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Cover photo taken from Freedom Was in Sight (pg. 3)
Sabor Judío
The Jewish Mexican Cookbook

Ilan Stavans and Margaret E. Boyle
With a preface by Leah Koenig; photographs by Ilan Rabchinskey

Offering 100 delicious, accessible recipes, this is the first cookbook to tell the centuries-long story of the fusion between Jewish and Mexican cuisine

Sabor Judío celebrates the delicious fusion of two culinary traditions: Jewish and Mexican. Written with joy and verve, Ilan Stavans and Margaret Boyle’s lavishly illustrated cookbook demonstrates how cooking and eating connect the Jewish-Mexicans across places and generations. Featuring one hundred deeply personal recipes enjoyed by Mexican Jews around the world, the book is organized by meal—desayuno (breakfast), almuerzo (lunch), and cena (dinner)—and also includes dishes made for Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Passover, Hanukkah, Shavuot, and other holidays.

Sabor Judío isn’t only a cookbook; it is also a vibrant history of Jewish immigration to Mexico from 1492 to the present. It explains how flavors and dishes evolved in Mexican and Jewish kitchens and how they fused into a distinct cuisine, mainly by the labor of Ashkenazi, Sephardic, Mizrahi, and converso women. This cookbook is the product of two award-winning, internationally known Jewish Mexican writers and foodies who spent a decade gathering recipes and personal narratives from Jewish Mexican households. The result is a dynamic and delicious array of recipes and experiences, infusing important cultural heritage into this essential culinary record.

Ilan Stavans, a leading Jewish Mexican scholar and critic, is Lewis-Sebring Professor of Humanities and Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College.

Margaret Boyle is director of Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies at Bowdoin College and associate professor of Romance Languages and Literatures.

“An instant classic and more than a cookbook—it is a critical portrait of a community. An absolutely new and stellar contribution.”
—Michael W. Twitty, author of Koshersoul
Doc Watson
A Life in Music

Eddie Huffman

The story of a small-town man who changed music forever

Arthel “Doc” Watson (1923–2012) is arguably one of the most influential musicians Appalachia has ever produced. A musician’s musician, Doc grew up on a subsistence farm in the North Carolina mountains during the Depression, soaking up traditional music and learning to play guitar even though he was blind. Rising to fame in the 1960s as part of the burgeoning folk revival scene, Doc became the face of traditional music for many listeners, racking up multiple Grammys and releasing dozens of albums over the course of his long career. Eddie Huffman tells the story of Doc’s life and legacy, drawing on extensive interviews and hundreds of hours of archival research. In making the most comprehensive biography of Watson ever, Huffman gives us an affecting and informative portrait of the man they called Doc.

Full of fascinating stories—from Doc’s first banjo made from his grandmother’s cat to the founding of MerleFest—this promises to be the definitive biography of the man and how he came to be synonymous with roots music in America and shows how his influence is still felt in music today.

Eddie Huffman is a writer, reporter, and author of John Prine: In Spite of Himself. He lives in Greensboro, North Carolina.

“Doc Watson is a long overdue biography, one that joyfully shares with audiences the life of the man behind the music. Eddie Huffman gives us an immediate, powerful, and entertaining book worthy of a finely produced biopic.”
—Trevor McKenzie, author of Otto Wood, the Bandit
Freedom Was in Sight
A Graphic History of Reconstruction in the Washington, D.C., Region

Kate Masur and Liz Clarke

A powerful graphic history of the Reconstruction era

The Reconstruction era was born from the tumult and violence of the Civil War and delivered the most powerful changes the United States had seen since its founding. Black Americans in Washington, D.C., and its surrounding region were at the heart of these transformations, bravely working to reunite their families, build their communities, and claim rights long denied them. Meanwhile, in the capital, government leaders struggled to reunite and remake the nation. Famous individuals such as Frederick Douglass and Ida B. Wells played central roles, as did lesser-known figures like Emma Brown, the first African American teacher in Washington’s public schools, and lawyer-journalist William Calvin Chase, longtime editor of the Washington Bee.

Freedom Was in Sight! draws on the words and experiences of people who lived during Reconstruction, powerfully narrating how the impacts of emancipation and civil war rippled outward for decades. Vividly drawn by award-winning graphic artist Liz Clarke and written by Pulitzer Prize–finalist Kate Masur, a leading historian of Reconstruction, this rich graphic history reveals the hopes and betrayals of a critical period in American history.

Kate Masur is Board of Visitors Professor of History at Northwestern University and author, most recently, of Until Justice Be Done: America’s First Civil Rights Movement, from the Revolution to Reconstruction.

Liz Clarke lives in Cape Town, South Africa, where she works as an illustrator. Her work is featured in many graphic histories, including Witness to the Age of Revolution (with Charles F. Walker) and Abina and the Important Men (with Trevor R. Getz).

Here in vivid visuals, a tight narrative, and rich context, Masur and Clarke give readers an experience they will not forget. . . . This tale of America’s second founding in the capital city as thousands of freedmen found new homes and lives is withering, visually stunning, and good history all at once.”
—David W. Blight, author of Pulitzer Prize–winning Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom

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176 pages
7 x 10

History/African American & Black
Anatomy of a Purple State
A North Carolina Politics Primer

Christopher A. Cooper

The politics of purple, explained

North Carolina represents a perfect distillation of the promise and peril of modern American democracy: hyperpartisanship, gerrymandering, dissatisfaction with the two-party system, the rural/urban divide—these issues are all brought into sharp relief in the Tar Heel State. For that reason, North Carolina politics and government are increasingly of interest not just to North Carolina citizens but to journalists, political observers, and people across the country. Political scientist Christopher A. Cooper, to whom the national media go when they need a quote about North Carolina politics, offers a primer made for all people, no matter their political leanings.

Readers will be introduced to everything that has made North Carolina the most purple of purple states—from the state constitution and the influence of think tanks to the growing racial diversity of the state and the limitations on the governor’s power. By explaining how we came to be in the political situation we are in, Cooper shows us where we might go next. And, as many have said, “As North Carolina goes, so goes the nation.”

Christopher A. Cooper is the Madison Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Public Affairs and director of the Haire Institute for Public Policy at Western Carolina University. In addition to two books, he has written for numerous publications, including The Assembly, The Washington Post, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Charlotte Observer, and The News and Observer.

“Cooper deftly describes how North Carolina grew from a one-party state of the Old South into the purple state we have today. As a primer on North Carolina state politics, this is as good as it gets.”
—Jim Morrill, former political reporter for the Charlotte Observer

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Political Science/American Government/State
Clover Garden
A Carolinian’s Piedmont Memoir

Bland Simpson
Photographs by Ann Cary Simpson

An affectionate narrative of life in the southern Piedmont

Between North Carolina’s coastal plain and the Blue Ridge Mountains lies the Piedmont: some 250 linear miles of rolling, long-settled lands covering almost half of the state. Geologically speaking, piedmont regions are found all over the world, but North Carolina’s Piedmont is among the largest in the United States, sitting along an environmental crossroads where northern and southern flora and fauna overlap, offering an incredibly rich natural diversity. Inhabited continuously for thousands of years, the state’s rural heartland is today home to an increasingly dense population. Yet most who reside in the region’s cities, suburbs, and smaller towns still live within reach of red-clay farmland, oak and hickory forests watered by small creeks, and rocky river valleys. These places—as they have been and as they are now—remain essential to the character of life in the South.

Through his long, celebrated writing career, Bland Simpson has earned a reputation as the bard of North Carolina’s coasts and sound country. Here, for the first time, he trains his attention on Clover Garden, the Piedmont community where he has lived for some fifty years. With a naturalist’s eye, a storyteller’s mind, and a poet’s soul, Simpson guides readers into a deep engagement with the Piedmont, both as a material place and as an idea. Illustrated with photographs by Ann Cary Simpson, Clover Garden invites us to think more broadly about the natural and human history of the piedmont South. This book will be treasured by all who seek to live deeply in the places we call home.

Bland Simpson is Kenan Distinguished Professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His most recent book is North Carolina: Land of Water, Land of Sky. He is also longtime pianist for the Tony Award–winning string band The Red Clay Ramblers. In 2005 he received the North Carolina Award, the state’s highest civilian honor.

Ann Cary Simpson, photographer, served for thirty years at national and North Carolina environmental organizations and as associate dean for development at UNC’s School of Government, for which she received the Chancellor’s Award. She is now a senior associate with moss + ross consulting.

“This lush praise song of the North Carolina Piedmont is written in prose that truly sings. Through portraits of people, places, and incidents historic and recent, Clover Garden documents everyday life on the land—gardening, fishing, fixing fences, timbering, training up dogs, sharing beers in a biker bar, and caring for neighbors. At a time when sprawling development is moving ever faster in North Carolina, this bright narrative beckons us to consider what we are losing and how simple and glorious the pleasures of this verdant landscape we must protect.”

—Georgann Eubanks, author of Saving the Wild South
Brown Women Have Everything
Essays on (Dis)comfort and Delight

Sayantani Dasgupta

A woman from New Delhi reflects on the joys and frustrations of living in a brown, female body as she travels the globe and becomes a creative writing professor in the US

As a child growing up in New Delhi, Sayantani Dasgupta wanted to go on adventures involving shipwrecks and treasure chests. Her parents wanted her to stay in school instead. She satisfied her curiosity by drawing maps, inventing languages with friends, and reading everything: English adventures, Russian folktales, Hindi comics, Bengali ghost stories.

Brown Women Have Everything embraces the same spirit of wonder as we follow Dasgupta, now living and teaching in the United States, to cathedrals in Italy, pirate graveyards in North Carolina, hair salons in Idaho, her aunt’s kitchen in Bangladesh, graffiti-lined streets of Colombia, the hierarchical world of academia, and her marriage to a handsome Sikh. As she moves through the world, she examines issues of the body, violence, travel, and belonging with a mix of humor, joy, pride, and outrage. While the eighteen interwoven essays in this collection call out bigotry, bias, and othering, they ultimately celebrate the ties that bind our disparate, global lives together.

Sayantani Dasgupta is associate professor of creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

“Essay collections by people of color are hard to find; those from a non-Western perspective are even rarer. Dasgupta offers both and reinvents herself with each essay, making this book a gem.”

—Ira Sukrungruang, author of This Jade World
Death in Briar Bottom
The True Story of Hippies, Mountain Lawmen, and the Search for Justice in the Early 1970s

Timothy Silver

A story of death, law enforcement, and injustice in Appalachia

On July 3, 1972, twenty-four hippies from Clearwater, Florida, set up tents and settled in for the night at Briar Bottom, a public US Forest Service campground in western North Carolina. The impromptu campout was a pit stop for the group on their way to a Rolling Stones concert in Charlotte. Early that evening, they drank beer, smoked marijuana, and listened to rock music as they anticipated the good times that lay ahead. Near midnight, the county sheriff showed up with six deputies, allegedly responding to a noise complaint. They were armed with pistols and five sawed-off 12-gauge shotguns, one of which discharged, killing a young man named Stanley Altland. To this day, no one has been held responsible for the tragic incident, though it happened in front of over a dozen eyewitnesses.

Tim Silver writes the true story of Altland’s death and its aftermath, using archival research, interviews with surviving Clearwater campers, and newly unearthed FBI files. A mix of true crime, southern history, and personal storytelling, this book shows how, in the dark of night at a remote mountain campsite, the killing of an innocent man epitomized the suspicion of and violence toward the counterculture that gripped the nation in the early 1970s.

Timothy Silver is professor emeritus of history at Appalachian State University, author of Mount Mitchell and the Black Mountains, and coauthor of An Environmental History of the Civil War.

“Tim Silver has provided a strong, gripping addition to conversations surrounding the justice system in the United States and its intersection with the counterculture, as well as American life more broadly, in the 1960s and 1970s.”

—Jared Phillips, University of Arkansas
White Evangelical Racism
The Politics of Morality in America
Second Edition with a new preface by the author

Anthea Butler

A 2021 Choice Outstanding Academic Title

An unflinching history of racism at the root of the American evangelical movement

The American political scene today is poisonously divided, and the vast majority of white evangelicals play a strikingly unified, powerful role in the disunion. In this clear-eyed, hard-hitting chronicle of American religion and politics, Anthea Butler argues that racism is at the core of conservative evangelical activism and power. Propelled by the benefits of whiteness, white evangelicals used scripture to defend slavery and nurture the Confederacy during the Civil War era. During Reconstruction, they used it to deny the vote to newly emancipated blacks. In the twentieth century, they sided with segregationists in avidly opposing movements for racial equality and civil rights. White evangelicals today, cloaked in a vision of Christian patriarchy and nationhood, form a staunch voting bloc in support of white leadership. Evangelicalism’s racial history festers, splits America, and needs a reckoning now.

