

Joseph L. Locke

University of North Texas • Department of History
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Current Academic Position

Assistant Professor of History, The University of North Texas, Fall 2024-Present

Past Academic Positions

Associate Professor of History, The University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2020-Spring 2024
Department Chair, Department of Criminal Justice, Political Science, and History, Fall 2022-Spring 2024
Program Director, History Program, Fall 2017-Spring 2024
Assistant Professor of History, The University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2014-Spring 2020
Lecturer, The University of Texas-Pan American, Fall 2013-Spring 2014
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Rice University, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Education

Ph.D., History, Rice University, 2012
M.A., History, Rice University, 2009
B.A., Honors History (With High Honors), The University of Texas at Austin, 2007

Publications

Books

The American Yawp: A History of the United States, Volumes I & II, co-edited with Ben Wright (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2019; www.americanyawp.com).
Making the Bible Belt: Texas Prohibitionists and the Politicization of Southern Religion (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017; paperback edition, 2020).

Articles & Book Chapters

“Moral Policing and the Racialization of Citizenship in Early-Twentieth Century Texas,” *Racial Justice and Policing in Texas*, edited by Omar Valerio Jimenez (Austin: University of Texas Press, forthcoming).
“‘This Damnable Old Town’: Immigrants, Race, and the Imaginative Geography of a New South City,” in *Race, Place, and Power in Houston, Texas*, edited by Alexander Byrd, Brian D. Behnken, and Emily Straus (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, forthcoming).
“Opening the Book: The Utopian Dreams and Uncertain Future of Open Access Textbook Publishing,” co-authored with Ben Wright, in *Intermediate Horizons: Book History and Digital Humanities*, edited by Heather Wacha and Mark Vareschi (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2022), 88-108.
“History Can Be Open Source: Democratic Dreams and the Rise of Digital History,” co-authored with Ben Wright, *The American Historical Review* 126 (December 2021), 1485–1511.

- “The Prohibition Crusade and American Moral Politics,” in *The Blackwell Companion to American Religious History*, edited by Benjamin E. Park (New York: Wiley-Blackwell, 2021), 252-264.
- “The Heathen at our Door: Missionaries, Moral Reformers, and the Making of the ‘Mexican Problem,’” *The Western Historical Quarterly* 49 (Summer 2018), 127-153.
- ***Winner: Western Historical Association’s Oscar O. Winther Award for best article to appear in the *Western Historical Quarterly* during the 2017-2018 academic year***
- “Making ‘South Texas’: Race, Religion, and the Definition of a Region, 1877-1920,” *The Journal of South Texas* 25 (Fall 2012), 20-31.
- “Conquering Salem: The Triumph of the Christian Vision in Turn-of-the-Twentieth-Century Texas,” *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 114 (January 2012), 232-257.
- “Compelled to Dissent: The Politicization of Rev. John Joachim Zubly, 1760-1776,” *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 94 (Winter 2010), 453-478.

Reviews

- Review of Felipe Hinojosa et al, eds., *Faith and Power: Latino Religious Politics since 1945*, in *The Journal of American History* 110 (March 2024), 805-806.
- Review of Brendan J.J. Payne, *Gin, Jesus, & Jim Crow: Prohibition and the Transformation of Racial and Religious Politics in the South*, in *The American Historical Review* 129 (March 2024), 292–293.
- Review of Barclay Key, *Race & Restoration: Churches of Christ and the Black Freedom Struggle*, in *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 126 (July 2022), 144-145.
- Review of Gillis J. Harp, *Protestants and American Conservatism: A Short History*, in *The Journal of American History* 107 (December 2020), 722.
- Review of W. David Baird, *Churches of Christ in Oklahoma: A History*, in *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 124 (October 2020), 220-221.
- Review of Lisa Lindquist Dorr, *A Thousand Thirsty Beaches: Smuggling Alcohol from Cuba to the South during Prohibition*, in *The Journal of Southern History* 86 (August 2020), 742-743.
- Review of Patrick O’Daniel, *Crusaders, Gangsters, and Whiskey: Prohibition in Memphis*, in *The Social History of Alcohol and Drugs* 33 (Fall 2019), 339-340.
- Review of Barry Hankins, *Woodrow Wilson: Ruling Elder, Spiritual President*, in *The Journal of Southern History* (November 2018), 1041-1042.
- Review of Janet Schmelzer, *Our Fighting Governor: The Life of Thomas M. Campbell and the Politics of Progressive Reform in Texas*, in *The Journal of Southern History* 82 (February 2016), 201-202.
- Review of David O’Donald Cullen and Kyle G. Wilkison, editors, *The Texas Right: The Radical Roots of Lone Star Conservatism*, in *The Journal of Southern History* 81 (May 2015), 524-545.
- Review of Robert Wuthnow, *Rough Country: How Texas Became America's Most Powerful Bible-Belt State*, in *The Journal of Southern Religion* 16 (2014), <http://jsreligion.org/issues/vol16/locke.html>.
- Review of H. Paul Thompson, Jr., *A Most Stirring and Significant Episode: Prohibition in Black Atlanta*, in *The Journal of Southern History* 80 (August 2014), 739-740.
- Review of Kelly McMichael, *Sacred Memories: The Civil War Monument Movement in Texas*, in *Southern Historian* 32 (Spring 2011), 94.

