
Melanie Shell-Weiss

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EDUCATION

The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of History and Center for Business History and Economic Innovation, *July 2003-June 2006*

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Ph.D., Department of History, *May 2002*

Major: Modern American History, with fields in Atlantic Migration History and Women/Gender

M.A., Department of American Studies, *May 1996*

Major: United States Ethnic/Race Relations

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

A.B., Residential College, Literature, Science, and the Arts, *May 1994*

Majors: Social Sciences and Creative Writing & Literature

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Assistant Professor, The Johns Hopkins University, Department of History, *July 2006-present*

Associate Research Scholar, The Johns Hopkins University, Center for Africana Studies, *January 2008-present*

Postdoctoral Fellow, The Johns Hopkins University, Department of History, *July 2003-June 2006*

Visiting Assistant Professor, Michigan State University, Department of History, *June 2002-May 2003*

Instructor, Michigan State University, Department of History, *September 2001-May 2002*

Assistant Director, MATRIX: The Center for Humane Arts, Letters and Social Sciences Online,
Michigan State University, *August 1995-May 2001*

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Translators Wanted in Dixie: Immigration and Race Relations in the Twentieth Century South (in progress, targeted completion date: December 2009)

Reconstructing America: Evaluating the Legacy of the Dillingham Commission on Immigration Reform, an edited collection (in progress, targeted completion date: December 2009)

Coming to Miami: A Social History, Sunbelt Studies Series (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, December 2008)

Florida's Working Class Past: Current Perspectives on Labor from Spanish Florida to the New Immigration, edited with Robert Cassanello, inaugural book in the Working in the Americas Series (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, November 2008)

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS:

"From Minority to Majority: The Latinization of Miami's Workforce, 1940-1980," Chapter 1 in *Moving Workers, Capital, and Corporations: Migration and the Transformation of the Modern South after 1945*, ed. by Colin Davis and Robert Cassanello (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, forthcoming)

"I Dreamed I Went to Work!: Southern Unionism and the Puerto Rican Garment Industry, 1945-1965," in *Florida's Working Class Past: Current Perspectives on Labor from Spanish Florida to the New Immigration*, edited by Melanie Shell-Weiss and Robert Cassanello (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, November 2008): 295-350.

"Immigration, Race, and Nation: Baltimore's Immigrant Recruitment and Response, 1880-1910," Working Paper Series, Center for Africana Studies, The Johns Hopkins University (January 2008):
http://www.jhu.edu/africana/news/working_papers/index.html.

"Keeping Peace in the Family: The Jewish Court of Arbitration, 1912-1945," *Voices of Lombard Street: A Century of Change in East Baltimore*, edited by Deborah R. Weiner, Anita Kassof, and Avi Y. Decter (Baltimore: Jewish Museum of Maryland, 2007): 65-83.

"Beyond Pay-per-View: New Models for Scholarship and Scholarly Communication in the Humanities and Social Sciences," with Paul Turnbull and Mark Kornbluh, in Cushla Kapitzke and B.C. Bruce, eds. *Libraries: Changing*

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Information Space and Practice (Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum, 2006): 211-228.

"Coming North, Going South: Immigration and Labor in Early Twentieth Century Miami," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, special issue on Transnational Communities (Summer 2005): 79-99.

"The Election of 2000," in *American Presidential Campaigns and Elections*, ed. by Ballard C. Campbell and William G. Shade, with the assistance of Craig R. Coenen (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2003): 1032-46.

"H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences OnLine," with Mark Kornbluh, *History Teacher*, Vol. 31, no. 4 (1998): 533-538.

REVIEWS:

"Thinking Back, Looking Forward: The State of the Field of Caribbean Labour History," a review of Constance R. Sutton, ed., Revisiting Caribbean Labor: Essays in Honor of O. Nigel Bolland (London: Ian Randle Publishers, 2005), *Caribbean Studies*, forthcoming.

"The Ideology of Southern Silence," a review of Tammy Evans' The Silencing of Ruby McCollum: Race, Class, and Gender in the South (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2006), *Florida Historical Quarterly*, forthcoming.

Dvora Hacoheh's Immigrants in Turmoil: Mass Immigration to Israel and Its Repercussions in the 1950s and After, translated from the Hebrew by Gila Brand, Modern Jewish History Series (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2003), *The Jewish Quarterly Review*, Vol. 97, No. 3 (Summer 2007): 128-130.