In a new preface to the second edition, Butler takes stock of how the trends she identified have expanded as Donald Trump mounts a third campaign for the presidency, evangelicals celebrate and respond to the overturning of Roe v. Wade, and ferocious backlash against racial equity has injected new venom into evangelicalism’s role in American politics.

Anthea Butler is Geraldine R. Segal Professor in American Social Thought at the University of Pennsylvania and the author of Women in the Church of God in Christ: Making a Sanctified World. A leading historian and public commentator on religion and politics, Butler has appeared on networks including CNN, BBC, and MSNBC and has published opinion pieces in the New York Times, the Washington Post, and many other media outlets.

“Show[s] how evangelicals’ contemporary embrace of right-wing politics is rooted in its centuries-long problem with race. This scathing takedown of evangelicalism’s ‘racism problem’ will challenge evangelicals to confront and reject racism within church communities.” —Publishers Weekly
Shirley Chisholm
Champion of Black Feminist Power Politics

Anastasia C. Curwood

The trail-blazing life of a Black political and feminist icon

Shaking up New York and national politics by becoming the first African American congresswoman and, later, the first Black major-party presidential candidate, Shirley Chisholm left an indelible mark as an “unbought and unbossed” firebrand and a leader in politics for meaningful change. Chisholm spent her formative years moving between Barbados and Brooklyn, and the development of her political orientation did not follow the standard narratives of the civil rights or feminist establishments. Rather, Chisholm arrived at her Black feminism on her own path, making signature contributions to US politics as an inventor and practitioner of Black feminist power—the vantage point centering Black girls and women in the movement that sought to transform political power into a broadly democratic force.

Anastasia C. Curwood interweaves Chisholm’s public image, political commitments, and private experiences to create a definitive account of a consequential life. In so doing, Curwood suggests new truths for understanding the social movements of Chisholm’s time and the opportunities she forged for herself through multicultural, multigenerational, and cross-gender coalition building.

Anastasia C. Curwood is professor of history and director of African American and Africana studies at the University of Kentucky. She is the author of Stormy Weather: Middle-Class African American Marriages between the Two World Wars.

“A well-rounded portrait of the late politician, who, half a century ago, helped set the tone for contemporary Black and feminist politics . . . Curwood deftly reveals Chisholm’s complexities and sometimes secretive nature as well as her tenacity in political struggles . . . A model political biography that all modern activists should read.”

—Kirkus Reviews (*STARRED* review)
Wild North Carolina
Discovering the Wonders of Our State's Natural Communities

David Blevins and Michael P. Schafale

Open your eyes to the state's natural wonders

Celebrating the beauty, diversity, and significance of the state’s natural landscapes, Wild North Carolina provides an engaging, beautifully illustrated introduction to North Carolina’s interconnected webs of plant and animal life. From dunes and marshes to high mountain crags, through forests, swamps, savannas, ponds, pocosins, and flatrocks, David Blevins and Michael Schafale reveal in words and photographs natural patterns of the landscape that will help readers see familiar places in a new way and new places with a sense of familiarity.

Wild North Carolina introduces the full range of the state’s diverse natural communities, each brought to life with compelling accounts of their significance and meaning, arresting photographs featuring broad vistas and close-ups, and details on where to go to experience them first hand. Blevins and Schafale provide nature enthusiasts of all levels with the insights they need to value the state’s natural diversity, highlighting the reasons plants and animals are found where they are, as well as the challenges of conserving these special places.

David Blevins is a nature photographer and forest ecologist whose other books include North Carolina’s Barrier Islands.

Michael P. Schafale is a community ecologist for the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program.

“Wonderful! Wild North Carolina took me back to many of the special wild places that I have explored and gave me an even greater understanding of the complexity and delicate balance of our state’s natural communities and their need for conservation. This book is an educational and inspirational boon for a new generation of environmental stewards.”

—Betsy Bennett, director emerita, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
Storming Vicksburg
Grant, Pemberton, and the Battles of May 19-22, 1863

Earl J. Hess

A Main Selection of the Military Book Club and an Alternate Selection of the History Book Club and the Library of Science Book Club

Assessing strategy and tactics in the Union’s costliest frontal assaults on Vicksburg

The most overlooked phase of the Union campaign to capture Vicksburg, Mississippi, was the time period from May 18 to May 25, 1863, when Ulysses S. Grant closed in on the city and attempted to storm its defenses. Federal forces mounted a limited attack on May 19 and failed to break through Confederate lines. After two days of preparation, Grant’s forces mounted a much larger assault. Although the Army of the Tennessee had defeated Confederates under John C. Pemberton at Champion Hill on May 16 and Big Black River on May 17, the defenders yet again repelled Grant’s May 22 attack. The Gibraltar of the Confederacy would not fall until a six-week siege ended with Confederate surrender on July 4.

In Storming Vicksburg, military historian Earl J. Hess reveals how a combination of rugged terrain, poor coordination, and low battlefield morale among Union troops influenced the result of the largest attack mounted by Grant’s Army of the Tennessee. Using definitive research in unpublished personal accounts and other underutilized archives, Hess makes clear that events of May 19–22 were crucial to the Vicksburg campaign’s outcome and shed important light on Grant’s generalship, Confederate defensive strategy, and the experience of common soldiers as an influence on battlefield outcomes.

Earl J. Hess is Stewart W. McClelland Chair in History at Lincoln Memorial University and award-winning author of many books on the Civil War, including, most recently, Fighting for Atlanta: Tactics, Terrain, and Trenches in the Civil War.

“Has deservedly reached the apex of Vicksburg scholarship to date and does justice to its author’s historical acumen. Highly recommended for all U.S. Middle Period and Civil War historians and biographers, together with students of military command and field strategy.”

—Library Journal, STARRED review
Redeemer
The Life of Jimmy Carter
Second Edition, revised and expanded, with a new afterword by the author

Randall Balmer

A religious biography of Jimmy Carter

This illuminating biography of our thirty-ninth president by an acclaimed historian of American religion presents Jimmy Carter as the last great standard-bearer of progressive evangelical politics. Evangelical Christianity and conservative politics are commonly viewed today as inseparable. But when Carter, a Democrat and unabashed born-again Christian, won the presidency in 1976, he owed his victory in part to American evangelicals. Yet four years later, those very same voters abandoned Carter for Ronald Reagan and the Republican Party, signaling the eclipse of Christian progressivism by the Religious Right.

Balmer briskly narrates Carter's religious and political development, his stunning rise from peanut farmer to Georgia governor to president of the United States, his accomplishments and missteps, and his swift fall from political grace. With a keen eye for the dynamic politics of the 1970s and '80s and the inner workings of right-wing religious organizing, Balmer provides a compelling account of an often-misunderstood moment in American political history, full of insight into the character and motivations of the nation's longest-lived president. Now in paperback for the first time, this edition includes a new afterword on the forces that led to Carter's 1980 defeat and the ways his policy priorities and values extended to his long career as a humanitarian and activist after leaving the White House.

Randall Balmer is a prize-winning historian, a leading public commentator on religion, and the author of more than a dozen books, including Passion Plays: How Religion Shaped Sports in North America. He holds the John Phillips Chair in Religion at Dartmouth College.

“Balmer narrates the surprising rise of a Georgia peanut farmer with the ease of a natural storyteller.”
—Wall Street Journal
The End of College Football
On the Human Cost of an All-American Game

Nathan Kalman-Lamb and Derek Silva

Is it time to cancel college football?

In this book, Nathan Kalman-Lamb and Derek Silva offer an existential challenge to one of America's favorite pastimes: college football. Drawing on twenty-five in-depth interviews with former players at some of the country's most prominent college football schools, Kalman-Lamb and Silva explore how football is both predicated on a foundation of coercion and suffused with racialized harm and exploitation. Through the stories of those who lived it, the authors examine the ways in which college football must be understood as a site of harm, revealing how players are systematically denied the economic value they produce for universities and offered only a devalued education in return.

By illuminating the plantation dynamics that make this a particularly racialized form of exploitation, the book makes legible the forms of physical sacrifice that are required, the ultimate cost in health and well-being, and the coercion that drives players into the sport and compels them to endure such abusive conditions.

Nathan Kalman-Lamb is assistant professor of sociology at University of New Brunswick and the author of Game Misconduct: Injury, Fandom, and the Business of Sport.

Derek Silva is associate professor of sociology at University of King's College and is the coauthor of Power Played: A Critical Criminology of Sport.

“Kalman-Lamb and Silva tap into the best traditions of ethnography and provide a powerful yet accessible indictment of the wider system of NCAA football. A must read for the thinking sports fan.”
—Jules Boykoff, Pacific University

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Sports & Recreation/Cultural & Social Aspects
**Carceral Apartheid**
How Lies and White Supremacists Run Our Prisons

Brittany Friedman

Law enforcement, white supremacy, and the government’s war on Black communities

It is impossible to deny the impact of lies and white supremacy on the institutional conditions in US prisons. There is a particular power dynamic of racist intent in the prison system that culminates in what Brittany Friedman terms “carceral apartheid.” Prisons are a microcosm of how carceral apartheid operates as a larger governing strategy to decimate political targets and foster deceit, disinformation, and division in society.

Among many shocking discoveries, Friedman shows that beginning in the 1950s, California prison officials declared war on imprisoned Black people and sought to identify Black militants as a key problem, creating a strategy for the management, segregation, and elimination of these individuals from the prison population that continues into the present day. *Carceral Apartheid* delves into how the California Department of Corrections deployed various official, clandestine, and at times extralegal control techniques, including officer alliances with imprisoned white supremacists, to suppress Black political movements, revealing the broader themes of deception, empire, corruption, and white supremacy in American mass incarceration. Drawing from original interviews with founders of Black political movements such as the Black Guerilla Family, white supremacists, and a swath of little-known archival data, Friedman uncovers how the US domestic war against imprisoned Black people models and perpetuates genocide, imprisonment, and torture abroad.

Brittany Friedman is assistant professor of sociology at the University of Southern California.

“A pathbreaking work full of explosive findings on the coordination of white supremacy, corrections, policing, and the lies to cover it up. *Carceral Apartheid* will shock readers and make headlines.”
—Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve, author of *Crook County: Racism and Injustice in America’s Largest Criminal Court*
The Life and Death of Ryan White
AIDS and Inequality in America

Paul M. Renfro

The teenager who brought the AIDS epidemic into living rooms across America

In the 1980s, as HIV/AIDS ravaged queer communities and communities of color in the United States and beyond, a straight white teenager named Ryan White emerged as the face of the epidemic. Diagnosed with hemophilia at birth, Ryan contracted HIV through contaminated blood products. In 1985, he became a household name after he was barred from attending his Indiana middle school. As Ryan appeared on nightly news broadcasts and graced the covers of popular magazines, he was embraced by music icons and well-known athletes, achieving a curious kind of stardom. Analyzing his struggle and celebrity, Paul M. Renfro’s powerful biography grapples with the contested meanings of Ryan’s life, death, and afterlives.

As Renfro argues, Ryan’s fight to attend school forced the American public to reckon with prevailing misconceptions about the AIDS epidemic. Yet his story also reinforced the hierarchies at the heart of the AIDS crisis. Because the “innocent” Ryan had contracted HIV “through no fault of his own,” as many put it, his story was sometimes used to blame presumably “guilty” populations for spreading the virus. Reexamining Ryan’s story through this lens, Renfro reveals how the consequences of this stigma continue to pervade policy and cultural understandings of HIV/AIDS today.

Paul M. Renfro is associate professor of history at Florida State University and author of Stranger Danger: Family Values, Childhood, and the American Carceral State.

“An illuminating addition to AIDS history. Renfro reveals how the personal charisma and resiliency Ryan White showed in his fight for life was used to create a false division between so-called innocent and guilty people with AIDS, and how this, in turn, furthered cliches about white working-class people and homophobia. Thoughtful and helpful in understanding how standing tropes of stigma were created and maintained.”

—Sarah Schulman, author of Let the Record Show: A Political History of ACT UP New York, 1987–1993
Race Traffic
Antislavery and the Origins of White Victimhood, 1619-1819

Gunther Peck

The history of whiteness, victimhood, and human trafficking in the Mediterranean and Atlantic worlds

Fantasies of white slavery and the narratives of victimhood they spawn form the foundation of racist ideology. They also obscure the lived experience of trafficked servants and sailors in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Gunther Peck moves deftly between the Atlantic and Mediterranean worlds to discover where and when people with light skin color came to see themselves as white. Separating fact from fiction, and paying close attention to the ideological work each performs, Peck shows how laboring women and men leveraged their newfound whiteness to secure economic opportunity and political power.

