**Ben Wright**

**Associate Professor of Historical Studies**

**The University of Texas at Dallas**

**School of Arts and Humanities, JO31  
800 West Campbell Road; Richardson, TX 75080**

**(832) 887-6419 | bgw@utdallas.edu**

**Academic Appointments:**

Associate Professor of History, The University of Texas at Dallas, 2021-present

Assistant Professor of History, The University of Texas at Dallas, 2015-2021

Assistant Professor of History, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, 2014-2015

**Education:**  
 Ph.D., History, Rice University, 2014

M.A., American Studies, Columbia University, 2007

B.A. *summa cum laude*, History, Education, Bethel University, 2005

**Books:**

*Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism* (LSU Press, 2020).

\* Nominated for the Library Company of Philadelphia’s First Book Prize

Joseph L. Locke and Ben Wright, eds., *The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative American History Textbook* *Volume 1-2* (Stanford University Press, 2018).

Ben Wright and Zachary W. Dresser, eds. *Apocalypse and the Millennium in the Civil War Era* (LSU Press, 2013).

Nora Slonimsky, Mark Boonshoft, and Ben Wright, *American Revolutions in the Digital Age* (Cornell University Press, 2024).

**Books in-progress:**

“Empires of Liberty: The United States, Britain, and the Colonization of West Africa.”

An academic study of how missionary discourse in the United States and Britain led to the colonization of what became Liberia and Sierra Leone.

“American Christians and Slavery, Past and Present.”

A synthetic history of how Christians have responded to slavery in the United States, from 1619 to the fight against human-trafficking.

“The Palace of Thundering Gods: A History of Religion in the United States.”

An open source, collaboratively written history of religion in the United States.

**Articles and book chapters:**

Nathan Jérémie-Brink and Ben Wright, “Religion and Abolitionism,” in *Routledge History of Religion and Politics*, Cara Burnidge and Lauren Turek, eds. (Routledge, Forthcoming)

“Roundtable on Ben Wright’s *Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism*,” *Fides et Historia* 54, No 2 (Summer/Fall 2022), 149-152

Joseph L. Locke and Ben Wright, “History Can Be Open Source: Democratic Dreams and the Rise of Digital History,” *American Historical Review* 126, No 4 (December 2021), 1485–1511. See also ahropenreview.com.

Joseph L. Locke and Ben Wright, “Opening the Book: The Utopian Dreams and Uncertain Future of Open Access Textbook Publishing,” in *Intermediate Horizons: Book History and Digital Humanities*, Mark Vareschi and Heather Wacha, eds. (University of Wisconsin Press, 2022).

“’The Heathen are Demanding the Gospel’: African Conversion and American Redemption in the Colonizationist Movement,” in *Reconsiderations and Redirections in the Study of African Colonization*, Beverly Tomek and Matthew J. Hetrick, eds. (University Press of Florida, 2017), 50-69.

**Articles and chapters in-progress:**

**“Missionary Capitalism: Christianity and Commerce in the Abolitionist Empire”**

**How British and American abolitionist missionaries in early nineteenth century West Africa created colonial racial capitalism.**

**“‘Under the Devil Bush:’ Gender and Sex in Early Liberian Settler-Colonial Christianity”**

**This article demonstrates how Americo-Liberians wielded Christianity as a settler colonial discourse and how this violent process played out on the terrain of indigenous women’s bodies. This article will be published in a new Princeton University Press anthology on African American religious history.**

**“Broken Code: The Crisis of Accessibility in the Digital Humanities”**

**A critical evaluation of prize-winning work in the digital humanities, highlighting and historicizing the ubiquitous failure to meet minimal, legal-mandated federal accessibility standards. This article will be submitted to the *Journal of American History* in summer 2024.**

**Short articles**

Andrew N. Wegmann and Ben Wright, “Why is Liberia’s president’s son playing for the U.S. in the World Cup?,” *Washington Post,* December 2, 2022*.*

“Collaborating to Recreate Pre-Columbian America,” *Common-Place*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (December 2015)

Ben Wright and Joseph Locke, “A Free and Open Alternative to Traditional History Textbooks,” *Perspectives on History*, 53:3, March 2015

**Reviews and short publications:**

Book Review: The Race for America: Black Internationalism in the Age of Manifest Destiny. By R. J. Boutelle. *Journal of the Civil War Era*. Forthcoming.

