

The Department of History

Undergraduate Bulletin

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UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
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A Statement about the Department of History

The Department of History offers a **History major**.

The greatest strength of our **History major** is its focus on populations of African descent around the globe. The History major includes several fields: Africa, the African Diaspora, the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, and Public History.

The Department also offers a **Minor in History** and a **Minor in Geography**. Students who major in history and plan to teach at the secondary school level are required to take geography courses.

The Department of History is one of the most active departments in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Our professors have degrees from leading national and international universities. They publish scholarly books and articles, are invited to give lectures in national and international conferences, and are frequently invited to television and radio programs. Our professors also serve in major national and international professional associations, editorial boards, and committees that award prizes and honors to historians. As rising scholars, our undergraduates benefit from our faculty's excellence in research.

Some of the most successful students of Howard University have been history majors, including John W. Blassingame, Chancelor Williams, our former president, H. Patrick Swygert, Mary Frances Berry, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Lonnie Bunch, and Dorothy Porter Wesley. Several icons of the fields of black history and African Diaspora were Professors in the Department of History, including Rayford Logan, Chancellor Williams, Merze Tate, Charles H. Wesley, John Hope Franklin, Joseph E. Harris, and the father of the Black History month, Carter G. Woodson.

The Department's majors are finely trained and highly qualified. Many continue in graduate schools at the most prestigious colleges and universities nationally and internationally, including Oxford University, Cambridge University, Harvard University, Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, and Columbia University.

You can do anything with a degree in History!

Our graduates are prepared to enter the Law School. Many obtain a Juris Doctor (JD) degree and pursue a variety of legal careers. Students who wish to apply for the Law School are strongly encouraged to take our **Pre-Law concentration**.

Other graduates choose careers in government service, in the United States and abroad, business, education, and journalism. Several graduates become writers and commentators in the media. Many others work in museums, archives, heritage sites, and libraries around the United States. Some students take advanced degrees in history, the humanities, and the social sciences. Students trained in Public History gain internships and permanent positions at

Washington's many cultural and governmental institutions such as the National Archives, the National Park Service, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and various private museums and historical institutions. A successful history graduate is a confident individual prepared to meet the university's goal of providing global leadership.

In short, the Department prepares students to be the BEST in any field of their choice.

For further Information or for consultation, contact the Chair of the Department of History or the Director of Undergraduate Studies at the following numbers: Telephone - 202-806-6815; Fax - 202-806-4471. Email addresses for the faculty are online.

Mission Statement

In keeping with the character of Howard as a major historically Black university, the mission of the Department of History derives from the determination of people of African descent to advance and affirm the causes of human freedom, equality, and dignity. Intrinsic to this mission is a perspective on the world that conveys full respect for the integrity and dignity of all people, particularly emphasizing the history and culture of peoples of African descent. It is within this historical and cultural context that the community of scholars in the Department of History is committed to seeking truth, increasing knowledge, producing excellent scholarship and approaching the education of students holistically.

The faculty of the Department of history is engaged in creating the opportunity for students to acquire both breadth and depth of knowledge. It is our mission to provide the student at the undergraduate level with:

- 1) an appreciation of the discipline of history as a tool for critical thinking and learning
- 2) an understanding of the process of historical research and reconstruction
- 3) substantive knowledge as well as the accurate reconstruction and interpretation of the collective experiences of the world's people

and

4) a special emphasis on the history of people of African descent

At the graduate level, the Department of History's mission is to train professional historians and to provide specialized training in the methodology of historical interpretation and research as a basis for leadership in the profession and scholarly community.

Overview of the History Undergraduate Programs

Studying history contributes to the development of a liberally educated individual, brings one into intimate communion with the collective memory of the peoples of the world, and allows one to approach and understand current developments from the perspective of experience.

The **History major** is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the processes of historical research and reconstruction, an appreciation of the discipline of history as a way of thinking and learning, and substantive knowledge in those areas of history in which the student may concentrate, including Law careers.

