

John W. Sherman

Professor of History
Wright State University

Education

University of Arizona

Ph.D., 1994 – Latin American History
Dissertation Chair: Michael C. Meyer

University of Toledo

M.A., 1989
Thesis Chair: Ronald Lora

Baylor University

B.A., 1983

University of Texas School of Law

Fall 1983 – Spring 1984 [no degree]

Academic Experience

Wright State University, School of Humanities and Cultural Studies, History Program

Professor	Fall 2005 – Present
Associate Professor	Fall 1999 – 2005
Assistant Professor	Fall 1994 – 1999

Cornell College

January Term 1994
Visiting Instructor

University of Arizona

1989-1993 Graduate Assistant
1993-1994 Adjunct Instructor

University of Toledo

1987-1989 Graduate Assistant
Spring 1989 Adjunct Instructor

Research and Scholarship

Thematic Expertise: Twentieth Century Political History

Geographic Expertise: Latin America, with focus on Mexico and (since 2020) Peru

Publications

Solo-Authored Books

Peru since Independence: A Concise, Illustrated History (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2023)

Mexico: A Concise, Illustrated History (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020);
Second Edition forthcoming, 2026

A Communist Front at Mid-Century: The American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, 1933-1959 (Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2001)

Latin America in Crisis (Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press/Perseus Books Group, 2000)

The Mexican Right: The End of Revolutionary Reform, 1929-1940 (Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 1997)

Chapters in Books

Chapter, "The Mexican 'Miracle' and Its Collapse," in Michael C. Meyer and William H. Beezley, eds., *The [Oxford] Illustrated History of Mexico*, Oxford University Press, July 2000

"'This is a Crusade!': Socialist Party Amnesty Campaigns to Free Eugene V. Debs, 1919-1921," in Ronald C. Kent, Sara Markham, David R. Roediger, and Herbert Shapiro, Eds., *Culture, Gender, Race, and U.S. Labor History* (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1993), pp. 25-41

Journal Articles

"Witness to Mass Murder: Paulding's Jesse B. Jackson and the Armenian Genocide," *Northwest Ohio History* 84:2 (Spring/Summer 2017), 19-31

"Fascist 'Gold Shirts' on the Río Grande: Borderlands Intrigue in the Time of Lázaro Cárdenas," *Journal of South Texas* 30:1 (September 2016), 8-21

"Political Violence in Colombia: Dirty Wars since 1977," *History Compass* 13:9 (September 2015), 454-465

Review Essay, "Comparing Failed Revolutions: Recent Studies on Colombia, El Salvador, and Chiapas," *Latin America Research Review* 41:2 (June 2006), 260-268

"Reassessing Cardenismo: The Mexican Right and the Failure of a Revolutionary Regime, 1934-1950," *The Americas*, 54:3 (January 1998): 357-378

"Revolution on Trial: The 1909 Tombstone Proceedings Against Ricardo Flores Magón, Antonio Villarreal, and Librado Rivera," *Journal of Arizona History*, Summer 1991

Encyclopedic

Three entries [Miguel de la Madrid, Bernardo Reyes, Liberation Theology] in Michael S. Werner, ed., *Encyclopedia of Mexico: History, Society and Culture* (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 1998)

Conference Presentations

"The Gray Zone: Familial Legacies of the October 1964 *Vépres de Jérémie* Massacre in François 'Papa Doc' Duvalier's Haiti," International Association of Genocide Scholars Conference, Barcelona, Spain, July 2023

"Glimpses of a Golden Age: A Survey of Peruvian Popular Music in the Mid-Twentieth Century," Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Santa Fe, March 2023

"Murders and Mysteries: Miss Guatemala, A U.S. Ambassador, and the Chimbote Martyrs—Criminal Cases and the Often-Elusive Quest for Truth," Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Las Cruces, New Mexico, April 2022

“Black Robes and Gold Shirts: New Angles on the Opposition to Cardenismo,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Santa Fe, April 2019

“Prospects for War in Colombia: What Select 1986-1994 *Unión Patriótica* Assassinations Tell (and Don’t Tell) Us,” Rock Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Salt Lake City, April 2017

“The Murder of a Colombian Journalist and a Historian’s Strange Day in a violent Middle Magdalena River Town,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Santa Fe, April 2016

“Paramilitary-Guerrilla Violence in Urabá-Córdoba,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Tucson, April 2015

“Guerilla Violence and Public Memory in Colombia,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Durango, Colorado, April 2014