Book Review: Faith in Markets: Christian Capitalism in the Early American Republic. By Joseph P. Slaughter. *Journal of Church and State.* 66:3, Summer 2024, 208–209.

Book Review: Heathen: Religion and Race in American History by Kathryn Gin Lum. *New England* 96:2, June 2023, 189–192.

Book Review: Millenarian Dreams and Racial Nightmares: The American Civil War as an Apocalyptic Conflict by John H. Matsui. *Journal of American History* 110:1, June 2023.

Book Review: The World Colonization Made: The Racial Geography of Early American Empire by Brandon Mills. *Journal of African American History* 108:1, Winter 2023.

Book Review: The United States in Global Perspective: A Primary Source Reader, Julie K. deGraffenreid and Stephen M. Sloan, eds. *American Historical Review*, 126: 1, April 2021.

Book Review: The Chance of Salvation: A History of Conversion in America by Lincoln Mullen. *Journal Mormon Studies*, 8, January 2019.

Book Review: Wendell Phillips, Social Justice, & the Power of the Past. AJ Aisèrithe and Donald Yacovone's, eds., *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 7:4, December 2017.

Book Review: The Land Shall be Deluged in Blood: A New History of Nat Turner’s Rebellion by Patrick Breen, *Journal of Southern History*, 83:1, February 2017.

“Emancipation Day,” in *Dictionary of American History, Supplement: America in the World, 1776 to the Present* by Edward J. Blum ed., et al. Charles J. Scribner’s Sons: 2016.

Book Review: Wellsprings of Liberty: How Virginia's Religious Dissenters Helped Win the American Revolution and Secured Religious Liberty by John A. Ragosta, *North Carolina Historical Review*, August 2011.

Book Review: Rituals of Resistance: African Atlantic Religion in Kongo and the Lowcountry South in the Era of Slavery by Jason R. Young, *Journal of Southern Religion*, June 2009

Book Review: Hollywood Be Thy Name: African American Religion in American Film 1929-1949 by Judith Weisenfeld, *Journal of African American History*, 93:3, Summer 2009.

Book Review: Rounding the Bases: Baseball and Religion in America by Joseph L. Price, *International Journal of Religion and Sport*, June 2009.

Book Note: John Bachman: Selected Writings on Science, Race, and Religion, Gene Waddell, ed., *Journal of Southern History*. November 2013.

Book Note: A Journey in Brazil: Henry Washington Hilliard and the Brazilian Anti-Slavery Society, David I. Durham and Paul M. Pruitt Jr. eds., *Journal of Southern History*. November 2012.

Book Note: Fundamentalism and Evangelicalism: A Reader, Barry Hankins ed., *Journal of Southern History*. April 2009.

**Academic Presentations:**

“The Devil Bush: African American Religion and Settler Colonial Christianity,” Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, June 2024.

Chair, "Teaching American Identity with Primary Sources," Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, LA, April 2024.

“The Devil Bush: Religion and the Battle for Sexual Control in Early Liberia,” American Historical Association, San Francisco, CA, January 2024.

“Missionary Capitalism: Christianity and Commerce in the Abolitionist Empire,” Slavery, Institutions, and Empire: Moving Beyond Microhistory, Brasenose College Oxford, Oxford, England, September 2023.

“Missionary Capitalism: Christianity and Commerce in the Abolitionist Empire,” Slavery, Institutions, and Empire: Moving Beyond Microhistory, Brasenose College Oxford, Oxford, England, September 2023.

Roundtable organizer and participant, “Labor and Compensation in the Historical Profession, American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 2023.

