

MARY S. DRAPER

Department of History, Midwestern State University
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

- 2023 – Associate Professor of History
❖ Interim Chair of the History Department, 2023 –
❖ Interim Graduate Coordinator for the History Department, 2023 –
- 2018-2023 Assistant Professor of History, Midwestern State University
❖ Interim Graduate Coordinator for the History Department, 2023

EDUCATION

- 2016 Ph.D. in History, University of Virginia
2013 M.A. in History, University of Virginia
2010 B.A. in History, Rice University, *with departmental honors*

SCHOLARSHIP

Book

in progress *Environment and Empire Building in the Maritime British Caribbean*

Articles

in progress “Wind and Hurricanes” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History* (under contract with Oxford University Press), manuscript due August 2023.

forthcoming “Biographies, Silences, and Teaching the Archive of Atlantic Slavery” (*forthcoming in The History Teacher*).

2022 “Aeolian Geographies, Daily Life, and Empire Building in the English Caribbean,” *Early American Studies* 20, no. 4 (Fall 2022): 673-694.

“Coastal/Coastwise Trade,” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History*, ed. Trevor Burnard (New York: Oxford University Press, 2022), co-written with Hannah Tucker.

2021 “Indigenous and African Intellectual Labor and the Commodities of Vast Early America,” *Esboços: Historias em Contextos Globais* 28, no. 49 (Sept.-Dec. 2021): 716-727.

2020 “The Maritime Atlantic in the Age of Revolutions,” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History*, ed. Trevor Burnard (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020).

- 2017 “Timbering and Turtling: The Maritime Hinterlands of Early Modern British Caribbean Cities,” *Early American Studies* 15, no. 4 (Fall 2017): 769-800.
❖ Honorable Mention, John M. Murrin Prize for best article published in *Early American Studies* in 2017

Book Chapters

- in progress* Book chapter on Midwestern State University’s history from 2018 through 2022 to be published in 100th anniversary book (manuscript in preparation for submission to Texas Tech University Press in 2023)
- under review* “Engineer, Infrastructure, Cities,” book chapter to be published in *A Cultural History of Technology*, ed. Marieke Hendriksen (under contract with Bloomsbury Publishing), revisions submitted November 2022, expected publication in 2023.

Book Reviews & Review Essays

- forthcoming* Review of Katherine Johnston, *The Nature of Slavery: Environment and Plantation Labor in the Anglo-Atlantic World* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2022) for *Journal of Southern History*
- 2023 Review of Keith Plummers, *No Wood, No Kingdom: Political Ecology in the English Atlantic* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021) , in *William and Mary Quarterly* 80, no. 3 (July 2023): 603-607.
- Review of Jared Ross Hardesty, *Mutiny on the Rising Sun: A Tragic Tale of Slavery, Smuggling, and Chocolate* (New York: New York University Press 2021) for *Journal of Social History* (published online 20 June 2023).
- Forum response to Sharika Crawford, *The Last Turtlemen of the Caribbean: Waterscapes of Labor, Conservation, and Boundary Making* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2020) for H-Environment Roundtable Reviews 13, no. 5 (2023).
- 2022 Review of Kate Luce Mulry, *An Empire Transformed: Remolding Bodies and Landscapes in the Restoration Atlantic* (New York: NYU Press, 2021), in *Agricultural History* 96, no. 4 (November 2022): 616-618.
- 2021 Review of Jessica Marie Johnson, *Wicked Flesh: Black Women, Intimacy, and Freedom in the Atlantic World* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020), in *Canadian Journal of History* 56, no. 1 (Spring-Summer 2021): 85-87.
- 2020 Review of Paul Musselwhite, *Urban Dreams, Rural Commonwealth: The Rise of Plantation Society in the Chesapeake* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019), in *Journal of Southern History* 86, no. 1 (February 2020): 132-133.
- 2019 Review essay entitled “The Global Luster of the Early Caribbean” of Molly Warsh, *American Baroque: Pearls and the Nature of Empire, 1492-1700* (Chapel

Hill: Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of North Carolina Press, 2018), in *Reviews in American History* Vol. 47, No. 4, (Dec. 2019): 529-533.

