



Department of History

Spring 2023 Newsletter

Volume 2 / Issue 2

Letter from the Chair

If you have news to share, please reach out to me at Leilah.Danielson@nau.edu or tweet us [@NAUHistoryDept](https://twitter.com/NAUHistoryDept)

Dr. Leilah Danielson

It has been another busy semester for the Department of History! What makes it all worthwhile is being part of a community of scholars who care deeply about history and who are committed to student mentorship and service to the wider community. I see their hard work pay off in the incredible achievements of our majors, including our outstanding class of 2023.

I would like to highlight some important milestones in our department over the past several months. First, Dr. Paul Dutton has announced his retirement after 25 years of service to NAU. An outstanding scholar and teacher, it has been a privilege to work with him over these many years and I hope you join me in wishing him the very best for his retirement. I am also pleased to announce that Dr. Marcus Macktima will be joining us as Assistant Professor of Native American History in the fall after serving as an Inclusive Excellence Predoctoral Fellow in our department this past year. The department is lucky to have another Inclusive Excellence Postdoctoral Fellow join us in 2023-2024 in a joint position with the Department of Global Languages and Cultures. Dr. Iuri Bauler Pereira will help to fill out our curriculum in U.S. and Latin American History.

Other developments on the faculty front include an exciting new hire in European History. Dr. Foster Chamberlin, a specialist in Modern Spanish History, will be joining us in the fall of 2023 as Assistant Teaching Professor. Dr. Scott Reese returns this fall from the University of Hamburg where he has been engaged in several important projects on the history of Islam in East Africa. Dr. Hakeem Naim, who did a stellar job of teaching Dr. Reese's classes in his absence, is leaving, and Dr. Josh Hodil is moving to take up the Westergaard Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Department of History at Pomona College. It has been a pleasure working with both, and I wish them every success.

I would also like to thank Gary Kane for establishing the Ted Mote History Study Abroad Scholarship, which is supporting study abroad experiences for a student in Spain and another in Greece this upcoming fall. Generous support from donors allows us to fund student research and recognize their achievements. Finally, I want to thank our dedicated and hardworking staff, Program Coordinator Christine Fredericks, and Financial Oversight Analyst Kelly Mercer. We couldn't do without them!

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Alumni Features

Alumni Event Sponsored by The Lumberjacks Thrive Grant

The History Club and History department welcomed NAU History alumni to speak to students about their experiences in the workforce with history degrees. History club was awarded a Thrive Grant from NAU to fund this event and panelists traveled from across Arizona and California.

The event hosted Lauren Amundson, archivist at Lowell Observatory, Samuel Rosenberg Administrative Assistant for Senate Research at Arizona State Senate, Megan Nolan, Cultural Interpreter at Filoli House and Garden in California, Josie Teegardin, social studies teacher at Mt. Elden Middle School, and Danielle Bonfig, economics teacher at Flagstaff High School.

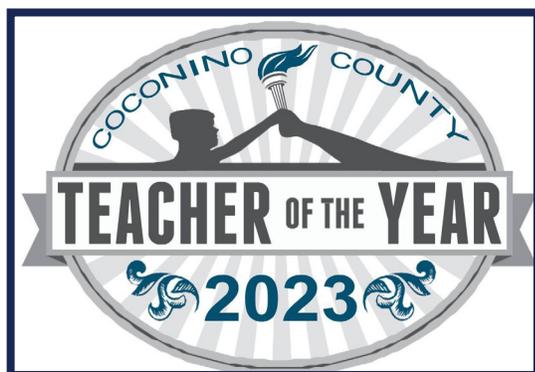
After introductions and brief presentations, the panel was opened to questions from the audience and students got to mingle and ask field-related questions about the panelists' jobs. The event was a success, as nearly every seat in the room was filled.

The History Club and History department would like to cordially thank the Lumberjacks Thrive Grant Program for making this event possible.



Darius Barnes (BS '14)

Darius Barnes was admitted to the East Asian Languages and Cultures Ph.D. program at the University of Illinois in Champaign with full funding in the form of the Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in the Humanities and Arts. Congratulations! We wish Darius the best as he embarks on his doctoral studies.



