



Curriculum Vita
Updated: Jan. 2026

Instructor: John Howard Smith

Academic Department: History & Liberal Studies

University Address: Department of History & Liberal Studies
Ferguson Social Sciences 117
East Texas A&M University
P.O. Box 3011
Commerce, TX 75429-3011

Office Phone: 903.886.5226

University Email Address: john.smith@etamu.edu

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy

University at Albany, State University of New York, 2003

Master of Liberal Arts

University of North Carolina-Asheville, 1996

Bachelor of Arts in History

University of North Carolina-Asheville, 1991

Bachelor of Arts in Literature

University of North Carolina-Asheville, 1991

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2016-Present: Professor of History, East Texas A&M University

2009-2016: Associate Professor of History, East Texas A&M University

2003-2009: Assistant Professor of History, East Texas A&M University

2002-2003: Ad-Interim Instructor of History, East Texas A&M University

2001-2002: Adjunct Instructor of History, Guilford College

2001: Adjunct Instructor of History, University at Albany, State University of New York

PUBLICATIONS

Books

"Heathens and Other Adversaries Against Us": Religion, War, and Racial Identity in Colonial New England (manuscript under review by Rowman & Littlefield)

A Dream of the Judgment Day: American Millennialism and Apocalypticism, 1620-1890 (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021)

The First Great Awakening: Redefining Religion in America, 1725-1775 (Madison, N.J.: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2015)

"The Perfect Rule of the Christian Religion": A History of Sandemanianism in the Eighteenth Century (Albany: State University of New York Press, 2008)

Journal Articles

"'Sober Dissent' and 'Spirited Conduct': The Sandemanians and the American Revolution, 1765-1781," *Historical Journal of Massachusetts* XXVIII, No. 2 (Summer 2000), 142-166

Selected Items in Reference Works

The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Social History, Lynn Dumenil and Paul S. Boyer, eds., "Great Awakenings" (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012)

African-American National Biography, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn B. Higginbotham, eds., "Samuel Fraunces," "Thomas Jeremiah," "Anthony Johnson," "Christopher McPherson," "Vincent Populus" (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008)

Encyclopedia of North American Colonial Conflicts to 1775: A Political, Social, and Military History, Spencer C. Tucker, ed., s.v. "Albany Conference," "Black Robes," "Captivity Narratives," "Gaspee, burning of the (9 Jun. 1772)," "Golden Hill, Battle of (19 Jan. 1770)," "Jesuits," "Praying Indians/Praying Towns," "Puritans," "Quaker Pacifism," "Rowlandson, Mary White (1653-1678)," "Sons of Liberty" (Santa Barbara: Oxford University Press/ABC-CLIO Publications, 2008)

Britain and the Americas: Culture, Politics, and History: A Multidisciplinary Encyclopedia, Will Kaufman and Heidi Slettedahl MacPherson, eds., s.v. "Colonists and Settlers: British in North America," "Lexington and Concord, Battles of (1775)," "Loyalism and Loyalists (US)" (Santa Barbara: Oxford University Press/ABC-CLIO Publications, 2005)

Encyclopedia of New York State, Peter R. Eisenstadt, ed., s.v. "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" (Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2005)

Encyclopedia of Fundamentalism, Brenda Brasher, ed., s.v. "Sanctification" (Great Barrington, Mass.: Routledge Press/Berkshire Reference Works, 2001)

Essays in Books

"Teaching the First Great Awakening," in Karen Johnson and John Yeager, eds., *Understanding and Teaching Religion in U.S. History* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2024)

"'God Has Made Us to Differ': Jonathan Edwards, Indians, and the Enlightenment," in John T. Lowe and Daniel N. Gullotta, eds., *Jonathan Edwards within the Enlightenment: Controversy, Experience, and Thought* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2020)

“Great Multitudes Flocking after Him’: The Great Awakening among Common People,” in John A. Grigg ed., *British Colonial America: People and Perspectives (Perspectives in American Social History, Vol. I)*, (Santa Barbara, CA: Oxford University Press/ABC-CLIO Publications, 2008)