“Where Theory and Practice Don’t Meet: Economic Assumptions, Mass Media and Argentina’s Debt Crisis of 1999-20002, Society for Latin American Studies, Sheffield, U.K., April 2012

“A New Leftist Tide? Comparative Observations on Contemporary Chavismo and Historical Cardenismo,” Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies, Dominguez Hills, California, November 2006

“The Lion of Judah in Babylon: Rastafarian Pre-Millennialism and the Visit of Emperor Haile Selassie to Jamaica,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Tucson, April 2005

“Welshman Edward J. Williams and Chubut Valley Transportation in Argentine Patagonia, 1865-1909,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Santa Fe, March 2004

“U.S. Media Interpretations on the Menem Regime’s Neoliberal Policies in Argentina: An Historical Context,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Tempe, Arizona, February 2003

“The Argentine Devaluation: Peronists and the Press Interpret the Nation’s Crisis,” Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies, Portland, Oregon, April 2002

“When Academe was not Political: Ideology and Meta-Narratives of Progress in Mid-Twentieth Century Latin America Textbooks,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Tucson, March 2001

“Parting Company: Liberals and a Communist Front, The American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, 1939-1956,” Historical Society Regional Meeting, Wright State, October 2000

“Strategies on the Road to Defeat: Mexico’s War on Drugs, 1969-1991,” Pacific Coast Council for Latin American Studies, Los Angeles, October 1999

“Keeping Eyes on an Exile: Nicolás Rodríguez and the F.B.I.,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Colorado Springs, February 1999

“The State of Studies on the Latin American Right: Mexico,” Latin American Studies Association, Chicago, September 1998

“Reconceptualising Twentieth Century Mexican Political History: The Significance of Cardenismo Sixty Years Later,” Society of Latin American Studies, Liverpool, U.K., April 1998

“Long After the Flood: LAVALAS, Demobilization, and the Political Culture of Post-Dirty War Haiti,” Pacific Coast and Rocky Mountains Councils for Latin American Studies, San Diego, February 1998

“For Family, God, and Country: The Mexican Right in the Face of Cardenismo,” Pacific Coast and Rocky Mountain Councils for Latin American Studies Joint Meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 20-24 March 1996

“Feuding Over the Family: The Mexican Right’s Critique of Soviet Russia, Republican Spain, Foreign Capitalists, and the Presidency of Lázaro Cárdenas,” Latin American Studies Association, Washington, D.C., 28-30 September 1995

“Theory and Method in the Mexican Post-Modern Present: Use of Political Culture,” at the Mexican Studies Committee, Conference on Latin American History at the American Historical Association, Chicago, Illinois, 5-8 January 1995

Additional Conference Participation

Participant (two panels), Roundtable, “New Approaches to U.S.-Latin American Relations,” Ohio Academy of History, University of Dayton, April 1999

Panel Participant, “Voices of Democracy” Symposium, Dayton Council on World Affairs, University of Dayton, 2 March 1996

Panel Participant, “Economic Crisis in Mexico,” Dayton International Forum of the Dayton Council on World Affairs,” April 1995

Presiding Chair, Natural Resources Presentations, Meeting of North American Historians, Ninth Quadrennial Conference, Mexico City, 26-29 October 1994

Frequent Chair, occasional commentator on many panels at Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, 1996-2023

Teaching

Courses Taught: Wright State University, Fall 1994 – Present

Western Civilization: The Modern World / The West and the World

Latin America

Regional Studies: Latin America

Colonial Latin America

Modern Latin America

Ancient Mexico to 1850

Modern Mexico since 1850 / Mexico since Independence

The Mexican Revolution

Authoritarianism and Repression

Argentina

Central America and the Caribbean

Central America in Revolution

Research Seminar (Undergraduate)

United States

United States to 1877

Rock Music in America [Spring 2025]

Other Topics

Comparative Third World Genocide

Twentieth Century Holocausts

Graduate

Historical Methods

Topical Seminars: United States and the Mexican Revolution, Readings in Latin American History, Comparative Genocide

Thesis Committees: Denise Sidler, Humanities, 2000; Heinz Dueffer, 1997

Course Taught: University Studies Abroad Consortium

Colonial Latin America, Heredia, Costa Rica, Spring 2000

Central American in Revolution, Heredia, Costa Rica, Spring 2000

Spain under Franco, San Sebastián, Spain, Summer 2001

Professional

Past and Current Professional Memberships

[Most held for only brief periods of time or periodically]