Josie Teegardin (BSEd '21)

Josie Teegardin, a history ed program alum and our department's Spring 2021 Outstanding Senior, has been awarded the 2023 Coconino County Rookie Teacher of the Year. This is not an easy feat, and we are so excited for her! She is featured in a [News Flash](#) from [Coconino County's government website](#).

Alumni Features

Haley Judd Robinson (BSEd '17 & MA '20)

Haley Judd Robinson graduated from NAU with her BSEd in Secondary History Education in 2017 and her MA in History in 2020. Now, Haley is attending Creighton University School of Law alongside her husband and anticipates graduating in May 2024. Haley is a Judicial Extern for a Federal District Court Judge for the District of Nebraska as well as a tutor for Constitutional Law.

Robinson is most interested in labor and employment law.

"I feel that it is so important to be able to give back and serve in my community with the education I have been blessed to receive. With a law degree, I can do that. So many people need legal services, but not everyone can go to law school," Haley said. "I also chose the law for the intellectual rigor it provided. I knew I needed a career that would challenge me, and law seemed like a good fit in that regard."

Robinson shared she is especially appreciative of the mentorship she received from Dr. Leilah Danielson.

She was "an incredible mentor, support, and source of advice. My two years I spent working on my MA are one of the highlights of my life."



Josh Hailey (MA '20)

Josh Hailey received his MA in history from NAU in 2020 and is now a U.S. History and Civics teacher at Lake Asbury Junior High School in Florida. In 2021, Hailey received the Beginning Teacher award for his county and the Florida Council for the Social Studies Excellence in Teaching History award.

"It has been both a challenging and rewarding experience," Hailey said. "I'm grateful that my time at NAU prepared me for success after grad school."

Hailey is currently pursuing a teaching position at Florida State College at Jacksonville.



Kevin Fernlund (BS '81 & MA '83)

Kevin Fernlund graduated from NAU with a bachelor's degree ('81) and a master's degree ('83) in history. Furthering his education he earned his Ph.D. in history at the University of New Mexico in 1992. He is currently Professor of History at the University of Missouri St. Louis where he has taught since 2002.

"Studying history at NAU was one of the best experiences of my life," Fernlund said.

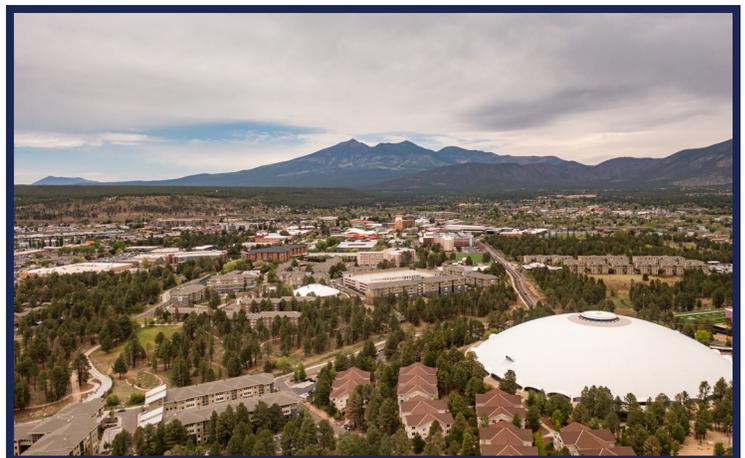
Fernlund is the author of *Lyndon B. Johnson and Modern America* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2009), *William Henry Holmes and the Rediscovery of the American West* (University of New Mexico Press, 2000), and the editor of *The Cold War American West, from 1945 to 1989* (University of New Mexico Press, 1998). His newest book, *A Big History of North America, from Montezuma to Monroe* (December 2022) covers three centuries and integrates the histories of Canada, the United States, and Mexico into a single narrative.

Fernlund is currently working on a new book project on the impact of the 1960s British music invasion of North America.



Give to NAU History Department

You can support anything from scholarships to help students fund their education, to groundbreaking research by faculty, to the hands-on learning experiences that prepare students to thrive in 21st Century careers. Every gift, no matter the size, helps make a difference at NAU and helps Lumberjacks realize their aspirations.