Review (“Book Note”) of Paul H. Carlson, *Deep Time and the Texas High Plains: History and Geology*, in *Journal of Southern History* 74 (November 2008), 1038.

Review (“Book Note”) of Wayne Grimsley, *James B. Hunt: A North Carolina Progressive*, in *Journal of Southern History* 74 (May 2008), 539-540.

Misc. Publications

“Prohibition” and “Temperance,” in *Religion and Politics in America: An Encyclopedia of Church and State in American Life*, edited by Frank J. Smith (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, July 2016).”

Co-Author, “A Free and Open Alternative to Traditional History Textbooks,” *Perspectives on History: The Newsmagazine of the American Historical Association* (March 2015), 22-23.

“Blackface” and “*The Jazz Singer*” in *Movies in American History: An Encyclopedia*, edited by Philip DiMare (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2011).

Presentations

“Juneteenth: Emancipationist Dreams and the Ritualization of Memory,” John W. Stormont Lecture Series, Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria College, Victoria Texas, June 13, 2024.

“On Commemorations, Statues, and Silences: History and Public Memory in Victoria, Texas” Victoria Bicentennial History Symposium, University of Houston-Victoria, Victoria, Texas, April 11-12, 2024.

“Leveraging Grant Funding: Faculty Experiences in Developing & Implementing OER,” Roundtable Participant, Open Education Week, online via the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Division of Digital Learning, March 5-7, 2024.

“Labor & Compensation in Collaborative OER Creation: *The American Yawp* as Case Study,” co-presentation with Ben Wright. Open Texas 2022 Annual Conference. Online via the Texas Digital Library, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Digital Higher Education Consortium of Texas. September 21-23, 2022.

“Moral Policing and the Racialization of Citizenship in Early-Twentieth Century Texas,” Inaugural John L. Nau III Conference on Texas History: Racial Justice and Policing in Texas. University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas. March 24, 2022.

“‘There You Will See the German Drinking His Beer in Small Gardens’: Germans, Prohibition, and the Culture of Beer in Texas,” 2020 Conference on Texas: Resilience, Past, Present, and Future. Witte Museum, San Antonio, Texas. August 27-28, 2020.

“‘The Worst Sort’”: Southern Prohibitionists and the Racialization of Morality,” American Historical Association/American Society of Church History Annual Meeting. Chicago, Illinois. January 3-6, 2019.

“An ‘American Congo’: The U.S.-Mexico Borderlands in the Anglo-American Imagination, 1880-1910,” The Western Historical Association Annual Meeting. San Antonio, Texas. November 1-4, 2018.

“Democratizing the American History Textbook: Mass Collaboration and *The American Yawp*,” The Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Sacramento, California. April 12-14, 2018.

“America’s Pastor, Texas’s Apostle: Billy Graham’s Five-Decade Membership at First Baptist Dallas,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting. Dallas, Texas. November 9-12, 2017.