American Historical Association

Conference on Latin American History

International Association of Genocide Scholars

Latin American Studies Association

Ohio Academy of History

Program Committee, Spring 1998

Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies

Chair, Program Committee, 2009

Executive Committee, 2004 – 2010

McGann Book Prize Committee, 2004

Organized and Participated in Workshop or Graduate Students at 2016 Annual Meeting

Current Professional Service

Editorial Board, *Journal of Global South Studies*

Manuscript Refereeing

Book proposal for Oxford University Press, 1996

Article submission for journal *The Historian*, 1996

Article submissions for *The Americas*, 1998 and 2009

Three book proposals for Prentice Hall, 1999

Book proposal for Edwin Mellen Press, 2010

Book proposal for Oxford University Press, 2016

Article Proposal for Journal of Politics in Latin America, 2016

Published Book Reviews

Ezequiel Adamovsky, *A History of Argentina: From the Spanish Conquest to the Present* (Duke University Press, 2024), *Journal of the Global South*, Spring 2025

Kristin Skrabut, *Unruly Domestication: Poverty, Family, and Statescraft in Urban Peru* (University of Texas Press, 2024) *Journal of the Global South*, Spring 2025

José Carlos Agüero, *The Surrendered: Reflections by a Son of Shining Path* (Duke University Press), *Journal of the Global South*, Fall 2021

Olin Starn and Miguel La Serna, *Shining Path: Love, Madness, and Revolution in the Andes*, *Journal of the Global South*, Fall 2021

Naomi Schiller, *Channeling the State: Community Media and Popular Politics in Venezuela*, *Journal of the Global South*, Spring 2021

Jon Lindsay-Poland, *Plan Colombia: U.S. Ally Atrocities and Community Activism* (Duke University Press), *Journal of the Global South*, Spring 2020

Joseph U. Lenti, *Redeeming the Revolution: The State and Organized Labor in Post-Tlatelolco Mexico* (University of New Mexico Press), *The Americas*, October 2018

David Espinosa, *Jesuit Student Groups, the Universidad Iberoamericana, and Political Resistance in Mexico, 1913-1979* (University of New Mexico Press), *Catholic Historical Review*, Spring 2015

Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler, *The Secret War in El Paso: Mexican Revolutionary Intrigue, 1906-1920* (University of New Mexico Press), *Journal of Arizona History*, Winter 2009

Richard Weiner, *Race, Nation, and Market: Economic Culture in Porfirian Mexico* (University of Arizona Press), *Journal of Arizona History*, Summer 2005

Jeremy Adelman, ed., *Colonial Legacies: The Problem of Persistence in Latin American History* (Routledge), *Journal of World History*, Fall 2002

Peter V.N. Henderson, *In the Absence of Don Porfirio: Francisco León de la Barra and the Mexican Revolution* (Scholarly Resources), *American Historical Review*, December 2000

Daniela Spenser, *Impossible Triangle: Mexico, Soviet Russia, and the United States in the 1920s* (Duke University Press), (London) *Times Literary Supplement*, 1999

Pedro Santoni, *Puro Federalists and the Politics of War, 1845-1848* (Texas Christian University Press), *Journal of Arizona History*, Winter 1997

Roderic ai Camp, *Political Recruitment across Two Centuries: Mexico, 1884-1991* (University of Texas Press), *Journal of Developing Areas*, Fall 1996

Samuel Brunk, *Emiliano Zapata: Revolution and Betrayal in Mexico* (University of New Mexico Press), *Journal of Arizona History*, Winter 1996

Barry Carr, *Marxism and Communism in Twentieth-Century Mexico* (University of Nebraska Press), *Latin American Anthropology Review*, 1996

Roderic a.i. Camp, *Politics in Mexico* (Oxford University Press), (Journal of) *The Americas*, July 1995

Ward S. Albro, *Always a Rebel: Ricardo Flores Magón and the Mexican Revolution* (Texas Christian University Press), *Journal of the Southwest*, October 1994

James A. Sandos, *Rebellion in the Borderlands" Anarchism and the Plan of Diego, 1904-1923* (University of Oklahoma Press), *Journal of Arizona History*, Summer 1993

Dan La Botz, *Edward L. Doheny: Petroleum, Power and Politics in the United States and Mexico* (Greenwood Press), *Journal of Arizona History*, April 1992

Colin M. MacLachlan, *Anarchism and the Mexican Revolution: The Political Trials of Ricardo Flores Magón in the United States* (University of California Press), *Journal of the Southwest*, October 1992