[Give to NAU History Department Today!](https://nau.edu/history-department)

Faculty Highlights

Dr. Paul Dutton: Retiring from NAU

The entire NAU community will miss a wonderful colleague, a charismatic teacher, and a prolific scholar when Dr. Paul Dutton retires from NAU in the summer of 2023. Paul joined our department in 1997, as Assistant Professor of European History but primarily to give a new direction to our BSEd program. Over the last 26 years, he has reinvented himself, gaining a wide variety of administrative experiences, but remained totally committed to his primary roles as a teacher and a historian. Even as he did stellar work in restructuring the Secondary Education program, Dr. Dutton emerged as a leading figure in scholarship of the history of healthcare in twentieth century France and the United States with three monographs on the subject in 2002, 2017 and 2021. Dr. Dutton's op-eds on the subject appeared in *The Boston Globe*, *The International Herald Tribune*, and *The New York Times*. Contemporary concerns about the state of healthcare policies evidently drove his historical explorations. The same concerns led him to found and direct the Northern Arizona University Interdisciplinary Health Policy Institute, answering directly to the NAU President, between 2008 and 2015.

Unlike many who use administrative positions to leave behind teaching, scholarship, and departmental obligations, Paul returned to the History department in 2015 with fresh energy and dedication. He volunteered to step up as Graduate Director from 2018 to 2021, and has participated in and led innumerable search committees for the department. His tenure as Chair of the Faculty Status Committee since 2020 has been exemplary on account of his commitment to issues of shared governance and generous assessments of his peers.

Though we will all miss him, he will be missed most by his students. Paul Dutton has been an outstanding teacher, loved by his students, and taught courses at all levels from the introductory European surveys through to graduate level seminars in healthcare policy and historiography and methodology. He is one of a few members of the History faculty who has demonstrated commitment to interdisciplinarity not only in scholarship but also teaching, exemplified by the co-convened course *Power, Health, Justice*

developed in collaboration with CCJ. He served on many graduate students' thesis and exam committees, not just in our department but across the University. Given his areas of expertise and experience, he is also a Principal Faculty Member in the recently created Interdisciplinary Health Ph.D. program.

We too often overlook the personal when talking about achievements. We shouldn't. The personal is an integral part of our professional lives. Thus, we must mention that during an outstanding career at NAU he also brought up a wonderful family in Flagstaff, with two amazing children both of whom are now on their own successful career tracks. In this, as undoubtedly in other facets of his life, Paul has been fortunate to have the support of the incomparable Dr. Shelby Reid, his spouse and partner. They have both thoroughly enjoyed the variety of outdoor activities that Flagstaff allows. We hope retirement will allow them to explore the outdoors, enjoy their beautiful home, and wish Paul an enjoyable and productive retirement. We certainly hope we continue to see them both around town and campus as schedules permit. Here is Dr. Dutton (left) with Dr. Joshi (right) at the 2023 Scholarship Dinner.



Economic Crises: Social Policy Tragedies or Opportunities?

Dr. Paul Dutton is published widely in the field of social policy and welfare, which is why he was invited to speak at an international conference in Germany at the University of Bremen in December 2022. His presentation explored why ill-health, which often accompanies economic crises, can either help to destroy social cohesion and threaten governments

or these same crises can lead to positive social reforms that improve citizens' health and contribute to better government and greater social trust. Dr. Dutton's Bremen lecture will be published as part of the proceedings of the conference, "Economic Crises and Social Policy in the Twentieth Century."

Dr. Jeremy LaBuff: Promoted to Associate Professor

Jeremy LaBuff was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Dr. LaBuff has been an outstanding teacher and scholar since joining the Department of History in 2012. Congratulations! Here he is with Provost Karen Pugliesi (right) and President José Luis Cruz-Rivera (left).



Dr. Paul Dutton and Dr. Michael Amundson Honored

Dr. Paul Dutton and Dr. Michael Amundson were honored for 25 years of service to NAU. Both men exemplify the teacher-scholar model that is at the bedrock of our department's identity. We join the university in honoring their scholarly achievements and their incredible dedication to student mentorship and university service. Photo: College of Arts and Letters Dean Dr. Christopher Boyer (left), Dr. Michael Amundson (top), President José Luis Cruz-Rivera (center), and Dr. Paul Dutton (right).