Review of Michele Currie Navakas, *Liquid Landscape: Geography and Settlement at the Edge of Early America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017), in *Environmental History* Vol. 24, Issue 2 (April 2019): 411–413.

2018 Review of Randy J. Sparks, *Africans in the Old South: Mapping Exceptional Lives across the Atlantic World* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2016), in *Itinerario* 42, no. 3 (Dec. 2018): 567-568.

Review of Dale Hutchinson, *Disease and Discrimination: Poverty and Pestilence in Colonial Atlantic America* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2016), in *North Carolina Historical Review* 95, no. 3 (July 2018): 358-359.

Review of Leonardo Marques, *The United States and the Transatlantic Slave Trade to the Americas, 1776-1867* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016), in *Journal of Southern History* 84, no. 2 (May 2018): 442-443.

2017 Review of Malcolm Gaskill, *Between Two Worlds: How the English became American* (New York: Basic Books, 2014), in *North Carolina Historical Review* 94, no. 1 (Jan. 2017): 106-107.

FELLOWSHIPS & HONORS

External Fellowships & Grants

- 2022-4 Bright Institute, Knox College (Galesburg, IL)
- 2019 Scholars' Workshop, Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture (Williamsburg, VA)
- 2017 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, City/Nature: Urban Environmental Humanities, University of Washington (Seattle, Washington)
- 2016 Paul W. McQuillen Memorial Fellowship, The John Carter Brown Library
Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society
Colonial Society of Massachusetts Fellowship, New England Regional Fellowship Consortium
Short-Term Fellowship, Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies
Jacob M. Price Visiting Fellowship, Clements Library, University of Michigan
- 2015 Exploratory Research Grant, Hagley Museum and Library
Summer Academy of Atlantic History (Lancaster, England)

- 2014 Alumni Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society
Rare Book School-UVA Fellowship (The Illustrated Scientific Book to 1800, Charlottesville, VA)

Internal Fellowship & Grants

Midwestern State University

- 2022 Conference Travel Grant, College Research and Faculty Development Committee
2021 Intramural Research Grant, Office of Sponsored Programs and Research
New Investigator Catalyst Grant, Office of Sponsored Programs and Research
2020 Conference Travel Grant, College Research and Faculty Development Committee
2019 Intramural Research Grant, Office of Sponsored Programs and Research
Conference Travel Grant, College Research and Faculty Development Committee
2018 Conference Travel Grant, College Research and Faculty Development Committee

CONFERENCES

- 2023 “Underwater Land and the 1692 Port Royal Earthquake,” Association of Caribbean Historians Conference (San Juan, Puerto Rico), June 2023

“Dry Weather”: Drought and the Inter-island Water Trade in the Eighteenth-Century Leeward Islands,” Caribbean Genealogy Library and “In the Same Sea” at the University of Copenhagen’s Conference on “Inter Island Connections in the Lesser Antilles: Family, Friends, and Institutions Across the Sea” (St. Thomas, USVI), February 2023
- 2022 “New Perspectives on the Early-Modern Caribbean,” Roundtable at the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association (Baltimore, MD), November 2022

“‘Dry Weather’: Managing Drought in the Early Modern British Caribbean,” McNeil Center for Early American Studies and USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute Conference on “The Climate Crisis: Early Americanists Respond” (Online), June 2022

“Inclusivity, Equity, and Representation in British Studies,” Plenary Roundtable at the Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies (Williamsburg, VA), April 2022
- 2021 “Winds, Lived Geographies, and Empire-Building in the Seventeenth-Century Caribbean,” McNeil Center for Early American Studies Conference on the 50th anniversary of Richard Dunn’s *Sugar and Slaves* (Online), June 2021

