



Fall 24 Newsletter



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From the Editor



To say the least, the department went through many changes this semester (there will most likely be more....)

We welcomed three new graduate assistants, adjuncts, and will hopefully be starting the hiring process soon for new faculty members.

With our T-Shirt sales, we were able to purchase new office suite furniture for students to collaborate and chat outside the classroom. We're currently still selling T-Shirts and Hoodies until Dec 20th.

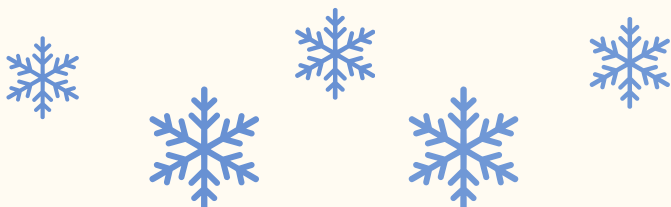
The Department of History is proud of our faculty and students' many accomplishments.

Whether that accomplishment was: traveling for research, attempting to meet various needs of students, getting that final paper complete, or just making it through this semester. We celebrate all of these accomplishments, big or small. :)

Hopefully you will take this time to get some rest over the break, including taking a step back from that never-ending to-do list.

"If you don't schedule a break, your body will take one for you. And it probably won't be at a convenient time."

Enjoy the Holidays, everyone!



Kelsey

Faculty Achievements



“**Dr. Edward Salo** served on a panel that discussed “Emerging Domains of Warfare” at “The Class of 2006 War Studies Conference: Expecting the Unexpected: Preparing for Strategic Surprises in the 21st Century.” The session was held at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Salo also attended the inaugural Faculty Seminar at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.” He was also selected to serve as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.



“**Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch** wrote the forward to the book *From Almeda to Zilphia: Arkansas Women Who Transformed American Popular Song*. The book was written by Stephen Koch, who also hosts “Arkansongs” that is broadcast Thursday on A-State’s KASU-FM.”



Dr. Lucy Barnhouse traveled to Salerno, Italy to present “Picturing Care: Saints and Healing in Medieval Hospital Art” at the 49th Congress of the international Society for the History of Medicine.

She also published three book reviews: *Feminist Medievalisms*, *Stripping the Veil*, and *Between Orders and Heresy*. And also the article “Disability and Medieval (In)Justice in The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938) and Robin of Sherwood (1984)” in *The Bulletin of the International Association for Robin Hood Studies*.

Faculty Achievements



“**Dr. Michael Dougan**, emeritus professor of history, made a presentation to the Craighead County Historical Society last week about his more than 50 years in Jonesboro, highlighting community developments. He was then recognized for his five decades of membership and made a lifetime member.”



Dr. Jason Post presented “Sunsets, Storm Drains, and Snails: Exploring the Novel Aquatic Ecologies of the Los Angeles Underworld” to Arkansas State University’s Biosciences Institute.

Dr. Post will travel to the American Association of Geographers conference in March and to Dominica in June, heading a study abroad opportunity for his Environmental Management course.

Student Highlights



In October, Jared Allinson and Dr. Castro traveled to Kansas City, MO for Jared to do research for his master's thesis. The trip was funded by the Simon and Ali Hosken Research Award. Dr. Simon Hosken was an adjunct instructor of history for seventeen years, before retiring in 2024.

Halee Mills presented "Indigenous Places in Urban Spaces: Mapping Indigenous Histories in the Modern Landscape" for the Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Archeological Society on September 27th.

Mills also assisted the Arkansas Archeological Survey at a digging site in Faulkner county.



MA student Madison Garrett began her position as the University BSE Intern Supervisor. She supervises the Capstone internship for potential BSE Social Science Educators. Madison received her BSE degree in 2021.

She will graduate with a MA in History this December, supervise interns in Spring 2025, and is hoping to enter a Ph.D program in Fall 2025.