Dr. Marcus Macktima Wins Delno C. West, Jr. Faculty Publication Prize

The Department of History awarded the annual prize to Dr. Macktima for his superb chapter, "Sacred Space and Identity: The Fight for Chi'chil Bildagoteel (Oak Flat) and the History of the San Carlos Apachean Peoples," published in Brenden Rensink, ed., *The North American West in the Twenty-first Century* (University of Nebraska Press, 2022). Honorable mention goes to Dr. Elizabeth Schwall for her fascinating article "Contamination in Modern Cuban Dance Histories" in *Dance Research Journal* 54, no. 3 (December 2022).



Department Updates

Letter from Dr. Michael Amundson: Graduate Program

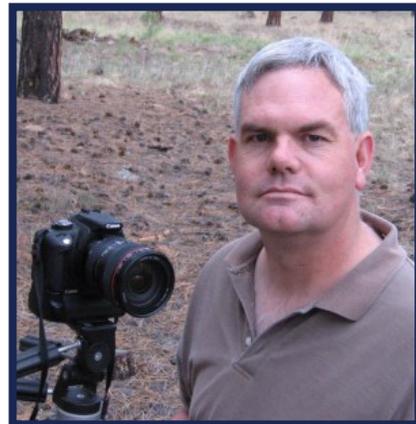
The History Graduate Program has had a very busy year. In response to our Seven Year Review, the department has revised our M.A. program in significant ways including the replacement of the Comprehensive Exams track with a Professional Portfolio; the elimination of all our fields of study and the creation of a new learner-centered model where each student, under the guidance of their advisor, can determine their own primary field and course of study; and the creation of a Core Curriculum whereby all students will take four required courses as a cohort. Much more on this as we begin implementation in fall 2023.

We'd also like to salute our upcoming graduates and thank the faculty who chaired their committees including Audrey Casem, who wrote a thesis on Hawaii under the direction of Eric Meeks; Megan Salinas, who produced a public history project under Michael Amundson; Jennifer Johns, who defended her public history project at Walnut Canyon National Monument under Tom Finger; and Shane Baltes, who completed his comprehensive exams with Leilah Danielson. Congrats Audrey, Megan, Jennifer, and Shane!

Public History would also like to thank three new partners who supported student internships including Walnut Canyon National Monument, the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott, and the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda

California. We'd also like to thank Ryan Carpenter, Chief Interpretive Park Ranger at Walnut Canyon and Jennifer Pederson, Education Program Manager at Sharlot Hall Museum for their time and support of Jennifer and Megan. It was really cool to go to Walnut Canyon and Prescott to see our students defend their projects! We're also looking forward to hearing about upcoming internships this summer including Lindsey Cillis' at Riordan Mansion State Park and Katie Scholler's at the Sedona Heritage Museum, another new public history partner. Public History continues to grow and we're thrilled to have such great partners.

Finally, thanks to my colleagues Derek Heng, Tom Finger, Elizabeth Schwall, and Eric Meeks who served on the Graduate Committee and worked tirelessly on these many changes over the year.



History Pre-Law

Did you know that history majors have the highest rate of admittance to law school? According to a recent Law School Admission Council (LSAC) report, the most common undergraduate major for law school applicants is political science, but history majors are more likely to be accepted than any other major.

NAU has a decentralized system for pre-law advising and we thought it was

important for our students to have their own pre-law advisor. With his expertise in the history of crime and punishment in the United States, new history professor Dr. Gregory Lella is a perfect fit for this role.

Reach out to him anytime for advice at Gregory.Lella@nau.edu.



History Club

NAU's History Club had another successful semester. History Club hosted classic events like Jeopardy, history discussions, and Professor Night, but also had many new events. The club organized their first field trip to the Museum of Northern Arizona, and hopes to do another trip next semester.

Highlights of the semester included sorting through evidence left behind by the disappearance of Glen and Bessie Hyde, who mysteriously vanished on a river trip through the Grand Canyon. The collection of photographs, journals, and written accounts was provided by Cline Library Special Collections and Archives.

