

# CINDY ERMUS

FRHistS

(Updated January 2024)

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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2023 – present	Director of Medical Humanities Program, University of Texas at San Antonio
2024 – present	Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Texas at San Antonio
2019 – 2023	Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Texas at San Antonio
Fall 2018	Visiting Scholar, Center for Biology & Society, Arizona State University
2015 – 2019	Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Lethbridge
2014 – 2015	Professor of History (entry level), Department of Social Sciences, Florida Southwestern State College

## EDUCATION

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2014	Ph.D. in History, Florida State University, Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution
2010	M.A. in History, Florida State University, Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution
2005	B.A. in History and B.A. in Psychology, Florida International University, <i>Magna cum laude</i> (with certificates in European Studies and Premodern Cultures & Civilizations)

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

#### *Monographs*

*The Great Plague Scare of 1720: Disaster and Diplomacy in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World.* Cambridge University Press, 2023.

*Urban Disasters.* Cambridge Elements series in Global Urban History, Cambridge University Press, 2023.

#### *Co-authored Books*

*Epidemics: A Global History*, co-authored with Claire Edington (UC San Diego). Under contract with University of California Press, 2025.

#### *Edited Volumes*

*Age of Revolutions: A Global History, 1650 to the Present*, co-edited with Bryan Banks (Columbus State University). Currently under consideration with a press.

*Environmental Disaster in the Gulf South: Two Centuries of Catastrophe, Risk, and Resilience.*  
Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 2018.

### Editorships

2023 – present            Editor, France Overseas Series of the University of Nebraska Press  
2015 – present            Co-Executive Editor, *Age of Revolutions*, [www.ageofrevolutions.com](http://www.ageofrevolutions.com)

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Digital Humanities for the People(?): Past, Present, and Future,” *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques* 49, no. 3 (Winter 2023): 17-27.

“Memory and the Representation of Public Health Crises: Remembering the Plague of Provence in the Tricentennial.” *Environmental History* 26, no. 4 (October 2021): 776-88.

“The History of Science and the Science of History: Computational Methods, Algorithms, and the Future of the Field,” with Abraham H. Gibson. *Isis* 110, no. 3 (September 2019): 555-66.

“The Spanish Plague That Never Was: Crisis and Exploitation in Cádiz During the *Peste* of Provence.” Special issue on Humans and the Environment in the Long Eighteenth Century, *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 49, no. 2 (January 2016): 167-93.

“Reduced to Ashes: The Good Friday Fire of 1788 in Spanish Colonial New Orleans.” *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association* LIV, no. 3 (Summer 2013): 292-331.

### Chapters in Edited Collections

“Spanish Foundations of the French Quarter: Rebuilding Colonial New Orleans in the Wake of Disaster,” in *Port Cities of the Atlantic World: Sea-Facing Histories of the US South*, edited by Jacob Steere-Williams and Blake Scott. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2023.

“Managing Disaster and Understanding Disease in the Early Eighteenth Century,” *Pre-Modern Environment & Disease*, edited by Lori Jones. London: Routledge, 2022.

“Swamp Things: Invasive Species as Environmental Disaster in the Gulf South,” with Abraham H. Gibson. In *Environmental Disaster in the Gulf South: Two Centuries of Catastrophe, Risk, and Resilience*, edited by Cindy Ermus. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2018.

### Digital Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Violent Encounters: Franco-Spanish Aggression in the Early Eighteenth-Century Caribbean.” *Age of Revolutions*. February 2023.

“Les médecins et le corps médical, de la peste de Provence au COVID-19.” *Dites* 33 (Inaugural issue of French medical publication). Spring 2022.

“The Plague of Provence: Early Advances in the Centralization of Crisis Management.” *Arcadia: Environment & Society*, no. 9 (2015).

“Plague Cultures: The *Peste* of Provence and the Glorious Revolution.” *Age of Revolutions*. December 2015.

### **Op-Ed Pieces & Scholarly Journalism**

“In our new age of disasters, centralized responses are needed,” *The Washington Post* (July 25, 2023).

“Why are there fewer kings and queens today?,” *Britannica [Kids] Magazine* (October 2022).

“When bubonic plague hit France in 1720, officials dithered. Sound familiar?” *Stat News* (May 25, 2020). Also published as: “La peste bubonique a frappé la France en 1720. Les fonctionnaires ont hésité. Semble familier?,” *Fr24* (May 25, 2020).

“The danger of prioritizing politics and economics during the coronavirus outbreak,” *The Washington Post* (March 13, 2020).

