

Christine E. Sears

Associate Professor of History at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, August 2013

Assistant Professor at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, August 2007

Ph.D. in American History from the University of Delaware, May 2007

Minor Field: The Ottoman Empire and North Africa, with an emphasis on slavery

Publications

Co-editor, *New Directions in Slavery Studies: Commodification, Community, and Comparison*, Louisiana State University Press. Co-author of introduction and author of chapter, “‘In Algiers, the City of Bondage’: Comparative Slavery in the Urban Context.” November 2015.

American Slaves and African Masters: Algiers and the Western Sahara, 1776-1830. Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

“Slave Regimes.” In Edward J. Blum (ed.) *America in the World, 1776 to the Present: A Supplement to the Dictionary of American History* Farmington Hill, MI: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2016: 952-955.

“Slavery as Social Mobility? Western Slaves in Late-Eighteenth Century Algiers,” in Silvia Marzagalli, James R. Sofka, and John McCusker (eds.), *Rough Waters: The United States Involvement in the Mediterranean, 18th and 19th Centuries*, *Research in Maritime History* no. 44 (March 2011): 207-220.

Christine E. Sears and Jason O’Brien. “Victor or Villain: Werhner von Braun and the Space Race,” *The Social Studies* 102, no. 2 (March 2011): 59-64.

Select Book Reviews

“No Magnolias or Mint Juleps,” Review of *Slave Breeding* by Gregory D. Smithers, for H-Civil War, March 2015, <https://networks.h-net.org/node/4113/reviews/64746/sears-smithers-slave-breeding-sex-violence-and-memory-african-american>

Review of Sylvia Diouf, *Slavery’s Exiles* for *The Journal of American History* 102, no. 2 (Sept. 2015): 538-539.

Review of *Slavery Before Race* by Katherine Hayes (NYU press, 2013) for the *Journal of American Ethnic History* 34, no. 1 (Fall 2014): 113-115.

Review of James Walvin, *The Zong: A Massacre, the Law and the End of Slavery* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011) for the *Journal of World History* vol. 24, no.4 (2013).

Review of Walter Johnson, *River of Dark Dreams: Slavery and Empire in the Cotton Kingdom*, in *The Civil War Monitor*, posted 7/10/2013. <http://www.civilwarmonitor.com/book-shelf/johnson-river-of-dark-dreams-2013>

Review of Martha B. Katz-Hyman and Kym S. Rice (eds.), *World of a Slave: Encyclopedia of the Material Life of Slaves in the United States* (ABC-CLIO/Greenwood, 2011) for *Winterthur Portfolio*, vol. 47, no. 1 (Spring 2013).

“Early American Manhood: Worlds Gained, Worlds Lost,” Review of John Gilbert McCurdy’s *Citizen Bachelor: Manhood and the Creation of the United States* (Cornell University Press,

2009) and Richard Godbeer's *The Overflowing of Friendship: Love Between Men and the Creation of the American Republic* (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009) for *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 45, no. 3 (Spring 2012): 443-447.

Review of Lawrence Peskin's *Captives and Countrymen: Barbary Slavery and the American Public, 1785-1816* (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009) in *Maryland Historical Magazine* vol. 104, no. 3 (Fall 2009): 335-337.

Review of Frank Lambert's *The Barbary Wars* for H-Atlantic, H-Net Reviews, March 2008, <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=220101206468665>

Select Conference Presentations

“‘Tyrannical Masters is the Turks’: The Mediterranean and Ottoman Context of Barbary Captivity,” for a Middle East Studies Association’s Annual Meeting panel entitled “Engaging Orlando Patterson’s Social Death of Slaves or What is Islamic about Slavery in Muslim Societies?” Washington, DC, November 2015.

“‘Git You at Liberty’: How ‘the People’ Understood State and Citizens’ Obligations” at the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) Annual Meeting, July 2014.

“‘Arab Speculators’: Arab Masters and Slave Ransoming in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries” at the Perspectives on Historical and Contemporary Ransoming Practices at York University, sponsored by the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research. April 2014.

“Pirate’s Lackey to Hero: William Bainbridge and National Identity,” as part of a panel entitled “Founding Villains: Liars, Scoundrels, and Thieves in the Making of Early America,” that I organized for the American Historical Association’s Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Jan. 2013.

“‘Most Obedient and Loving Subjects’: Impressed Seamen and the Rhetoric of Citizenship,” presented at the University of Western Brittany’s “The Americas in 1812” conference June 2012.

“‘All Humble Mariners’: Sailors and Democratic Discourse in the Early American Republic” as part of the panel that I organized “From the Bottom Up: Sailors and Democracy” at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., April 2010.