Chair, “New Perspectives on Missionary History,” American Society for Church History, Philadelphia, PA, January 2023.

“Empires of Souls: The United States, Britain, and West African Colonization,” Modern Language Association, San Francisco, CA, January 2023.

Roundtable Participant, “Digital Humanities and Databasing Colonial Legacies,” Crafting Narratives of Empire: Symposium at the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies, Iona College, New Rochelle, New York, September 2022.

“Labor and Compensation in Collaborative OER Creation: The American Yawp as Case Study,” Open Texas 2022 Conference, September 2022.

“Transformations in Religion and Abolitionism,” 20 Years After Richard S. Newman’s *The Transformation of American Abolitionism*, Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, July 2022.

“Empires of Souls: The United States, Britain, and African Colonization,” Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations, June 2022.

“A Roundtable Discussion of Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism by Ben Wright,” Annual Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, March 2022.

“On Christianity’s Conflicted Impact on the Abolition of Slavery in the United States: A Roundtable on Ben Wright’s *Bonds of Salvation*,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Church History, January 2022.

Roundtable Chair: “Race and Religion: The View from the Early Republic,” Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, July 2021.

“Religious Networks and the Black Protest Tradition,” Foundations of Independence: Symposium at the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies, Iona College, New Rochelle, New York, September 2020.

“Empires of Souls: The United States, Britain, and African Colonization,” Society of Historians for American Foreign Relations, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 2020. [CANCELED]

Roundtable Participant: “Nationalism and Christian Worship*,”* American Society for Church History, New York, New York, January 2020.

“Designing Spatial Histories for Undergraduate Use: The American Yawp Atlas,” Social Science History Association, Chicago, Illinois; November 2019.

“The Ambivalent Antislavery of American Converionist Christianity,” Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, Cambridge, July 2019.

Panel Chair: “Race and the Other in the History of American Missionary Work,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Church History, Chicago, January 2019.

Roundtable Participant: “*The American Yawp*: Digital Humanities, Mass Collaboration, and Synthetic Scholarship,” Organization of American Historians, Sacramento, California, April 2018.

“Antislavery Myth and Death in the Middle Passage,” American Historical Association, Washington DC, January 2018.

“White Southern Evangelicals and the Antislavery Politics of Salvation,” Southern Historical Association, Dallas, Texas, November 2017.

“Nationalism, Denominationalism, and the Benevolent Empire,” Society for the Study of United States Intellectual History, Dallas, Texas, October 2017.

“Managing Mass Collaboration in the Digital Humanities,” Book History and Digital Humanities Symposium, The University of Wisconsin, Madison, September 2017.

Panel Chair: Digital Revolution: A Roundtable on Big Data Analysis of Eighteenth-Century America, Annual Meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, June 2017

Roundtable Participant: “The Perils and Promises of Collaborative Scholarship” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, January 2017.

Session leader with Joseph Locke, “Mapping the American History Survey,” THATCamp, Denver, Colorado, January 2017.

“Conversionist and Purificationist Antislavery,” Society of United States Intellectual Historians Annual Meeting, Stanford University, October 2016.

“‘they support it merely because they believe it will convert Africa:’ Missionary Discourse and the Anti-Colonizationist Crusade,” Society of Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Conference, New Haven, Connecticut, July 2016.

“Conversion and Purification Joined: Religious Imagination and the Creation of the Benevolent Empire,” Florida State University Religious History Colloquium; Tallahassee, Florida; January 2015.

“Academic Communities and Crowd-Sourced History: Creating *The American Yawp*,” Texas Digital Humanities Consortium; Houston, Texas; April 2014.

“The Making of a Proslavery Prophet: Denominational Leadership and the Politicization of Rev. Richard Furman,” British American Nineteenth Century Historians Annual Conference; Houston, Texas; April 2014

“The Heathen are Demanding the Gospel: Conversion and Redemption in Early African Colonization,” American Society for Church History Annual Conference; Washington, D.C.; January 2014.