Peck argues that whiteness emerged not as a claim of racial superiority but as a byproduct of wide-ranging and rancorous public debate over trafficking and enslavement. Even as whiteness became a legal category that signaled privilege, trafficking and race remained tightly interwoven. Those advocating for the value of whiteness invoked emotionally freighted victimhood, claiming that so-called white slavery was a crime whose costs far exceeded those associated with the enslavement of African peoples across the Americas. Peck helps us understand the chilling history that produced the racist ideology that still poisons our politics in the present day.

Gunther Peck is associate professor of history at Duke University.

“Race Traffic renews the histories of labor, antislavery, and race by demonstrating precisely how their subjects created one another. Crossing the Mediterranean and Atlantic, traversing the period from the rise of Britain’s global empire through the Age of Revolutions, this gripping study of words and deeds is both erudite and revelatory. It should be a game changer across more fields of inquiry than I can name.”

—David Waldstreicher, The Graduate Center, City University of New York
Captive Cosmopolitans
Black Mariners and the World of South Atlantic Slavery

Mary E. Hicks

The hybrid lives of Black mariners in the Bahian slave trade

From the bustling ports of Lisbon to the coastal inlets of the Bight of Benin to the vibrant waterways of Bahia, Black mariners were integral to every space of the commercial South Atlantic. Navigating this kaleidoscopic world required a remarkable cosmopolitanism—the chameleonlike ability to adapt to new surroundings by developing sophisticated medicinal, linguistic, and navigational knowledge. Mary E. Hicks shows how Portuguese slaving ship captains harnessed and exploited this hybridity to expand their own traffic in human bondage. At the same time, she reveals how enslaved and free Black mariners capitalized on their shipboard positions and cosmopolitan expertise to participate in small-scale commodity trading on the very coasts where they themselves had been traded as commodities, reshaping societies and cultures on both sides of the Atlantic. Indeed, as Hicks argues, the Bahian slave trade was ruthlessly effective because its uniquely decentralized structure so effectively incorporated the desires and financial strategies of the very people enslaved by it. Yet taking advantage of such fraught economic opportunities ultimately enabled many enslaved Black mariners to purchase their freedom. And, in some cases, they became independent transatlantic slave traders themselves.

Hicks thus explores the central paradox that defined the lives of the captive cosmopolitans and, in doing so, reveals a new history of South Atlantic slavery centered on subaltern commercial and cultural exchange.

Mary E. Hicks is assistant professor of history at the University of Chicago.

"Hicks retells the story of Atlantic commerce from a radically new perspective: enslaved and free Africans who participated in the slave trade that linked Brazil to West Africa. She reveals how Black sailors, petty traders, and healers in this maritime world charted myriad paths through bondage, shaping South Atlantic cultures and economies and playing crucial roles in the development of the modern world."

—James Sidbury, Rice University
A Forgotten Migration
Black Southerners, Segregation Scholarships, and the Debt Owed to Public HBCUs

Crystal R. Sanders

The separate and unequal story of Black higher education in the South

A Forgotten Migration tells the little-known story of “segregation scholarships” awarded by states in the US South to Black students seeking graduate education in the pre—Brown v. Board of Education era. Under the Plessy v. Ferguson decision, decades earlier, southern states could provide graduate opportunities for African Americans by creating separate but equal graduate programs at tax-supported Black colleges or by admitting Black students to historically white institutions. Most did neither and instead paid to send Black students out of state for graduate education.

Crystal R. Sanders examines Black graduate students who relocated to the North, Midwest, and West to continue their education with segregation scholarships, revealing the many challenges they faced along the way. Students that entered out-of-state programs endured long and tedious travel, financial hardship, racial discrimination, isolation, and homesickness. With the passage of Brown in 1954, segregation scholarships began to wane, but the integration of graduate programs at southern public universities was slow. In telling this story, Sanders demonstrates how white efforts to preserve segregation led to the underfunding of public Black colleges, furthering racial inequality in American higher education.

Crystal R. Sanders is associate professor of African American studies at Emory University.

“I know of no other book that represents such a timely, engaging, and important contribution to the field.”
—Rachel Devlin, author of A Girl Stands at the Door: The Generation of Young Women Who Desegregated America’s Schools
No Country for Old Age
America’s War on Aging from Valley Forge to Silicon Valley

Mischa Honeck

The long history of the quest for eternal youth

Since the birth of their nation, Americans have acted on the belief that theirs was a land of youth, a place destined to offer a fresh start to an aging world. No Country for Old Age tells this story from the founding period to our present moment, but not without exposing its darker side: rejuvenation has often bred grand expectations before ending in division and despair.

Mischa Honeck reveals how Americans of diverse backgrounds have sought not only to feel and look younger but also to breathe new life into their communities. Whether marching under the banners of science, public health, sexual liberation, physical fitness, nation-building, or world peace, these youth seekers have tended to paint their ventures in utopian colors. However, from the founders to today’s Silicon Valley elites, anti-aging ventures have repeatedly magnified social inequalities, often projecting visions of society that were unmistakably classist, racist, misogynist, and ageist. Today we are experiencing rejuvenation’s Janus-faced legacy: as transhumanists rhapsodize about cyber-enhancing human bodies, ghastly pandemics, old-age poverty, and shrinking life expectancies are poised to become the new normal for many twenty-first-century Americans.

Mischa Honeck is professor of North American history at the University of Kassel, Germany.

“An insightful and readable history of rejuvenation as a medical practice and cultural concept that pushes analytical boundaries to show how age functions as a vector of power. Original and new in its scope and method, Honeck gives us a global and intersectional analysis of rejuvenation available nowhere else.”
—Corinne T. Field, University of Virginia and author of Age in America: Colonial Era to the Present
Awaiting Their Feast
Latinx Food Workers and Activism from World War II to COVID-19

Lori A. Flores

The many hungers of Latinx food workers

Though Latinx foodways are eagerly embraced and consumed by people across the United States, the nation exhibits a much more fraught relationship with Latinx people, including the largely underpaid and immigrant workers who harvest, process, cook, and sell this desirable food. Lori A. Flores traces how our dual appetite for Latinx food and Latinx food labor has evolved from the World War II era to the COVID-19 pandemic, using the US Northeast as an unexpected microcosm of this national history.

Spanning the experiences of food workers with roots in Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Central America, Flores’s narrative travels from New Jersey to Maine and examines different links in the food chain, from farming to restaurants to seafood processing to the deliverista rights movement. What unites this eclectic material is Flores’s contention that as our appetite for Latinx food has grown exponentially, the visibility of Latinx food workers has demonstrably decreased. This precariat is anything but passive, however, and has historically fought—and is still fighting—against low wages and exploitation, medical neglect, criminalization, and deeply ironic food insecurity.

Lori A. Flores is associate professor of history at Stony Brook University.

“Exciting and well-conceived, this rich and skillful narrative is sure to become a foundational text in the field. Truly, there is nothing comparable—an innovative exploration at the intersection between food, labor, and Latinx history. Stunning!”

—Llana Barber, author of Latino City: Immigration and Urban Crisis in Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1945–2000
Fighting for Control
Power, Reproductive Care, and Race in the US-Mexico Borderlands

Lina-Maria Murillo

The ever-present legacy of reproductive care in the borderlands

The first birth control clinic in El Paso, Texas, opened in 1937. Since then, Mexican-origin women living in the border cities of El Paso and Ciudad Juárez have confronted various interest groups determined to control their reproductive lives, including a heavily funded international population control campaign led by Planned Parenthood Federation of America as well as the Catholic Church and Mexican American activists. Uncovering nearly one hundred years of struggle, Lina-Maria Murillo reveals how Mexican-origin women on both sides of the border fought to reclaim autonomy and care for themselves and their communities.

Faced with a family planning movement steeped in eugenic ideology, working-class Mexican-origin women strategically demanded additional health services and then formed their own clinics to provide care on their own terms. Along the way, they developed what Murillo calls reproductive care—quotidian acts of community solidarity—as activists organized for better housing, education, wages, as well as access to birth control, abortion, and more. Centering the agency of these women and communities, Murillo lays bare Mexican-origin women’s long battle for human dignity and power in the borderlands as reproductive freedom in Texas once again hangs in the balance.

Lina-Maria Murillo is assistant professor of gender, women, and sexuality studies, history, and Latina/o/x studies at the University of Iowa.

“...A groundbreaking and foundational history of Mexican-origin women in the borderlands. Lina-Maria Murillo’s eloquently written and meticulously researched book brings to light this overlooked and marginalized story.”
—Miroslava Chávez-Garcia, author of Migrant Longing: Letter Writing across the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands
Blacks against Brown
The Intra-racial Struggle over Segregated Schools in Topeka, Kansas

Charise L. Cheney

Unveiling the Black intra-racial struggle against school desegregation in Topeka, Kansas

Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1954) is regarded as one of the most significant civil rights moments in American history. Historical observers have widely viewed this landmark Supreme Court decision as a significant sign of racial progress for African Americans. However, there is another historical perspective that tells a much more complex tale of Black resistance to the NAACP’s decision to pursue desegregating America’s public schools.

This multifaceted history documents the intra-racial conflict among Black Topekans over the city’s segregated schools. Black resistance to school integration challenges conventional narratives about Brown by highlighting community concerns about economic and educational opportunities for Black educators and students and Black residents’ pride in all-Black schools. This history of the local story behind Brown v. Board contributes to a literature that provides a fuller and more complex perspective on African Americans and their relationship to Black education and segregated schools during the Jim Crow era.

Charise L. Cheney is professor of Indigenous, race, and ethnic studies at the University of Oregon.

“Offering a compelling alternative narrative to traditional accounts of racial progress, this book provides deeper nuance to established works like Kluger’s Simple Justice and will reshape how scholars, students, and educators perceive the significance of Topeka. After reading this book, the lens through which this pivotal moment in US history is viewed will likely be changed.”
—Jon Hale, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Thanks to Life
A Biography of Violeta Parra

Ericka Verba

The rebellious life of an internationally renowned Chilean musician

Chilean musician and artist Violeta Parra (1917–1967) is an inspiration to generations of artists and activists across the globe. Her music is synonymous with resistance, and it animated both the Chilean folk revival and the protest music movement Nueva Canción (New Song). Her renowned song “Gracias a la vida” has been covered countless times, including by Joan Baez, Mercedes Sosa, and Kacey Musgraves. A self-taught visual artist, Parra was the first Latin American to have a solo exhibition at the Museum of Decorative Arts in the Louvre. In this remarkable biography, Ericka Verba traces Parra’s radical life and multifaceted artistic trajectory across Latin America and Europe and on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

Drawing on decades of research, Verba paints a vivid and nuanced picture of Parra’s life. From her modest beginnings in southern Chile to her untimely death, Parra was an exceptionally complex and talented woman who exposed social injustice in Latin America to the world through her powerful and poignant songwriting. This examination of her creative, political, and personal life, flaws and all, illuminates the depth and agency of Parra’s journey as she invented and reinvented herself in her struggle to be recognized as an artist on her own terms.

Ericka Verba is professor of Latin American studies at California State University, Los Angeles.

“A stunning achievement. This comprehensive analysis of Parra’s life provides an unparalleled opportunity to appreciate one of Latin America’s greatest artists. Thanks to Life is an outstanding piece of biographical work on a world-class artist whose legacy continues to shape Latin American music and culture.”

—Heidi Tinsman, author of Buying into the Regime: Grapes and Consumption in Cold War Chile and the United States
The Women of Rendezvous
A Transatlantic Story of Family and Slavery

Jenny Shaw

Slavery and freedom in the lives of one man, five women, and two continents

The Women of Rendezvous is a dramatic transatlantic story about five women who birthed children by the same prominent Barbados politician and enslaver. Two of the women were his wives, two he enslaved, and one was a servant in his household. All were determined to make their way in a world that vastly and differentially circumscribed their life choices. From a Barbados plantation to the center of England’s empire in London, Hester Tompkyns, Frances Knights, Susannah Mingo, Elizabeth Ashcroft, and Dorothy Spendlove built remarkable lives for themselves and their children in spite of, not because of, the man who linked them together.

Mining seventeenth- and eighteenth-century court records, deeds, wills, church registers, and estate inventories, Jenny Shaw centers the experiences of the women and their children, intertwining the microlevel relationships of family and the macrolevel political machinations of empire to show how white supremacy and racism developed in England and the colonies. Shaw also explores England’s first slave society in North America, provides a glimpse into Black Britain long before the Windrush Generation of the twentieth century, and demonstrates that England itself was a society with slaves in the early modern era.

Jenny Shaw is associate professor of history at the University of Alabama.

“This book is gorgeously written from the very first sentence. Through her impeccable scholarship and creative skill, Shaw turns scattered references to enslaved and free women into a coherent story of early modern women’s efforts toward family and freedom.”

