New York: Oxford University Press), Vol. 3, "Hezekiah Ford Douglass."

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

2019-2020	Short Term Fellow, The Huntington Library (awarded)
2015-2017	College of Liberal Arts Summer Research Grants, The University of Mississippi
2015-2016	Patricia and John Klingenstein Fellow, New York Historical Society
2013-2015	Postdoctoral Fellowship, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture
2012-2013	Dissertation Year Fellowship, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
2012	Fellow Faculty Development Associate, Lehman College
2011-2012	Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Fellow, The Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania
2011-2012	CUNY Writing Fellowship, Lehman College
2010-2011	Scholarly Fellow, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
2011	Graduate Student Travel Award, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic
2007-2012	Enhanced Chancellor's Fellowship, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
2007	Webber Outstanding Graduate Student Award, George Mason University

- 2006-2008 Recipient of MARPAT Foundation Grants awarded to the George Washington University American Studies Program for editorial work on the Public Opinion Documentary History Project, 2006-2008
- 2006 Nominated to Phi Alpha Theta as a Graduate student at George Mason University

INVITED TALKS

- 2017 “Congress’s First Debate on Race and Slavery,” The United States Capitol Historical Society, Washington D.C., April 26.
- 2015 A Transformative Contest: Looking Anew at Northern Abolition, for the roundtable “The Long Emancipation,” Society For Historians of The Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Raleigh, NC, July 16-19.
- 2015 “‘The Just Rights of Freedom’: Enforcing and Expanding Emancipation in the Post-Revolutionary North, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Colloquium, April 21.
- 2013 “The Liberty of the Blacks Will Be Defended”: Reframing Gradual Emancipation, Early American Seminar, The University of Virginia, January 14.
- 2012 “Standard Bearers in the Cause of Liberty and Equality”: Reinterpreting America’s First Abolitionists, The Library Company of Philadelphia and the Program in Early American Economy and Society Fellows Colloquia, January 13.
- 2011 “A Well Grounded Hope’: Republicans of Color and the Optimistic Origins of Black Abolitionism, McNeil Center for Early American Studies Seminar, The University of Pennsylvania, January 26.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- 2018 “New Work on Early Abolitionism: A Roundtable,” Organization of American Historians, Annual Meeting, Sacramento, CA, April 12-14, 2018.
- 2018 “The Problem of Prejudice: Confronting Slavery’s Bulwark in Early United States Emancipation,” Conference on Latin American History, Annual American Historical Association, 132nd Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., January 4-7.
- 2016 “Freedom Local: Enacting Black Liberty in the Early National Mid-Atlantic,” Region and Nation in American Histories of Race and Slavery Conference, Mount Vernon, VA, October 6-9. [panel co-organizer]
- 2016 “Neither White Nor Black: Slavery, Race, and Science in Post-Revolutionary American Antislavery,” Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Annual Conference, Worcester MA, June 23-26.
- 2015 “Conflict Over Failure: The Impact of American Independence on Black Rights,” Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the Society of Early Americanists Joint Conference, Chicago, June 18-21, 2015. [panel organizer]

- 2015 “Activism,” Human Trafficking in Early America Conference, University of Pennsylvania, April 23-25, 2015. [commentator]
- 2015 “The Revolution in Race,” “So Sudden an Alteration’: The Causes, Course, and Consequences of the American Revolution Conference, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA, April 9-11.
- 2014 “Immediate, Not Gradual: Achieving African American Freedom During the First Emancipation,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, July 17-20.
- 2014 “More Than Emancipation: Envisioning Black Citizenship in Early National America,” Race and Nation in the Age of Emancipations: A Symposium on the Atlantic World, Rice University, Houston, TX, February 21-22.
- 2013 “Transforming American Antislavery: The Ideological Departure of the American Colonization Society,” Washington Area Early American Seminar, University of Maryland, College Park, November 22.
- 2013 “Making Freeman, Vanquishing Prejudice: Social Environmentalism and Racial Unity in Early Abolitionist Thought,” The Pennsylvania Historical Association Annual Meeting, Gettysburg, PA, October 17-19.
- 2011 “Becoming Honourable Citizens: Republicans of Color and the Biracial Beginnings of American Abolitionism.” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, July 14-17.
- 2008 “Whenever They Judge it Expedient”: The Politics of Partisanship and Free Black Voting Rights in Early National New York Society For Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, July 17-20.
- 2007 “Fighting Lightning with Fire: Black Boston's Battle Against The Birth of a Nation,” Citizenship, Identity, and Social Justice Conference, University of Windsor, May 17-19.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Mississippi, Sole Instructor