- “Naming Vast Early America: Language, Identity, and Power,” Roundtable at the Omohundro Institute for Early American History & Culture Annual Conference (Online), June 2021
- 2020 “Teaching Protest throughout Revolutionary America,” Organized Roundtable at Iona College and the Institute of Thomas Paine Studies Conference on “Foundations of Independence: Protest and Communication in Revolutionary America, 1770-2020” (Online), September 2020
- “The Politics of Piloting after the 1692 Port Royal Earthquake,” Florida State University’s Winthrop-King Institute for Contemporary French and Francophone Studies Conference on “From Katrina to Michael: Disaster in the 21st-century Circum-Caribbean” (Tallahassee, FL), February 2020
- 2019 “Parched Islands: The Fresh Water Trade in the Early Modern British Caribbean,” North American Conference on British Studies (Vancouver, Canada), November 2019
- “Lord North’s Turtles: Patronage and Consumption in Eighteenth-Century North America,” Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural and Environmental History (Wichita Falls, TX), April 2019
- “After María: What Environmental Historians Can Learn from the Caribbean,” Roundtable at the American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference (Columbus, Ohio), April 2019
- “Mapping the Vernacular in the Early Modern British Caribbean,” American Historical Association Annual Conference (Chicago, IL), January 2019
- 2018 “The Creolization of Alexander Mountier: Lurid Letters and Polite Commerce in Eighteenth-Century Kingston,” European Early American Studies Association Conference (London, United Kingdom), December 2018
- 2016 “Creole Sensibilities, Metropolitan Oversight, and the Fortifications of the British Caribbean, c. 1650-1730,” European Early American Studies Association Conference on “Space, Mobility, and Power in Early America and the Atlantic World” (Paris, France), December 2016
- “Barbados's 1663 Duty and the Politicization of Bridgetown's Fortifications,” North American Conference on British Studies (Washington, D.C.), November 2016
- “Forging and Maintaining the Maritime Hinterlands of Barbados and Jamaica,” Association of Caribbean Historians Conference (Havana, Cuba), June 2016

- 2015 “Timbering St. Lucia and Turtling the Caymans: The Maritime Hinterlands of Bridgetown, Barbados and Port Royal, Jamaica, c. 1650-1750,” McNeil Center for Early American Studies Conference on “Port Cities in the Early Modern World, 1500-1800” (Philadelphia, PA), November 2015
- “‘To be recovered out of the Sea’: Engineering Urban Land in Port Royal, Jamaica and the Greater British Caribbean, 1655-1722,” History Project Conference on “The History of Energy and the Environment” (Cambridge, MA), October 2015
- “Creating Urban Landscapes in Bridgetown and Port Royal, 1627-1712,” The 9th Savannah Symposium on the “Architecture of Trade” (Savannah, GA), February 2015
- 2014 “Reevaluating Richard Ligon’s *A True and Exact History of the Island of Barbadoes*,” Laboratoire de Recherches sur les Cultures Anglophones (LARCA) at the Université Paris Diderot (Paris, France), November 2014

PUBLIC TALKS

- 2022 “MSU Texas through the Years,” Lecture at the Rotary Club of Wichita Falls (Wichita Falls, TX), September 2022
- “MSU Texas through the Years,” Lecture at Alumni Centennial Celebration, Wichita Falls Museum of Art at Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX), April 2022
- “What Everyone Should Know about Caribbean History,” Last Lecture Series, Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX), March 2022
- 2021 “The Revolutionary Year of 1776,” Three-part lecture series, Lifelong Learning Center, Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX), September & October 2021
- “New Approaches to Political Ecology,” Comment for virtual event during the American Society for Environmental History’s Environmental History Week (Sponsored by the World History Center at the University of Pittsburgh), April 2021
- 2019 “The Dreadful Year of 1692,” Three-part lecture series, Lifelong Learning Center, Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX), October 2019
- “The *real* Pirates of the Caribbean,” Lifelong Learning Center, Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX), February 2019
- 2017 “New England Merchants and the British Caribbean,” The Colonial Society of Massachusetts (Boston, MA), April 2017