The undergraduate curriculum is comprehensive in scope. It allows the student to choose from a wide variety of courses in completing the requirements for the **History major** and the **minor in history**. In addition to standard courses on various geographical areas and topical subjects, the department offers courses on the following concentrations such as **Pre-Law**, **United States**, **African Diaspora**, **Latin America and the Caribbean**, **Europe**, **Public History**, **African History and Geography**.

As we are located in Washington DC, where there is a great demand for museum, archives, and heritage professionals, students may receive practical experience as historians by serving as interns in history in the Smithsonian Institution, the National Archives, the National Park Service, the State Department, and other public agencies as well as in private institutions and projects in the Washington area. Such experience may lead eventually to jobs or careers in public history.

The **History major** provides students with the ability to assimilate and analyze evidence, to conduct research, and to formulate and critique arguments. This has been accomplished through offering three levels of courses: lecture courses, colloquia courses, and seminar courses.

Lecture courses offer an overview of a period, geographical area or topic.

Colloquia courses introduce students to a major topic in history such as African Americans and the Civil War, Slavery and Emancipation in the Caribbean, History of Brazil, mass incarceration, Women in the African Diaspora, and Black Power. In small classes, students discuss what historians have written about the topic, analyzing the studies for their strengths and weakness in methodology, use of evidence, reasoning, and interpretation.

Seminar courses build on existing knowledge students acquired in colloquia and lectures. In the seminar courses students apply their knowledge of the literature by conducting original research with primary sources.

When completing a **History major**, students will conduct research and write essays in the fields of their choice such as Pre-Law, Africa, the African Diaspora, Latin America and the Caribbean, European History, United States, and Public History.

By placing original research at the heart of its undergraduate programs, the Department of History has embraced the College of Arts and Sciences' goal of making primary research a significant aspect of every undergraduate's experience.

To help students in selecting appropriate courses each semester for fulfilling Departmental requirements, all faculty members are designated as undergraduate academic advisors. These advisors are available during their posted office hours for consultation. In addition, each student majoring will be assigned to one faculty member who will advise the student throughout that student's undergraduate career.

Faculty advisors are available to answer general questions, but questions relating to course waivers, transfer course equivalents, and substitutions of required courses should be submitted in writing to the Undergraduate Director.

Students who plan to pursue a legal career are encouraged to take the Pre-Law concentration and should be reminded that a major in history provides the best preparation for admission to and success in Law School.

Prizes, Awards, and Assistance

The Department of History sponsors one (1) loan fund for its majors who are full-time students at Howard University. When other funds are available, the Department may award additional undergraduate scholarships annually.

The Rayford Whittingham Logan History Scholarship Fund makes two (2) awards annually to one (1) undergraduate student and one (1) graduate student as a result of an essay competition. Announcement of the scholarship winners is made during the month of April. Guidelines for the essay competition may be secured from the Undergraduate Program Director. Information on and applications for the Carter G. Woodson Loan Fund may be secured from the Chairperson's office.

The Dr. Harold O. Lewis Endowed Scholarship for history majors is awarded to new majors whose activities are committed to improve racial relations. This scholarship covers full tuition for the first academic year and is renewable for three additional years. It is **awarded every four years**. Candidates should apply in the early **Spring semester of 2021**, before starting the undergraduate program.

The Department sponsors two (2) student organizations. The Chancellor Williams Historical Society is open to all majors and minors of the Department of History. The Society sponsors a variety of activities directed toward expanding the members' knowledge and appreciation of the discipline of history. The Zeta Gamma Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta is an historical honor society for undergraduate and graduate students who have demonstrated exceptional ability in history through their course work. Undergraduate applicants must have taken at least twelve (12) credit hours in history and have no less than a 3.2 average in history courses and a cumulative average of 3.0.

The Senior Comprehensive Examination

Effective as of the academic year 1983-84, and mandatory for graduation, all history majors are required to pass the Senior Comprehensive Examination administered by the Department of History. The examination is given in the Fall semester each academic year. It is a three-hour essay examination consisting of two parts. Part I examines the student's understanding of historiography; and Part II examines broad topics reflecting the core curriculum. Students will be duly notified of the time and place of the examination. The required course, the Senior Colloquium usually offered only in the Fall semester, will help to guide and aid students in their preparation for the Senior Comprehensive Examination.