“Denominational Formation and American Christian Nationalism,” Society of Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Conference, Saint Louis, Missouri, July 2013.

“They Were Seen by Our Vessel to Throw Their Slaves Overboard: Antislavery, the West Africa Squadron, and Death in the Middle Passage,” Free and Unfree Labor: The First Annual Rice University – Universidade Estadual de Campinas Seminar; Houston, Texas; May 2013.

“The Heathen are Demanding the Gospel: Conversion and Redemption in Early African Colonization,” Brownbag Series, McNeil Center for Early American Studies; University of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; November 2012.

“Conversion, Benevolence, and Nationalism in the Early American Denominational Imagination,” Conference on Faith and History, Gordon College; Wentham, Massachusetts, September, 2012

“Stephen Grellet and Conversionist Antislavery,” American Historical Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, January 2012

“I Proclaimed Against the Great Sin of Slavery: Stephen Grellet and the Ideology of Early Antislavery.” Columbia University Faculty Seminar in American Religious History, Columbia University, New York, New York, October 2011

Conference Director, Millennialism and Providentialism in the Era of the American Civil War, Rice University; Houston, Texas; October 2010

“Samuel Hopkins, Antislavery, and the Power of Perceived Persecution in Social Reform,” University of Texas-Austin American Studies Conference, Austin, Texas; September 2009

“Revolutionary Enthusiasm to Antebellum Gridlock: Two American Clergymen and the Problem of Slavery”; Southwestern Historical Association Annual Conference; Denver, Colorado; April 2009

“Baby Won’t You Please Come Home: Civil Rights, Migration, and the Death of Harlem”; Urban Historical Association Annual Conference; Houston, Texas; November 2008

“Our Neighborhood: The PS 154 Oral History Project in Harlem,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference; New York, New York, March 2008

Moderator and respondent, “Music in the Making”; Annual Conference of the Columbia Journal of American Studies; New York, New York, April 2007

“John Leland & James Madison: A Legacy of Religious Liberty; Minnesota State Political Science Association Annual Conference”; Saint Cloud, MN; November 2005

**Presentations for Bonds of Salvation:**

“A Roundtable Discussion of Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism by Ben Wright,” Annual Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, March 2022.

“On Christianity’s Conflicted Impact on the Abolition of Slavery in the United States: A Roundtable on Ben Wright’s *Bonds of Salvation*,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Church History, January 2022.

“Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism,” for the Hockaday School in Dallas, Texas, November 2021.

“Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism,” for the First United Methodist Church - Hickory, NC Book Club, November 2021.

“Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism,” for the Slavery + Freedom Studies Working Group at the Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis, May 2021.

“Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism,” for the LSU Press Remote Author Series, December 2020.

**Invited Presentations:**

"Making American History," Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 2024.

"Resource Presentation: The American Yawp," Teaching the Civil War and Reconstruction Humanities Texas Summer Institute, Rice University, Houston, Texas, June 2023.

“Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism,” for the Hockaday School in Dallas, Texas, November 2021.

“Evangelical Secularisms: Southern Christians, the Constitution, and the Separation of Church and State,” Constitution Day Lecture at Delta State University, October 2021.

“Creating *The American Yawp*,” The Madiera School, McLean, Virginia, January 2021.

“Evangelical Secularisms: Southern Christians, the Constitution, and the Separation of Church and State,” Constitution Day Lecture at Delta State University, October 2021.

"Understanding Reconstruction," The Civil War Era Workshops - Humanities Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, February 2021.

“The Abolitionist Movement: Fighting Slavery and Racial Injustice from the Revolution to the Civil War,” McLean Educational Outreach Workshop. The Program in African American History. Library Company of Philadelphia. December 2020.

“An Conversation with Ben Wright and Richard S. Newman on *Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism*,” LSU Press Author Series. December 2020.

“Discussion with Historian Ben Wright,” The Madiera School, McLean, Virginia November 2020.

"Understanding Reconstruction," The Civil War Era Workshops - Humanities Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, February 2020.