“The Tropical Metropolis: Urban Environments in the Early Modern British Caribbean,” Virginia Consortium of Early Americanists, Library of Virginia (Richmond, VA), January 2017

“British Caribbean Cities in the Age of Jefferson,” International Center for Jefferson Studies, Monticello (Charlottesville, VA), January 2017

2016 “The Tropical Metropolis: Cities and Society in the Early Modern British Caribbean,” John Carter Brown Library, Brown University (Providence, RI), October 2016

“The Early Modern Menagerie: Taming Animals in the JCB Archive,” John Carter Brown Library, Brown University (Providence, RI), September 2016

2015 “Feeding Cities, Firing Sugar Works: Creating and Securing the Caribbean’s Maritime Hinterlands,” UVA-Monticello Early American Seminar (Charlottesville, VA), October 2015

“The Urban World of the Early Modern British Caribbean,” The Massachusetts Historical Society (Boston, MA), April 2015

2014 “The Urban World of the Early Modern British Caribbean,” UVA-Monticello Early American Seminar (Charlottesville, VA), December 2014

“Crawl to Market: Port Royal and the Transformation of the Atlantic Turtle Trade,” UVA-Edinburgh Transatlantic Seminar (Charlottesville, VA), March 2014

TEACHING

Midwestern State University

<i>upper-level</i>	Colonial America
<i>upper-level</i>	Revolutionary America
<i>upper-level</i>	Caribbean History (cross-listed with Global Studies)
<i>upper-level</i>	Atlantic World (cross-listed with Global Studies)
<i>upper-level</i>	Slavery in the Atlantic World (cross-listed with Global Studies)
<i>upper-level</i>	History of Midwestern State University
<i>major requirement</i>	The Writing of History
<i>graduate requirement</i>	Research Methods
<i>graduate seminar</i>	The Early Modern Caribbean
<i>graduate seminar</i>	American Disasters: An Unnatural History of Natural Disasters
<i>survey (core)</i>	Honors American History to 1865
<i>survey (core)</i>	American History to 1865
<i>survey (core)</i>	American History since 1865

guided practicum Internship

University of Virginia

teaching assistant U.S. Military History, 1600-1900 (for Prof. Gary Gallagher)
teaching assistant English History to 1688 (for Prof. Paul Halliday)
teaching assistant Rise and Fall of the Slave South (for Prof. Elizabeth Varon)
teaching assistant The Colonial Period of American History (for Prof. Max Edelson)

PUBLIC & DIGITAL HISTORY

ongoing Resident Historian, Viking Ocean Cruises. 2017 –
❖ Lecture Developer, “Explorers of South America” (2022)

2021 Interview, “Runaway Turtle!” Alexis Coe’s *Study Marry Kill* Newsletter, February 2021: <https://alexiscoe.substack.com/p/runaway-turtle>

2020 Contributor, “Color in Art, Art in Color: Prisms, Pigments and Purpose,” Oct. 2020 - Jan. 2021, Exhibition at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art

Interview, “Going Timbering and Turtling in the Caribbean,” Conversations at the Washington Library Podcast, March 2020:
<https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/podcast/going-timbering-and-turtling-in-the-caribbean-with-mary-draper/>

2018 Researcher, Special Collections at Arthur J. Morris Law Library, UVA School of Law

- *1828 Catalogue Project*, archives.law.virginia.edu/catalogue/
- *The Art of Law*, art exhibit featuring works from the first UVA Law Library
- *Charlottesville Statues Legal History Research Guide*, statues.law.virginia.edu
 - ❖ Honorable Mention, C. Herbert Finch Online Publication Award, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