Further information relative to the examination may be obtained from the Director of the Undergraduate Program, the Department of History.

Requirements for the History Major

CREDIT HOURS IN HISTORY: 31

PERIOD: 4 years

Students are required to successfully complete 31 semester hours of history courses.

The major in History covers the following concentrations:

- Pre-Law
- Africa
- African Diaspora
- Europe
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Public History
- United States

The department offers three kinds of courses at three different levels:

- Lecture
- Colloquium
- Seminar

Lecture: Lecture courses can be taken any time during the program. Lecture courses are taught to large groups. Classes usually consist of a lecture given by the professor, supported by readings, written assignments, and oral discussion. Lecture courses can survey a region, continent, or country and can cover a long period. To take a lecture course the student no previous knowledge on the topic, region, or period examined is required.

Colloquium: Taken after the freshman year, colloquia are small discussion classes in which students read secondary works to learn the nature of historiography and explore the methodologies employed in a field to address historical questions. Students who plan to apply for graduate school are strongly encouraged to take colloquia.

Seminar: Taken after the freshman year, seminars require students to conduct primary research and analysis and to write original historical essays. Students who plan to apply for graduate school are strongly encouraged to take seminars.

The major is designed to prepare students to conduct research, to assimilate and analyze data, and to think critically and creatively about the past.

All majors are required to take:

 HIST 003- Introduction to History (3 credit hours): This course will introduce students to historiography, research methods, and interpretive trends. Introduction to History is recommended to students considering history as a major and must be taken upon declaration of the major.

- 2) HIST 082 Senior Colloquium (1 credit hour): This course prepares students for the comprehensive examination in history.
- 3) One Colloquium in any field of study (Pre-Law, Africa, African Diaspora, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Public History or United States).
- 4) One Seminar in any field of study (Pre-Law, Africa, African Diaspora, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Public History or United States).
- 5) At least one course (lecture, colloquia or seminar) in Africa or African Diaspora
- 6) At least one course (lecture, colloquia or seminar) in Pre-Law, Europe, Latin America or Public History

The remaining five courses (corresponding to 15 credits) can be taken in any field of study and at any level (lecture, colloquia, or seminar).

Pre-Law Concentration

CREDITS HOURS: 15

The Department of History offers a Pre-Law concentration. Students who want to follow legal careers and apply for the Law School after finishing the history major or minor are encouraged to choose this concentration. In this concentration, students must choose FIVE courses (equivalent of 15 credits) among the following courses:

HIST 017 Slavery and Law

HIST 109 United States Constitutional History to 1865

HIST 110 United States Constitutional History Since 1865

HIST 178 Colloquium: African Americans and the State

HIST 179 Colloquium: The Rights of Citizenship in American History

HIST 180 Seminar: Reparations and the Law

HIST 182 From Slavery to Mass Incarceration

HIST 183 Constitutional Law and Public Policy

These courses teach students to analyze primary sources, read and interpret legal and historical texts, and develop solid arguments, crucial skills for all those applying to the Law School.

Requirements for the Minor in History

CREDITS HOURS IN HISTORY: 15

Students who minor in History are required to complete successfully fifteen (15) credit hours of history courses, including the course Introduction to History, which is

mandatory. Each student must choose four other courses (lecture courses, colloquia, and seminars) in any field of their choice (Pre-Law, Africa, African Diaspora, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Public History or United States). Though not required to, minors are strongly encouraged to take one colloquium and one seminar.

Requirements for the Minor in Geography

CREDITS HOURS IN GEOGRAPHY: 15

The minor in Geography consists of fifteen (15) credit hours. Since students will be expected to become familiar with the basic language, fundamentals and terminology, World Geography (101) has to be taken as the first course. Then the students can be exposed to regional, topical and systematic geography. To complete the minor requirements in Geography, students will be required to take three other courses with at least one from each group; regional (199 - Geography of the Black Diaspora; 165 - Geography of North America), topical (102 - Economic Geography; 106 - Environmental Conservation), systematic (HIST 107 – Sustainable Cities, 170 - Climate, People and Environment; 172 - Hydrology).