—Sharon Block, author of Colonial Complexions: Race and Bodies in Eighteenth-Century America

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History/Europe/Great Britain/General
Tangled Journeys
One Family’s Story and the Making of American History

Lori D. Ginzberg

An American family in Black and white, in slavery and freedom

In 1830 Richard Walpole Cogdell, a husband, father, and bank clerk in Charleston, South Carolina, purchased a fifteen-year-old enslaved girl, Sarah Martha Sanders. Before her death in 1850, she bore nine of his children, five of whom reached adulthood. In 1857, this all-too-ordinary story took an extraordinary turn when Cogdell and his enslaved children moved to Philadelphia, where he bought them a house and where they became, virtually overnight, part of the African American middle class. An ambitious historical narrative about the Sanders family, Tangled Journeys tells a multigenerational, multiracial story that is both traumatic and prosaic. At the same time, through what Ginzberg calls “whispers”—questions that the available evidence cannot answer but that force us to confront what was unseen, unheard, and undocumented—the author invites readers into the process of American history making, drawing back the curtain on the evidence historians encounter and interpret, and examining how this process reshapes our understanding of the past.

Lori D. Ginzberg is Professor Emeritus of History and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Pennsylvania State University, as well as the author of several books, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton: An American Life and Untidy Origins: A Story of Woman’s Rights in Antebellum New York.

“Ginzberg has hit the ball out of the park with Tangled Journeys. I thought I knew everything there was to know about the Sanders family, but she reveals new stories and reinterpret narratives to demonstrate the linked histories between the enslaved and those who owned them. Knitting together sources from Europe, the Caribbean, and North America, Ginzberg traces fragmented records to reveal how slavery and empire collided to create blood kin who could be neither recognized nor acknowledged legally in the United States. The result is a genealogical quilt made of patchwork fabric that reveals the pernicious nature of slavery and also the warmth of kinship via the Sanders family. We learn of the resilience of Black people who had to create new lives and how their very existence resisted fictions about their erasure.”

—Deirdre Cooper Owens, author of Medical Bondage: Race, Gender, and the Origins of American Gynecology
Box 25
Archival Secrets, Caribbean Workers, and the Panama Canal

Julie Greene

The Afro-Caribbean migrants who built the Panama Canal

When acclaimed labor historian Julie M. Greene researched her book The Canal Builders, which went on to be nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 2009, she explored a cache of first-person essays written in 1963 by the Afro-Caribbean people, mainly Jamaican and Barbadian, who migrated to the Isthmus of Panama to work as diggers, track shifters, or domestic servants in the Canal Zone. Held at the Library of Congress and stored in Box 25 of the Isthmian Historical Society Collection, they constitute the best primary source in existence on Caribbean workers’ experiences during the construction project.

Now Greene returns to this fascinating archive, and in this book, shares what it was like to be a migrant laborer on the construction of the Panama Canal. Caribbean workers faced life-threatening illnesses, accidents, racial discrimination, and culture clashes as well as the opportunity to materially improve their lives. Greene offers new details on the strategies of the people who built the canal and examines how colonialism, xenophobia, and racism shaped the process of writing and archiving the testimonies into Box 25.

Julie Greene is professor of history at the University of Maryland, College Park.

“Engaging, effective, and important . . . an extremely powerful text that reframes key touchpoints in the history of the Panama Canal by centering the perspectives of West Indian workers.”
—Joan Flores-Villalobos, author of The Silver Women: How Black Women’s Labor Made the Panama Canal
Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement
A Radical Vision
Second Edition with a new preface by the author and a new foreword by Robin D. G. Kelley

Barbara Ransby

The definitive biography of an essential activist, now in a new edition

One of the most important African American leaders of the twentieth century and perhaps the most influential woman in the civil rights movement, Ella Baker (1903–1986) was an activist whose remarkable career spanned fifty years and touched thousands of lives. A gifted grassroots organizer, Baker shunned the spotlight in favor of vital behind-the-scenes work that helped power the Black freedom struggle. Making her way in predominantly male circles while maintaining relationships with a vibrant group of women, students, and activists, Baker was a national officer and key figure in the NAACP, a founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and a prime mover in the creation of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

In this definitive biography, Barbara Ransby chronicles Baker’s long and rich career, revealing her complexity, radical democratic worldview, and enduring influence on group-centered, grassroots activism. Beyond documenting an extraordinary life, Ransby paints a vivid picture of the African American fight for justice and its intersections with other progressive struggles worldwide throughout the twentieth century.

Barbara Ransby is John D. MacArthur University Chair and Distinguished Professor in the Departments of Black Studies, Gender and Women’s Studies, and History at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she directs the Social Justice Initiative. A longtime activist in progressive social movements, her most recent book is Making All Black Lives Matter: Reimagining Freedom in the Twenty-First Century.
Searching for Dr. Harris
The Life and Times of a Remarkable African American Physician

Margaret Humphreys

The story of a pioneering Black physician during America’s Civil War

This is the untold story of Dr. J. D. Harris, an African American physician whose life and career straddled enormous changes for Black professionals and the practice of medicine. Born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Harris served as a contract physician to the Union Army and transitioned to a similar post under the Freedmen’s Bureau, treating Black troops and freemen in Virginia. Margaret Humphreys narrates not only what we know about Harris, but offers context to his remarkable journey, including how incredible it was that a young man born into freedom in a slave state learned to read when literacy for Black people was illegal. He was one of very few African Americans to become a doctor before Howard Medical School opened in the 1870s, a fact that reveals both the structural barriers to medical education for Black Americans and highlights how those structures weakened in the 1860s.

Drawing on census records, court records, Civil War and Reconstruction documents from the National Archives, African American newspapers, and more, this book is a revealing look at not only the history of medicine in the Southern United States, but of race and citizenship during one of the nation’s most tumultuous eras.

Margaret Humphreys is Josiah Charles Trent Professor in the History of Medicine at Duke University and the author of several books.

“Humphreys has written a superb biography that makes a substantive contribution to the literature on free(d) Blacks in the nineteenth century. Dr. Harris’s compelling story should matter to contemporary audiences who are interested in the antecedents of American medical training and its exclusionary structures and practices that still persist.”

—Claude Clegg, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Freedom’s Mirage
Virgil Bennehan’s Odyssey from Emancipation to Exile

Sydney Nathans

The elusive quest for Black freedom in nineteenth-century America

Freedom’s Mirage traces the exceptional life of Virgil Bennehan, born in bondage in 1808 in Piedmont North Carolina, who rose to become an enslaved doctor on one of the South’s largest plantations and to view himself as a friend to Blacks and whites alike. Emancipated in 1848 but required to leave the state to be free, he was sent to Liberia. Though richly endowed and royally welcomed, he found himself subject to new rulers and mired in the worst medical catastrophe in Liberian history. Recrossing the Atlantic, he boldly returned to North Carolina to warn slave owners that Liberia was a death trap. Yet again exiled from his native state, he declared in March 1849 his intention to go to gold-rush California, the one place at midcentury that seemed to offer an open field, even to a man of color.

Intrepidly researched and grippingly told, Virgil Bennehan’s story reveals the complexity and fragility of human relationships within bondage. Once liberated, Bennehan led a tumultuous life that dramatized the fleeting promise and pervasive limits of Black freedom in the era of slavery—and foreshadowed the future for generations that followed.

Sydney Nathans is emeritus professor of history at Duke University.

“A gripping tale that rides the sweet spot between narrative and analysis. In uncovering a fascinating story of one man’s life, Nathans portrays the limits of Black freedom and furthers a broader commentary on race relations in US history.”
—Beverly C. Tomek, author of Colonization and Its Discontents: Emancipation, Emigration, and Antislavery in Antebellum Pennsylvania
Music, Muscle, and Masterful Arts
Black and Indigenous Performers of the Circus Age
Sakina M. Hughes

A surprising history of racial uplift and economic empowerment

Before the heyday of the Chitlin Circuit and the Harlem Renaissance, African American performing artists and creative entrepreneurs—sometimes called Black Bohemians—seized their limited freedoms and gained both fame and fortune with their work in a white-dominated marketplace. These Black performers plied their trade in circuses, blues tents, and Wild West Shows with Native Americans. The era's traveling entertainments often promoted the “disappearing Indian” myth and promoted racial hierarchies with Black and Native people at the bottom. But in a racial economy rooted in settler-colonialism and legacies of enslavement, Black and Indigenous performers found that otherness could be a job qualification. Whether as artists or manual laborers, these workers rejected marginalization by traveling the world, making a solid living off their talents, and building platforms for political and social critique. Eventually, America’s popular entertainment industry could not survive without Black and Native Americans’ creative labor. As audiences came to eagerly anticipate their genius, these performers paved the way for greater social, economic, and cultural autonomy.

Sakina M. Hughes provides a conceptually rich work revealing memorable individuals—laborers, artists, and entrepreneurs—who, faced with danger and discrimination, created surprising opportunities to showcase their talents and gain fame, wealth, and mobility.

Sakina M. Hughes is associate professor of ethnic studies at Santa Clara University.

“Creatively using archives and blending meticulous research with wonderful storytelling, Sakina Hughes provides one of the most imaginatively written books in the field of Afro-Indigenous history. If you enjoy history, performance, and popular culture, this book is a must read!”

—Kyle T. Mays, author of An Afro-Indigenous History of the United States
**Sass**
Black Women’s Humor and Humanity

**J Finley**

**A rigorous theorization of humor as power**

Black women comedians are more visible than ever, performing around the world in physical venues like comedy clubs and festivals, along with appearing in films, streaming specials, and online videos. Across these mediums, humor, and particularly sass, functions as a tool for Black women to articulate and redress cultural, social, and political marginalization.

J Finley theorizes sass as a new critical lens to better understand the power of Black women’s humor and humanity, and how sass functions as a powerful resource in Black women’s expressive repertoire. Challenging mainstream assumptions about “sassiness” as an identity or personality trait to which Black women humorists may be reduced, Finley instead deploys sass to create a new genre of discourse for understanding the ways in which Black women use language, style, gesture, and intent to produce meaning—often humorous—in speaking back to authority. Grounded in an ethnographic approach to Black women’s experiences, Finley conducted extensive interviews as well as participant-observation as a critic, audience member, and comic herself to collect and honor the stories that Black women comics tell about themselves. Interdisciplinary and conceptually rigorous, Finley’s work shows us how we can and should read Black women’s expressions of sass in humor as attempts at social transformation that involve a fundamental critique of power and authority, and a gesture at collective liberation.

**J Finley** is associate professor of Africana studies at Pomona College.

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“A good read in every sense of the word. Finley gives us the depth and stakes of Black women’s humor and the frameworks for understanding how humor manages the parameters of stereotype and misogynoir.”

—Bettina Judd, author of *Feelin: Creative Practice, Pleasure, and Black Feminist Thought*
Confronting Jim Crow
Race, Memory, and the University of Georgia in the Twentieth Century

Robert Cohen

Confronting Jim Crow’s legacy at the University of Georgia

Since the onset of the Black Lives Matter protests in 2020 following the murder of George Floyd, America has grappled with its racial history, leading to the removal of statues and other markers commemorating pro-slavery sympathizers and segregationists from public spaces. Some of these white supremacist statues had stood on or near college and university campuses since the Jim Crow era, symbolizing the reluctance of American higher education to confront its racist past.

In Confronting Jim Crow, Robert Cohen explores the University of Georgia’s long history of racism and the struggle to overcome it, shedding light on white Georgia’s historical amnesia concerning the university’s role in sustaining the Jim Crow system. By extending the historical analysis beyond the desegregation crisis of 1961, Cohen unveils UGA’s deep-rooted anti-Black stance preceding formal desegregation efforts. Through the lens of Black and white student, faculty, and administration perspectives, this book exposes the enduring impact of Jim Crow and its lingering effects on campus integration.

Robert Cohen is professor of history and social studies at New York University.

“Confronting Jim Crow is an astounding contemporary exploration into the continued struggle for freedom of thought in higher education. Through its expansion of the notion of activist, this book reminds us that though the liberal student activism at UGA was far more muted than that outside the South, it was still activism—and dangerous activism at that.”
—Joy Williamson-Lott, University of Washington
An Efficient Womanhood
Women and the Making of the Universal Negro Improvement Association

Natanya Duncan

The Black women who built the UNIA with Marcus Garvey

From its Kingston, Jamaica, inception in 1914, women helped define and shape the Black Nationalist and Pan Africanist aims of the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). Their efforts, made possible in part by UNIA co-founder Amy Ashwood Garvey, helped sustain the largest social justice organization of the twentieth century. In this deeply researched collective biography, Natanya Duncan documents the complexities of UNIA women as active participants in Black nation-building. Women from both sides of the Atlantic joined the UNIA in pursuit of both gender and racial equality, developing a three-tiered activist strategy that Duncan calls “efficient womanhood”: seek equitable partnerships with like-minded persons and organizations, work as peer and intergenerational mentors, and serve as bridge builders between the organization and resources and people in service to their immediate communities and the race at large.