“The Cuban Revolution and Me” (cover story), *In Cuba Today* (July 5, 2016). (Also on [www.AgeofRevolutions.com](http://www.AgeofRevolutions.com)).

“What does it mean to be ‘a product of the Cuban Revolution?’” *The Miami Herald* (July 25, 2016). Published in Spanish: “¿Qué significa ser ‘un producto de la revolución cubana?’” *El Nuevo Herald & En Cuba Hoy* (July 25, 2016).

### **Selected Digital Humanities**

#### ***Digital Projects***

*Age of Revolutions*. Co-founder, Co-Executive Editor, and contributor. 2015-present. [www.ageofrevolutions.com](http://www.ageofrevolutions.com).

*Honest Abe’s information Emporium*. Contributor. 2023. [www.honestabes.info](http://www.honestabes.info).

*Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité: Exploring the French Revolution*. Associate Producer, 2019 update. <https://revolution.chnm.org>.

#### ***Selected Digital Publications***

“The Great Plague Scare of 1720: Disaster and Diplomacy in the Eighteenth-Century World,” *Fifteeneightyfour: Cambridge University Press Blog*. December 2, 2022.

“Leadership Matters in the First Days and Weeks of an Outbreak: Lessons from the Great Plague of Marseille, 300 Years Later,” *Voltaire Foundation Enlightenment Blog*. April 2020.

AHA Member Spotlight. Invited to write an autobiographical profile for the *Perspectives on History* Member Spotlight. September 2019.

“The Cuban Revolution and Me.” *Age of Revolutions Journal*. July 2016.

**Recent Book Reviews**

Review of *Souls under Siege: Stories of War, Plague, and Confession in Fourteenth-Century Provence*, by Nicole Archambeau (Cornell University Press, 2021) in *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine* (Fall 2022): 458-59.

Review of *Inventing Disaster: The Culture of Calamity from the Jamestown Colony to the Johnstown Flood*, by Cynthia A. Kierner (University of North Carolina Press, 2019) in *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* (January 2021): 206-8.

Review of *A Not-So-New World: Empire and Environment in French Colonial North America*, by Christopher M. Parsons (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018) for *H-Environment Roundtable Reviews*, v. 10, no. 8 (August 2020).

**SELECTED RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**


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2024 – 2025	Pending application: National Science Foundation award for “Influenza Epidemic 1889-1892: Data, Health, and Pandemics in Global History.” Advisory Board Member. PI: Tom Ewing
2022 – 2024	US Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language (UISFL) Award. Co-PI with Glenn Martinez (UTSA).
Jan. – Dec. 2022	National Endowment for the Humanities, Award for Faculty at Hispanic-Serving Institutions for research in the humanities.
2016 & 2017	Office of Research & Innovation Services Grant, University of Lethbridge Research Fund (ULRF)
2011	Weider Dissertation Research Fellowship
2011	McKnight Dissertation Research Grant
2007 – 2012	McKnight Doctoral Fellowship (Full tuition and annual stipend)

**RESEARCH AWARDS AND HONORS**


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2024	Nominated for the University Excellence Award for Research Achievement, University of Texas at San Antonio
2023	Elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society
2023	2022 Stumberg Researcher of the Year Award, University of Texas at San Antonio

**TEACHING AWARDS**


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2021 – 2022	Nominated for the President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence, University of Texas at San Antonio
2014 – 2015	Nominated for the Faculty of the Year Award, Florida Southwestern State College
2013 – 2014	Nominated for the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Florida State University
2012 – 2013	Awarded the Joe Richardson Award for Excellence in Teaching, Florida State University

**IN THE MEDIA** (For published op-eds and academic journalism, see above under “Publications.”)

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**Print Media Interviews (National and Local)**

*The Conversationalist*: Invited interview with Elena Sheppard for article on “‘Patria y Vida’: the Cuban song that has become a global rallying cry,” (April 1, 2021).

*The Atlantic*: Invited Q & A with Alexis C. Madrigal, “Why the Gulf Coast Is Uniquely Vulnerable to Disasters: It isn’t just because of the weather, a historian argues” (August 29, 2017).

*Lethbridge News Now*: Interviewed for feature article on “Learning the lessons of a catastrophic storm,” by Geoff Smith (August 29, 2017).

**Radio Interviews**

BBC World Newsday: Live interview with Bola Mosuro on the dangers of President Trump’s plan to prematurely “Open Up America Again” (April 17, 2020).