2017 Contributor, *The American Yawp*, www.americanyawp.com

2014 Research Assistant, MapScholar, www.mapscholar.org

2009 Historic Resources Intern, Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax, VA

2008 Summer History Scholar, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

SERVICE

To the Profession

2022-2023 Selection Committee, Ralph Lee Woodward Jr. Prize, LACS-SHA
2021-2023 Advisory Council, Women’s Environmental History Network

2021 Coffeehouse Co-Host, “What’s new in Vast Early American environmental history?” Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture

Referee: *William and Mary Quarterly, Early American Studies*

Midwestern State University

2020-24 Faculty Senate (Secretary, 2022-2024)

2022-24 Values Marketing and Communication Team

2022-24 University Research Committee

2021-23 Enrollment Management Council

2021-22 Centennial Steering Committee (Anchor Event Subcommittee)

2020-22 Pre-Law Scholarship Committee

2020-22 Financial Appeals Committee (Chair, 2021-2022)

2021 Women’s History Month Committee, 2021

2019 – Editorial Committee, *Metamorphosis* (undergraduate research journal)

2019 – Evaluator, Undergraduate Research Forum

2019-20 First-Year Council

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

2020-24 College Research Committee (Chair, 2021-2023)

2022-23 Faculty Mentor

2020-22 Teaching and Scholarship Award Committee

Department of History

ongoing Advisor, undergraduate history majors

2022 – Webmaster

2021-22 Latin American History Search Committee

2019-20 Asian History Search Committee

2018-19 Department Chair Search Committee

Graduate Advising at Midwestern State University

Chair, Master’s Theses Committees, Department of History, *ongoing*

2022 Maggie-Mae Ellison, “Wife, Mother, Soldier, Spy: A Women’s History of Revolutionary America”

2021 Benjamin Chance, “War for the Frontier: Land, Blood, and Empire in the Ohio River Valley”

Committee Member, Master’s Thesis or Exit Paper, Department of History, *ongoing*

- 2023 Patrick Idell (expected Fall 2023)
- 2022 Rowan Flores on smallpox in colonial Mexico
- 2022 Amanda Tyler on cemeteries and the culture of death in Texas
- 2021 Kevin Oney on the Axis occupation & nationalism in Yugoslavia
- 2021 Kenley O'Brien on homosexuality in medieval Europe
- 2020 Cat Forrester on Christian Dior and consumer fantasies
- 2019 Steven Ellerkamp on witchcraft in medieval Europe

Wichita Falls Community

- 2021 – Board of Directors, Wichita County Heritage Society (Vice President, 2023-2024; Secretary, 2022-2023)
- 2022 Nonprofit Board Essentials Training, Center for Nonprofit Management & Leadership

Rice University

- 2020 Co-Chair, Ten-Year Reunion Committee
- 2015 Co-Chair, Five-Year Reunion Committee
- ongoing* Class Volunteer, Rice Annual Fund
- ongoing* Alumni Interviewer, Rice Admissions Office

LANGUAGE COMPETENCY

Spanish: *reading, writing, and speaking*

RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN AT ARCHIVES

Caribbean Barbados Department of Archives, Black Rock, Barbados
 Barbados Museum and Historical Society, Bridgetown, Barbados
 Jamaica Archives, Spanish Town, Jamaica
 National Library of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica

Great Britain The British Library, London, UK
 Lambeth Palace Library, London, UK
 The National Archives, Kew, London, UK
 National Archives of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK
 National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, UK

United States Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society, Charlottesville, VA
 American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA
 Baker Library, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA
 John Carter Brown Library, Providence, RI

John D. Rockefeller Library, Williamsburg, VA
Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, DE
Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
International Center for Jefferson Studies, Charlottesville, VA
Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA
Mystic Seaport, Mystic, CT
Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI
Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence, RI
Small Special Collections, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, VA
William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Wichita County Archives, Wichita Falls, TX

Last updated September 2023