Another highlight was a presentation by John Gartin from Career Development informed students about the resources available to them to propel their careers. Gartin told students about Handshake and the resume dropbox available on the Career Development website. He also told students how their careers may change and develop in ways they never thought possible, and that NAU's career services are available to them even after graduation.

A large crowd showed up to History Club to welcome NAU history alumni from Arizona and California to come and talk about their careers and how they

utilized their history degrees. Teachers, historians, and a government employee opened up about their experiences. There was a panel discussion where students were free to ask questions.

History Club is sad to announce Dr. Josh Hodil will no longer be the faculty facilitator. The club board Liv, Jess, Ryan, Nick, Hava, and Scott all wish him the best on his new adventure to California. He helped get the club up and running, and has continued to help tremendously with club affairs. We thank him for his time and kindness he has dedicated to the club. Pomona College is lucky to have such a great professor coming their way!



Letter from Dr. Lauren Lefty: BSEd Program

We began the semester with a deluge of snow days (a record-breaking 12 for FUSD), yet we end with flowers blooming. We are saying goodbye to graduating seniors—many of whom already secured full-time teaching positions, wishing farewell to candidates embarking on their student teaching in the fall, and celebrating the amazing work of students at all points in the program.

We are thrilled to share the news that one of our very own graduates, Ms. Josie Teegardin, was selected as Coconino County Rookie Teacher of the Year! Ms. Teegardin is finishing her first year at Mount Elden Middle School, where she excels in the classroom and goes above and beyond by leading wilderness expeditions, offering after-school tutoring, coaching girls' soccer, and paying it forward by hosting our very own practicum students. We were also delighted to honor several BSEd students

at this year's History Department scholarship dinner, including Olivia Hall, Matt Lankton, Joey Uribe, Sara Beattie, Cara Bush, A'Janae Avington, and Priscilla Imperial.



Department Updates

Letter from Dr. Lauren Lefty Continued

Due to the dedication of our cooperating teachers, who generously host our students for classroom-based practicum, we even witnessed students in the first semester of the program teaching demo lessons—not a requirement, but a challenge they readily accepted.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our colleague, Christi Carlson, I am also pleased to announce that we received accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Preparation (CAEP) this year, a marker of excellence in the field. It's been a wonderful first year here at NAU as the new Director of the Secondary History BSEd program. I look forward to continuing the good work and helping the program grow well into the future.