CJOC FM Lethbridge News 94.1: Radio interview on the history of modern disasters and Hurricane Harvey (August 30, 2017).

**Television Appearances/Interviews**

*Univision*: Spanish-language interview on the history of heat waves in South-Central Texas (July 14, 2022).

*Univision* (and on YouTube): Spanish-language interview on the history of the “Spanish” Flu as we battle COVID-19 (April 15, 2020).

*CTV Lethbridge*: Interview on vulnerability of Gulf South to natural hazards (August 31, 2017).

*Al Jazeera English “NewsHour”*: Live appearance to discuss disaster management of Hurricane Harvey in context of Gulf South’s larger history of disaster (August 30, 2017).

**Podcast Interviews**

“COVID Calls,” Disaster STS Network: Historians’ Roundtable on “Pandemics Across Time” with Scott Knowles (Drexel University), Sandra Eder (Berkeley), and Tiago Saraiva (Drexel) (January 26, 2021).

Cited Media’s “Secondary Symptoms” Podcast: Interview for “Return to Normalcy?” episode, with Jay Cockburn (July 27, 2020).

Cited Media’s “Secondary Symptoms” Podcast: Interview for “Pandemic Amnesia” episode on the history of public health crises, disaster, and memory, with Gordon Katic (May 7, 2020).

Cited Media’s “Secondary Symptoms” Podcast: Appearance on “Not So Fast” episode on the history of pandemics, with Gordon Katic (April 30, 2020).

“COVID Calls,” Disaster STS Network: Interview on “Pandemics in History” with Scott Knowles (Drexel) and Christienna Fryar (Goldsmiths, University of London) (March 30, 2020).

Reddit's "AskHistorians" Podcast: Interview on "La Peste! The Great Plague of Marseille," with Andrés Pertierra of UW Madison (May 6, 2017).

"Catastrophe is Our Bedtime Story Podcast": Interview on "Catastrophe in the Age of Revolutions," with Michael Egan of McMaster University (October 28, 2016).

## INVITED TALKS

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- "Digital Humanities, AI Literacy, and the Historical Profession." Invited talk, University of Florida (January 24, 2024).
- "Crisis and Contagion: Researching Disease and Disaster in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World." Invited speaker for the Open Digital Seminar in Eighteenth-Century Studies, or ODSECS (December 5, 2023).
- "The Great Plague Scare of 1720." Invited book talk for the Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies (IHB) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna (November 29, 2023).
- "On The Great Plague Scare of 1720." Invited speaker for panel on "Epidemics and Public Health in Port Cities" (with David Barnes and Andrew Wehrman) for Villanova University Lepage Center's webinar series on Cities in Historical Perspectives (November 16, 2023).
- "Why the Medical Humanities?" For Film and Medicine event, UTSA (September 14, 2023).
- "*The Great Plague Scare of 1720: Reflections in the COVID Era.*" Invited book talk and panel (with Christine Adams, Sarah Black, Jessie Hewitt, Junko Takeda) hosted by H-France Salon (June 9, 2023).
- "Digital Humanities for the People(?): Past, Present, and Future." Invited speaker for roundtable "Digital Humanities: A Decade of Experience" (with Jeffrey Ravel, David Wrisley, and Christy Pichichero) for the Society for French Historical Studies conference titled "Digital Humanities: Ways Forward, A Conference in Honor of David Kammerling Smith" (March 20, 2021).
- "History in Times of Crisis: Lessons from the Plague of Provence." Invited speaker for the Phi Alpha Theta Induction Ceremony at Belmont Abbey College (March 5, 2021).
- "Plague, COVID, and Empire: 1720 & 2020," Texas State University (November 12, 2020).
- "Health, Culture, and Society." Invited speaker and workshop leader, Bowdoin College (October 26, 2020).
- "Cities and Urban Development in Times of Plague," for The History of Now: Plagues and Pandemics, at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (October 2, 2020).
- "History in the Time of COVID: Reflections on the 1720 Plague of Provence." Invited speaker and workshop leader for the Preyer Lecture Series at Queens University of Charlotte on "History for Our Time" (September 7, 2020).
- "COVID-19: Past, Present, and Future," for Urgent Matters: Times of Pandemics, co-hosted by Latin America and Latino Studies (LALS) and the Lewis Global Center at Smith College, with Karina Ramacciotti, Javier Puente, and Claudia Cisneros (April 23, 2020).
- "On *Environmental Disaster in the Gulf South: Two Centuries of Catastrophe, Risk, and Resilience.*" Author book talk at Louisiana Book Festival (November 10, 2018).
- "Disruptions in Time: Historical Reflections on Disaster, Revolution, and the Digital Humanities." Invited talk for Atlantic Colloquium, Florida International University (October 25, 2018).