"Moving Capital and Labor in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century America: New Approaches to Southern Labor and Industrial History," a review of Beth English's A Common Thread: Labor, Politics, and Capital Mobility in the Textile Industry (University of Georgia Press, 2006), published by *H-Net Reviews*, H-SouthernIndustry, April 2007.

"Internationalizing Southern History," a review of James L. Peacock, Harry L. Watson, and Carrie R. Matthews, eds., The American South in a Global World (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005), *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 84, no. 1 (Summer 2005): 172-173.

"New Directions in Caribbean Gender and Sexuality Studies," a review of Linden Lewis, ed., The Culture of Gender and Sexuality in the Caribbean (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2003) and Jennifer Browdy de Hernandez, ed., Women Writing Resistance: Essays on Latin America and the Caribbean (Boston: South End Press, 2003), *H-Net Reviews*, H-Florida, August 2005.

"Exceptional Women: Jewish Americans and Postwar Civil Rights in Miami," a review of Raymond Mohl's South of the South: Jewish Activists and the Civil Rights Movement in Miami, 1945-1960 (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2004), *H-Net Reviews*, H-Florida, March 2004.

"Race, Women and Activism," a review of Nancy Hewitt's Southern Discomfort: Women's Activism in Tampa, Florida 1880s-1920s (Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2001), *H-Net Reviews*, H-Florida, October 2002.

CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"The American Worker: Black Immigrants, Labor, and the Early Twentieth Century Immigration Debates," The History Society. Baltimore, Maryland. June 2008.

"Workers and Citizens: The Debate Over Black Immigrants and the Southern Economy." Organization of American Historians. New York City, New York. March 2008.

"Immigrants, Jobs and the Local Economy? Myths and Facts," Immigration Forum. Baltimore County League of Women Voters. Towson, Maryland. Feb. 21, 2008.

"The 'New' Immigrant City: Recruitment, Retention, and Settlement of the Foreign Born in Baltimore, Maryland." Seminar, Center for Africana Studies. The Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore, Maryland. Nov. 29, 2007.

"An Old Immigrant City Becomes New Again: Exploring Immigration to Baltimore, Past and Present." Social Science History Association. Chicago, Illinois. Nov. 17, 2007.

"The Gateway City: Immigration to Baltimore, Past and Present," Premiere Film Screening, *Lives Lost, Lives Found: Baltimore's German Jewish Refugees, 1933-1945*, Jewish Museum of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, March 22, 2007.

"I Dreamed I Went to Work': New Perspectives on Southern Unionism in the Americas," Social Science Research Seminar, Wake Forest University. Winston-Salem, North Carolina. November 30, 2006.

"Building Bridges: Baltimore's Multi-Ethnic and Immigrant Communities," Chair and Commentator, Plenary Session. Baltimore Immigration Summit. Baltimore, Maryland. November 17, 2006.

"Public Transportation and Political Mobilization," Social Science History Association. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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November 5, 2006.

"Immigration to Baltimore: Past and Present," Opening Speech, Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Baltimore Immigration Memorial. Baltimore, Maryland. March 15, 2006.

"A Matter of Respect: Race, Gender and Organizing in Miami's Garment and Domestic Service Industries," The History Seminar, Department of History and Anthropology, Carnegie Mellon University. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. December 8, 2005.

"Race, Class and Gender in U.S. History," Guest Lecture, Sociology 600: Global Problems: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Race and Ethnicity, Towson University. Towson, Maryland. October 24, 2005.

"Getting to Work: Miami's Domestic Service Workers' Struggle for Civil and Economic Rights, 1940-1965," The History Seminar, Department of History, The Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore, Maryland. April 4, 2005.

"New Approaches to State and Local History: Florida From a Global Perspective," Southern History Association. Memphis, Tennessee. November 2004.

"Race, Sex and Unionizing in Miami's Garment Industries," Lunchtime Seminar, Program in Women, Gender and Sexuality, Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore, Maryland. April 2004.

"Civil Rights, Social Justice, and Political Organizing," Commentator, Southern Labor Studies Conference. Birmingham, Alabama. April 2004.

"Borderless Workers in a Transitioning World: Spanish Speaking Labor in North America Across Time," Chair and Commentator, Southern Labor Studies Conference. Birmingham, Alabama. April 2004.