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Each course, unless otherwise specified, yields three semester hours.

1. HISTORICAL WRITING METHODOLOGY

HIST 003	Introduction to History	v (mandator	v for history	/ maiors ar	nd minors)
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HIST 082 Senior Colloquium (mandatory for history majors)

2. PRE-LAW

HIST 017	Slavery and Law
HIST 109	United States Constitutional History to 1865
HIST 110	United States Constitutional History Since 1865
HIST 178	Colloquium: African Americans and the State
HIST 179	Colloquium: The Rights of Citizenship in American History
HIST 180	Seminar: Reparations and the Law
HIST 182	From Slavery to Mass Incarceration
HIST 183	Constitutional Law and Public Policy

3. UNITED STATES

HIST 009	United States History to 1877 (Divisional C)
HIST 010	United States History Since 1877 (Divisional C)
HIST 013	American Military Experience to 1865
HIST 014	American Military Experience since 1865
HIST 017	Slavery and Law
HIST 034	Colloquium in 19 th Century United States History
HIST 035	Colloquium in 20 th Century United States History
HIST 036	Colloquium in United States Foreign Policy
HIST 109	United States Constitutional History to 1865
HIST 110	United States Constitutional History Since 1865
HIST 111	History of US Foreign Relations to 1914
HIST 112	History of US Foreign Relations Since 1914
HIST 119	History of the United States South to 1877

HIST 120	History of the United States South Since 1877
HIST 121	History of Colonial America
HIST 122	The American Revolution and Early National Period
HIST 123	The Jacksonian Era, Reform and Sectionalism
HIST 124	The Civil War and Reconstruction
HIST 125	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights in US History
HIST 128	History of Women in American Society to 1890
HIST 129	History of Women in American Society Since 1890
HIST 015	Colloquium: Abolitionist Dissent in America and England
HIST 147	African American Women in U.S. History
HIST 148	African American Women in U.S. History II
HIST 153	Seminar on United States History
HIST 157	African Americans and the Civil War
HIST 176	Afro-American History to 1877
HIST 177	Afro-American History Since 1877
HIST 178	Colloquium: African Americans and the State
HIST 179	Colloquium: The Rights of Citizenship in American History
HIST 180	Seminar: Reparations and the Law
HIST 182	From Slavery to Mass Incarceration
HIST 183	Constitutional Law and Public Policy
HIST 704	Afro-American History Since 1877 - Writing Course
HIST 703	US History to 1877 - Writing/online (Students cannot take both 703 & 009)
HIST 705	US History Since 1877 - Writing Course (Students cannot take both 705 & 010)
HIST 747	African American Women - US History Online
4. EUROPE	
HIST 001	Introduction to the Study of Civilization I (Divisional B)
HIST 002	Introduction to the Study of Civilization II
HIST 033	Europe and the Wider World I (Divisional C)
HIST 004	Europe and the Wider World II (Divisional C)
HIST 015	Colloquium: Abolitionist Dissent in America and England

HIST 032	Colloquium in European History		
HIST 050	Introduction to European History I (Divisional C)		
HIST 051	Introduction to European History II (Divisional C)		
HIST 056	Topics in European History		
HIST 150	Europe to 1815		
HIST 151	Europe Since 1815		
HIST 154	Seminar in European History		
HIST 750	Modern Europe to 1815-Writing		
5. AFRICA			
HIST 030	Introduction to African History I (Divisional C)		
HIST 048	Colloquium in African History		
HIST 031	Introduction to African History II (Divisional C)		
HIST 130	East Africa to 1800		
HIST 131	East Africa Since 1800		
HIST 132	Central Africa to 1800		
HIST 133	Central Africa Since 1800		
HIST 134	West Africa to 1800		
HIST 135	West Africa Since 1800		
HIST 136	Southern Africa to 1910		
HIST 137	Southern Africa Since 1910		
HIST 159	Seminar in African History		
HIST 138	North Africa and the Maghreb to 1800		
HIST 139	North Africa and the Maghreb Since 1800		
HIST 188	State and Empires of Pre-Colonial Africa		
HIST 192	Islam in Africa		
6. AFRICAN DIASPORA			
HIST 005	Introduction to the Black Diaspora I (Divisional B)		
HIST 006	Introduction to the Black Diaspora II (Divisional B)		