- Panelist, “Bootlegging in the Borderlands,” Bullock Texas State History Museum. Austin, Texas. October 10, 2017.
- “Open Access and the Quest for a Democratic Textbook,” BH and DH: Book History and Digital Humanities Conference. University of Wisconsin-Madison. September 22-24, 2017.
- “*The American Yawp* and Open-Source History,” The Association for Information Science and Technology 2017 Symposium, “The Information and the Technology of Open Humanities,” April 18-19, 2017.
- “Is Collaboration Worth It?” Roundtable Participant & Co-Organizer, The American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado. January 5-8, 2017.
- “Democratizing the Digital Humanities: *The American Yawp* as Case Study,” Invited Talk, Scholars’ Lab Speaker Series, The University of Virginia. March 19, 2015.
- “Open Texts, Digital History, and Democratic Scholarship,” Invited Talk, Talking History Series, The University of Mary Washington. March 17, 2015.
- Panel Chair, “Baltimore and the Backcountry, 1760-1835,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia. November 13-16, 2014.
- “Academic Communities & Crowd-Sourced History: Creating *The American Yawp*,” First Annual Texas Digital Humanities Conference, University of Houston, Houston, Texas. April 10-12, 2014.
- “Grassroots Righteousness: Calvert District Methodists and the Allure of Moral Politics,” Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting. San Antonio, Texas. March 6-8, 2014.
- “Subduing the Sainly: Anticlericalism and the Anti-Prohibition Movement in the South,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting. St. Louis, Missouri. October 31-November 3, 2013.
- “‘Coming into Another Country’: Race, Religion, and Early-Twentieth-Century Perceptions of Houston, Texas,” The Past and Present of Race and Place in Houston, Texas. Rice University, Houston, Texas, February 26-27, 2013.
- “The Burden of the Bible Belt: Senator Morris Sheppard and the Politics of a Christian Nation,” American Historical Association / Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era Annual Meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana, January 3-6, 2013.
- “A ‘Frenzied Fanaticism’: The Scandal of Politicized Religion in Texas, 1908-1918,” Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting. El Paso, Texas, March 3-5, 2011.
- “The ‘Rural Evangelical Virus’ Reconsidered: Agrarian Resistance to Moral Reform in Texas, 1910-1914,” Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting. Winter Park, Florida, June 10-12, 2010.
- “Making ‘South Texas’: Race, Religion, and the Definition of a Region, 1877-1920,” Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting. Houston, Texas, March 31-April 3, 2010.
- “The Southern Cleric: Religious Identity and Social Division, 1876-1918,” University of Texas American Studies Graduate Student Conference. Austin, Texas, September 24-25, 2009.
- “Challenging a Culture: White Evangelicals and the Prohibition Movement in Texas, 1885-1918.” Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado, April 8-11, 2009.

Digital Projects

- Co-Developer/Co-Editor, *The American Yawp* (www.americanyawp.com), Fall 2014-Present
A free and online, collaboratively built American history textbook.
 *Winner, 2014 *DH Awards*’ “Best Use of DH for Public Engagement” Prize*
- Web Developer, *The Abolition Seminar* (www.abolitionseminar.org), Fall 2013-Spring 2014

An online learning project funded by the Library Company of Philadelphia and the National Endowment for the Humanities

Courses Taught

University of North Texas

United States History since 1877
Texas History

University of Houston-Victoria

United States History before 1877
United States History since 1877
Texas History
U.S.-Mexico Borderlands
Gilded Age & Progressive Era
Class and Inequality in American History
Thinking Like a Historian
Historical Research
Texas History (Graduate)
U.S. South (Graduate)
Religion in American History (Graduate)
Gilded Age & Progressive Era (Graduate)
U.S.-Mexico Borderlands (Graduate)

University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (formerly University of Texas-Pan American)

United States History before 1877
United States History since 1877

Rice University

Debates in American Progressivism
Writing About Religion in American History
Writing About American Conservatism
Academic Writing and Argument

Professional Service & Development

Organizer, Victoria, Texas, Bicentennial History Symposium, April 11-12, 2024
Chair, Ramirez Family Award for Best Scholarly Book Selection Committee, Texas Institute of Letters, 2022-2023
Department Chair, Department of Criminal Justice, Political Science, and History, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2022- Spring 2024
Chair, Advisory Board, Museum of the Coastal Bend, 2021-2023 (two-term maximum)
Chair, Graduate Student Essay Prize Committee, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 2020-2021
Member, Course Load Taskforce, UHV School of Arts & Sciences, Spring 2020-Fall 2020
Book Reviews Editor, *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Spring 2020-Spring 2024