- “The Great Plague Scare of 1720: Disaster and Society in the Eighteenth-Century World.” Center for Biology and Society, Arizona State University (August 28, 2018).
- “Understanding Disaster and the Environment in the Long Eighteenth Century.” Symposium on Disasters and Catastrophes in the Enlightenment, Mount Royal University (March 9, 2018).
- “The Spectre of Death: An Early Modern Epidemic in Transnational Context,” for forum, *Early Modern Plagues: Histories of Resilience*, Arizona State University (April 11, 2017).
- “Plague and Crisis in the Eighteenth Century.” Arizona State University’s Institute for Humanities Research (April 10, 2017).
- “Plague Cultures: Managing the 1720 Plague of Provence in France.” Department of Modern Languages, University of Lethbridge (October 3, 2016).

## **RECENT ROUNDTABLES, CONFERENCE PAPERS, CHAIRED SESSIONS (SINCE 2020)**

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### **Roundtables**

- “How Should H-France Support Digital Humanities Work? A Community Conversation,” Society for French Historical Studies, New York, NY (March 14-17, 2024).
- “Generative AI in French History, Teaching, and Research: A ChatGPT hands-on workshop,” Society for French Historical Studies, New York, NY (March 14-17, 2024).
- “AI and the Historical Profession: Applications and Implications,” American Historical Association, San Francisco, CA (January 4-7, 2024).
- “So, You Want to Publish in an Academic Journal?,” American Historical Association, San Francisco, CA (January 4-7, 2024).
- “Publishing in an Academic Journal,” Western Association of Women Historians, Costa Mesa, CA (April 21-23, 2022).
- “Coping in the Midst of a Pandemic,” Town Hall on COVID-19, University of Texas at San Antonio (April 8, 2020).

### **Conference Papers & Panel Organization**

- “The Sète Affair of 1721: Crisis and Resistance in the Early Eighteenth-Century French Colonies,” American Historical Association, New Orleans, LA (January 6-9, 2022). Organizer and panelist for session on Epidemics in the Age of Atlantic Revolutions.
- “Plague and Crisis in the Eighteenth Century: Reactions to the Plague of Provence in Atlantic Port Cities,” Port Cities in the Atlantic Conference, Charleston, SC (May 14-16, 2020). (Accepted, but conference canceled due to COVID-19.)
- “Revolution as Disaster,” Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Tallahassee, FL (February 27-29, 2020). Organizer and panelist.

### **Chair and/or Commentator**

- Organizer and chair for “AI and the Historical Profession: Applications and Implications,” American Historical Association, San Francisco, CA (January 4-7, 2024).
- Chair and commentator for “Material and Digital Approaches to Labor, Health, and the Political Ecology of Slavery,” Omohundro Institute Annual Conference, Williamsburg, VA (June 18-20, 2021).
- Co-organizer and co-chair for the *Age of Revolutions*’ Webinar on Miguel La Serna’s *Masses and Arms: Peru’s Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement*, co-hosted with Smith College and UNC Press (July 23, 2020).

- Chair for “Sulphur and Sailing: Science and Medicine in the Revolutionary Era,” Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Tallahassee, FL (February 27-29, 2020).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### University of Texas at San Antonio

- HIS6813 From the Great Flood to COVID-19: Crisis and Catastrophe in History
- HIS6423 Early Modern Europe
- HIS6423 History of Disasters
- HIS3453/MHU4953 Epidemics in History: From the Black Death to COVID-19
- HIS3733 Early Modern Europe
- HIS3263 Seventeenth- & Eighteenth-Century Europe
- HIS2563 Introduction to European Civilization

### University of Lethbridge, Department of History

- HIST4990 Crisis and Catastrophe in History
- HIST3153 The Old Regime and the French Revolution
- HIST3850 Women & Gender in Early Modern Europe
- HIST2222 History in Practice
- HIST2102 Early Modern Europe, 1500-1800
- HIST1000 The Western World

### Independent Studies:

- HIST5990 Space and the City in Eighteenth-Century Europe
- HIST3990 Women Writers in the Eighteenth Century
- HIST3990 War in the Vendée
- HIST3990 Resilience and Community in Historical Disasters

## **REFERENCES**

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Available upon request.