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## William E. Skidmore, Ph.D.

### Curriculum vitae

(March 2025)

#### Education

- Ph.D. History, Rice University, June 19, 2018.
- M.A. History, Rice University, 2014.
- M.A. History, University of Delaware, 2012.
- B.A. History and English, Mars Hill University, 2010.

#### Professional Appointments

- 2022-2018 Lecturer, Department of History, Rice University.
- 2017 Andrew W. Mellon and Council of European Studies Fellow, Columbia University (Remote).

#### Publications

##### Monographs

- 2018 “Informed Activism: Antislavery Knowledge Production and the Global Discourse of Slavery, 1833-1843” (Ph.D., Houston, Texas: Rice University, June 19, 2018), vii-254. URL: <https://scholarship.rice.edu/handle/1911/105824>.

##### Referred Journal Articles

- 2018 “‘A Milder Type of Bondage’: Brazilian Slavery and Race Relations in the Eyes of American Abolitionists, 1812–1888,” *Slavery & Abolition* 39, no. 1 (January 2018): 147-168. DOI: [10.1080/0144039X.2017.1284459](https://doi.org/10.1080/0144039X.2017.1284459).

- 2010 “The Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 and the Christiana Riot of 1851: Two Illuminating Events on Race Relations in Pennsylvania,” *Greensboro Historical Review* vol. 3, no. 1 (September 2010): 1-15. URL: <https://his.uncg.edu/ghro>.

### Book Reviews

- 2021 Review of “Luiz Felipe de Alencastro, *The Trade in the Living: The Formation of Brazil in the South Atlantic, Sixteenth to Seventeenth Centuries* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2018), Pp. xix 606, Hb., \$95.00,” *Journal of Latin American Studies* 53, no. 1 (February 2021): 210–12. DOI: [10.1017/S0022216X21000146](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022216X21000146).
- 2016 Review of “Rafael Marquese, Tâmis Parron, and Márcia Berbel, *Slavery and Politics: Brazil and Cuba, 1790-1850*, trans. Leonardo Marques (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2016), Pp. vi, 362. Paper, \$29.95,” *Journal of Southern History* 84, no. 2 (May 2017): 493-494. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/44783888>.
- 2016 Review of “Celso Thomas Castilho, *Slave Emancipation and Transformations in Brazilian Political Citizenship*. Pitt Latin American Series (Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2016), Pp. xvi, 264. Paper, \$28.95,” *Journal of Southern History* 84, no. 2 (May 2017): 494. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/44783888>.
- 2015 Review of “Ira Berlin, *The Long Emancipation: The Demise of Slavery in the United States* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015), Pp. xi, 240, Hb., £16.95,” *Reviews in History* no. 1892 (February 2016). DOI: [10.14296/RiH/2014/1892](https://doi.org/10.14296/RiH/2014/1892).

### Encyclopedia Entries

- 2019 “Atlantic Origins of Reform,” in *The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook, Vol. 1: To 1877*, ed. Joseph L. Locke and Ben Wright (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2019), vol. 1, 261-63. URL: <https://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=27850>.
- 2016 “Antislavery,” in *America in the World, 1776 to the Present: A Supplement to the Dictionary of American History*, ed. Edward J Blum (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2016), vol. 1, 77-79. URL: <https://www.gale.com/ebooks/9780684325057/america-in-the-world-1776-to-the-present-a-supplement-to-the-dictionary-of-american-history>.

### Digital Works

- 2018–2013 “A Nation of Abolitionists” (Research Blog). URL: <http://wes3.blogs.rice.edu>.

- 2013 “The World Antislavery Convention of 1840,” *Historians Against Slavery* (blog), September 13, 2013. URL: <https://historiansagainstslavery.com/the-world-antislavery-convention-of-1840/>
- 2013 Map Contributor and co-Editor with Richard Newman and Benjamin Wright, “The Abolition Seminar: An Educational Tool for Teachers, Students, and All Who Fight for Freedom,” Database, July 2013. URL: <https://www.abolitionseminar.org/maps/>.

### **Manuscripts-in-Submission**

Co-Editor with James Sidbury and Kerry Ward, *Slavery and Human Trafficking: The Past in the Present and Human Trafficking: The Past in the Present* (under review with Cambridge Press).

*The Problems of Slaveries in the Age of Emancipation, 1833-1888* (outside review for *Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World* book series with Louisiana State University Press).