“The Promised Day of the Lord’: American Millennialism and Apocalypticism, 1735-1783,” in Richard Connors and Andrew Colin Gow, eds., *Anglo-American Millennialism from Milton to the Millerites (Studies in the History of Christian Traditions, Vol. 113)* (Leiden and Boston: Brill Academic Publishers, 2004)

“Yes, the Great Awakening Was a Key Factor Leading to the American Revolution,” in Keith Krawczynski, ed., *History in Dispute: The American Revolution* (Detroit: Thomson/Gale, 2003)

Book Reviews

Untitled Review of *The Gospel of John Marrant: Conjuring Christianity in the Black Atlantic*, by Alphonso F. Saville IV (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2024), *Journal of American History* 112 (Dec. 2025)

Untitled Review of *Old Canaan in a New World: Native Americans and the Lost Tribes of Israel*, by Elizabeth Fenton (New York: New York University Press, 2020), *The Journal of American History* 109 (Jun. 2022)

Untitled Review of *Dreams and the Invisible World in Colonial New England: Indians, Colonists, and the Seventeenth Century*, by Ann Marie Plane (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014), *The Historical Journal of Massachusetts* 49 (Summer 2021)

Untitled Review of *Speaking with the Dead in Early America*, by Erik R. Seeman (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019), *The New England Quarterly* 93 (Sept. 2020)

Untitled Review of *The Rhetoric of the Revival: The Language of the Great Awakening Preachers*, by Michal Chojiński (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2016), *Church History* 87 (Mar. 2018)

Untitled Review of *Darkness Falls on the Land of Light: Experiencing Religious Awakenings in Eighteenth-Century New England*, by Douglas L. Winiarski (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2017), *The Journal of American History* 104 (Mar. 2018)

“Two-and-a-Half Men: Religion and Revolution in British America,” review of *George Whitefield: America’s Spiritual Founding Father*, by Thomas S. Kidd (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014), and *Jacob Green’s Revolution: Radical Religion and Reform in a Revolutionary Age* (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2014), *Reviews in American History* 44 (Mar. 2016)

Untitled Review of *Papist Devils: Catholics in British America, 1584-1783*, by Robert Emmett Curran (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2014), *The Journal of Southern History* (Forthcoming: August 2015)

Untitled Review of *God of Liberty: A Religious History of the American Revolution*, by Thomas S. Kidd (New York: Basic Books, 2010), *The History Teacher* (August 2011)

Untitled Review of *Captive Histories: English, French, and Native Narratives of the 1704 Deerfield Raid*, by Evan Haefeli and Kevin Sweeney (Amherst and Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2006), *The Historical Journal of Massachusetts* (Summer 2009)

"Can Two Walk Together, Except They Be Agreed?" review of *Beyond Toleration: The Religious Origins of American Pluralism*, by Chris Beneke (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006), *Common-place: The Interactive Journal of Early American Life*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (October 2007) <http://www.common-place.org/vol-08/no-01/reviews/smith.shtml>

"Missed Opportunities," review of *At Ease in Zion: Social History of Southern Baptists, 1865-1900*, by Rufus B. Spain (Reprint, Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2003), H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences (May 2004) www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews

"One Great Conversation," review of *Theology in America: Christian Thought from the Age of the Puritans to the Civil War*, by E. Brooks Holifield (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003), *Common-place: The Interactive Journal of Early American Life*, Vol. 4, No. 3 (April 2004) www.common-place.org/vol-04/no-03/reviews/smith.shtml.

CONFERENCES & COLLOQUIA

28 Feb. 2026, *The Southwestern Popular/American Culture Association Annual Conference*, Roundtable—"Witch Hunt of Snipe Hunt: Tracing a Troublesome Trope," Albuquerque, N.M.

