

**CINDY ERMUS**  
**Curriculum Vita (abridged)**  
Updated May 2022

Assistant Professor  
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**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

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2019 – Present	Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Texas at San Antonio
2018 – Present	Faculty Affiliate, Centre for Community Disaster Research, Mount Royal University
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, Department of Social Sciences, Florida Southwestern State College
2012 – 2013	Graduate Instructor of Record, Department of History, Florida State University

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**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
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)

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**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

***Monographs***

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

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

***Co-authored Books***

*Epidemics: A Global History*, co-authored with Claire Edington (UC San Diego). Under contract with University of California Press, 2024.

***Edited Volumes***

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

**Published Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters**

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

“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.

“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: LSU Press, 2018.

“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.

### **Digital Peer-Reviewed Publications**

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

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters Forthcoming or Under Review**

“Spanish Foundations of the French Quarter: Rebuilding Colonial New Orleans in the Wake of Disaster,” for volume on port cities of the Atlantic World, edited by Jacob Steere-Williams and Blake Scott. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, forthcoming 2023.

“Digital Humanities for the People(?): Past, Present, and Future,” *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques* (Winter 2024), article accepted for publication.

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

*Stat News*: “When bubonic plague hit France in 1720, officials dithered. Sound familiar?” May 25, 2020. Also published on *Fr24 News*, in French: “La peste bubonique a frappé la France en 1720. Les fonctionnaires ont hésité. Semble familier?”; and in English: “The bubonic plague struck France in 1720. The officials hesitated. Seems familiar?” May 25, 2020.

*The Washington Post*: “The danger of prioritizing politics and economics during the coronavirus outbreak: Three hundred years later, the lessons of the Great Plague of Provence are sounding an alarm.” March 13, 2020.

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

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

## Digital Humanities

### *Digital Projects*

*Age of Revolutions*. Co-founder, Co-Executive Editor, and contributor. 2015-present.

*Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité: Exploring the French Revolution*. Associate Producer, 2019 update. 2019-present.

Invited participant in the Andrew W. Mellon-funded project of the Humanities Without Walls grant: “Legacies of the Enlightenment: Humanity, Nature, and Science in a Changing Climate.” 2016-2018.

### *Recent Digital Publications*

“A Sixth Revolution Around the Sun,” with Bryan Banks. *Age of Revolutions*. November 2021.

“A Fifth Revolution Around the Sun,” with Bryan Banks. *Age of Revolutions*. November 2020.

“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.

## Recent Book Reviews

Review of *Souls under Siege: Stories of War, Plague, and Confession in 14th-Century Provence*, by Nicole Archambeau (Cornell University Press, 2021) in *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine* (2022).

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).

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 Work in Progress

“The Sète Affair of 1721: Crisis and Resistance in the French Colonies During the Plague of Provence.” Article manuscript in preparation.

“The Forgotten Plague: The 1742 Bubonic Plague Epidemic in Ceuta.” Article in early stages of preparation (research complete).

**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

**SELECTED RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

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Jan. – Dec. 2022	National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), 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)
2013 – 2014	Ben Weider Dissertation-Writing Grant
2011	Weider Dissertation Research Fellowship
2011	McKnight Dissertation Research Grant
2007 – 2012	McKnight Doctoral Fellowship (Full tuition and annual stipend)

**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 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).

### Recent 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).

### PLENARIES & INVITED TALKS

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#### Plenaries

- “Communicating Disease: Information Networks During the Plague of Provence,” The Enlightenment in Motion Symposium, Mount Royal University (March 17, 2017).

#### Invited Talks

- “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,” 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).

## **SELECTED RECENT ROUNDTABLES, CONFERENCE PAPERS, & CHAIRED SESSIONS**

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### **Roundtables**

- “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).
- “Using Digital Tools to Do Public History,” Society for French Historical Studies, Indianapolis, IN (April 4-6, 2019).
- Digital Humanities Roundtable: “Networks, Perspectives, and Trajectories,” American Historical Association, Chicago, IL (January 3-6, 2019).

### **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).
- “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).

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

- 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).

## **RECENT SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

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February 2022	Served as invited “Guest Expert” for short feature in <i>Britannica Magazine</i> .
Nov. 2015 – Present	Co-Executive Editor for digital, peer-reviewed publication, <i>Age of Revolutions</i>

- May 2021 Reader for book proposal on defining disaster for Johns Hopkins University Press.
- September 2020 Reviewer for National Science Foundation (NSF) grant proposal.
- August 2020 Peer reviewer for article submission for the working papers series on “Historicizing Covid” for the CONVERGE-funded Disaster Historians’ COVID-19 Working Group on “Historical Thinking and COVID-19,” for the Natural Hazards Center, UC Boulder.
- August 2020 Peer reviewer for special issue on “COVID-19 and Environmental History” for *Journal for the History of Environment and Society*.
- March – Nov. 2020 Consultant for Routledge, Taylor & Francis’ Digital Resources Programme on the Age of Revolution, 1750-1848 (in development). This digital archive will include thousands of high-resolution scans of manuscript documents, drawn from several key archival collections from the USA, UK, France, and elsewhere.
- December 2019 Served as invited “Leading Researcher” for an entry on the Age of Revolutions in Britannica’s *All New Kids Encyclopedia: What We Know and What We Don’t*. Was also a featured “Expert” in the chapter.

## REFERENCES

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Available upon request.