Alumni Highlights



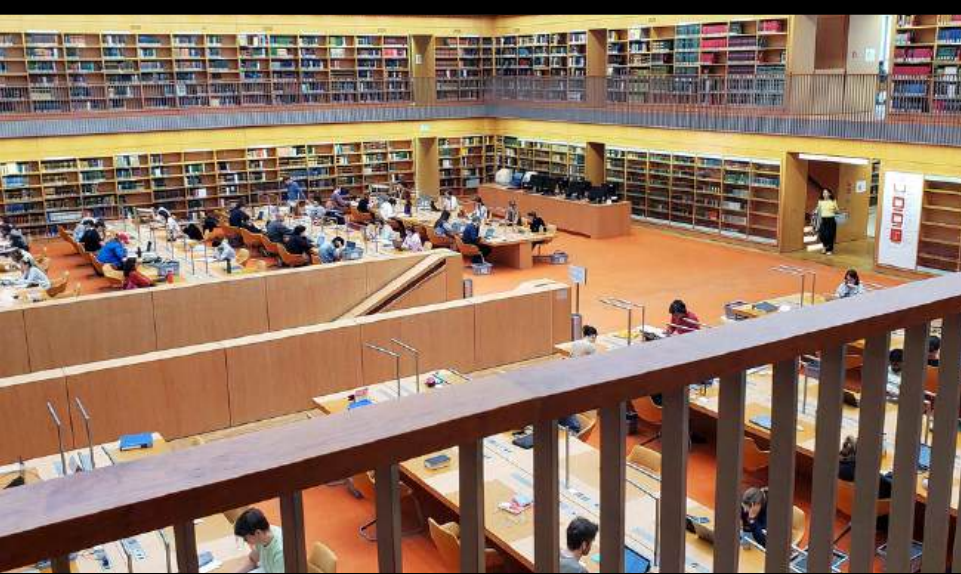
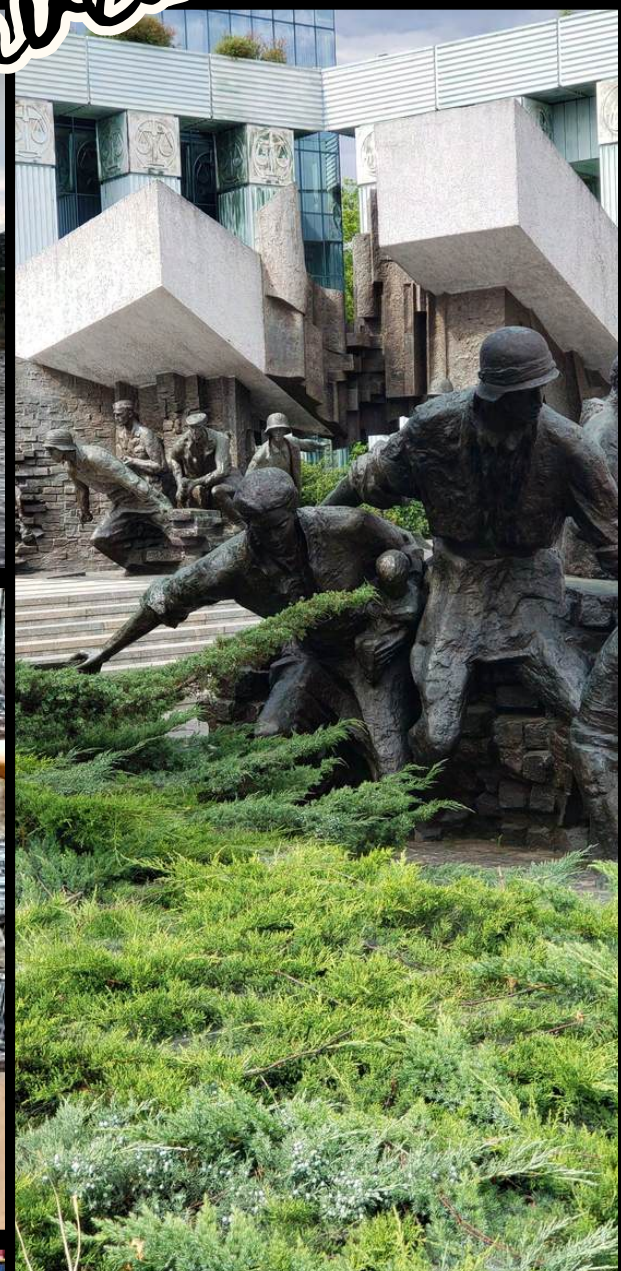
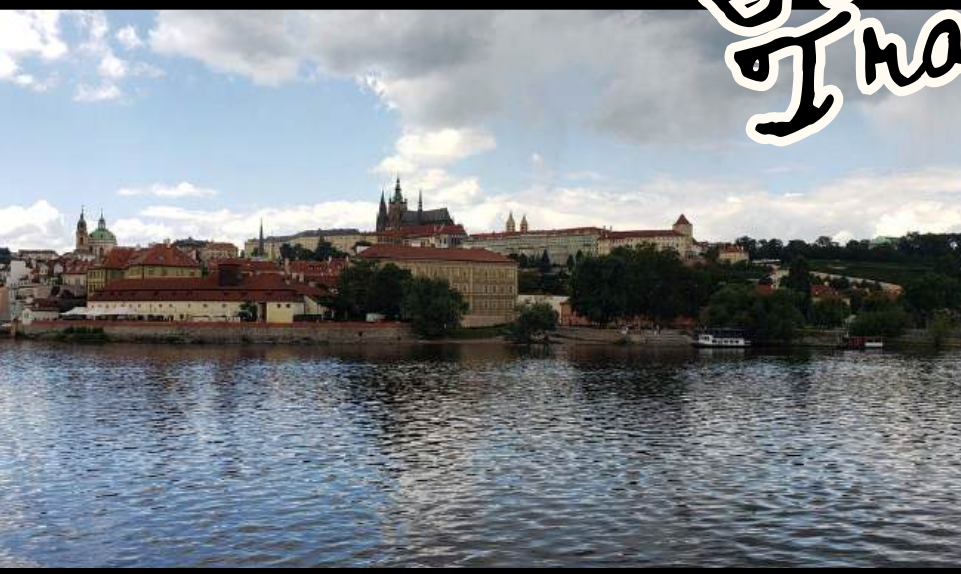
Mackenzie Gardner started a new position as the Administrative Assistant for the C.H. Nash Museum Chucalissa at the University of Memphis. She has also recently started her MA Museum Studies at the University of Oklahoma.