17 June 2023, *The Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Annual Conference*, "Of a tawny, or Indian color': Indians and African Americans in the Salem Witch Hunt," Pittsburgh, PA

25 February 2023, *World History Association of Texas Annual Meeting*, Session Chair/Commentator, "Women, Religion, and Rights," Commerce, TX

17 October 2020, *The Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies*, Session Chair/Commentator, "Pointing Their Finger: Shifting Standards of Morality and Religiosity in the Eighteenth-Century British Atlantic World," Williamsburg, VA (Virtually Attended)

5 January 2020, *American Historical Association 134th Annual Meeting*, Panelist, "Teaching Religion in American History," New York City, New York

23 February 2019, *World History Association of Texas Annual Meeting*, "Mighty Cities Rising on Every Hill': Revival, Holy War, and the Millennium in Colonial British-American Print Culture," Commerce, TX

19 May 2019, *Twenty-Fourth Annual War College of the Seven Years' War*, "The Glorious Day is Coming On: The Seven Years' War as an Apocalyptic Struggle," Ticonderoga, N.Y.

15 November 2013, *Researching New York Annual Conference*, Session Chair/Commentator, "Great Awakenings," Albany, N.Y.

18 November 2011, *Researching New York Annual Conference*, Session Chair/Commentator, "Faces and Places of Revolutionary New York," Albany, N.Y.

- 23 October 2011, *American Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Session Chair/Organizer, "Southern Crucible: Paradigms of Race and Religiosity in Colonial Georgia," Baltimore, MD
- 26 February 2010, *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750-1850 Annual Meeting*, Session Commentator, "In the Name of the King: Royal Authority in the American Colonies," Charleston, S.C.
- 11 April 2009, *Southwestern Historical Association/Southwestern Social Sciences Association Annual Meeting*, Session Chair/Commentator, "Land and Water," Denver, CO
- 7 June 2008, *The 29th Conference on New York State History*, Session Commentator, "The American Revolution," Saratoga Springs, N.Y.
- 12 April 2008, *Phi Alpha Theta North-Central and Northeast Texas Regional Meeting*, Session Chair/Commentator, "Surviving Natural and Man-Made Maladies," Fort Worth, TX
- 15 March 2008, *Southwestern Historical Association/Southwestern Social Sciences Association Annual Meeting*, "'More Like True Religion Than Anything I Ever Observed': Asserting the American Indian Presence in the First Great Awakening," Las Vegas, NV
- 10 June 2007, *Joint Meeting: Thirteenth Annual Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Conference and Fifth Biennial Society of Early Americanists Conference*, "Do Not 'Make Medicine' But Pray": Religious and Cultural Revivalism among Eastern Woodlands Indian Peoples, 1755-1775," Williamsburg, VA
- 14 April 2006, *Southwestern Social Science Association/Southwestern Historical Association Annual Meeting*, Session Commentator, "Conflict, Crisis, and Currency in Early America," San Antonio, TX
- 7 January 2006, *American Society of Church History Winter Meeting*, "'May God Preserve Our [Churches] Amidst All Attacks': Sandemanianism and Calvinism in Pre-Revolutionary New England," Philadelphia, PA
- 16 September 2005, *East Texas Historical Association Fall Meeting*, Phi Alpha Theta Session Chair, Nacogdoches, TX
- 17 April 2002, *Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Spring Colloquia Series*, "'A Salvation from Heaven': The Fate of Dissenting Protestantism in British North America, 1745-1775," Williamsburg, VA
- 10 July 2001, *Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Seventh Annual Conference*, Session Commentator, "Rethinking Religion in a Commercial World: Contexts, Contest, and the Meaning of Revolutionary Community," Glasgow, Scotland
- 4 January 2001, *British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, "'A Principle of Duty': American Anglicanism in the Crucible of Revolution, 1760-1783," Oxford, England

- 30 October 2000, *Center for Millennial Studies Fifth Annual Conference*, “The Promised Day of the Lord’: American Millennialism and Apocalypticism, 1755-1783,” Boston, MA.
- 29 April 2000, *Joint Meeting of the American Society of Church History and the American Catholic Historical Association*, “Patriots of Necessity: The Baptist Commitment to the American Revolution Reconsidered,” Santa Fe, N.M. (Session/Panel Co-Organizer)
- 16 October, 1999, *New England Historical Association Fall Conference*, “‘Sober Dissenters’: The Sandemanians and the American Revolution, 1765-1781,” Boston, MA.
- 29 June 1999, *Brunel-Cambridge Conference on Early American History and Culture*, “The Pretense of Agreement: A Reevaluation of the Baptist Commitment to the American Revolution, 1765-1783,” London, England
- 4 March 1999, *Society of Early Americanists First Biennial Meeting*, “‘Spirited Conduct’: The Sandemanians of Boston, 1766-1778,” Charleston, S.C.