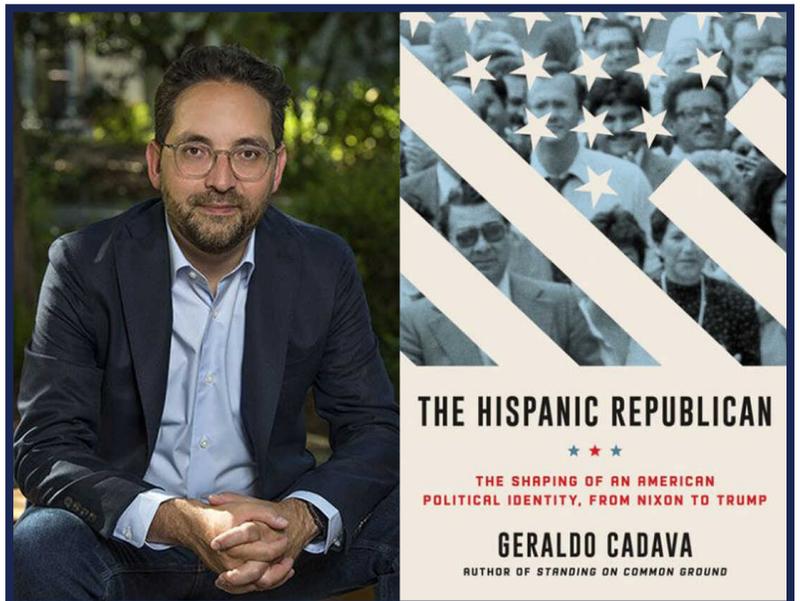


History in the Headlines

Professor Geraldo Cadava: The Hispanic Republican: Unpacking Latino Conservatism

Our History in the Headlines speaker for spring 2023 was Professor Geraldo Cadava of Northwestern University. Dr. Cadava's research focuses on the history of U.S. Latino/as in the United States and the history of the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands. His talk, "The Hispanic Republican: Unpacking Latino Conservatism," challenged the notion of a singular Latino/a identity and politics. The audience learned, for example, that the relationship between the Republican Party and self-identified "Hispanics" developed in the 1950s, as President Dwight D. Eisenhower's cultivated relationships with veterans. Hispanic conservatives shared the Republican Party's emphasis on hard work and Christianity as the basis for freedom. Those who were immigrants naturally refracted U.S. politics through the politics of their home countries, where the Cold War was a hot war. Still, Hispanic conservatives have not always been reliable Republicans, especially as the party has adopted an increasingly nativist tone. The talk generated

a lively discussion about the meaning of "Latino/a" and possible voting patterns in the upcoming elections.



Visiting Speakers

Dr. Jennifer Klein: Women's History Month Speaker

Dr. Jennifer Klein, Durfee Professor of History at Yale University, spoke in honor of Women's History Month on the topic of "Women, Work, and Precarity in Modern America". It was a truly wonderful event. Sponsored by the Department of History, the Department of Social Work, the Department of Sociology, and Women and Gender Studies, and attended by approximately 75 students and faculty, the talk generated a lively discussion that lasted well past the allocated 90 minutes.

A specialist in the history of social welfare policy, capitalism, gender, and labor, Dr. Klein focused on the historical roots of our increasingly flexible and contingent work culture. Since the emergence of the labor movement in the 19th century, workers have sought to expand the rights of citizenship to include economic security. The New Deal succeeded in passing groundbreaking labor legislation, yet exclusions of domestic and agricultural workers reinforced gender and racial inequalities that have persisted even as the law has become more inclusive. Homecare workers have been on the front lines in demanding their labor has value and they should have the same workplace protections as other workers. They have had some successes, yet, ironically, precarious labor (work that is poorly paid,

unprotected, and insecure) has only become more widespread.

Dr. Klein then turned to a discussion of her new research project on the historical experiences of Louisiana's workers from the era of sugar plantations to the chemical industry of today. In highlighting continuities of coercion, marginalization, and waste, she showed that workers are further than ever from the dreams of economic security and labor rights that animated the New Deal era and continue to inspire activists today. Photo courtesy of Sara Williams.



Undergraduate Features

History Education Practicum Highlights

Our history and social studies education program is founded on the idea that our teacher candidates need early and sustained teaching experiences to help prepare them for the classroom. In other words, we want them in the schools as much as possible! This starts in the HIS 206 class, where students are asked to complete just over 20 hours of practicum work. They are placed with both a middle and high school teacher in our local area, and visit the classroom for a few hours each week to observe teaching methods and strategies, work with students, grade assignments, and assist their cooperating teacher in any way possible. Later on in the HIS 407 class,

students complete 45 hours in the classroom, with weekly visits again split between middle and high school. In this class, teacher candidates have the added responsibility of planning and teaching two lessons. With 65+ hours of practical, hands-on work in the classroom, it is our hope that teacher candidates will feel confident and well-prepared as they enter their full-time student teaching semester. We are incredibly grateful to our cooperating teachers for opening up their classrooms and sharing their knowledge and expertise with our teacher candidates!

Undergraduate Features

Practicum Student Spotlights

Joey Uribe (he/him)

Junior

Mount Elden Middle School

“The aspect of practicum I enjoy the most is getting to teach a lesson. I really enjoy working with my cooperating teacher to plan out a lesson and then being able to teach it to the students. It’s great practice and it really shows me the different kinds of strategies and activities I would like to incorporate in my own classroom in the future, as well as aspects of my teaching that I can improve on.”



Olivia Richmond (she/her)

Junior

Flagstaff High School

“It’s so fun to be able to interact with students and see their learning take place. I also enjoy my practicum cohort. It is so amazing and challenging to be in classes with like-minded individuals who are all passionate about teaching.”



Matt Lankton (he/him)

Junior

Flagstaff High School

“The most enjoyable aspect of my practicum experience has been the aspect of community that develops. Not only do you create a community within your cohort of peers, but also with the teachers that you work with and the students that you see in your fieldwork. The teachers do an amazing job of including practicum students directly in their classrooms and helping us through our learning processes in many ways. The students are the most fun part, they are so versatile in their days that you never know what to expect, but that is the best part, adapting to their needs and working with them to develop their learning and understanding of the historical learning process.”