"Miami: City of the Future? A Comparative Examination of Caribbean Migrations and the Future of Race in the United States," Social Science History Association. Baltimore, Maryland. November 2003.

"Bi-National Collaborations: Promise and Pitfalls," African Studies Association Conference. Washington, D.C.. December 2002.

"Crossing New Frontiers: Migration in the 20th Century," European Social Science History Conference. The Hague, Netherlands. February 2002.

"Alternatives to Pay-per-View: The Case for Open Access to Scholarship for Historical Research and Scholarship," with Mark Lawrence Kornbluh and Paul Turnbull. American Historical Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, California. January 2002.

"We were all just like family': The Strengths and Limits of Migrant Networks in Miami's City of Women," Social Science History Association. Chicago, Illinois. November 2001.

"They all came from someplace else': Rethinking American Labor History from the Perspective of Miami, Florida," North American Labor History Conference. Detroit, Michigan. October 2001.

Commentator, "Reconsidering a 'Subversive Proposal': A Roundtable Discussion of Academic Publishing in the Digital Age." American Historical Association. Boston, Massachusetts. January 2001.

"Preserving the Sounds of Freedom: A Workshop on Digitizing Oral Narratives," *Bi-National Partnerships for South African National Cultural Heritage Training and Technology*, Conference on Oral Narratives. Cape Town, South Africa. November 2000.

"Bridging Differences or Reinforcing Barriers: The Challenge of Preserving and Accessing Oral Resources in the Digital Age," Oral History Association. Durham, North Carolina. October 2000.

Chair, "The Truth and Reconciliation Papers and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of South Africa," International Congress of Historical Sciences. Oslo, Norway. August 2000.

"Oral Histories and Aural Resources: A Workshop on Collection, Access and Preservation in the Digital Age," with Mark Kornbluh, International Congress of Historical Sciences. Oslo, Norway. August 2000.

"Disparate Voices: The Challenges of Interdisciplinary Cooperation and Invention in Creating the National Gallery of the Spoken Word," with Mark Lawrence Kornbluh, American Historical Association. Chicago, Illinois. January 2000.

"The Challenges of OnLine Publications in the Humanities and Social Sciences," Roundtable Discussion, American Historical Association. Washington, D.C.. January 1999.

"Using Primary Sources for Research and Teaching," Keynote Address, Primary Source Networks Conference, College of Education. Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. May 1998.

"I washed, I ironed, I cooked and I done everything' A Comparative Study of Female, Migrant Silk workers in Saint Chamond, France and Paterson, New Jersey between 1865 and 1914," Social Science History Association. Washington, D.C. October 1997.

COURSES TAUGHT

"The United States Since 1877"

An introductory, undergraduate history survey course, taught as a large lecture with once-weekly discussion sections. Online discussion provides an important compliment to in-class discussion as well. Evaluation based on short, weekly writing assignments and three, longer, essay examinations. (Fall 1999, Spring 2000, Fall 2000, Spring 2001)

"Making America: Immigration, Race and Citizenship"

An introductory, undergraduate history survey designed to introduce students to the debates over citizenship and immigration in the United States from the 18th century through the present day. Class is taught as a large lecture with one-weekly discussion sections. Online discussion provides an important compliment to in-class discussion. Readings are drawn from primary materials, including diaries, historical novels, autobiographies, editorials, and legal documents. Lectures provide "textbook" and context. Cross-listed with Africana Studies. (Fall 2006, Spring 2008)

"Historical Methods and Methodology"

A required course for undergraduate majors, this class introduces students to the core research methods of history scholars focusing on the features that make history unique from other disciplines. How to critically examine source materials, identify and work with primary sources, document, and craft a historical narrative are among the core concepts addressed. Seminar format. All students must produce a longer paper based upon primary research. (Fall 2001, Spring 2002)

"Immigration Old and New: Exploring Baltimore's Ethnic Neighborhoods"

Taught as a small, research seminar this course focuses on the city as classroom. Students are introduced to Baltimore's importance as a "Gateway" city from the eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries, then asked to compare the historic experiences of these predominately African and European immigrants to those foreign-born who come today. Course includes fieldwork experiences in the city of Baltimore, as well as an introduction to oral history methodology and under-utilized repositories of source materials in and around the greater metropolitan area. Cross-listed with Africana Studies and the Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality [WGS] (Fall 2002, Fall 2007)