In September, Alandria Maddox began working as the Administrative Analyst for A-State's Department of Music.



Clayton Willis is currently pursuing his MA at Columbia University where he is president of the European Union Student Association. He and other officers traveled to the United Nations summit for the Future Action days.

Faculty Travels



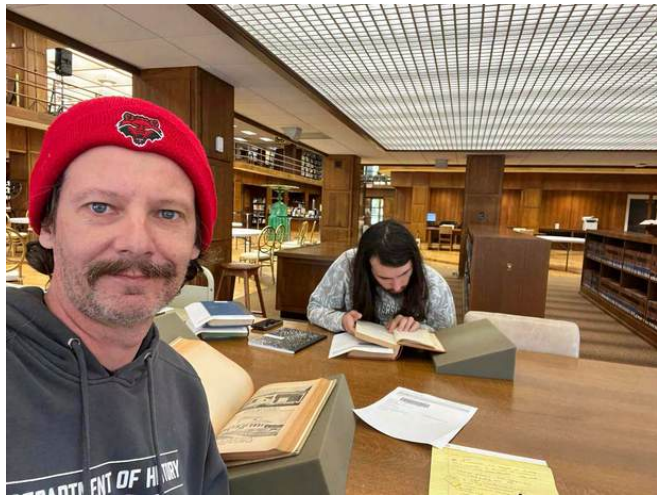


Phi Alpha Theta &

History Club



Click or Scan QR Code





ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN A-STATE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

Our study abroad program invites you to explore the breathtaking tropical landscapes of the Commonwealth of Dominica while diving into environmental management.

DOMINICA

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Snorkeling Tour
- Hiking to Waterfalls
- Eco-Tourism and Kalinago Indigenous Culture Center Visit
- Coral Reef and Tropical Ecology
- Participate in Field Research
- Explore Agricultural Histories and Caribbean Foodways

FOR STUDENTS IN

- Biology
- Environmental Science
- GIS/Precision Agriculture
- Agriculture
- History/Social Science Education
- Graduate students in these respective fields

SUMMER 2025

June 2 - June 20


*7-week summer I course is required for the study abroad trip.



Contact us

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Graduate Assistants



Jared Allinson



Jayme Rawls



Skylarlee Bobo



Lucas Timmerman



Halee Mills

Alumni Spotlight

OUR ALUMNI. THEIR JOURNEY. YOUR GUIDES.

Dr. Zachary Diebel MA '14

“I taught high school social studies for another four years (as I taught for three years while I was earning my MA at A-State), and then I matriculated into Binghamton University's history PhD program.



I have been fortunate to receive a faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor at Virginia Military Institute, where I will continue teaching and studying early American history.

My training at ASU prepared me extraordinarily well for my doctoral studies. The faculty afforded me many opportunities to explore many of my academic and research interests while also providing me with rigorous and meaningful training in the practice of historical scholarship.

Moreover, the department's faculty modeled how engaging, thought-provoking, and open-minded discussions of complex topics can have a profound impact on a classroom, and their earnest, holistic, and genuine engagement with their students has both inspired and informed my own efforts to build similarly discursive and meaningful learning environments.”