### **Awards and Honors**

- 2019 Captain Charles Septimus Longcope Award (for best dissertation in the humanities), Rice University.
- 2017 Clifford Lefton Lawrence Award in British History.
- 2013 Clifford Lefton Lawrence Award in British History.
- 2010 Salutatorian, Mars Hill University.
- 2009 Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

### **Fellowships and Grants**

#### **Long-Term Fellowships (+12 months)**

- 2017 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Council for European Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Columbia University (Remote).

#### **Short-Term Fellowships (3-6 months)**

- 2016 Jacob M. Price Visiting Scholar Fellowship, William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan).
- 2015 North American Conference on British Studies and Huntington Library Short-Term Fellowship, Huntington Library (Pasadena, California).
- 2013 Portuguese Teachers Fellowship, Middlebury Language Schools (Middlebury, Vermont).

- 2013 Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History (Re:work) Fellowship, University of Humboldt Berlin and Universidade Estadual de Campinas (São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil).
- 2012 Wendell Phillips Research Fellowship, Historians Against Slavery, American Philosophical Society (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).
- 2010 Society for Historians of the Early American Republic and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia, (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

### **Grants (research and conference participation)**

- 2016 Isaiah Thomas Travel Grant, American Antiquarian Society (Worcester, Massachusetts).
- 2015 Barnes Travel and Research Grant, Humanities Research Center Rice University, Weston Library - Bodleian Libraries at the University of Oxford (Oxford, United Kingdom).
- 2013 Travel Grant, Humanities Research Center at Rice, University College Dublin (Dublin, Ireland).

### **Public Talks**

#### **Invited Lectures**

- 2022 “Justice to India’: Questions of Slavery and Freedom in the British Indian Ocean,” Summer Institute for Community College Instructors Annual Symposium, University of California, Berkley (Digital – June 03).
- 2021 “Black Founders and Liberation Theology in the Age of Revolutions,” Boniuk Institute for the Study and Advancement of Religious Tolerance, Rice University (Houston, Texas – July 13).
- 2020 “The Contrary Effect Liberty & Slavery Upon the Mind of Men’: Richard Allen’s Plea for Universal Freedom During the Age of Revolutions,” Boniuk Institute, Rice University (Houston, Texas – June 22).
- 2019 “The Shadow of Slavery’: The Discourses of Freedom and Bondage in the Afro-Atlantic, 1789-1888,” Glasscock School of Continuing Studies, Rice University (Houston, Texas – June 26).
- 2016 “A Nation of Abolitionists: The Rise of the Global Anti-Slavery Movement, 1840-1890,” William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan – September 21).

#### **Campus Talks**

- 2017 “Informed Activism: Antislavery Knowledge Production and the Global Discourse of Slavery,” School of Humanities Advisory Board Annual Meeting, Rice University (Houston, Texas — April 20).
- 2015 “‘Our Country is the World’: The Global Antislavery Movement,” 90-Second Thesis Competition, Center for Written, Oral, and Visual Communications, Rice University (Houston, Texas — March 13).
- 2013 “Armchair Abolitionism and the Imaging of Brazilian Slavery, 1808-1888,” Brown Bag Lecture Series, Department of History, Rice University (Houston, Texas — October 27).

## Conference Activities/Participation

### Conference Papers

- 2019 “‘The Genius of American Abolitionism’: Simón Bolívar and the Rise of Garrisonian Immediatism, 1830-1833,” Rice-Unicamp-Mora Annual Seminar, Dr. José María Luis Mora Research Institute (Mexico City, Mexico — March 25-30).
- 2018 “‘The Felonious and Piratical’ Anglo-American Antislavery Explorers of Brazil and the British Slaveholders of Minas Gerais, 1839-1843,” 25th Annual International Conference of Europeanists, University of Chicago (Chicago, Illinois — March 28-30).
- 2017 “‘Zealously Exonerating Emancipation’: The British and American Fact-Finding Missions in the West Indies, 1836-1838,” Southern Historical Association 83rd Annual Meeting (Dallas, Texas — November 09-11).
- 2017 “‘Civilization, Commerce, and Christianity’: How British Abolitionists Understood Slavery and the Slave Trade in Central and East Africa, 1860-1890,” 17th Annual Africa Conference, University of Texas at Austin (Austin, Texas — March 31-April 02).
- 2016 “‘A Well-Earned Reputation’: Joaquim Nabuco and the BFASS,” Rice-Unicamp-Mora Annual Seminar, Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Campinas, Brazil — June 01-05).
- 2015 “‘When Freedom’s Sunshine Broke on Slavery’s Dreary Night’: The Anglo-Atlantic Movement to End Slavery and Human Bondage in India and Brazil, 1840-1890,” Association of British American Nineteenth Century Historians 22nd Annual Conference, Madingley Hall, University of Cambridge (Cambridge, United Kingdom — October 09-11).
- 2014 “‘Os abolicionistas poltrona e do Imaginando da Escravatura no Brasil” Rice-Unicamp-Mora Annual Seminar, Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Campinas, Brazil — June 02-06).
- 2013 “‘The Problems of Free Labor in the Age of Emancipation Anglo-American Views of British East Indian Apprenticeship, 1842-1850,” IKG Work and Human