Through an impressive and original archive of their self-determination, Duncan presents the stories of Henrietta Vinton Davis, Maymie de Mena, and Laura Kofey as well as groups of UNIA women like the Black Cross Nurses, the Universal African Motor Corp, and the Lucky 9’s Club, who circumvented the ideals of their era and created a brand of independent female leadership. The book demonstrates how UNIA women orchestrated and activated the organization from the bottom up, while influencing and informing men and each other. By focusing on how women of the UNIA created an activist framework, Duncan reveals a model of organizing that has endured into the present day.

Natanya Duncan is associate professor of history and director of Africana studies at Queens College CUNY.

“Natanya Duncan's seminal work fills a major void in the UNIA's history, bringing to the fore a new set of women who have fallen through the archival cracks and shifting the history of the movement beyond Garvey himself.”

—Ula Y. Taylor, author of The Veiled Garvey: The Life and Times of Amy Jacques Garvey
The Abercrombie Age
Millennial Aspiration and the Promise of Consumer Culture

Myles Ethan Lascity

Where have all the teen dreams gone?

Be popular and good-looking—it’s the key to a happy life. Luckily, with a bit of know-how and money, you, too, can have it all. At least, that’s what teen pop culture was selling in surround sound at the turn of the millennium. From movies like Clueless to TV’s Dawson’s Creek to the music videos on MTV’s Total Request Live and the catalogs of Abercrombie & Fitch, a consumer-minded ethos drove pop culture storytelling as millennials came of age in the late 1990s and early 2000s. But in the long shadow of the Great Recession, the upwardly mobile aspirations fostered by the era’s popular culture and media seem to have been thwarted. Many millennials today lack the wealth their parents had at the same age, and the gaps between rich and poor rival those of the Gilded Age.

The Abercrombie Age reconsiders teen popular culture from the turn of the twenty-first century, revealing how it told young people that life not only could but surely would get better. Far from frivolous or forgettable, the era’s superficial, materialistic culture sold millennials unrealistic expectations of what life could offer, setting up a stark juxtaposition with the realities of today.

Myles Ethan Lascity is assistant professor and director of the fashion media program at Southern Methodist University.

“...an informed and timely investigation of early 2000s teen culture. Through thoughtful analyses of nostalgic media texts—from A&F Quarterly to Clueless—Lascity argues convincingly that millennials were sold a false promise of affluence that has not come to fruition. It will surely resonate with readers interested in pop culture, media, fashion, and their impacts on American culture.”

—Lauren Downing Peters, author of Fashion Before Plus-Size: Bodies, Bias, and the Birth of an Industry
Truffles and Trash
Recirculating Food in a Social Welfare State

Kelly Alexander

Food recirculation reveals social welfare provisioning’s challenges and opportunities

On a fragile planet with spreading food insecurity, food waste is a political and ethical problem. In Truffles and Trash, Kelly Alexander reveals it is also an opportunity for new forms of sociality. These dynamics play out across a diverse set of locations—from a food bank with ties to the EU and a social restaurant serving low-cost meals made from supermarket surplus by an emergent immigrant labor force to a social inclusion program in an urban market with a “zero food waste” pop-up café. Alexander’s close analysis illustrates the collaborative, sometimes scrappy institutional and community efforts to recuperate and redistribute food waste in Brussels, Belgium. She argues that these efforts in concert with innovative policy effectively recirculate wasted food to new publics and produce what she terms a “spectrum of edibility.”

According to Alexander, the models face challenges—including reproducing the very power dynamics across race, class, and citizenship status they seek to circumvent. They also mirror the challenges of the everyday operations of the European social welfare state, which is increasingly reliant on NGOs to meet provisioning promises. Yet she finds that they also move the needle forward in reducing food waste across one city, providing a model for major urban centers around the world.

Kelly Alexander is assistant professor and George B. Tindall Fellow of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“Engrossing, surprising, and fun—the specific sites and people Alexander works with and lives among come alive in this account. An exemplar of the ethnographic method.”
—Joshua Reno, Binghamton University
The Aesthetics of Belonging
Indigenous Urbanism and City Building in Oil-Boom Luanda

Claudia Gastrow

How aesthetic concerns mediate political belonging in Luanda

After centuries of colonial rule, the end of Angola’s three-decade civil war in 2002 provided an irresistible opportunity for the government to reimagine the Luanda cityscape. Awash with petrodollars cultivated through strategic foreign relationships, President José Eduardo dos Santos rolled out a national reconstruction program that sought to transform Angola’s capital into what he considered to be a modern, world-class metropolis. Until funds dried up in 2014, the program—in conjunction with sweeping private investments in real estate—involves mass demolitions of vernacular architecture to make way for high-rise buildings, large-scale housing projects, and commercial centers. The program thus underestimated the values enshrined in the materials and designs of Luanda’s existing “informally” constructed neighborhoods, or musseques.

The Aesthetics of Belonging explores the political significance of aesthetics in the remaking of the city. Claudia Gastrow’s archival and ethnographic work, which includes interviews with city planners, architects, nonprofit leaders, and urban dwellers, shows how government infrastructure projects and foreign-inspired designs came to embody displacement and exclusion for many. This, Gastrow argues, catalyzed a countermovement, an aesthetic dissent rooted in critically reframing informal urbanism as Indigenous—a move that enabled the possibility of recognizing the political potential of informal settlements as spaces that produce belonging.

Claudia Gastrow is assistant professor of sociology and anthropology at North Carolina State University.

“A magnificent contribution. This book asks the fundamental question about what constitutes a desirable city and who is entitled to inhabit this space of urban desirability.”
—Filip De Boeck, University of Leuven
Stories I Lived to Tell
An Appalachian Memoir

Gary Carden, edited by Neal Hutcheson

Unforgettable stories from Appalachia

Stories I Lived to Tell is more than a selection of stories from revered mountain storyteller Gary Carden—it is a testimony of a distinguished culture, sense of place, and spirit of community that connects the Appalachian past to its present. This memoir-in-stories invites the reader to move beyond stereotypes to experience the scenes, characters, and community of the author’s childhood and formative years, intersecting with the regional folktales and mythologies that fired his imagination. It is not only a fascinating window into an Appalachian community in the middle of the twentieth century but also an insightful reminder of who that community is today, in spite of the external changes.

Featuring an introduction by documentarian Neal Hutcheson, this book is a moving, often funny, collection by a talented storyteller who cuts through cliché and sanctimony with his powerful words.

Gary Carden is the author of several books and numerous plays and the recipient of the North Carolina Award for Literature, the state’s highest civilian honor. He lives near Sylva, North Carolina. Neal Hutcheson is an Emmy Award–winning documentary filmmaker and the author of The Moonshiner Popcorn Sutton. He lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

“Gary Carden is a national treasure.”
—Lee Smith, author of Dimestore: A Writer’s Life
Traveling to Unknown Places
Nineteenth-Century Journeys toward French and American Selfhood

Lloyd Kramer

Navigating nineteenth-century journeys toward French and American identity

Traveling to Unknown Places presents a compelling, incisive analysis of how French and American writers reshaped their personal and collective identities as they traveled in foreign countries after the social upheavals of the eighteenth-century Atlantic revolutions. Delving into the experiences of renowned figures like Flora Tristan and Margaret Fuller alongside lesser-known postrevolutionary travelers, this book illuminates how cross-cultural encounters pushed writers to redefine their views of nationality, language, race, slavery, gender, religion, science, and political ideologies.

Lloyd Kramer deftly demonstrates how unsettling journeys challenged cultural preconceptions and fostered introspective writings that transcended geographical boundaries. By interweaving the perspectives of women and men whose travels led them far beyond their youthful social origins, Kramer unveils a rich tapestry of evolving selfhood, ambition, and political consciousness across the Atlantic world. Each traveler’s experience was unique, but long journeys connected all these nineteenth-century writers with others who had traveled before and trips into unknown, distant cultures also carried travelers toward previously unknown places within themselves.

Lloyd S. Kramer is professor of history emeritus at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“This book intricately intertwines captivating narratives that shed light on the formation of identities through nineteenth-century transatlantic travel.”
—Janet Polasky, University of New Hampshire
Mahommah Gardo Baquaqua
An Enslaved Muslim of the Black Atlantic

Paul E. Lovejoy and Nielson Bezerra

An epic journey of slavery and freedom in the Atlantic World

A literate Muslim born between 1820 and 1830 in present-day Benin, Mahommah Gardo Baquaqua was enslaved in the interior of West Africa and forcibly moved to Brazil in 1845. He escaped from slavery when his master took him to New York City in 1847. Baquaqua then fled to Haiti where he converted to Christianity. When he eventually returned to the United States, he enrolled in New York Central College. Baquaqua published his autobiography in 1854 and traveled to Liverpool, England, with the intention of returning to Africa. He apparently achieved this goal by the early 1860s, when his paper trail disappears.

Lovejoy and Bezerra’s analysis of this remarkable autobiography—the only known narrative by a former Brazilian slave—illuminates what Baquaqua’s home in Africa was like, examines African slavery in mid-nineteenth-century Brazil, and offers an Atlantic perspective on resistance to slavery in the Americas in the era of the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850.

Paul E. Lovejoy is Distinguished Research Professor and Canada Research Chair in African Diaspora History at York University.

Nielson Bezerra is associate professor at Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro and director of Museu Vivo do São Bento.

“A beautiful, clearly written, and much needed monograph on the harrowing life of Baquaqua . . . Paul Lovejoy is the greatest specialist on the subject and best author for this book.” —Ana Lucia Araujo, author of The Gift: How Objects of Prestige Shaped the Atlantic Slave Trade and Colonialism

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History/World
The State of Conservation
Rural America and the Conservation-Industrial Complex since 1920

Joshua Nygren

A sweeping history of conservation from the 1920s to the age of sustainability

Throughout the twentieth century, natural resource conservation emerged as a vital force in US politics, laying the groundwork for present-day “sustainability.” Merging environmental, agricultural, and political history, Joshua Nygren traces the political economy and ecology of agricultural conservation through the lens of the “conservation-industrial complex.” This evolving public-private network—which united the US Department of Agriculture, Congress, local and national organizations, and the agricultural industry—guided soil and water conservation for much of the century. Contrary to the classic tales of US environmental politics and the rise and fall of the New Deal Order, Nygren emphasizes continuity. He demonstrates how the conservation policies, programs, and partnerships of the 1930s and 1940s persisted through the age of environmentalism, and their defining traits anticipated those typically associated with late-twentieth century political culture.

The conservation-industrial complex promoted a development-oriented brand of conservation that aided the rise of large-scale, capital-intensive agriculture which continues today. It reshaped the physical and political landscapes of the country, leading to impressive victories and spectacular failures by privileging some environments, degrading others, and intensifying farm depopulation. In the name of environmental protection, agricultural conservation made rural America less equal.

Joshua Nygren is associate professor of history at the University of Central Missouri.

“A full, twentieth-century treatment of agricultural conservation is well overdue, and this book stands immediately as definitive.”
—Sarah T. Phillips, Boston University
Revisiting Morganton’s Guatemalan community, twenty years later

In 2003, Leon Fink published his oral history of Guatemalan and Mexican migrants in Morganton, North Carolina, and their fight for unionization in a poultry processing plant. In the years since, Fink remained in touch with many of the people he profiled in the book, and in 2022 he returned to Morganton to interview them and talk with their children, new migrants in the area, and community leaders, particularly women. Their conversations covered a wide range of topics, including labor struggles and victories, grassroots and electoral political organizing, social activism (especially on issues affecting undocumented migrants), class mobility for second-generation migrants, and new cooperative worker-owned institutions, including a bookstore, a textile factory, and a preschool.

This revised and expanded edition of The Maya of Morganton reveals what Fink found on his return to Morganton, documenting two decades of continuity and change in a new preface and chapter. Together with the original material, the book presents a comprehensive yet intimate examination of the migrant experience in western North Carolina.

Leon Fink is senior research associate and adjunct professor of history at Georgetown University and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

“A dream project that is as valuable as it is timely: the question of how to best seek justice for immigrant workers (and what ‘justice’ even looks like) is more relevant now than ever.”
—Julie M. Weise, author of Corazón de Dixie: Mexicanos in the U.S. South since 1910
The Era Was Lost
The Rise and Fall of New York City’s Rank-and-File Rebels

Glenn Dyer

The failures of New York City’s labor unions

An exciting yet relatively unknown episode in American labor history took place in New York City between 1965 and 1975. Rank-and-file members of numerous unions caught a “strike fever” as they challenged the entrenched power of some of the country’s most powerful politicians, employers, and union leaders in a wave of contract rejections, wildcat strikes, and electoral campaigns. Workers in unions across New York wanted more than better contracts: they contested control of the work process, racism on the job, and workers’ place in America’s socioeconomic hierarchy while implicitly and explicitly demanding greater democratic control of their representative organizations and lives. Some initial challenges were effective and succeeded in delivering better contracts and unseating undemocratic leaders. However, those early successes were short-lived.