Outstanding Senior: Chanamon “Nene” Lerdnitiseth

We are pleased to announce that “Nene” Lerdnitiseth is the History Department’s Outstanding Senior for spring 2023. A history education major, Nene was born in Bangkok, Thailand and moved to the United States when she was nine years old. She became a U.S. citizen in high school and decided to attend Northern Arizona University to pursue her dream of becoming a social studies/history teacher. With a 3.96 GPA, she has excelled in her coursework and credits her success to hard work and the support of “NAU’s fantastic teacher preparation program.”

Nene has wide-ranging interests and aspirations to promote justice in her community and the broader world. We are inspired by her commitment to cultivating “civic awareness and knowledge in [her future] students and to impart within them a lifelong love of history and learning.” As she notes, “if they can learn to ask questions and to seek out the answers with both curiosity and consideration, I will have accomplished that goal.” We agree wholeheartedly with this approach to history/social studies education and wish her the very best in her future career. Here is a photo of Nene at Lake Havasu.



Honorable Mention: William Batson

The history department took the unusual step of recognizing William Batson as “honorable mention” for Outstanding Senior this semester. In all his history classes, William has consistently performed above and beyond, exhibiting excellence in class discussions and superior critical and writing skills. We are excited to have him join our MA program this upcoming fall!

NAU Undergraduate Research Symposium

A NAU’s annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, held on April 28th, the History department had two students present their work from Dr. LaBuff’s HIS 470 seminar on Pre-modern Slavery. First, Joey Uribe gave a stimulating talk on the “Comparison between American and Mamluk Slavery: How Do Racial Ideologies Influence Enslavement?” In his talk, he argued that while racial ideologies played a role in the slave systems of both the US antebellum South and medieval Egypt under the Mamluk dynasty, this similarity was largely limited to practices of enslavement and the sexual exploitation of slaves. He highlighted key differences as well, especially the opportunities for slaves to gain freedom and advance in the social and political hierarchy in the Mamluk regime, which American slaves could not do due to the persistence of racial ideologies. His research is all the more impressive because this kind of comparative work is not even being done by professional historians.

Our second student presenter was Cat Campos, who created a poster based on her teacher’s workshop project, which was entitled “The Evolution of Ancient Slavery to Modern Slavery.” The poster seeks to address the lack of attention to slavery in secondary education by providing suggestions to educators on how to meaningfully incorporate this topic into their teaching of history. Her Eight Key Concepts help teachers develop a comparative framework for teaching slavery and emphasize both the pre-modern background to American slavery and the important similarities (such as the role of violence) and differences (e.g., the nature and role of racism) between slavery in ancient Rome versus the US antebellum South. We look forward to seeing how this resource informs Cat’s teaching and benefits her colleagues for years to come.

Undergraduate Features

Dr. Derek Heng and Research Assistant Derek Naaf

Dr. Derek Heng and his research assistant Derek Naaf are creating a database that takes a new approach to logging ceramic finds in Southeast Asia. The database will log 1,000 pieces of ceramic shards that were recovered from the late 13th to 14th-century port city in Singapore. The materials were originally imported from China, Cambodia, and Thailand, and represent the diverse trade practices at the time in Maritime Asia. "It is the first set in [the] development quantitative analytical data that can provide info on macro and micro level trade across Asia, with the view to elucidating narrative histories such as the volume of trade with specific ports and countries of the late medieval and early modern eras in Asian history," Heng said.

Naaf was awarded a travel grant from the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity to visit Singapore this summer. He will view the processing center where the cargo of a 14th-century shipwreck is processed and meet the curators of the

Asian Civilizations Museum who are spearheading the excavation project. Below is a photo of a rescue excavation of a 14th century settlement site at downtown Singapore, conducted in 2015.



Graduate Highlights

Chandler Jameson and Austin Kerr: Pursuing MA's through the ATA

We currently have two high school social studies teachers enrolled in our MA program through the Arizona Teachers' Academy Scholarship Program (ATA), which pays tuition and fees for students who commit to teaching for two years in Arizona's public schools.

