



Kaitlin A. Simpson

Curriculum Vitae

Department of History, Geography, and Philosophy
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
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<https://ksimps19.wixsite.com/flowers-of-el-dorado>

EMPLOYMENT

Aug. 2024-Present **Assistant Professor of U.S. History**, Department of History, Geography, and Philosophy, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

EDUCATION

Aug. 2024 **Ph.D., American History**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Dissertation: "The Flowers of El Dorado: Gender, Production, and the Cut Flower Industry in the United States and Colombia, 1908-Present"

May 2020 **M.A., American History**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Thesis: "Appalachia Abroad: The University of Tennessee and Cold War Rural Development Programs in India, 1954-1972"

May 2018 **B.A., History**, *summa cum laude*, University of Louisiana Monroe

PUBLICATIONS

In Progress "Buds and Drugs: Cut Flowers, Trade, and Public Image Within U.S. and Colombian Anti-narcotics Efforts," for submission to *Diplomatic History*

Forthcoming Book Review of *Flowers, Guns, and Money: Joel Roberts Poinsett and the Paradoxes of American Patriotism*, by Lindsay Schakenbach Regele in *Agricultural History*, Spring 2024

Sept 2023 Book Review of *Land of Milk and Money: The Creation of the Southern Dairy Industry* by Alan I. Marcus in the *Journal of Mississippi History*, Spring/Summer 2023

May 2023 "Perfect Mothers, Perfect Flowers: Gender and the Cut Flower Industry's Creation of a Commercialized Mother's Day," *The Short Rows Blog*, Agricultural History Society, May 10, 2023, <https://www.aghistorysociety.org/ahs-blog/simpson-perfect-mothers-perfect-flowers>

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2023-2024	University of Tennessee Humanities Center Graduate Student Fellowship
2023	University of Tennessee Humanities Center Graduate Student Research Travel Award
2023	Mae Scheib Scholarship for the Study of World Affairs, University of Tennessee Center for Global Engagement
2023	Robert M. and Jan Randolph Mentoring Program, Lipscomb University
2022	John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Arthur M. Schlesinger Fellowship
2022	Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Samuel Flagg Bemis Dissertation Research Grant
2022	Agricultural History Society Research, Dissemination, Public Outreach, and Exhibition Grant
2022	Economic History Association Early Stage Dissertation Grant
2022	Summer Research Travel Grant, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2022	Conference Travel Grant, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2021-2022	Chancellor's Fellowship Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2019	Summer Research Travel Grant, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2018-2021	Graduate School Funds Fellowship, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

AWARDS

2024	Excellence in Gender Studies Award. University of Tennessee, Knoxville – Department of History
2023	Best Paper for “Flowers on the Move: Gendered Holidays and the Environment in a Shifting U.S. Floriculture Industry,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference Graduate Workshop 2023: Farming and Place
2022-2023	Charles O. Jackson Award for American History. University of Tennessee, Knoxville – Department of History
2023	Third Place, University of Tennessee, Knoxville Graduate School Three-Minute Thesis Competition
2021-2022	Josh Hodge Memorial Award for the Recovery of Lost Voices. University of Tennessee, Knoxville – Department of History

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited and Public Talks

- April 2022 “Wars of the Roses: Gender, Activism, and Cut Flower Production in Colombia and the United States.” History of Colombia Honors Class, College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Minnesota, Virtual
- Oct. 2021 “Flower Power: Gender, Globalization, and the Cut Flower Industry in Latin America and the United States,” Southern Exchanges, Southern Historical Association Graduate Council
- Feb. 2021 “Appalachia Abroad: The University of Tennessee and Rural Development Programs in Post-War India,” AfterWars Seminar, Center for the Study of War and Society, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Panels Organized

- June 2023 “The Labor of Luxury in Global Commodity Production,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee

Conference Presentations

- Nov. 2024 Blooming After Internment: Japanese Americans, Bracero Labor, and Cut Flower Production in California and the U.S. Sunbelt, Southern Historical Association Annual Conference, Kansas City, Missouri
- June 2024 “An Imported Rose Would Smell as Sweet: Colombian and U.S. Flower Growers in the Battle to Control the U.S. Cut Flower Market,” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada
- April 2024 “‘Better to Call Them Flower Vultures:’ the Colombian Cut Flower Industry and the Fight over Water on the Sabana de Bogotá,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado
- June 2023 “Labor Flowers: Print Culture and Labor Protests in Colombia’s Cut Flower Industry, 1988-1996,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee
- May 2023 “The Wars of the Roses: Labor and Conflict in the Colombian Cut Flower Industry,” Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada
- Aug. 2022 “Flowers of El Dorado: Culture, Consumption, and the Creation of a Transnational Floriculture Industry,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Stavanger, Norway
- March 2022 “The Flowers of El Dorado: Gender, Technology, and the Environment in the Colombian-U.S. Cut Flower Trade,” Indiana University History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine Fifth Annual Graduate Student Conference, Virtual

WORKSHOPS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023 National Humanities Center Graduate Student Podcasting Institute. Digital Humanities Center of San Diego State University

2023 University of Tennessee Innovative Teaching and Learning Conference

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record – University of Louisiana at Lafayette

2024 The Historian's Craft: Gendering the Twentieth-Century Americas

2024 Conflicting Hopes: United States History 1877-Present Through Film

Graduate Teaching Assistant – University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2022-2023 History Department Research and Writing Tutor

2022 History of World Civilizations Origins – 1500

2021 Red Dead America: The Real History Behind the Popular Video Games

2021 Modern Latin American and Caribbean History

2020 Early Latin American and Caribbean History

2020 United States History Reconstruction – Present

2019 United States History Colonial Era – Reconstruction

2019 United States History Reconstruction – Present

2018 Western Civilization 1750 – Present

Guest Lectures

2022 “Helping Others Learn to Help Themselves: Global Development in the Cold War,” Science, Medicine, and Technology in World Perspective

2022 “The Persian Empire, 539-323 BCE,” History of World Civilizations Origins – 1500

2019 “The Spanish American War and U.S. Imperialism,” United States History Reconstruction – Present

PUBLIC HISTORY EXPERIENCE

2024 Organizer, *Freeman* Documentary Screening with Director John W. Sutherlin, University of Louisiana at Lafayette Department of History, Geography, and Philosophy

2020-2022 Producer and Co-Host, *Add Men and Stir: A Women's History Podcast*, Knoxville, TN

2017 Intern, Germantown Colony Museum, Louisiana Secretary of State Museums Division, Minden, Louisiana.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2020 Graduate Research Assistant, working with Dr. Tore C. Olsson on “The Global Cowboy: Country Music and American Empire in the Twentieth Century,” Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2019 Graduate Research Assistant, working with Dr. Brandon K. Winford on “Black Banking in the U.S. South Post-Reconstruction,” Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

SERVICE

- 2024 Member, Public History Committee, Department of History, Geography, and Philosophy, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- 2024 Member, Undergraduate Committee, Department of History, Geography, and Philosophy, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- 2021-2023 Member, Graduate Student Council, Southern Historical Association
- 2023 Local Host, Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Knoxville, TN
- 2022-2023 University of Tennessee, Knoxville Department of History Audiovisual Technician
- 2022 Graduate Assistant, University of Tennessee Department of History Summer Bridge Program Diversity and Inclusion Initiative
- 2021 Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Committee Handbook Revision Task Force, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 2020-2021 Department Representative, Graduate Student Senate, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Internal Committee: Legislative and Steering
- 2019-2021 Caucus Representative, History Graduate Affairs Committee, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & MEDIA OUTREACH

- 2024 History Day Judge, National History Day East Tennessee Regional Competition, Knoxville, TN
- 2021 Technical Support Volunteer, Smoky Mountain Counseling Association Annual Conference, Knoxville, TN, *virtual due to COVID-19*
- 2019 History Day Judge, National History Day East Tennessee Regional Competition, Knoxville, TN

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Advanced Reading and Speaking
French: Intermediate Reading and Speaking

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Agricultural History Society
American Historical Association
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations
Southern Historical Association