Glenn Dyer traces the way workers were met with employer recalcitrance and union attacks that proved too powerful to organize against. In the face of this resistance, workers retreated into a survivalist attitude of accommodation and resignation, contributing to the decline of social democratic New York and working-class power in the city. Ultimately, as Dyer argues, the failures of the rank-and-file organizing efforts in New York City, which was the biggest center of organized labor in the country, shows how stunted workers’ aspirations and numerous defeats not only uprooted the foundations of New York’s uniquely social democratic polity but also ushered in a national era of increased working-class subservience that has resonance today.

Glenn Dyer is limited term assistant professor of history and philosophy at Kennesaw State University.

“With expansive research and fresh insights, this impressive first look at rank-and-file worker militancy in New York City during this period substantially furthers the field of labor studies and working-class history.”
—Robert Ovetz, author of We the Elites: Why the US Constitution Serves the Few
The Subject of Revolution
Between Political and Popular Culture in Cuba

Jennifer L. Lambe

Two, three, many Cuban Revolutions

From television to travel bans, geopolitics to popular dance, The Subject of Revolution explores how knowledge about the 1959 Cuban Revolution was produced and how the Revolution in turn shaped new worldviews. Drawing on sources from over twenty archives as well as film, music, theater, and material culture, this book traces the consolidation of the Revolution over two decades in the interface between political and popular culture. The “subject of Revolution,” it proposes, should be understood as the evolving synthesis of the imaginaries constructed by its many “subjects,” including revolutionary leaders, activists, academics, and ordinary people within and beyond the island’s borders.

The book reopens some of the questions that have long animated debates about Cuba, from the relationship between populace and leadership to the archive and its limits, while foregrounding the construction of popular understandings. It argues that the politicization of everyday life was an inescapable effect of the revolutionary process, as well as the catalyst for new ways of knowing and being.

Jennifer L. Lambe is associate professor of history at Brown University.

“Lambe approaches her subject from a distinctive interpretative angle, almost a meta-angle. This highly innovative work will no doubt shake up how we study and conceive of the Cuban Revolution and perhaps revolution more broadly.”

—Eric Zolov, author of The Last Good Neighbor: Mexico in the Global Sixties
In Place of Mobility
Railroads, Rebels, and Migrants in an Argentine-Chilean Borderland

Kyle E. Harvey

Crossing mountains to create a Trans-Andean borderland

In the mid-nineteenth century, decades after independence in Latin America, borderlands presented existential challenges to consolidating nation-states. In Place of Mobility examines how and why these spaces became challenging to governments and what their meaningfulness is for our understanding of the development of a global world by examining one of those spaces: the Trans-Andean, an Argentine-Chilean borderland connected by the Andes mountains and centered on the Argentine region of Cuyo. It answers these questions by interweaving three narratives: Chilean migration to western Argentina; mountain-crossing Argentine rebels; and the formation of plans for railroads to cross the mountains.

Out of these narratives emerges a twofold argument that, on the one hand, locates the causes and stakes of foundational national conflicts in Argentina in a Pacific-facing Trans-Andean and, on the other hand, sees the Trans-Andean as part of mid-nineteenth-century globalization, thus connecting national conflicts, nonnational geographies, and globalization. As a result, this book challenges dominant narratives about social and political conflicts at this formative moment in Argentine and Latin American history while opening up discussion on the methodologies and meaningfulness of transnational, borderlands, and global histories.

Kyle E. Harvey is assistant professor of history at Western Carolina University.

“This systematic history of Chilean-Argentine migration across the Andes deftly connects western Argentina to the Pacific world. Moving beyond national boundaries as containers of analysis, it offers instead a nuanced narrative rooted in the lived experience of rural Andean life.”
—Jeffrey Alan Erbig Jr., author of Where Caciques and Mapmakers Met
All Y’all
Queering Southernness in US Fiction, 1980–2020

Heidi Siegrist

From one place, many Souths emerge

The South is often perceived as a haunted place in its region’s literature, one that is strange, deviant, or “queer.” The peculiar, often sexually charged literary worlds of contemporary writers like Fannie Flagg, Monique Truong, and Randall Kenan speak to this connection between queerness and the South. Heidi Siegrist explores the boundaries of negotiating place and sexuality by using the concept of Southernness—a purposefully fluid idea of the South that extends beyond a simple geography, eschewing familiar ideas of the Southern canon. When the connection between queerness and Southernness becomes apparent, Siegrist shows a Southern-branded queer deviance can not only change the way we think about literature but can also change Southern queer peoples’ lived experiences.

Siegrist gathers a bevy of undertheorized writers, from Kenan and Troung to Dorothy Allison and even George R. R. Martin, showing that there are many “queer Souths.” Siegrist offers us these multiverses as a way to appreciate a place that is often unfriendly, even deadly, to queer people. But as Siegrist argues, none of these Souths, from the terrestrial to the imaginary, would be what they are without the influence and power of queer literature.

Heidi Siegrist is director of the Sewanee Young Writers Conference.

“All Y’all is an exciting and robust study of queerness in the US South and southern literature from 1980 to the present. Siegrist shows how this body of literature refuses to adhere to any single model of southernness or queerness and instead presents a multiplicity that both indexes and negotiates the broader complexities of this period.”

—Michael P. Bibler, Louisiana State University
Shy of the Squirrel’s Foot
A Peripheral History of the Jargon Society as Told through Its Missing Books

Andy Martrich

The untold story of poetry, publishing, and the avant-garde

The Jargon Society, a boundary-pushing publisher of poetry and experimental writing, was founded by Jonathan Williams (1929–2008) in 1951. Jargon quickly gained a reputation as the home of the poetic and literary avant-garde. Their bibliography includes noted midcentury poets like Charles Olson and Lorine Niedecker. Williams himself looms large in this story as the publisher at Jargon until his death, making this book as much about his life and work as the press he founded, which today operates through the Black Mountain College Museum in Asheville, North Carolina.

Andy Martrich has authored this story in a manner befitting Jargon's ethos of literary experimentation by focusing on the books the Society cataloged but never published. While it’s not uncommon for a small press to plan for books that don’t make it to publication, Martrich argues that Jargon's incessant financial difficulties, coupled with Williams's impressive network, makes its trail of unfinished projects unique and an ideal way to chronicle the press itself. Using archival research, interviews with volunteers at Jargon, and more, Martrich gives readers not only an intimate look into a Southern press and publisher, but also an important history of modern and experimental literature in twentieth-century America. Also included in one place for the first time is Jargon's annotated bibliography, detailing every book the press published.

Andy Martrich is a poet, publisher, and archivist.

“Martrich has produced a radical demonstration of the impossibility of a complete archive that illuminates the unrealized projects of one of the greatest American publishers of the twentieth century.”

—Kyle Schlesinger, poet, professor, and proprietor of Cuneiform Press
Under Alien Skies
Environment, Suffering, and the Defeat of the British Military in Revolutionary America

Vaughn Scribner

At war with the environment in the American Revolution

The Revolutionary War is often celebrated as the marking the birth of American republicanism, liberty, and representative democracy. Yet for the tens of thousands of British and Hessian troops sent 3,000 miles across the Atlantic Ocean to wage war under alien skies, such a progressive picture, as Vaughn Scribner reveals, could not have been further from the truth. In Under Alien Skies, Scribner illustrates how foreign soldiers’ negative perceptions of the American environment merged with harsh wartime realities to elicit considerable physical, mental, and emotional anguish.

Whether trudging through alligator-infested swamps, nursing a comrade back to health in a rain-sodden tent, or digging trenches in a burned-out port city, most who fought in America under the British army’s flag ultimately deemed themselves strangers fighting in a strange land. For them, Revolutionary America looked nothing like the “happy land . . . blessed with every climate” that Revolutionary republicans so successfully promoted. Instead, the War of Independence descended into a quagmire of anxiety, destruction, and distress at the hands of the American environment—a “Diabolical Country,” as one British soldier opined, “which no Earthly Compensation can put me in Charity with.”

Vaughn Scribner is associate professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas.

“With thorough research and a talent for vivid storytelling, Vaughn Scribner shows how British and German soldiers’ encounters with the American environment were not just hazardous and frustrating but downright disabling to their minds and bodies. Full of terror and wonder, this nimble, humane account changes our understanding of the American Revolutionary War experience.”
—Benjamin Carp, author of The Great New York Fire of 1776: A Lost Story of the American Revolution
Inscribing Sovereignties
Writing Community in Native North America

Phillip H. Round

Reinscribing an Indigenous epistemology of language

Before European settlers arrived in North America, more than 300 distinct languages were being spoken among the continent’s Indigenous peoples. But the Euro-American emphasis on alphabetic literacy has historically hidden the power and influence of Indigenous verbal and nonverbal language diversity on encounters between Indigenous North Americans and settlers. In this path-breaking work, Phillip H. Round reveals how Native North Americans sparked a communications revolution in their adaptation and resistance to settlers’ modes of speaking and writing. Round especially focuses on communication through inscription—the physical act of making a mark, the tools involved, and the social and cultural processes that render the mark legible. Using methods from history, literary studies, media studies, linguistics, and material culture studies, Round shows how Indigenous graphic practices embodied Native epistemologies while fostering linguistic innovation.

Round’s broad theory of graphogenesis—creating meaningful inscription—leads to new insights for both the past and present of Indigenous expression in a range of forms. Readers will find powerful new insights into Indigenous languages and linguistic practices, with important implications not just for scholars but for those working to support ongoing Native American self-determination.

Phillip H. Round is professor emeritus of English and Native American and Indigenous studies at the University of Iowa.

“The scope of Round’s book is impressive, and the prose is engaging, with moments of real poetry and inspiration. But its biggest payoff is to advance the comparative study of Indigenous languages and orthographies across the Western Hemisphere and around the world. Round’s narrative of the history of Indigenous media can help lead researchers and Indigenous communities themselves not just to obscured histories but to inspirations for transformative practices.”

—Matt Cohen, University of Nebraska–Lincoln
The Anthology of Black Mountain College Poetry

Edited by Blake Hobby, Alessandro Porco, and Joseph Bathanti

Black Mountain’s poetic legacy

Founded in 1933 near Asheville, North Carolina, Black Mountain College fostered experimentation and interdisciplinary learning, placing the arts, including poetry, at the heart of its curriculum. As such, the college was home to and served as inspiration for many modern and postmodern American poets. Some of them, including Robert Creeley, Denise Levertov, and Edward Dorn, appeared in Donald Allen’s groundbreaking New American Poetry anthology published in 1960, later becoming part of the American poetry canon. However, many from the Black Mountain College school of writers have been overlooked. The Anthology of Black Mountain College Poetry features over fifty poets selected with an expansive critical lens, including writers not typically seen as poets, such as composer John Cage, architect Buckminster Fuller, and visual artist Josef Albers. Many years in the making, this book paints the clearest picture of the poetry and poets of Black Mountain College yet.

Blake Hobby is former executive editor of Black Mountain College Studies.

Joseph Bathanti is McFarlane Family Distinguished Professor of Interdisciplinary Education at Appalachian State University.

Alessandro Porco is associate professor of English at the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

“Like the experimental college whose poetic heritage it documents, this collection is a marvel, literally the best presentation of any literary phenomenon we have had in the United States. Nothing half so meticulous exists for the Beats, the New York School, the Spicer Circle, or the San Francisco Renaissance. Not just the famous names, but short-term faculty, students, affiliates, and visitors as well. This book raises the bar for everyone.”

—Ron Silliman, author of The Alphabet
Queering Kinship in the Mormon Cosmos

Taylor G. Petrey

Toward a more expansive and inclusive understanding of kinship in Mormonism

Exploring the intersections of gender, sexuality, and kinship within the context of Latter-day Saint theology and history, this provocative book theorizes the Mormon faith’s complex relationship with heteronormativity and its history of anti-LGBTQ teaching and practice. Taylor G. Petrey delves into both traditional and contemporary interpretations of Mormon teachings, challenging conventional views by proposing that Mormonism, despite its conservative leanings, contains elements that can be reinterpreted through a queer lens. Petrey reexamines and resignifies Mormon cosmology through the lens of queer theory, offering a fresh perspective on divine relationships, gender fluidity, and the concept of kinship itself.

Petrey’s work draws together queer studies and the academic study of religion in new ways, providing a nuanced understanding of how religious narratives and doctrines can be reimagined to include more diverse interpretations of identity and community.