“Slavery as Social Mobility? Western Slaves in Late Eighteenth-Century Algiers” presented at conference “Rough Waters: The United States’ Involvement in the Mediterranean during the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century” organized by the Centre de la Méditerranée Moderne et Contemporaine, University of Nice, France, October 2008.

“‘Capable of Anything’: Conflict Among Slaves” presented on a panel that I organized, entitled “Re-Visiting the Slave Community: Hidden Aspects of Slave Agency” at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, March 2008.

“‘Not Degrading to yourself or the Flag of the U States’: Early Republic Struggles on the World Stage,” presented on a panel entitled “Gendered and Sexed Identities in U.S. Discourse: Ethnicity, Manliness, and International Relations” at the American Historical Association’s Annual Meeting, January 2007.

“‘Respected as a great People who deserve to be Free’: Rhetoric versus Reality in the Tripolitan War,” presented as part of a panel entitled “Language of Foreign Relations” at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) 2005 Conference, June 2005.

Other Presentations

“U.S. Women’s History and Suffrage” for the Office of International Programs and Services Study of the U.S. Institute (SUSI), 2009, for South Asian students and, 2011, for Azerbaijani students.

“Slavery in the Atlantic World” at the SUPER Teacher Institute on “Slavery in Alabama: Public Amnesia and Historic Memory” sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Foundation and the Alabama Archives and Department of History, July 2009

“The Barbary Pirates: Letters to Tripoli” on the Best Practices: Examples of Historical Thinking site for the National History Education Clearinghouse website. NHEC is a collaboration between George Mason University’s Center for History and New Media and Stanford University’s School of Education. My 20-minute video supports K-12 teachers’ work.

<http://teachinghistory.org/best-practices/examples-of-historical-thinking/24298>

Fellowships and Awards

- 2015 UAH Humanities Center Faculty Research Grant
- 2014 UAH Individual Investigator Distinguished Research Grant
- 2014 UAH Humanities Center Faculty Research Grant
- 2013 UAH Humanities Center Faculty Research Grant
- 2011 UAH Junior Faculty Distinguished Research Grant
- 2008 UAH Mini-Research Grant
- 2007 John A. Munroe Memorial Award for Excellent Teaching for exceptional teaching.
- 2007 Office of Graduate Studies Graduate Travel Fund Award
- 2006 Colonial Dames of America District 10 Award in American History
- 2006 Office of Graduate Studies Graduate Travel Fund Award
- 2004 Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Fellowship
- 2002 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship at the Library Company of Philadelphia and Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- 2000 Steward Fellowship from the University of Delaware, Fall semester

Professional Experience

Research Assistant to Brock Jobe, Professor in Academic Programs at Winterthur Museum, 2001-2003. I assisted Professor Jobe with course for the Winterthur Program of Early American Culture Program at the University of Delaware.

Intern at the Historic Houses of Odessa in Odessa, Delaware, 1998.

I planned and implemented the spring tour, “Tea and Thee,” including choosing objects, delineating interpretive goals, and training guides to give the tour.

Guide Specialist and School Services Assistant at Winterthur Museum, 1991-2007.

I started as a part-time guide interpreting the collection of American decorative arts. In 1994, I was promoted to full-time School Service Assistant. I interpreted the collection for visitors and developed and implanted on and off site school programs for grades Pre-K through college. I trained as a Guide Specialist in Interpretation, after which I was part of team that did training for Winterthur guides and guides at other regional museums.

Secondary Teacher at Woodbury High Scholl and then at St. Mary's Hall, 1991-1993, teaching primarily English classes to grades 6 through 11.

Adjunct English Instructor at Delaware Technical and Community College, 1994-1997
I planned and taught composition, public speaking, and reading and study skills.

Selected Service

H-Atlantic editor, August 2013-present

Member, Alabama Early Americanists Seminar

Reader for the *Journal of Early Republic*, 2014

Grant Reviewer for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, Documentary Editions program, December 2015/January 2016

Board of Directors of Friends of the Alabama Archives and Department of History, 2010-2015
Secretary, Fall 2011-2015, Fellowship Committee, Spring 2012

Member, Mentoring Committee for the Southern Association of Women Historians, 2015-2016

Southern Historical Association's Holmes Award Committee, 2014

Alabama Historical Association's Program Committee, 2012

Coley Book Prize Committee, 2014

Sulzby Book Prize Committee, 2014-2015

UAH PTAC, 2015

UAH Humanities Center Steering Committee, Fall 2014-present

UAH Faculty Senate, Fall 2012-2014, 2015-present

Student Conduct Board (formerly University Judicial Board), Fall 2011-2013, 2015-present

Women's and Gender Studies Program Advisory Committee, August 2010-present

Honors Council, Fall 2011-Spring 2013

Appointed to the search committee for the Director of the Library, Fall 2012