

LEAH RICHIER

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Education

Ph.D., University of Georgia, in History (May 2017)

Graduate Certificates: Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies

Interdisciplinary Certificate in University Teaching

Dissertation Title: *If He Should Die: The Plight of Patients and Their Families in the Georgia and South Carolina Lunatic Asylums in the 1860s*

Dissertation Committee: Stephen W. Berry, Stephen Mihm, Jennifer Palmer, John Inscoc

Comprehensive Exams: U.S. History, Latin American History, Gender and Sexuality in U.S. History

Areas of Specialization: Race, gender, violence, death, mental illness, and disability in the nineteenth and twentieth century United States

B.A., Agnes Scott College, in History, *magna cum laude* and Honors (May 2009)

Senior Thesis: *Some Cold Beer and a Varsity Milkshake: An Oral History with U.S. Vietnam Veterans with PTSD*, supervised by Kathleen Kennedy.

Academic Experience

INSTRUCTOR

University of Georgia, Department of History

HIST 3085: Women's History to 1877 (spring 2015)

- Taught a course utilizing primary sources regarding women and other issues of gender from U.S. prehistory to the twentieth century. The course's semester-long "Find-and-Save" is a multi-stage assignment designed to aid students in reviving local history. The class involved experiential learning at local cemeteries and libraries and fashion, art, novels, and film, including *Pocahontas* (1995), *The Patriot* (2000), *12 Years a Slave* (2013), and *Gone with the Wind* (1939).

HIST 2112: United States History since 1865 (summer 2013)

- Taught an accelerated summer session with lectures, discussions, speakers, and experiential learning. A significant portion of the class included online participation, social media, and digital sources. This class used Alternate History books, film, and graphic novels, such as *The Man in the High Castle* (1963), *The Twilight Zone*, *Looking Backward* (1888), and *Watchmen* (1987).

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

University of Georgia, Department of History (August 2009-present)

- Presented lectures to 300-student courses on "The March into Mexico," "Fighting, Killing, and Glory in the Civil War," and "Everyman's Experience in the Vietnam War," as well as assisting in the creation of numerous other lectures for courses.

History 2112: United States History since 1865

- Teaching Assistant for Dr. James C. Cobb (fall 2009), Dr. Montgomery Wolf (spring 2012), Dr. Brian Drake (spring 2013, fall 2014, spring 2016)

History 2111: United States History to 1865

- Teaching Assistant for Dr. Claudio Saunt (spring 2010, fall 2011), Dr. Brian Drake (fall 2010, fall 2012), Dr. Stephen W. Berry (spring 2011), Dr. Stephen Mihm (fall 2013, fall 2015), Dr. Michael Winship (spring 2014, summer 2014)

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (Capitalism and Religion in the 20th century)

University of Georgia, Assistant to Dr. Stephen Berry (2016-2017)

- Working on the digital humanities project, *Common Tongues*, to digitize and datify thousands of letters from transitionally literature peoples across the United States during the Civil War Era.

University of Georgia, Assistant to Dr. Bethany Moreton (2013-2014)

- Managed a data collection project focusing on evangelical financial practices throughout the twentieth century, drawing from religious periodicals (i.e. *The Christian Century*).

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Southern Historical Association (2016-2017)

- Working to improve the SHA's historical archive by conducting oral history interviews, writing up histories, and collecting and processing archival materials for long-term storage and online.

Publications

"Living and Dying in the Civil War: A Sensory History," co-authored with Dr. Stephen Berry, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History* (Forthcoming).

"Soldier Suicides," *The SAGE Encyclopedia of War* (Forthcoming).

Review of Katy Meier's *Nature's Civil War: Common Soldiers and the Environment in 1862 Virginia* (University of North Carolina Press, 2013.) *Civil War History* (March 2015).

"Race Riots" and "William Jennings Bryan and the Gold Standard," *The American Yawp: A Free, Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook* (2014).

Review of Richard Serrano's *The Last of the Blue and Grey* (Smithsonian Books, 2013.) *The Civil War Monitor* (October 2013).

"Civil War Cemeteries," *The Civil War in Georgia: A New Georgia Encyclopedia Companion* (2011).

Conference Presentations

American Historical Association (Spring 2017)

- "Much Like a Lunatic": The 1860 Pardon of William A. Choice and the Debate around his Alcohol Use, Head Injury, and the Murder He Committed

South Carolina Historical Association (Spring 2016)

- Diagnosing Dixie: What Asylum Records Say about Post-Civil War South Carolina

Institute of Women's Studies Symposium at UGA (Spring 2016)

- Teaching Gender and U.S. Slavery: *Gone with the Wind* and *12 Years a Slave*

Southern Association for Women's History (Summer 2015)

- "KILLED BY A CRAZY MOTHER, TRAGEDY IN A HAPPY HOME": Mass murder-suicides perpetrated by mothers in New York City, 1865 to 1900

Southern American Studies Association Conference (Spring 2015)

- "Violent and Destructive. Cured.": War-Wrecked Families of South Carolina Lunatic Asylum

Georgia State University Graduate Conference (Spring 2014)

- Nightmare or Sanctuary: The Women of the Antebellum Georgia Lunatic Asylum

Popular Culture/American Culture Association in the South (Fall 2010)

- "The Enjoyment of Apples": *Playboy* in the Early 1970s and America's Reaction to the Sexual Revolution

Honors, Grants, and Fellowships

- Diversity and Inclusion Fellow, UGA (2016-2017)
- Department Nomination for Teaching in Excellence Award, UGA (2016)
- Gregory Dissertation Summer Completion Award, UGA (2016)
- Future Faculty Program of UGA (2015-2016)
- Carl Vipperman Teaching Assistantship Award, UGA (2015)
- Outstanding Teaching Assistantship Award, UGA (2015)
- Sitterson Visiting Scholars Grant, UNC-Chapel Hill (2014-2015)
- Summer Doctoral Research Award, UGA (2014)
- Gregory Travel Award, History Department, UGA (2009, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016)

Professional Service and Activities

Graduate Coordinator, Gender and History Workshop (2014-2016), with Dr. Jennifer Palmer

- Organized monthly writing and research workshops for those interested in gender and history.
- Arranged for University of Georgia and outside speakers to discuss their work, including scholars of race, gender, and sexuality, focusing on the U.S., Europe, Latin America, and Africa.
- Co-authored multiple grant proposals which funded a summer writing workshop and biannual visiting speakers.

Co-Founder and Contributor, War and Society in the World Workshop (2014 to present)

- Helped create a new intellectual workshop devoted to comparative discussion of global and temporal issues of violence, war, and death. Topics have included soldiers' visions of the afterlife, mutinies and rebellions, pension applications, and wartime correspondence.

Coordinator, History Graduate Student Discussion and Dialogue (2014-2015)

- In response to a loss in the department community, I established a bimonthly meeting to encourage an atmosphere of camaraderie among the history graduate students at UGA.

Processing Assistant, Hargrett Rare Books and Manuscripts Library (2010-2012)

- Inventoried, arranged, and catalogued historic manuscript collections in preparation for a move to a brand new building - UGA's Special Collections Library – with automatic high density storage to provide access to unique and rare materials related to the history and culture of Georgia, the U.S. South, and the United States.
- Provided descriptive work with hundreds of archival collections, including the costume designs and personal effects of Freddy Wittop, extensive Civil War correspondence and diaries, and World War II artifacts, including captured Japanese senninbari belts, German Nazi banner flags and weaponry, and U.S. G.I. military equipment.