PUBLIC LECTURES & MEDIA APPEARANCES
--

- 7 March 2022, Expert Commentary in *I Was There* documentary series, “The Salem Witch Trials,” The History Channel / Committee Films
- 6 October 2020, “The Apocalyptic American Revolution,” Lunch Break Special, Audie Murphy American Cotton Museum, Greenville, TX
- 5 May 2017, “Tourists on the Red Road: Indian Traditional Medicine and White Cultural Appropriation,” Texas A&M University Libraries “Native Voices” Exhibit Keynote Speech, Commerce, TX
- 12 September 2016, “Gun Ownership and the Origins of the Second Amendment,” East Texas A&M University Constitution Day Observance, Commerce, TX
- 23 October 2014, “Redefining the First Great Awakening,” East Texas A&M University Center for Faculty Excellence & Innovation Brown Bag Lunch Series, Commerce, TX
- 17 September 2007, “Religious Establishments and the Constitution,” East Texas A&M University Constitution Day Observance, Commerce, TX
- 17 September 2004, “Religion and the Framers of the Constitution,” East Texas A&M University Constitution Day Observance, Commerce, TX

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

East Texas A&M University, Faculty Development Leave, Fall 2022

"Heathens and Other Adversaries Against Us": Religion, War, and Racial Identity in Colonial New England

East Texas A&M University, Faculty Development Leave, Fall 2018

A Dream of the Judgment Day: American Millennialism and Apocalypticism, 1620-1890

East Texas A&M University, Faculty Development Leave, Fall 2013

The First Great Awakening: Redefining Religion in British America, 1725-1775

East Texas A&M University, Faculty Research Enhancement Grant, AY 2012-2013

The First Great Awakening: Redefining Religion in British America, 1725-1775

East Texas A&M University, Research Mini-Grant, June 2006

"The Perfect Rule of the Christian Religion": A History of Sandemanianism in the Eighteenth Century

The David Library of the American Revolution, Residential Fellowship, July-August 2001

"They Suffer Only for Righteousness' Sake": The Glasite-Sandemanian Movement in the British-American Atlantic World, 1720-1790"

University of Glasgow, Early American Studies Fellowship, June 2001

"They Suffer Only for Righteousness' Sake": The Glasite-Sandemanian Movement in the British-American Atlantic World, 1720-1790"

HONORS & AWARDS

Nominee, H. M. Lafferty Distinguished Faculty Award for Scholarship and Creative Activity—East Texas A&M University, Jan. 2022

Nominee, William Leonidas Mayo Professorship—East Texas A&M University, Jan. 2021

Recipient, Paul W. Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching—East Texas A&M University, April 2021

Inaugural Recipient, Harry Wade Senior Faculty Award—East Texas A&M University, Jan. 2021

Nominee, Paul W. Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching, East Texas A&M University, Jan. 2019

Recipient, H. M. Lafferty Distinguished Faculty Award for Research and Creative Activity, East Texas A&M University, April 2016

Nominee, Paul W. Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching, East Texas A&M University, Jan. 2016

Recipient, Paul W. Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching, East Texas A&M University,
April 2011

Certificate of Appreciation for Meritorious Service, Faculty Senate, East Texas A&M University,
April 2010

SELECTED UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Faculty Senate, History Dept. Representative (Fall 2005-Summer 2011, Fall 2015-Summer 2018)
—Faculty Senate President (Fall 2009-Summer 2010)
—Faculty Senate President-Elect (Fall 2008-Summer 2009)
—Chair, Faculty Awards Committee (Fall 2008-Spring 2010)
—Chair, Academic Life Committee (Fall 2007-Fall 2008, Fall 2009-Summer 2011)

Teaching Effectiveness and Retention Appeals Committee (Fall 2010-Present)

History Department Library Representative (Fall 2002-Summer 2024)

Chair, History Department Scholarship Committee (Fall 2020-Present)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture

Organization of American Historians

American Historical Association

American Society of Church History

Phi Alpha Theta

Poe Studies Association