"Understanding Reconstruction," The Civil War Era Workshops - Humanities Texas, Dallas, Texas, February 2020.

“Digital Tools and Creative Assignments,” American Historical Association’s Texas Conference on Introductory History Courses, September 19-21, 2019.

“Democratizing American History,” North Texas MENSA Association, August 19, 2019.

“Discourses of Democracy in the Digital Humanities,” Institute of Thomas Paine Studies Symposium, October 2018.

“Christianity, Capitalism, and Human Trafficking,” Gardner Webb University, September 2017.

“Mass Collaboration and the Open Humanities,” Association for Information Science and Technology Arts and Humanities Digital Symposium, April 2017.

“Democracy and the Digital Humanities,” Department of History, Bethel University, December 2016.

“Religion and American Antislavery: From the Politics of Conversion to the Conversion to Politics,” Clements Library, University of Michigan, October 2015.

“Christians and Slavery, Past and Present,” Calvin College, October 2015.

“Democratizing the Digital Humanities,” Department of History Speaker Series, Michigan State University, October 2015.

“Organizing for Abolition: Using Antislavery Scholarship to Support Student Activism,” Antislavery Activists Conference, Gettysburg College, March 2015.

“Presenting Learning to the Public: Using Word Press as an Assessment Tool,” University System of Georgia Faculty Development Lecture, March 2015.

“Problems and Perils of Open Textbooks: The American Yawp as Case Study,” Digital Scholars Lab / Digital Scholarship Lab, University of Virginia / University of Richmond, March 2015.

“American Evangelicals and Antislavery Action: Past and Present,” Gardner Webb University, February 2015.

“Combatting Textbook Costs with Digital Collaboration: The American Yawp as Case Study,” Affordable Learning Georgia, University of Georgia, December 2015.

“American Abolitionism: Fighting Slavery and Racism from the American Revolution to the Civil War,” Gettysburg Foundation; Gettysburg National Military Park; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; August 2014.

“Digital Pedagogy in the Classroom”; Program in Writing and Communication; Rice University; Houston, Texas; March 2013.

“The Rise and Fall of Race in America,” Black History Month Lecture Series, University of Saint Thomas, Houston, Texas; February 2011.

“Immigration, Urbanization, Industrialization and the Transformation of American Religion,” Lone Star College-North Harris, Houston, Texas; December, 2008.

“Vatican II and American Catholicism,” Columbia University, New York, New York; November, 2007.

**Conferences Co-Organized**

**(forthcoming) Program co-chair, Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia, PA, July 2026.**

**(forthcoming) Teaching American and Digital Revolutions, Institute for Thomas Paine Studies, Iona University, New Rochelle, NY, September 2024**

**Communication and Power, Institute for Thomas Paine Studies, Iona University, New Rochelle, NY, October 2023.**

**Age of Revolutions in the Digital Age, Institute for Thomas Paine Studies, Iona University, New Rochelle, NY, September 2020.**

**Providentialism and Millennialism in the American Civil War Era, Rice University, Houston, TX, October 2010.**

**Professional Memberships**

Co-editor, *The American Yawp*, (<http://www.americanyawp.com>)

\* Winner of the 2014 Digital Humanities Public Engagement Prize

Co-editor, “The Abolition Seminar: Fighting Slavery and Racial Injustice from the American Revolution to the Civil War,” an interactive website from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library Company of Philadelphia (abolitionseminar.org)

*Animating El Oro: Representing Historical Argument through Animation*

Managing editor, Teaching United States History (teachingushistory.co), 2012-2021

“Opiate or Exodus: Revisiting Slave Religion”, *Columbia Journal of American Studies*, June 2007.