University Service

Rank

Assistant Professor, 1994-1999

Associate Professor, 1999-2005

Full Professor, 2005-Present

Offices Held

Department Chair, Winter 2008 – 2009

Organized Pre-Law Forum, April 2009

Director of Graduate Studies in History, Fall 2000 – 2008

Oversaw multiple Internships and Projects

Organized multiple functions and events, including Graduate Student Colloquia

Initiated Public History Field Trip Practicum

Repeatedly attended the “Hueston Woods” conference (of state-wide History Department leadership) from 2001 through 2009

Department of History / School of Humanities and Cultural Studies (History Program)

Committee Service

Curriculum Committee, Fall 1994 – Spring 1996, 1999, 2015-2016 (Chair), Fall 2016, 2019-2021, Fall 2022-2023

Personnel Committee, Fall 1997 – Spring 1998

Graduate Studies Committee (Chair), Fall 2000 – 2008 and Fall 2010, Winter-Spring 2012, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2018-2019

Faculty Evaluation Committee – Winter-Spring 2004, Winter 2010, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2016, Fall 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2020-2021

Student Relations Committee, Winter – Spring 2004

Promotion and Tenure Committee – Since Promotion to Full Professor, with service on Committee Secretariat on occasion

Ad Hoc Committee for Faculty Promotion to Senior Lecturer – Fall 2010

SoHCS Awards and Scholarships Committee, Fall 2023-Spring 2025

Faculty Search Committees

Search Committee, U.S. Diplomatic History position – Fall 2005

Hire: Jonathan Winkler

Search Committee, Russia / Eastern Europe position – Fall 2007

Hire: Sean Pollock

University Studies Abroad Consortium

Multiple service activities related to Costa Rica program in Spring 2000, including orientation sessions, two field trips, regular meetings with Costa Rican USAC staff

Multiple service activities related to San Sebastián program in Summer 2001, including orientation session, two field trips, regular meetings with Spain-based USAC staff

Studied French in the UCIE program in Pau, France, in summer 2002 (funded by UCIE grant)

Funded Research Travel

Haiti, 1996, via WSU Research Council Professional Development Grant

Produced presentations [below] and article, “Trouble in Haiti” in WSU’s *Community* magazine

Venezuela, 2006 (partially) via WSU Research Development Grant

College of Liberal Arts and University Service

College Senate, 2017-2018

CoLA Faculty Development Committee, Fall 2003 – Spring 2004

CoLA Graduate Studies Committee (Chair), Fall 1998 – Spring 1999, 2005 – 2006

CoLA Scholarship Committee, 2022-2023

CoLA Elections Committee, 2023-2025

University Graduate Council, Winter 2006 – Spring 2007

University International Education Advisory Committee, Fall 2001 – Fall 2003

Freshmen Mentoring Program (Academic Advising of University Division), 1995 and 1998

Faculty Advisor to *The Thinkers’ Guild* (WSU Student organization in 1994-1995)

Faculty Advisor to *We’re Doing Something*, WSU Student organization in 1996

Member, Article 15 (Preliminary) Hearing Committee, April 2017

Office of Community Standards, Hearing Board training and select participation on panels in May 2019, January 2021, and November 2022

Scholarships and Scholarly Research Committee, Faculty Senate, 2022-2023

Faculty Senate Service

Vice President, November 2024 - Present

Select Academic and Media Presentations

Guest Speaker, Ambassadors to Brazil Programs, UCIE, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

Guest Speaker, Honors Program, Students in UCIE Costa Rica Study Abroad, 1999

Briefed Model U.N. Teams about Chile and Brazil, 1999

Guest Lecture, DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, October 1998

Current Perspectives, Public Affairs Radio broadcast, April 1995

Booknook with Vic McKunas, WYSO Radio, Yellow Springs, July 1997

Xenia Kwanis Club, “Mexico: New Elections and its History,” June 2000

Speaker, “Cuban Nationalism and the United States,” Great Decisions Seminar, Lifelong Learning

Institute of the Dayton Council of World Affairs, University of Dayton, October 2009

Guest Speaker, MENSA Dayton Regional Conference, April 2017

Social Media Activities

Historical Website: *JewsofPoland.com*, 2014-2019

Extensive written (approximately 10,000 words) and photographic content

At its peak, was receiving 3400 hits per year

Youtube Channel: *johnwshermanhistorian*

History-related videos for popular viewing, currently about 450 subscribers