The United States to 1877 (fall 2015, fall 2016, fall 2017, spring 2018, fall 2018, fall 2019, spring 2020); Historiography: US Through Reconstruction [graduate course] (fall 2015, fall 2016, fall 2017, fall 2018, fall 2019); First Emancipations: Slavery and Abolition in the Atlantic World [graduate course] (spring 2016, spring 2017, spring 2018); Slavery, Race, and Freedom in America (spring 2019), The Rise and Fall of American Slavery (spring 2016), Slavery and its Legacies at the University of Mississippi (fall 2016); Research Seminar: US Through the Civil War [graduate course] spring 2020

The College of William and Mary, Sole Instructor

Antislavery Reform in Early America (fall 2013)

City College, The City University of New York, Sole Instructor

The Era of the American Revolution (fall 2012)

Queens College, The City University of New York, Sole Instructor

American History, 1607-1865 (fall 2008, spring 2009, fall 2009, spring 2010, spring 2013)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Service to Profession

Manuscript Referee, *Journal of the Early Republic*, *The William and Mary Quarterly*, *American Nineteenth Century History*, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*

University and Departmental Service

The University of Mississippi

Graduate Committee (2018-2020)

Odom Prize Committee (2015-2016)

Awards Committee (2016-2017, 2017-2018)

Phi Alpha Theta Committee (2017-2018)

Undergraduate Advisor

University of Mississippi Slavery Research Group (member-at-large)

Dissertation and Thesis Students

Jeffrey Glossner, “Cavaliers and Crackers: Landless Whites in the Mind of the Antebellum South”—committee member (M.A., History, 2016)

Jessica Johnson, “Tending to ‘the Interest and Honor of the Community’: Nationalism, Sectionalism, and Slavery in the Early Republic—director (M.A., History, 2019)

Nicholas Mosvick, “Leviathan Challenged: Sovereignty, Federal Power, and Popular Constitutionalism in the North Concerning Conscription During the American Civil War”—committee member (Ph.D. History, 2019)

Laura Ellyn Smith, “Populism and Democratization in the Presidential Election of 1832”—committee member (Ph.D., History, 2019)

Kristin Bouldin, “The Ambiguities of Freedom: Contrabands, Freedmen, and Military Emancipation in Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Washington D.C., Mississippi, Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri During the American Civil War”—committee member (Ph.D., History, in-progress)

Jeffrey Glossner, “The Crisis of White Supremacy in the Antebellum South: Poor Whites and the Coming of the Civil War (Ph.D., History, in-progress)

James Segars, *The Restoration Movement in Antebellum Mississippi* (Ph.D., History, in-progress)

Comprehensive Exams

Chet Bush, “U.S. to 1877” (Ph.D., Minor Field, 2019)

Chet Bush, “Atlantic World” (Ph.D., Minor Field, 2019)

Ajibola Abdulrahman, “Atlantic World” (Ph.D., Minor Field, 2019)

Sarah Elliot, “U.S. to 1877” (Ph.D., Major Field, 2018)
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Jeffrey Glossner, “U.S. to 1877” (Ph.D., Major Field, 2018)
Jeffrey Glossner “Atlantic World” (Ph.D., Minor Field, 2018)
James Segars, “U.S. to 1877” (Ph.D., Major Field, 2018)
Laura Ellyn Smith, “U.S. to 1877” (Ph.D., Major Field, 2018)
Eric Rexroat, “Atlantic World” (Ph.D., Major Field, 2017)
Kyle Simmons, M.A. oral exam, 2017
Sarah Parrish, M.A. oral exam, 2017
Robert Harrison, M.A. oral exam, 2017
Will Little, “Black Atlantic” (Ph.D., Minor Field, 2017)
Elias Baker, “U.S. to 1877” (Major Field, 2016)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Historical Association
Organization of American Historians
Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture
Society for Historians of the Early American Republic