Chair, Faculty Awards Committee, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2019-Spring 2020
 Manuscript Referee, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Spring 2019 and Fall 2020
 Advisory Board Member, Museum of the Coastal Bend, Spring 2018-Fall 2023 (Two Terms)
 Nominating Board Committee Member, Museum of the Coastal Bend, Fall 2018-Fall 2023
 Stormont Lecture Committee Member, Museum of the Coastal Bend, Fall 2018-Present
 Director, History Program, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2017-Spring 2024
 Advisory Board Member, *Literature in Context: An Open Anthology of Literature in English*, Open Access Project, University of Virginia, Fall 2017-Spring 2018
 Participant, NEH Summer Seminar, "Bridging National Borders," D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies, Newberry Library (Chicago, Illinois), Summer 2017
 Chair, Martín de León Symposium Committee, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2015-Spring 2024
 Member, Scholarship Oversight Committee, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2015-Spring 2017
 Sponsor, History & Humanities Association, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2014-Spring 2017
 Sponsor, Walter Prescott Webb Society, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2014-Spring 2015
 Member, Core Curriculum Committee, University of Houston-Victoria, Fall 2014-Spring 2015
 Manuscript Referee, Oxford University Press, Fall 2014
 Manuscript Referee, *Journal of Southern History*, Fall 2014
 Faculty Leader, Dissertation Writing Group, Center for Written, Oral, and Visual Communication, Rice University, Fall 2012 – Spring 2013
 Participant, Seminar in Pedagogical Methods, Rice University, Fall 2009
 Teaching Assistant, Douglas Brinkley, HIST 352: History of the Cold War, Rice University, Fall 2009
 Graduate Student Association Representative, Rice University, Fall 2008 - Spring 2009
 Research Assistant for Dr. Allen J. Matusow, Rice University, Fall 2008 - Spring 2009
 Editorial Assistant, *The Jefferson Davis Papers*, Rice University, Fall 2007 - Spring 2008

Media

Interviewed, "Standing up for all Texans' Stories," *The Texas Observer*, May 1, 2024.
 Interviewed, "Juneteenth," *Crossroads Today*, June 19, 2023
 Op-Ed, co-written with Laura Mammina, "It's Time to Take Down the Statue," *The Victoria Advocate* (June 12, 2020).
 Podcast, "The American Yawp," *AHR Interview* [American Historical Association Podcast] (November 19, 2019).
 Podcast, "Figure It Out and Make It Happen: The American Yawp," *Lunch Duty Podcast* (September 5, 2018).
 Interviewed, "Democratizing the American History Textbook," H-Net.org/Organization of American Historians Amplified Initiative (May 31, 2018).
 Interviewed, "Should Churches That Support Politicians Lose Tax Exemption?" *Victoria Advocate* (July 2, 2017).
 Quoted, "Is Collaboration Worth It?" *Inside Higher Education* (January 6, 2017).
 Podcast, "Democratizing the Digital Humanities," Scholars' Lab Podcast, University of Virginia (April 23, 2015).
 Interviewed, "Compiling an Open History Textbook," *AHA Today* (April 20, 2015).

Interviewed, "Free American History!" *Inside Higher Education* (March 11, 2015).

Interviewed, "A Conversation with Ben Wright and Joseph Locke, Editors of the American Yawp,"
The American Historian (February 2015).

Op-Ed, "The Risks of Religious Politics," *Houston Chronicle* (June 4, 2012).

Awards & Grants

Humanities Texas Mini-Grant (\$2,000), "Victoria, Texas, Bicentennial History Symposium," 2024.

City of Victoria, Texas, Convention and Visitors Bureau Grant (\$5,000), "Victoria, Texas,
Bicentennial History Symposium," 2024.

Faculty Research and Scholarly Activity Excellence Award (\$1,500), University of Houston-Victoria,
2018-2019.

Oscar O. Winther Award (\$500), Western Historical Association, for the best article to appear in the
Western Historical Quarterly each academic year, for "The Heathen at our Door:
Missionaries, Moral Reformers, and the Making of the 'Mexican Problem,'" 2018.

Open Education Resources Grant (\$8,000), Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, 2018.

Sarofim Teaching Fellowship (\$7,500), Humanities Research Center, Rice University, 2012.

Dunlevie Teaching Fellowship (\$5,000), Rice University, 2010-2011.

William and Madeline Welder Smith Research Travel Award, Dolph Briscoe Center for American
History (\$1,000), University of Texas at Austin, 2009-10.

Graduate Student Fellowship (\$15,000/year), Rice University, 2007-2012.

Martin Parmer Scholarship in Texas History (\$1,000), University of Texas at Austin, 2007.

Affiliations

The American Historical Association

The Southern Historical Association

The Western Historical Association

The Texas State Historical Association