Alumni Spotlight

OUR ALUMNI. THEIR JOURNEY. YOUR GUIDES.



Mackenzie Gardner, BA '22

Currently:

Administrative Assistant

C.H. Nash Museum, Chucalissa

Memphis, Tennessee

“A B.A. in History taught me how to research more than anything else.”

Finding information has easily become my most valuable skill, which is quite helpful in a library. It also taught the value of perspective and the importance of recognizing bias.

Overall, studying history can only make you a better and more understanding individual.”

WANT TO BE A FEATURED ALUM?

Contact Kelsey DeFord at
kdeford@AState.edu OR

[CLICK THIS LINK TO THE SURVEY!](#)

Sympathies Extended

LAQUITA SAUNDERS

It is with deep sadness that the History Department announces the passing of Dr. LaQuita Saunders, beloved colleague, teacher, and friend. Her obituary is available [online](#).



Dr. Saunders passed away on September 7, 2024 and is survived by her husband, Jeff, and their children and grandchildren.

Saunders taught FYE, U.S. and World History survey courses, and upper-level classes in legal and constitutional history from 1996-2018. She is fondly remembered by former students as an inspiring teacher, advisor, and mentor

To her colleagues, she will be remembered as an outstanding cook, the social center of department activities, and a genuine friend. Her warmth and light will be deeply missed.



For lasting memorials, the family asks that consideration be given to the ASU Foundation, memo: Dr. Charles Kenner History Memorial Scholarship, PO Box 1990, State University, AR 72467; or online at AStateAlumni.org/CharlesKennerScholarship

Sympathies Extended- continued



Justin Shane Carothers

Dr. Saunders was such a wonderful person. I hate to hear of her passing. My condolences to her family.

1d Like Reply



Rob Reep

Deepest sympathies and prayers from a former student.

2d Like Reply



Rachel Powell

She was my advisor and a wonderful, amazing historian. My heart goes out to her family ❤️

1d Like Reply



John Mark Pierce

So sorry to hear. She was so kind. Had her in FYE.

2d Like Reply



Chip Carroll

Condolences to the family. She was a great lady and will be missed.

2d Like Reply



LaShea Robinson

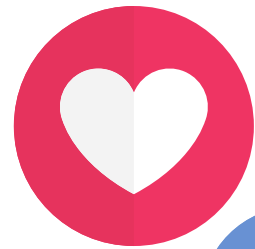
Condolences to her friends and family.

2d Like Reply



Sarah Mangroo

Condolences, prayers, and good thoughts to the family and all who knew her.



Ashley Fox-Kelley
So sad to hear this. Dr. Saunders was 1 of my first professor interactions at Astate. She and I loved sarcastic remarks and witty comebacks and frequently bantered back and forth. My condolences to her family, friends, colleagues, and students. She will be sorely missed.

Michael Colton Adkisson
Dr. S was my first introduction to the history department at Arkansas State and a defining influence on me as an academic and teacher. My condolences to Jeff and all the family. She made the best chili I ever ate!

Justin Castro
Condolences to Jeff and the rest of the family.



August Commencement



Important Dates



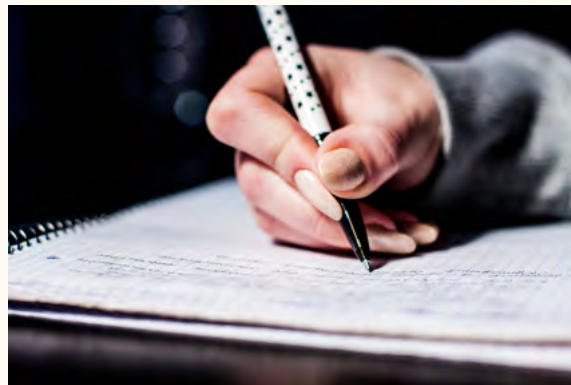
Last Day of Class

DECEMBER 5



Fall Commencement

DEC 14TH



Final Exams

DECEMBER 9-13

Course Evals Closed on Dec 7th

A-STATE HISTORY CLUB

The History Club, established in 2020, welcomes all A-State students passionate about history. It allows students who do not meet the requirements of Phi Alpha Theta membership to participate in Department of History events and to access the Wunderkammer history lounge, club quarters, and collections.

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!**



**OFFICES CLOSED
DECEMBER 21ST-JAN 5TH**

**REOPENING
JANUARY 6TH, 2025**