**Fellowships and Awards**

Andrew W. Mellon Short-Term Fellowship in African American History, Library Company of Philadelphia, 2023

Jay and Deborah Last Fellowship at the American Antiquarian Society, 2023

Andrew W. Mellon Short-Term Research Fellowship at the American Philosophical Society, 2023

American Trust for the British Library—Houghton Library, Harvard University Transatlantic Fellowship, 2022

Princeton University Library Research Grant, 2022

David B. Kennedy and Earhart Fellowship at University of Michigan's Clements Library, 2022

Presbyterian Historical Society Research Fellowship, 2022

Nominee for Library Company of Philadelphia’s Best First Book Award for *Bonds of Salvation*

Open Educational Resources Grant Program, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, 2019

Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society, 2016

Upton Foundation Fellowship in American History, Clements Library, University of Michigan, 2015

Digital Humanities Award, Best Use of Public Engagement, for *The American Yawp*, 2014

Sojourner Truth Service Fellowship, Historians Against Slavery, 2014-2016

James Forten Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia, 2014

Mary Hayes Ewing Publication Prize in Southern History, Rice University, 2014

NEH Summer Seminar Assistantship, Library Company of Philadelphia, 2013

Andrew W. Mellon Research Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society, 2012

Gest Research Fellowship, Quaker Collection, Haverford College, 2012

Andrew W. Mellon Research Fellowship, Historical Society of Pennsylvania and Library Company of Philadelphia, 2012

Filson Research Fellowship, The Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Kentucky 2012

Bruce Dunlevie Teaching Fellowship in the Humanities, Rice University, 2011

Andrew W. Mellon Research Fellowship, Virginia Historical Society, 2011

**Teaching Experience:**

Assistant and Associate Professor, Department of Historical Studies, University of Texas at Dallas, Fall 2015 - present

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton, Georgia, Fall 2014 - present

Instructor, Department of History, Rice University, Houston, Texas, Summer 2011, Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Instructor, Program in Writing and Communication, Rice University, Houston, Texas, Spring 2013-Spring 2014

Online Instructor, Department of History, Norwich University, Spring 2014

Assistant Instructor, Abolitionism: NEH Seminar for Teachers, Library Company of Philadelphia, Summer 2013

Dunlevie Teaching Fellow in the Humanities, Department of History, Rice University, Houston, Texas, Fall 2011

Instructor, Department of History, University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas, Fall 2011

Instructor, Department of History and Social Science, Lone Star College, Houston, Texas, Summer 2010

Teaching Assistant with Allen Matusow, Rice University, Baker Institute for Public Policy, Spring 2013-Spring 2014

Teaching Assistant with Randall Balmer, Columbia University, Department of History and Religion, Fall 2007

High School Teacher, Social Studies Department, Cambridge-Isanti High School, Cambridge, Minnesota, Spring 2006

**Courses Taught:**

**Undergraduate courses**

**United States to 1848**

**United States to 1865**

**United States to 1877**

**United States 1848 to Present**

**United States 1865 to Present**

**The Civil War and Reconstruction**

**Introduction to Digital Humanities**

**Texas History**

**Religion in American History**

**Religion and Race in American History**

**Slavery and Abolition**

**Undergraduate Capstone**

**The Rise and Fall of Atlantic Slavery (**<http://riseandfallofslavery.wordpress.com>**)**

**The History of the End of the World (**<http://historyoftheend.wordpress.com>**)**

**Graduate courses**

**America in the Nineteenth Century**

**Digital Humanities**

**Slavery in America**

**Historiography**

**Graduate independent studies**

**Religion and Race in American History**

**The Civil War and Reconstruction**

**Digital Humanities and Postcoloniality**

**Undergraduate honors theses advised:**

Spring 2017, Vivien Ngo, “Visualizing Ports in the Transatlantic Slave Trade: A Digital Humanities Project”

Spring 2017, Michael Scalley, “Changes in Anglo-American/Comanche Relations in Early 19th Century Texas”

Spring 2016, Ash Seidl-Staley, “The Scottish Quadrangular Slave Trade 1672-1766”

**Masters theses advised:**

Fall 2019, Michael Scalley, “The Social Perception, Impact, and Implications of Filibustering in Mid-Nineteenth Century America”

**Dissertations advised:**

2021, Janet Jacobs, “‘Send More Butter’: The Cultural Significance of Food in the American Civil War.”