HIST 011 Blacks in Latin America

HIST 012	Public History, Memory, and Heritage of Slavery
HIST 015	Colloquium Abolitionist Dissent in America and England
HIST 016	Colloquium: Enslaved and Free: Women in the African Diaspora
HIST 017	Slavery and Law
HIST 042	Colloquium on Comparative Slavery
HIST 043	Colloquium on Music, Resistance, and the Black Diaspora
HIST 044	Colloquium in the Diaspora
HIST 152	Seminar on the African Diaspora
HIST 160	Seminar: Reparations and the Law
HIST 161	Seminar: Sex, Gender, and Power in Making the Atlantic World
HIST 700	Introduction to the Black Diaspora II WRTG (cannot be taken with HIST 006)
7. LATIN AN	IERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
HIST 040	Introduction to the History of Latin America and the Caribbean I (Divisional C)
HIST 041	Introduction to the History of Latin America and the Caribbean II (Divisional C)
HIST 047	Colloquium in Latin America
HIST 140	Caribbean History to 1838
HIST 141	Caribbean History Since 1838
HIST 142	Latin American History to 1825
HIST 143	Latin American History Since 1825
HIST 144	History of Mexico and Central America
HIST 145	History of Brazil
HIST 146	Twentieth-Century Cuba
HIST 011	Blacks in Latin America
HIST 158	Seminar in Latin America and the Caribbean
HIST 195	Race Relations in Latin America and the Caribbean
HIST 745	Colloquium in History of Brazil – Writing course

8. PUBLIC HISTORY

HIST 037	Colloquium in Public History
HIST 096	Internship in Public History

HIST 157	Seminar in Public History
HIST 189	Public History
HIST 190	Public History and Public Policy
HIST 191	Public History, Memory, and Heritage of Slavery

9. GEOGRAPHY

HIST 101	World Geography
HIST 102	Economic Geography
HIST 103	Historical Geography of North America
HIST 104	Historical Geography of Europe
HIST 105	Political Geography
HIST 107	Sustainable Cities
HIST 165	Geography of North America
HIST 166	Geography of Central America
HIST 167	Geography of South America
HIST 168	Geography of Europe
HIST 169	Geography of Asia
HIST 170	Global Warming
HIST 171	Geography of Africa
HIST 199	Geography of the Black Diaspora

10. THEMATIC COURSES

HIST 070	Topics in History
HIST 071	Topics in History
HIST 072	Topics in History
HIST 073	Topics in History
HIST 074	Topics in History
HIST 075	Topics in History
HIST 076	Topics in History
HIST 077	Topics in History

11. INDIVIDUALIZED COURSES

HIST 084	Directed Readings for Sophomores (Honors Program Only) (1 credit hour)
HIST 085	Directed Readings for Sophomores (Honors Program Only) (1 credit hour)
HIST 088	Directed Readings for Juniors (Honors Program only) (1 credit hour)
HIST 089	Directed Readings for Juniors (Honors Program only) (1 credit hour)
HIST 092	Senior Departmental Honors (Honors Program only)
HIST 093	Senior Departmental Honors (Honors Program only)
HIST 097	Internship in History
HIST 098	Internship in History

History Major (Sample Schedule)

31 credit hours

Freshman Year (33 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Freshman Seminar	1	ENG 10x Freshman Comp 2	3
ENG 10 X Freshman comp 1	3	World Language level 1	3
World Language level 1	3	Physical Education	1
Physical Education	1	Mathematics (D)	3
Mathematics	3	Humanities II (A)	3
Humanities	3	History Elective	3
Intro to History	3		
Total Credit Hours	17	Total Credit Hours	16

Sophomore Year (32 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Principles of Speech - SLMC101	3	Philosophy	3
Physical Education	1	Physical Education	1
World Language level 3	3	World Language level 4	3
Divisional Studies (A)	3	Divisional Studies A	3
History Elective	3	Divisional Studies D	3
Colloquium	3	History Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	16