"U.S. History Since 1920"

Upper-division readings seminar focusing on U.S. social, cultural, and political history from 1920 through the present day. Readings include a range of primary documents, including novels, autobiographies, legal and political documents. Evaluation is based on three essay examinations and short-weekly writing assignments. (Summer 2002)

"Women's Labor Migrations and the Politics of Exchange in the Americas"

Upper-division readings seminar that focuses on the capital and political developments that have shaped human movement within the Americas from the late nineteenth century through the present-day. Viewed through the lens of a single industry that has historically employed large numbers of women, such as the fashion/garment industry or domestic service, the class explores how patterns of consumption influence production. Labor activism and unionization are an important focus as well. Cross-listed with WGS. (Spring 2003, Fall 2004, Spring 2006, Spring 2007)

"Internationalism and Transnationalism: Political Organizing in the 1960s"

This upper-division research seminar focuses on the international student movements of the 1960s. Assigned readings are drawn from a wide range of national contexts around the globe, including the United States, Cuba, Mexico, Liberia, Algeria, South Africa, France, China, and many others. Students all supplement this reading with research of their own, resulting in a 25-page research paper on a topic of their choosing. Cross-listed with Africana Studies and WGS (Fall 2005)

"Comparative Freedom Struggles: The U.S. Civil Rights and South African Anti-Apartheid Movements"

Designed as an upper-division readings seminar, this course compares the U.S. Civil Rights Movement and the South African Anti-Apartheid Struggle through the words and writings of those who lived through this period. Class features special visits from local and international activists in these movements. Various online tools also allow students to have question and answer sessions with activists in both countries. Cross-listed with Africana Studies (Spring 2006, Fall 2007)

"The History of African Americans at The Johns Hopkins Institutions"

This upper-division research seminar explores issues of race and higher education, focusing on the contributions African Americans have made to The Johns Hopkins Institutions and examining the ways fostering ethnic diversity enhances, challenges, and shapes learning environments. Training in oral history best practices and documentary film-making is also an integral part of this course. Offered jointly by the Department of History and Center for Africana Studies (Spring 2008)

"Migration in Modern World History"

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This graduate readings seminar introduces students to the core methodologies and theories of human migration studies. Taught from an inter-disciplinary perspective, evaluation is based on weekly class discussion, short reading responses, and two longer papers. The first asks students to evaluate the strengths of their home discipline's approach to migration studies. The second focuses on designing a case study by identifying what various primary sources can teach us about human migration. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Political Science, and Sociology (Spring 2007)