- Lifecycle in Global History Symposium, Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Campinas, Brazil – October 18-25).
- 2013 “The Heart of Irelands Knows the Plight of India’: British India Society in the Age of Victorian Antislavery, 1839-1843,” Ireland, Slavery, Anti-Slavery, Empire, University College Dublin (Dublin, Ireland – October 24-25).
- 2013 “A Nation of Abolitionists: British India and the British Antislavery Movement,” Rice-Unicamp-Mora Annual Seminar, Rice University (Houston, Texas – March 23-26).
- 2012 “Why the Problem Continues: Understanding Modern Slavery in Historical Context,” *Juneteenth Conference: Making Freedom in the Atlantic World*, Library Company of Philadelphia (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – June 16).
- 2010 “Evolution of Racial Attitudes in Philadelphia, 1793-1851,” Society for the Historians of the Early Republic Annual Conference, Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, New York – July 22-25).
- 2010 “Evolution of Racial Attitudes in Philadelphia, 1793-1851,” Student Liberal Arts Mosaic Annual Conference, Mars Hill University (Asheville, North Carolina – March 12-14).
- 2009 “The White Pines Road to the American Revolution: Understanding the King’s Broad Arrow Policy in the American Colonies,” Student Liberal Arts Mosaic Annual Conference, Mars Hill University (Asheville, North Carolina – April 15-16).

### Panel Chair or Discussant

- 2021 Discussant, Indians and African Americans in Archival Digital Sources Panel, Rice-Unicamp-Mora Annual Seminar (Remote, February 05-08).
- 2015 Discussant, Africa and the Diaspora Panel, Rice-Unicamp-Mora Annual Seminar, Rice University (Houston Texas – March 12-15).
- 2014 Chair, Anglo-American Connections Panel, Association of British American Nineteenth Century Historians 21st Annual Conference, Rice University (Houston, Texas – April 03-05).
- 2014 Chair, Race, Placedd, and Color Panel, Race and Nation in the Age of Emancipation Conference, Rice University (Houston, Texas – February 21-22).

### Research Experience

- 2019 Research Assistant for Caroline Levander, *Undisciplined: Invention, Ingenuity and American Higher Education* (forthcoming, under contract with MIT Press).
- I examined nineteenth-century newspaper accounts of the Afro-descended explorers who journeyed across the Arctic and Antarctic Circle circa 1850-1900.

- 2018      Research Assistant for Brett Bennett, *Saving the World the First Time: Ideas of Climate Change Before Global Warming* (forthcoming, under contract with Reaktion Press).  
I researched British and French correspondences, shipping logs, and land evaluations of Africa's southern and eastern coasts from the Victorian era (1837-1901) at the Charles Woodson Archive.
- 2017      Research Assistant for W. Caleb McDaniel, *Sweet Taste of Liberty: A True Story of Slavery and Restitute in America* (Oxford University Press, 2019). URL: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2018047090>. **winner of the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in History.**  
I collected, analyzed, and created datasets of sugar and cotton plantations across the Mississippi River Delta (central and southeastern United States) during the late antebellum era (1840-1861).
- 2016      Research Assistant for Kerry Ward, *The American Civil War in the Indian Ocean: Global Dimensions of a National Conflict* (forthcoming with Cambridge Press).  
I developed a database of over 1,000 newspaper accounts, reports, and editorials on the U.S. Civil War (1861-1865), which appeared in foreign English, Spanish, and French newspapers.
- 2012      Graduate Research Assistant, National Endowment for Humanities Summer Seminar, "The Abolitionist Movement: Fighting Slavery and Racial Injustice from the Revolution to the Civil War." URL: <https://www.abolitionseminar.org>.  
I researched American slavery, abolition, and emancipation at different archives in Philadelphia and digital databases. I collaborated with Richard Newman on a week-long lecture series for high school teachers on the history of slavery and freedom in Pennsylvania.
- 2011      Graduate Archival Assistant, Morris Library, Special Collections and Museums, University of Delaware.  
I worked as an archival librarian, collaborating with researchers and academics on their projects. I also cataloged new archival materials (papers, images, and physical objects), creating digital and hard copy finding aids.

