

Megan Whirley

Email: mwhirl2@uic.edu Phone: 763-614-8379

Department of History, 1004 University Hall, 601 South Morgan Street, University of Illinois at Chicago

Education:

- 2019-Present Ph.D. Candidate, Department of History, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2018 M.A., History; Harrison Ruffin Tyler Department of History, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- 2018 Graduate Thesis Portfolio: “Corrupting the Mother Tongue//Broken Constitutions.”
- Part I: “Corrupting the Mother Tongue: Comparing the Effects of Residential Schools on the Cultures and Languages of Native American and Deaf Students.”
- Part II: “Broken Constitutions: Veterans of the American Revolution and the Language of Disability.”
- 2016 B.A., History; *Cum Laude*. Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, IL.
Minors: English, Spanish, and chemistry
- 2015 Undergraduate Thesis: “The American Renaissance: American Romantic Writers and Their Efforts to Define American Culture.”

Professional Experience:

- 2019-present Teaching Assistant, History Department, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
Courses: *Early American History (1492-1865)*; *Modern American History (1865-present)*; *History of Radicalism in America*; *Native American History*; *Western Civilization (1648-Present)*; *History of Chicago*; *History of the World since 1400*; *Western Civilization to 1648*; *History Internship & Experiential Learning*
- 2017-2019 Digital History Assistant, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, VA.
Projects: *Ben Franklin’s World app and podcast*; *OIEAHC website and social media accounts*; *Women Also Know History website*; *Georgian Papers Programme*; *William and Mary Quarterly*
- 2016-2017 AVID Tutor/Educational Assistant, Robbinsdale Cooper High School, Robbinsdale, MN.
Subjects: *History*; *chemistry*
- Spring 2016 Teaching Assistant, History Department, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, IL.
Course: *History of Disability in America*
- 2015-2016 Writing Tutor, Learning Center, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, IL.
- 2012-2015 Early Childhood Teacher; Elmhurst Childcare Center, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, IL.

Fellowships and Awards:

- 2023 *LAS Research Grant*, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL.
Previously received in 2022, 2021.

- 2022 *Munson Institute Fellowship*, Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, CT.
Part of “Reimagining New England Histories: Historical Injustice, Sovereignty and Freedom” project in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Slavery & Justice at Brown University and Williams College
- 2021 *Provost’s Graduate Research Award*, University of Illinois, Chicago, Il.
- 2019-Present *History Doctoral Award*, University of Illinois, Chicago, Il.
- 2016 *History Senior of the Year*, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, Il.
- 2015-2016 *Glorianna Berger Scholarship*, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, Il.
- 2014-2015 *Garlichs Scholarship*, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, Il.
- 2012-2016 *Elmhurst Grant*, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, Il.
- 2012-2016 *Presidential Scholarship*, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst, Il.

Publications:

- 2018 “Strength in Hope.” *America’s Emerging Writers: An Anthology of Nonfiction*. (2018). pp. 52-53.
- 2018 “Strength in Hope.” *Minnesota’s Emerging Writers: An Anthology of Nonfiction*. (2018). pp. 21-24.
- 2014 “Where the Water Meets the Sky.” *MiddleWestern Voice*. (2014). pp. 3-9.

Conferences and Presentations:

- 2023 (Upcoming) “*By Land or Sea: Disability in Maritime Communities*.” Disability in the Vast Early Americas Conference, University of Notre Dame. October 2023.
- 2020 “*Corrupting the Mother Tongue*.” Distance Learning Independent Lecture, Zoom. April 2020.
- 2020 “*The Disability Rights Movement*.” History of Radicalism in America, UIC. April 2020.
- 2018 “*Corrupting the Mother Tongue//Broken Constitutions*.” College of William and Mary. May 2018. Williamsburg, VA.
- 2015 “*Labor Activism to Feminism*.” Elmhurst University Political Science Panel, November 2015. Elmhurst, Il.
- 2015 “*Tracing the Disability Rights Movement in America*.” Elmhurst University Annual Research Forum. May 2015. Elmhurst, Il.
- 2015 “*Where the Water Meets the Sky*.” The Gathering, MiddleWestern Voice Annual Release Celebration. October 2015. Elmhurst, Il.
- 2014 “*Conquering Language and Culture*.” Elmhurst University Annual Research Forum. May 2014. Elmhurst, Il.

Professional Activities and Affiliations:

Fall 2021	“Disability History and Historical Thinking in the Vast Early Americas,” Disability Working Group, OI Coffeehouse Series, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture
2021	Trac(e)ing Relations: Blackness and Indigeneity in the Americas, Incubator Working Group, University of Chicago
July 2021	Belfer National Conference for Educators, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
2020-Present	Native American and Indigenous Studies Working Group, Chicago-area
2020-Present	History Graduate Society, University of Illinois Chicago <i>Positions held: Vice President and Graduate Representative</i>
2017-2018	History Graduate Student Association, College of William and Mary
2017-2018	Modern American Reading Group, College of William and Mary
2017-2018	Journal Club, College of William and Mary

Languages:

Fluent in written and spoken Spanish; proficient in American Sign Language; reading proficiency in French, Italian