Junior Year (30 credit hours)

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First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours	
Divisional B	3	History Writing WRTG	3	
Divisional D	3	History Elective	3	
History Elective	3	Divisional B	3	
Seminar	3	Minor	3	
Minor	3	Minor	3	
Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	15	

Senior Year (31 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
History Elective	3	History Elective	3
History Elective	3	History Elective	3
Minor	3	General Elective/Minor	3
Minor	3	General Elective	3
General Elective	3	Senior Colloquium	1
		General Elective/Minor	3
Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	16

Total number of credits: 126

^{*} Students who take the non-writing component of these courses cannot receive credit in History by then taking the Intensive Writing (700 level and above) component.

History Majors with Secondary Education Minor (Sample Schedule) 31 credit hours

Freshman Year (33 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Freshman Seminar	1	ENG 10x Freshman Comp 2	3
ENG 10 X Freshman comp 1	3	World Language (level 2)	3
World Language (level 1)	3	Physical Education (activity)	1
Physical Education (activity)	1	Mathematics (College Algebra II)	3
Mathematics (College Algebra I)	3	Divisional A	3
History Elective	3	History Elective	3
Divisional A	3		
Total credit hours: 17		Total credit hours: 16	

Sophomore Year (32 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Principles of Speech - SLMC101	3	Philosophy (check Student manual)	3
Physical Education (activity)	1	Physical Education (swimming)	1
World Language (level 3)	3	World Language (level 4)	3
Divisional Studies (A)	3	Divisional Studies A	3
Intro to History	3	Divisional Studies D	3
Colloquium	3	History Elective	3
Total credit hours: 16		Total credit hours: 16	

Junior Year (30 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Divisional B (W. Geog. Rec)	3	History Writing (WRTG)*	3
Divisional D (Intro to Psych. Rec)	3	History Elective (or Diaspora I or II)	3
History Elective	3	Divisional Studies B (Pol. Sci. Rec)	3
Seminar	3	Education Course (Seminar 2)	3
Education Course (Seminar 1)	3	History Elective	3
Total credit hours: 15		Total credit hours: 15	

Senior Year (25 credit hours)

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
		Education Seminar 4 (includes 40-	12
		hr/ week practicum)	
Elective (Economics Rec)	3		
History Elective	3		
Education Seminar 3	3		
General Elective	3		
Senior Colloquium	1		
Total credit hours: 13		Total credit hours: 12	

Total number of credits = 120

^{*} Students who take the non- writing component of these courses cannot receive credit in History by then taking the Intensive Writing (700 level and above) component.

FACULTY

Ana Lucia Araujo Professor (PhD, Université Laval and EHESS)

Comparative history, Transnational history, Memory and heritage of the Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery,

African Diaspora, Latin America, Brazil.

Elizabeth Clark-Lewis Professor (PhD, University of Maryland) African

American, Public History, Women

Foster, Thomas A. Professor (PhD, Johns Hopkins University)

Early America, Slavery, 18th Century, United States,

Gender, Sexuality

Edna Greene Medford Professor (PhD, University of Maryland) 19th Century

South, Civil War, African-American, African Diaspora

Jeffrey Kerr-Ritchie Professor (PhD, University of Pennsylvania)

Slavery, Abolition, Post-Emancipation,

Comparative Methodology

Petronella Muraya Associate Professor (Kent State University) World

Geography, Central America, and Geography of Africa

Daryl Michael Scott Professor (PhD, Stanford University) Modern United

States, African American, Southern United States since

1865

Jean Michel Mabeko-Tali Professor of History (PhD, University of Paris VII)

Central Africa

Nikki Taylor Professor (PhD, Duke University) 19th-Century

African American History, Women

Emory J. Tolbert Professor (PhD, UCLA) Social, Cultural, African-

American, Oral History, African Diaspora

Kay Wright-Lewis Assistant Professor (PhD, Rutgers University) *Slavery*,

Abolition, African American intellectual history, Atlantic

World, African Diaspora, Women