INTERNATIONAL, COMMUNITY, AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advisory Committee, African Americans at The Johns Hopkins Institutions Project, Baltimore, Maryland, 2002-present
Supervise and mentor undergraduate research assistants and advise on project priorities, goals and design.
<http://www.afam.jhu.edu>
- Consultant, The Jewish Museum of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, 2005-present.
Provided guidance on historical substance, design and narrative for "Voices of Lombard Street" exhibition, to premier January 2008.
- Director, Oral History Project, The Baltimore Immigration Memorial, Baltimore, Maryland. 2003-present.
Organize, supervise, and train a cadre of community volunteers to collect oral histories about Baltimore's immigrant past and present. To date the project has collected roughly 50 oral histories.
- Editorial Board Member, The Florida Historical Quarterly, Orlando, Florida, 2005-present.
Responsibilities include refereeing manuscripts, writing book reviews, helping the editor to find individuals to accomplish these tasks, and guiding the quality and direction of the journal, which is published by the Florida Historical Society. Position is by invitation for a three-year term, ending 2008.
- Member, Council of Academic Historians, Baltimore City Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland. 2007-present.
Responsibilities include organizing and overseeing the annual Historians Workshop including a public program, overseeing the Joseph L. Arnold Competition for Outstanding Writing on Baltimore History, creating an electronic repository of the "Best of Baltimore's People's History," service on an editorial board to select manuscripts for inclusion in the repository, and nominating to the BCHS Trustees the proposed recipients of the annual History honors, including Historian/Scholar, Living History Honors, and the In Memoriam Honors.
- Officer, Board of Directors, The Baltimore Immigration Memorial, Baltimore, Maryland. 2003-present.
The Baltimore Immigration Project is a multi-faceted humanities research, preservation and community documentation program dedicated to recording and preserving the histories of Baltimore's immigrant communities and its immigration port. Duties have included grant writing, oversight on content and scope of project, identifying and hiring consultants, and collaborating with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Services.
- Program and Planning Committee Member, Baltimore Immigration Summit, Baltimore, Maryland, 2005-present.
Organize and arrange panel sessions, keynote speakers, and supervise logistics for annual meeting that brings together scholars, community leaders, government officials, and activists from across the Mid-Atlantic region.
- Member, Board of Directors, Kids on the Hill, Baltimore, Maryland, 2008-present.
"Kids on the Hill" is a non-profit, community-based organization offering young people support, quality programs, and an opportunity to make change in their community through an experiential education approach to learning about social issues, art action projects, and civic engagement.
- Web Reviews Editor, Women and Social Movements in the United States, 1600-present (New York: Alexander Street Press), edited by Thomas Dublin and Kathryn Kish Sklar, 2003-present.
Identify content, choose and solicit reviewers, and edit content for publication both online and via the quarterly edition of the journal. <http://alexanderstreet.com/products/wasm.htm>
- Grant Writer, MATRIX: The Center for Humane Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Online, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, 1999-2001.
A selection of successful grant applications includes: "National Gallery of the Spoken Word" (National Science Foundation, 2000-2004), "Bi-National Partnerships for South African Cultural Heritage Training" (Andrew W. Mellon and Ford Foundations, 1999-2003), The Internet and Women's Democratic Organizing (U.S. State Department, Office of Citizens' Exchange, 1997-2002), The Quilt Index (National Endowment for the Humanities, 2000-2003), and Civics Online (Michigan Department of Education, 2000-2002).
- Institute Coordinator and Co-Chair of Selection and Content Committees, July Training Institute, Bi-National Partnerships for South African Cultural Heritage, East Lansing, Michigan, Washington, D.C., Cape Town, South Africa. 1999-2000.

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Organize events, identify and select candidates, design curricula, teach training sessions on digital preservation and oral history methodology, and moderate discussion at each of the project sites.

Member, Coordinating Committee, Bi-National Partnerships for South African National Cultural Heritage Training: A Program of Collaboration between the United States and South Africa, 2000-2004.

An internationally-collaborative initiative among Michigan State University, Howard University, University of Cape Town, University of the Western Cape, University of Durban-Westville, Robben Island Museum, and the South African National Archives, supported by funds from the Andrew W. Mellon and Ford Foundations.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

African Studies Association (2001-2005)

American Historical Association (1996-present)

American Studies Association (1996-present)

Baltimore City Historical Society (2006-present)

Member of Council of Academic Historians. Responsibilities include organizing and overseeing the annual Historians Workshop the Joseph L. Arnold Competition for Outstanding Writing on Baltimore History, creating an electronic repository of the "Best of Baltimore's People's History and nominating to the BCHS Trustees the proposed recipients of the annual History honors.

European Social Science History Conference (2000-present)

Active member of Migration Network. Coordinate organization of panels and session topics through partnership with network co-chairs and H-Migration.

Florida Historical Society (2005-present)

Serve as an elected member of the editorial board for The Florida Historical Quarterly.

H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences OnLine (1995-present)

Served as Assistant Director from 1995-2001, elected to Advisory Council 2001-2006, and served as editor of HNET-Staff, the discussion network for all H-Net editors 2002-2006. Also serve as co-editor of H-Migration and H-Women, book review editor for H-Migration and as an elected member of the Advisory Board for H-Florida.

Immigration and Ethnic History Society (2004-present)

International Congress of Historical Social Sciences (1999-present)

North American Labor History Association (2000-present)

Organization of American Historians (1999-present)

Organized panels on immigration and labor on a bi-annual basis, 2000-present.

Social Science History Association (1997-present)

Active member of Migration Network, Race/Ethnicity Network, and Labor Network. Coordinate organization of panels and session topics through partnership with network co-chairs and H-Migration.

Southern Association of Women's Historians (2003-present)

Appointed to Membership Committee, 2006-present. Served on local arrangements committee for bi-annual meeting, 2004-2006.

Southern Labor Association (2002-present)

Served on Program Committee for bi-annual meeting, 2002-2004.

Southern Historical Association (2002-present)

Organized panels on immigration and internationalizing Southern history on a bi-annual basis.

Urban History Association (2004-present)

REFERENCES

Available upon request.