**Dissertation committee member:**

2023 David Howard, “Divergent Voices: The Historical Language of Baptist Religious Artifacts in the American South, 1865-1914”

2020, Shawn Varghese, “From Every Tribe, Tongue, and Nation: The Role of Dallas Theological Seminary in Shaping African American Evangelicalism”

2019, John Williams, “Grant’s Third Charge: A Tale of Scapegoating, Atonement and Affirmation during the Era of Reconstruction”

**Press and Media:**

Documentary cast

Cast member, *Channeling Hamilton*, a documentary on the death of Alexander Hamilton. For more details, see <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07H53L5CW>.

Cast member, *Stopping Traffick: The Movement to End Sex Trafficking*, an award-winning documentary on sex trafficking and the movement to stop it. For more details, see <http://stoppingtrafficfilm.com/>.

Audio interviews

"Bonds of Salvation How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism" *New Books Network* *Podcast*, July 2, 2024 <https://newbooksnetwork.com/bonds-of-salvation>.

“Ben Wright and Joseph Locke on The American Yawp” *American Historical Review Podcast,* November 19, 2019 <https://directory.libsyn.com/episode/index/show/ahrinterview/id/12089015>.

“Figure It Out and Make It Happen: The American Yawp,” *Lunch Duty Podcas*t, September 5, 2018 <http://www.lunchdutypodcast.com/>.

Video interviews

[Interview with Ben Wright, *“*History of Mardis Gras](https://www.wfaa.com/article/entertainment/television/programs/good-morning-texas/mardi-gras-history/287-70bd8b2d-d4ab-48a4-a589-5c7034b9a8e1),” Good Morning Texas, WFAA (February 25, 2020).

Interview with Ben Wright and Zach Dresser, *The Civil War Monitor*, Behind the Lines Video Series, (September 20, 2013) <http://www.civilwarmonitor.com/behind-the-lines/an-interview-with-ben-wright-and-zach-dresser>

Print interviews

Scott McLemee, “Free American History!” *Inside Higher Ed* (March 11, 2015) <https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/03/11/interview-editors-american-yawp-free-history-textbook-published-online>

Interview with Rachel Beltzhoover and M. Omar Siddiqi, *The American Historian* (February 2015) <http://tah.oah.org/content/conversation-ben-wright/>

Print interview with Paul Putz**, “**[Apocalypse and the Millennium in the American Civil War Era: An Interview with the Editors](http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2013/09/apocalypse-and-millennium-in-american.html): Religion in American History Blog (September 20, 2013) <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2013/09/apocalypse-and-millennium-in-american.html>

**Academic digital humanities consulting:**

Advisory Board Member, *Literature in Context*, a digital humanities project led by Dr. John O’Brien at the University of Virginia

Digital Humanities Consultant, *Thomas Paine Archives,* a digitization project sponsored by the Thomas Paine Institute at Iona College

**Board Membership:**

Historians Against Slavery, Board Member, 2018-2022

Children at Risk, Children at Risk Institute Board Member, 2017-present

**Professional Experience:**

Digital media consultant, Historians Against Slavery; Fall 2013-2016

Editorial assistant, *The Journal of Philosophy*, Columbia University New York, NY; Fall 2006-2008, 2010-2011

Research assistant, Rice University History Department, Houston, TX; 2008- 2010

Professional Development Seminar Coordinator, Rice University History Department 2009- 2010

Research assistant, Columbia University Oral History Research Office, New York, NY; 2006- 2008

Oral history consultant, The Narrative Trust, New York, NY; 2008-2009

Oral history consultant, The Apollo Theater Foundation, New York, NY; 2008

**Professional Memberships**

American Historical Association

Organization of American Historians

American Society for Church History

Southern Historical Association

American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic

Conference on Faith and History

Historians Against Slavery

Society for U.S. Intellectual History