Chandler Jameson has been teaching Modern World History (and, more recently, History of Cinema) at Northland Preparatory Academy for seven years. A Flagstaff native, he loves teaching history because he gets paid to teach about his favorite subject every day. Taking the leap to enroll in the MA program represented a big commitment. With a young son and a new baby, he knew it wouldn't be easy. And, indeed, balancing all his responsibilities has been the most difficult part. As he comments, "it turns out it's hard to do homework when the kids

are awake!" Still, it has been worth it. Chandler has enjoyed meeting other people who have a similar passion for history and big ideas.



Austin Kerr and Chandler Jameson Continued

Dr. Sanjay Joshi's class on Colonialism and Nationalism has had the biggest impact, providing "new avenues to approach the subject and more details that I can better help students understand the impacts the 19th century has had on our everyday lives." He has enjoyed incorporating the "dizzying variety of approaches" he learned in Dr. Paul Dutton's methodologies into his teaching. He also looks forward to revising his lesson plans on the Cold War based upon the "more nuanced understandings" of the U.S.'s role in the world that he learned from Dr. Leilah Danielson. All his classes "almost kicked my butt, but they have all improved my teaching style and methods."

Austin Kerr has been teaching U.S. history and related courses at Northland Preparatory Academy for six years. He loves his students, who he describes as "some of the kindest, cleverest, and most interesting humans" he has ever met. His commitment to continual improvement of their learning experience drew him to the ATA program. Indeed, he saw it as a "once in a lifetime opportunity" to obtain an MA degree and "pay it back by simply continuing the job I was already planning to do."

Austin has very much enjoyed his graduate classes at NAU. They have given him the opportunity "to read and discuss complex ideas that I could bring back to my students." He further credits graduate school with deepening his historical knowledge and teaching him how to read more efficiently, "which makes grading easier." The main challenge has been to balance the demands of teaching with the demands of graduate school. "It's always a trip when you have to console an 8th grader's meltdown and then an hour later be ready to discuss the French peasantry in Dr. Dutton's methodology class!" It has been worth it, however, and he hopes that the state continues to provide this essential support for Arizona teachers.



More about the [Arizona Teachers' Academy Scholarship Program](#) or contact Dr. Michael Amundson at Michael.Amundson@nau.edu

Shoutouts

Congratulations Spring 2023 Graduates!

BA/BS/BSEd

Joshua Ayson
Emma Burkhart
Weston Hawkins
Emily Plett
Alexander Furash
Brooke Anderson
Ciaran Doherty
Samantha Dunne
Maisara Francis
Allison Hale
Everest Henze
Thomas Parada
Jamie Sheehan
Nikita Van Winkle
Darby Wilson
Rory Treptow
Kyle Aldridge Mejia
Logan Bridge
Caitlyn Campos
Lauryn Carlson
William Clark
Elli Doronzio
Heaven Gomez

Anika Grancorvitz
Emma Grebel
Kailie Klein
Chanamon Lerdnitiseth
AmberRose Libby
Hayley Marshall
Romero Ragsdale
Skye Smith
Mackenzie Sumrall
Anthony Trani
Parker Weber
Hayden Williams
Geron Como
Carmen Gonzalez Reyes
Laneasa Spivey

MA

Shane Baltus
Audrey Casem
Jennifer John
Megan Salinas

Congratulations Scholarship Winners!

William Tinsley Scholarship

AJanae Avington
Tanner John Hammarstrom

Dewain and Susan Barber History Teacher Scholarship

Joseph Michael Uribe
Cara M. Bush

William J. Roosen History Scholarship

Matthew Thomas Lankton
Emma Marie Burkhart

Valeen Tippets Avery History Scholarship

Sara Joanne Beattie
Kaylen Wilson

William H. Lyon U.S. History Scholarship

Olivia Hall

George and Elinor Kyte Award

Katie Scholler
Daniel Mensah

Garland and Evelyn R. Downum Award

Daniel Mensah

Ted Mote Study Abroad Scholarship

Sebastian Voss (Barcelona, Spain, Fall 2023)
Summer Bursek (Athens, Greece, Fall 2023)

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