Taylor G. Petrey is professor of religion at Kalamazoo College and author of Tabernacles of Clay: Sexuality and Gender in Modern Mormonism.

“Petrey teases out the way the Mormon cosmos is profoundly queer, and the ways in which patriarchal, cis-normative, and assimilationist forces have suppressed and subverted that queerness. Academics, queer and trans Mormon activists, and their allies will find Petrey’s innovative intertwining of desire and kinship provocative.”

—Melissa M. Wilcox, University of California–Riverside
Ripples of Hope in the Mississippi Delta
Charting the Health Equity Policy Agenda

David K. Jones, edited by Debra Bingham, Nicole Huberfeld, and Sarah H. Gordon

How to change the crisis of health inequity in the Delta and across the US

The late David K. Jones spent four years visiting the Mississippi Delta conducting primary research with residents and local leaders to explore the connections between race, place, and health. He weaves their insights with data analysis to show how local, state, and national policies and structures, whether intentional or not, constrain or expand the daily choices of individuals that affect health. In order to remedy the complex problem of health disparities, Jones argues that a new approach to creating health equity policy is needed. Through firsthand narratives, Jones elevates the voices of people living and working in the Delta to guide the discovery of which community-led “ripples of hope” efforts have already been effective and should be nourished and what policy changes are still needed to support healthy lives.

In this mix of ethnography, policy, and social science, Jones offers a roadmap for creating a community-led, goal-based, deficit and asset approach to charting a health policy agenda to health equity in the Delta and beyond.

David K. Jones was an associate professor of health law, policy, and management at Boston University School of Public Health and the author of Exchange Politics: Opposing Obamacare in Battleground States.

Debra Bingham is the founder and CEO of the Institute for Perinatal Quality Improvement, LLC.

Sarah H. Gordon is assistant professor of health law, policy, and management at the Boston University School of Public Health.

Nicole Huberfeld is Edward R. Utley Professor of Health Law at Boston College School of Law and Boston College School of Public Health.

“Jones’s book fills a glaring gap in health services research on place-based inequities. By drawing upon and synthesizing methodologies from a myriad of disciplines, Jones makes clear how equitable access to healthcare is insufficient for addressing population health inequities.”
—Arrianna Marie Planey, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Health Freaks
America’s Diet Champions and the Specter of Chronic Illness

Travis A. Weisse

The stories and people behind American longevity diets

Travis A. Weisse tells a new history of modern diets in America that goes beyond the familiar narrative of the nation’s collective failure to lose weight. By exploring how the popularity of diets grew alongside patients’ frustrations with the limitations and failures of the American healthcare system in the face of chronic disease, Weisse argues that millions of Americans sought “fad” diets—such as the notorious Atkins program which ushered in the low-carbohydrate craze—to wrest control of their health from pessimistic doctors and lifelong pharmaceutical regimens.

Drawing on novel archival sources and a wide variety of popular media, Weisse shows the lengths to which twentieth-century American dieters went to heal themselves outside the borders of orthodox medicine and the subsequent political and scientific backlash they received. Through colorful profiles of the leaders of four major diet movements, Health Freaks demonstrates that these diet gurus weren’t shady snake oil salesmen preying on the vulnerable; rather, they were vocal champions for millions of frustrated Americans seeking longer, healthier lives.

Travis A. Weisse is visiting assistant professor at New Mexico State University.

“Health Freaks is an ambitious, wide-ranging survey of the American diet. Weisse explores both the fringes of dietary cultures and mainstream challenges to the ‘standard American diet’ in order to ask bigger questions about what drives American dietary fads and faddism.”
—Rachel Louise Moran, University of North Texas
Making the future of Richmond

Richmond, Virginia, took center stage globally in the summer of 2020 as an epicenter of antiracist protests in the wake of the police murder of George Floyd. In a period of just a few weeks, overwhelming public support grew for removing Richmond’s Confederate monuments. Activists then transformed the remaining statue of Robert E. Lee into a shrine to African American resolve, to the Black Lives Matter movement, and to Black victims of police brutality. Coming to terms with Richmond’s tortured racial history, however, is much more difficult than toppling symbols of white supremacy.

This book explores these dynamics via a multidisciplinary framework of historical research, public policy analysis, and political analysis, showing the inner dynamics of politics and governance in Richmond. The authors reveal why change and progress has often been so difficult to achieve and why that matters, with a focus on three fundamental policy areas: education, economic development, and housing. The result is a comprehensive assessment of urban governance in a major southern city in the early twenty-first century, as well as an accounting of the policy and human consequences of both its limited successes and its recurring failures.

Thad Williamson is professor of leadership studies and philosophy, politics, economics, and law at the University of Richmond.

Julian M. Hayter is associate professor of leadership studies at the University of Richmond.

Amy L. Howard is associate provost for strategic initiatives and community engagement at the University of Richmond.

“The book captures the complexities of urban governance while giving readers a sense of the personalities of the players, as well as a feel for the quasi-machine politics that goes on behind the scenes. These authors have worked closely with city government for years; their experience is impressive and their knowledge encyclopedic, and it is all borne out in this wonderful book.”

—Richard Schragger, University of Virginia
Radical Solidarity
Ruth Reynolds, Political Allyship, and the Battle for Puerto Rico’s Independence

Lisa G. Materson

Making allyship authentic instead of performative

Radical Solidarity tells the riveting story of Ruth Reynolds (1916–1989), a white pacifist from South Dakota who became a stalwart ally of nationalist revolutionaries during Puerto Rico’s long struggle for independence. Reynolds dedicated her life to ending US control of the archipelago. She testified before Congress and the UN, organized fellow North Americans, investigated the brutal tactics used by the colonial state to quash independence sentiment, and was incarcerated as a political prisoner.

Lisa G. Materson introduces the concept of “radical solidarity,” to describe Reynolds’s powerful model for globally engaged activism. Guided by her vision of allyship, Reynolds developed deep bonds with Puerto Rican nationalist women with whom she was imprisoned, collaborated across ideological divides with revolutionary leaders, and established lasting relationships with civil rights lawyers, political exiles, and New Left activists. Her radical solidarity enabled her to remain a tireless champion for Puerto Rico’s independence through five decades of hope, disappointment, and political change. Her life reveals the price paid by those who supported an independent Puerto Rico and sheds light on the possibilities of working across difference in the face of US state-sanctioned violence and colonialism.

Lisa G. Materson is associate professor at the University of California, Davis.

“Lisa Materson has drawn on an impressive array and quantity of resources that makes for an extremely moving and inspiring read. It is an excellent and important project.”
—Margaret Power, author of Solidarity across the Americas: The Puerto Rican Nationalist Party and Anti-imperialism
Reacting to the Past™ is an award-winning series of immersive role-playing games that actively engage students in their own learning. Students assume the roles of historical characters and practice critical thinking, primary source analysis, and argument, both written and spoken. Reacting games are flexible enough to be used across the curriculum, from first-year general education classes and discussion sections of lecture classes to capstone experiences, intersession courses, and honors programs.

Charles Darwin, the Copley Medal, and the Rise of Naturalism, 1862–1864, Second Edition

The 1859 publication of Charles Darwin’s On the Origin of Species evoked a spectrum of responses, from fervent endorsement to vehement opposition, because of the theory of natural selection’s implications for Western theological and cultural orthodoxy. During the 1860 Oxford gathering of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, Thomas Huxley and Samuel Wilberforce engaged in a riveting and widely publicized debate, dissecting the merits and drawbacks of Darwin’s theory. Their clash ignited a multifaceted discourse that reverberated through the intellectual circles of Victorian Britain, culminating in the Royal Society’s deliberations over whether to bestow upon Darwin the esteemed Copley Medal, its highest honor.

In this second edition of Charles Darwin, the Copley Medal, and the Rise of Naturalism, 1862–1864, students engage in debates within the Royal Society that navigate the tension between natural and teleological views. The student roles delve into topics like inductive reasoning, science in industrial society, social reform, and women’s rights, all centered around the Copley deliberations and the societal impact of Darwin’s evolutionary theory.

Marsha Driscoll is professor emerita of psychology at Bemidji State University.
Elizabeth E. Dunn is professor of history and dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Business at SUNY Oneonta.
Dann Siems was assistant professor of biology at Bemidji State University.
Raymond A. Kimball is CEO of 42 Educational Games Coaching and Design.
Amanda E. Rollinson is a former assistant professor at the US Military Academy.
B. Kamran Swanson is assistant professor of philosophy at Harold Washington College.
Frederick H. Burkhardt was the founder of the Charles Darwin Correspondence Project.

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New gamebooks from the Reacting Consortium

**Constantine and the Council of Nicaea, Second Edition**
Defining Orthodoxy and Heresy in Christianity, 325 CE

Before Constantine rose to power as the Roman emperor, the empire followed polytheistic beliefs. Any deviation from this tradition, particularly embracing Christianity, was met with severe punishment including imprisonment, torture, and execution. Christians were especially targeted as their faith was considered a "cult" at the time. However, after Constantine embraced Christianity, there was a significant shift. In 325 CE, Constantine summoned early Christian leaders to Nicaea (modern-day Iznik in Turkey) to deliberate on matters pertaining to the governance and doctrines of a unified Christian church. This gathering aimed to establish a single, cohesive, and catholic church that would unify the Roman world under one dominant religion.

In the game, students immerse themselves in the theological debates that defined the challenges and disagreements within the church leadership, addressing fundamental aspects of Christian beliefs. Can the bishops assembled at the council resolve these issues, or will the church face division or dissolution? The outcome of this conference holds the power to shape the trajectory of Christianity for centuries to come.

**David E. Henderson** is professor emeritus at Trinity College in Connecticut.

**Engines of Mischief**
Technology, Rebellion, and the Industrial Revolution in England, 1817-1818

Engines of Mischief explores the day-to-day labor, economic, political, and social climate at the dawn of the Industrial Revolution in Manchester, England, between 1817 and 1818. Using new economic theories of the time, parliamentary commissions, and news reports, students will engage with crucial issues of the day, debating factory conditions and child labor; the role of the government in the economy, taxation, workers' unions; and the extension of political rights down the social hierarchy.

In the game, by assuming the roles of historical actors from various classes of society, students are faced with choices about how to live and prosper during this period of great technological, economic, and social transformation. Will the working class violently resist new technology in factories, form unions, or join radical political clubs to improve their working conditions and protect their rights? How best will middle-class entrepreneurs run their enterprises; will they provide fair treatment to their workers or simply maximize their profit? How will the aristocrats maintain their power in government and society? Will they support the middle or the working classes?

**Louise Blakeney Williams** is professor of history at Central Connecticut State University.

**Brendan Palla** is associate professor of philosophy at St. Patrick’s Seminary and University.

**Megan Squire** is deputy director for analytics at the Southern Poverty Law Center.

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Ending the Troubles
Religion, Nationalism, and the Search for Peace and Democracy in Northern Ireland, 1997-1998

In June 1996, the British government convened multiparty talks trying to establish peace within Northern Ireland, after thirty years of bloody civil war based on religious, cultural, political, and economic tensions, known as “The Troubles.” The talks included political parties from the two factions central to the conflict: Unionists, largely Protestants committed to retaining Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom, and Nationalists, largely Catholics committed to the reunification of Northern Ireland with the independent Republic of Ireland. Fundamental questions on national identity and democracy quickly turned these proceedings into faction bickering, thus failing to produce any substantive progress. The emergence of new leaders in 1997—Tony Blair, prime minister of Great Britain, and Bertie Ahern, taoiseach in the Republic of Ireland—created an opportunity for reenergizing the talks chaired by the former US senator George Mitchell, with all parties making a concerted effort to reach a viable resolution among Nationalists and Unionists.

In the game, students will represent the major parties in Northern Ireland as they reconvene at the multiparty talks in 1997 to find ways to reconcile two competing visions of Northern Irish nationalism, or at least find a way for each community to tolerate one another’s participation in a common constitutional arrangement. Much is at stake, for another failure could lead to a full resumption of the civil war.

John M. Burney is retired professor of history at Doane University.

Andrew J. Auge is retired professor of English and Irish studies at Loras College.

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136 pages
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Money Isn’t Everything
Buying and Selling Sex in Twentieth-Century Argentina

Patricio Simonetto

Sex work and the creation of a national identity

Just a few years before becoming President, Juan Domingo Perón penned a letter demanding the reopening of government sponsored brothels near military bases. This, he believed, was a necessary preventative for homosexuality. His letter exemplified the then widespread panic over sexual deviance that came just a few years after a panic surrounding immigrant sexualities led to the criminalization of prostitution. In this book, available for the first time in English, Patricio Simonetto captures the anxiety, regulation, and tolerance of sex work that has defined Argentina’s heterosexual and patriarchal national identity.