## Teaching Experience

### Research Courses

American Radicals & Reformers, Rice University (Fall Semester, 2019).

Slavery in the Atlantic World, Rice University (Spring Semester, 2019).

### **Reading Seminars**

Blacks in the Americas, Rice University (Spring Semester, 2020 and 2022).

Slavery and the Founders Rice University (Fall Semester, 2018 and 2021).

### **Survey Classes**

Early America, Rice University (Fall Semester, 2018, 2019, 2021).

American Civil War Era, Rice University (Spring Semester, 2019, 2020, & 2022).

### **Teaching Assistantship**

Lora Wildenthal, Introduction to World History, Rice University (Spring Semester, 2014).

Erica Armstrong-Dunbar, U.S. History to 1865, University of Delaware (Spring Semester, 2012).

David Shearer, Western Civilization: 1648-Present, University of Delaware, (Fall Semester, 2011).

### **Related Professional Skills**

Geographic Information Systems (Raster and Vector)

JIRA

Confluence

Concourse

Text Mining

Data Modeling

Quantitative Data Collection and Analysis

Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis

End-to-End Research

### **Service**

#### **Service to the Profession**

2021-2017 Panel and Paper Reviewer, International Conference of Europeanists Annual Symposium.

2021-2018 Manuscript or proposal reviewer, *Europe Now: A Journal of Research and Art*. URL: <https://www.europenowjournal.org>.

### University Service

- 2020-2018 Faculty advisor, 90-Second Thesis Competition, Center for Written, Oral, and Visual Communications, Rice University.
- 2020-2019 Member, Task Force on Slavery, Segregation, and Racial Injustice, Rice University.
- 2019 Member, Graduate Acceptance Committee, Rice University.
- 2018 Faculty Speaker, O-Week (Freshman and First-Year Graduate Orientations), Rice University., Rice University.
- 2010 Associate Editor, *Cadenza: Arts & Literature Magazine*, Mars Hill University. URL: <https://www.mhu.edu/academics/majors-and-minors/english/cadenza>.

### Departmental Service

- 2023 Recommender for Victoria Zabarte's successful application to Yale University's doctoral program in History.
- 2022-2018 Manuscript or proposal reviewer for *Rice Historical Review*. URL: <https://www.ricehistoricalreview.org>.
- 2021 Recommender for Annie Zhang's successful application to UT Health McGovern Medical School.
- 2019 Recommender for Victoria Zabarte's successful application to Mellon-May Undergraduate Research Fellowship.
- 2019 Member, Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum, Rice University.
- 2014 Coordinator, Department of History Graduate Brown Bag Lecture Series, Rice University.
- 2010 Undergraduate Member, Visiting Artists and Scholars Committee, Mars Hill University.
- 2010 Keynote Speaker, History Day, Mars Hill University.

### Community Outreach and Involvement

- 2018-2014 Paper Judge, Houston Regional National History Day.
- 2012-2011 Paper Judge, Maryland Regional National History Day.
- 2010-2008 Policy Research and Advisor, Bonner Foundation, Social Support Services Madison County, NC.
- 2009-2008 Paper Judge, North Carolina Western Regional National History Day.

### Languages

**Interagency Language Roundtable Scale (ILR)**

English	ILR 5	Native or Bilingual
Portuguese	ILR 4+	Full Professional Proficiency Plus
Spanish	ILR 3+	Professional Work Efficiency Plus
French	ILR 2	Limited Working Proficiency

**Language Certificates**

2014	Brazilian Portuguese Foreign Language Exam, Rice University.
2013	Certificate of Language Training in Portuguese, Middlebury College.

**Professional Memberships and Affiliations****Organizations**

AHA	American Historical Association
ASA	American Studies Association
BrANCH	Association of British American Nineteenth-Century Historians
CES	Council for European Studies
EAT	Early American Historians of Texas
HAS	Historians Against Slavery
NACBS	North American Conference on British Studies
OAH	Organization of American History
OIEAHC	Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture
SHEAR	Society for Historians of the Early American Republic
SHA	Southern Historical Association

**References****James Sidbury**

Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished Professor of Humanities

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Rice University

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**W. Caleb McDaniel**

Mary Gibbs Jones Professor of Humanities

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**Kerry Ward**

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Rice University

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**Caroline Levander**

Vice President for Global and Digital Strategy

Carlson Professor in the Humanities

Department of English

Rice University

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**James Brewster Stewart**

Emeritus Professor

Department of History

Macalester College (Saint Paul, Minnesota)

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**Richard Huzzey**

Full Professor

Department of History

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