Consulting judicial papers, prison archives, and secret police reports, Simonetto illustrates the state’s authoritarian, violent, and moralistic interventions against dissident sexualities and how they transcended political shifts across liberal and military governments. He narrates the life stories of those who offered, exploited, or were consumers of sex work and draws connections between sex work, government policy, and Argentina’s economy. This impressive study provides a lens into the ever-shifting constructions of heteronormative masculinities that produced political agendas and social hierarchies that continue to influence Argentina today.

Patricio Simonetto is lecturer in gender and social policy at the University of Leeds. He is author of A Body of One’s Own: A Trans History of Argentina.

Sarah Booker is a translator, editor, and educator living in Morganton, North Carolina. She is translator of works by Cristina Rivera Garza, Mónica Ojeda, and Gabriela Ponce.

“A pathbreaking study of gender and sexuality in modern Argentina. Patricio Simonetto’s cutting-edge analysis of sexual commerce and the construction of modern masculinities takes us beyond limited US and European models.”

—Donna Guy, The Ohio State University
Another Throat
Twenty-First-Century Black US Persona Poetry and the Archive

Ryan Sharp

An unleashing of voices from the archive

The early twenty-first century has seen a sharp rise in Black US poets employing the mask of persona, often including and interrogating archival materials as they do so. While some have observed this rise and noted its connection to historical figures, Ryan Sharp explores it more deeply, as a project-based historical and poetic practice. Sharp examines its sustained use of historical persona and capacity for conjuring Black speakers as a countermeasure against the archival silencing and misrepresentation of Black voices and histories—a tactic he theorizes as poetic fabulation—through the poetry of Elizabeth Alexander, Cornelius Eady, Adrian Matejka, Patricia Smith, Natasha Trethewey, and Frank X Walker. This poetic practice is not only about looking back but about critically and creatively (re)imagining the past to expand the possibilities for Black presents and futures. Through his argument, Sharp demonstrates how the unique aesthetic and rhetorical license afforded to poetry, along with the interiority of persona, empowers such historically minded projects to be concurrently invested in the curation of Black narratives and identities.

Ryan Sharp is assistant professor of English at Baylor University.

“Sharp’s analysis and thoughtful treatment of different kinds of poetic projects—even as they all fit under the rubric of persona poems—demonstrate his dexterity as a thinker. His book offers an incisive and valuable portrait of African American poetry’s powerful historical imagination.”

—Keith D. Leonard, American University
Academic

Indiscipline
Reading Collaboratively Written Native American Autobiography

Alicia Carroll

Entwined life stories and books of resistance

In the last few years, there have been myriad media reports regarding Federal Indian boarding schools and their grisly history of violence and cultural erasure against Native people in the United States. The US government recently acknowledged its role for the first time with the Department of the Interior’s publication of the “Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report.” In this book, Alicia Carroll tells the history of one form of literary Native resistance to this violence, that of the collaboratively written autobiography. Focusing on work by Hopi boarding school residents, Carroll shows readers that collaborative autobiographical authorship is a practice of Indigenous intellectual sovereignty, using a method they dub indiscipline: a strategy of defying, refusing, or purposefully failing to follow mandates to conform to settler colonial sex and gender norms, including heteronormativity, the binary construct of sex and gender, and the idea of personhood itself.

Through collaboratively written autobiography, Carroll argues that Native authors not only resisted colonial attempts to use sex and gender to alienate them from their homelands and bodies, they created an important Indigenous literary genre that informs our understanding of Native life and art today.

Alicia Carroll is assistant professor of English at University of California, Irvine.

“Carroll addresses the long history of collaborative Native-white life writing texts while deftly moving beyond them to center Hopi voices and knowledge production.”
—Stephanie Fitzgerald, Arizona State University
The Science of the Soul in Colonial New England

Sarah Rivett

2011 Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize, American Society for Church History

Connecting Puritan theology to the Enlightenment

The Science of the Soul challenges long-standing notions of Puritan provincialism as antithetical to the Enlightenment. Sarah Rivett demonstrates that, instead, empiricism and natural philosophy combined with Puritanism to transform the scope of religious activity in colonial New England from the 1630s to the Great Awakening of the 1740s.

In an unprecedented move, Puritan ministers from Thomas Shepard and John Eliot to Cotton Mather and Jonathan Edwards studied the human soul using the same systematic methods that philosophers applied to the study of nature. In particular, they considered the testimonies of tortured adolescent girls at the center of the Salem witch trials, Native American converts, and dying women as a source of material insight into the divine. Conversions and deathbed speeches were thus scrutinized for evidence of grace in a way that bridged the material and the spiritual, the visible and the invisible, the worldly and the divine.

In this way, the “science of the soul” was as much a part of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century natural philosophy as it was part of post-Reformation theology. Rivett’s account restores the unity of religion and science in the early modern world and highlights the role and importance of both to transatlantic circuits of knowledge formation.

Sarah Rivett is professor of English and American studies at Princeton University.

“Admirable for its erudition and impeccable in its scholarship, The Science of the Soul in Colonial New England challenges the conventional wisdom that scientific modernity is the product of secularization. It compellingly shows the inextricable interconnectedness of empiricism and faith in early British America and the Atlantic world. It is a ‘must read’ for historians of science and religion alike, as well as for all scholars of early American literature.”
—Ralph Bauer, University of Maryland
For God, King, and People
Forging Commonwealth Bonds in Renaissance Virginia

Alexander B. Haskell

Ideals of commonwealth formation in Virginia colonization

By recovering a largely forgotten English Renaissance mindset that regarded sovereignty and Providence as being fundamentally entwined, Alexander Haskell reconnects concepts historians had before treated as separate categories and argues that the first English planters in Virginia operated within a deeply providential age rather than an era of early modern entrepreneurialism. These men did not merely settle Virginia; they and their London-based sponsors saw this first successful English venture in America as an exercise in divinely inspired and approved commonwealth creation. When the realities of Virginia complicated this humanist ideal, growing disillusionment and contention marked debates over the colony.

Rather than just . . . “selling” colonization to the realm, proponents instead needed to overcome profound and recurring doubts about whether God wanted English rule to cross the Atlantic and the process by which it was to happen. By contextualizing these debates within a late Renaissance phase in England, Haskell links increasing religious skepticism to the rise of decidedly secular conceptions of state power. Haskell offers a radical revision of accepted narratives of early modern state formation, locating it as an outcome, rather than as an antecedent, of colonial endeavor.

Alexander B. Haskell is associate professor of history at the University of California, Riverside.

“In provocatively reexamining the literature of colonization and state formation, Haskell brilliantly destabilizes conventional wisdom about their genesis. The English commonwealths founded across the Atlantic were the conceptual creator, not creation, of state and empire.”
—Peter Thompson, University of Oxford

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History/United States/Colonial Period
(1600-1775)
India and the Cold War

Edited by Manu Bhagavan

An incisive look at India’s rise on the global stage

This collection of essays inverts the way we see the Cold War by looking at the conflict from the perspective of the so-called developing world, rather than of the superpowers, through the birth and first decades of India’s life as a postcolonial nation. Contributors draw on a wide array of new material, from recently opened archival sources to literature and film, and meld approaches from diplomatic history to development studies to explain the choices India made and to frame decisions by its policy makers. Together, the essays demonstrate how India became a powerful symbol of decolonization and an advocate of non-alignment, disarmament, and global governance as it stood between the United States and the Soviet Union, actively fostering dialogue and attempting to forge friendships without entering into formal alliances. Sweeping in its scope yet nuanced in its analysis, this is the authoritative account of India and the Cold War.

Contributors: Priya Chacko, Anton Harder, Syed Akbar Hyder, Raminder Kaur, Rohan Mukherjee, Swapna Kona Nayudu, Pallavi Raghavan, Srinath Raghavan, Rahul Sagar, and Waheguru Pal Singh Sidhu.

Manu Bhagavan is professor of history and human rights at Hunter College and the Graduate Center–The City University of New York.

“Given India’s rapidly growing importance on the international stage, there is obvious need to understand the historical origins of its worldview, the goals that have driven its actions, and its sense of constraints and opportunities. This work fulfills that need, presented accessibly and with close attention to craft and detail.”
—Sunil Khilnani, King’s India Institute, London
Living the Dream
The Contested History of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Daniel T. Fleming

How “a day on, not a day off” came to be

Living the Dream tells the history behind the establishment of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the battle over King’s legacy that continued through the decades that followed. Creating the first national holiday to honor an African American was a formidable achievement and an act of resistance against conservative and segregationist opposition.

Congressional efforts to commemorate King began shortly after his assassination. The ensuing political battles slowed the progress of granting him a namesake holiday and crucially defined how his legacy would be received. Though Coretta Scott King’s mission to honor her husband’s commitment to nonviolence was upheld, conservative politicians sought to use the holiday to advance a whitewashed, nationalistic, and even reactionary vision of King’s life and thought. This book reveals the lengths that activists had to go to elevate an African American man to the pantheon of national heroes, how conservatives took advantage of the commemoration to bend the arc of King’s legacy toward something he never would have expected, and how grassroots causes, unions, and antiwar demonstrators continued to try to claim this sanctified day as their own.

Daniel T. Fleming is lecturer at the University of New South Wales.

“In the first book-length study of its kind, Daniel Fleming has added significantly to our understanding of the King holiday and debates around it. Through extensive archival research, Living the Dream offers an intriguing vantage point for exploring the racial views and policies of the Reagan, Bush, and Clinton administrations.”

—Renee Romano, author of Racial Reckoning: Prosecuting America’s Civil Rights Murders
By the Bedside of the Patient
Lessons for the Twenty-First-Century Physician

Nortin M. Hadler, M.D.

Lessons for doctors at all levels of medical education

In By the Bedside of the Patient, Nortin Hadler places current efforts to reform medical education—from the undergraduate level through residency programs and on to continuing medical education—in historical context. In doing so, he traces the evolution of medical school curricula, residency and fellowship programs, and the clinical practices they promoted. Hadler examines crucial junctures in history to locate the seeds for reform. Some believe that medical education and training should highlight literature, ethics, and culture, while others emphasize science and efficiency to abbreviate the time from entry to licensure. Neither of these approaches, Hadler argues, maintains or improves patient care, which should be at the core of medical education and practice. Hadler contends that most reform attempted thus far constitutes, at best, little more than a reshuffling of the basic curriculum and, at worst, an augmenting of medicine’s predilection to measure, grade, and record. Examining generational changes in medical education, Hadler mines sixty years of training and practice to identify mistaken approaches and best practices. Ultimately, in the contemporary era of managed care, Hadler argues for a clinical practice that draws on the best available scientific knowledge, transmits the wisdom of experienced clinicians, reforges an empathetic relationship between physician and patient, and treats each patient as an individual—all centered on restoring the mandate to care.

Nortin M. Hadler, M.D., M.A.C.P., M.A.C.R., F.A.C.O.E.M., is emeritus professor of medicine and microbiology/immunology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is author of The Citizen Patient: Reforming Health Care for the Sake of the Patient, Not the System, among other books.

“Dr. Nortin Hadler is a perfect person to write this narrative, having lived—with a critical eye—through the key changes in medical education, practice, and institutional structure. His forceful writing about complex and controversial medical topics will be both engaging and compelling to readers and scholars alike.”
—David S. Jones, Harvard Medical School
Roadside Americans
The Rise and Fall of Hitchhiking in a Changing Nation

Jack Reid

One of Smithsonian Magazine Ten Best Books About Travel of 2020

A Hitchhiker’s Guide to 20th Century American History

Between the Great Depression and the mid-1970s, hitchhikers were a common sight for motorists, as American service members, students, and adventurers sought out the romance of the road in droves. Beats, hippies, feminists, and civil rights and antiwar activists saw “thumb tripping” as a vehicle for liberation, living out the counterculture’s rejection of traditional values. Yet, by the time Ronald Reagan, a former hitchhiker himself, was in the White House, the youthful faces on the road chasing the ghost of Jack Kerouac were largely gone—along with sympathetic portrayals of the practice in state legislatures and the media.

In Roadside Americans, Jack Reid traces the rise and fall of hitchhiking, offering vivid accounts of life on the road and how the act of soliciting rides from strangers, and the attitude toward hitchhikers in American society, evolved over time in synch with broader economic, political, and cultural shifts. In doing so, Reid offers insight into significant changes in the United States amid the decline of liberalism and the rise of the Reagan Era.

Jack Reid is a scholar of American culture. He lives in Flagstaff, Arizona.

“This rich and provocative history collects fascinating real-life experiences and anecdotes from nearly a century of hitchhiking. It is a unique lens through which we may better understand the changing nature of mobility, identity, political resistance, and inequality in America.”

—Randy McBee, author of Born To Be Wild: The Rise of the American Motorcyclist

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