

Jason R. Sellers

Department of History and American Studies
University of Mary Washington
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EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine	2004-2010
Ph.D., History	September 2010
<i>Dissertation:</i> “Embodied Landscapes: Native Americans, English Colonists, and the Creation of Early American Communities”	
<i>Committee:</i> Sharon Block (Chair), Sharon Salinger, Alice Fahs	
M.A., History	September 2007
University of California, Berkeley	2000-2003
B.A. with Distinction, History and English	

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, University of Mary Washington	effective August 2019
Assistant Professor, University of Mary Washington	2013-2019
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Mary Washington	2011-2013
Visiting Assistant Professor, Bemidji State University	2010-2011
Instructor, Dept. of History, U.C. Irvine	2007-2008
Teaching Associate, Dept. of Humanities, U.C. Irvine	2007-2009
Teaching Assistant, Dept. of History, U.C. Irvine	2005-2007, 2010
Research Assistant, Dept. of History, U.C. Irvine	2005-2006

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Mary Washington	2011-present
History 131: American History to 1865	
History 132: American History since 1865	
History 297: History Colloquium (historiography seminar), http://hist297.jasonsellers.org	
History 298: History Practicum (research methods), http://nangenutch.jasonsellers.org	
History 300DD/322: U.S. Environmental History	
History 300G/323: Colonial America, http://colonial.umwblogs.org/	
History 300N/307: Native American History to 1890	
History 300X: Early American Religious Contact	
History 471E7: American Wilderness	
History 471F6: Atlantic Piracy	
American Studies 485: Senior Thesis*	
History 485: Historical Research (thesis)*	

History/American Studies 491: Individual study (Rappahannock River, Embrey Dam, and community conservation in an oral history project)

Bemidji State University 2010-2011

History 1114: United States to 1877

History 1304: World History, Prehistory to 1500

History 2600: Slavery and Resistance in the Atlantic World

History 2772: Craft of the Historian

History 2925: People and the Environment: History

Instructor, Dept. of History, U.C. Irvine 2007-2008

History 40a: The Formation of American Society, 1492-1790

Teaching Associate, Dept. of Humanities, U.C. Irvine 2007-2009

Humanities Core combines an introduction to the humanities with freshman composition.

Humanities 1a: Humanities Core

Humanities 1b: Humanities Core

Humanities 1c: Humanities Core

Teaching Assistant, Dept. of History, U.C. Irvine 2005-2007, 2010

History 40a: The Formation of American Society, 1492-1790

History 40b: The Formation of American Society, 19th Century

History 40c: The Formation of American Society, 20th Century

History 144g: Gender in 19th-Century America

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Embodied Landscapes: Hudson Valley Indians and the Origins of Race in Colonial America
(manuscript in progress)

Refereed Articles

“The trial of ‘an Indyan called Nangenutch or Will’: Indian identity and identification in a 1668 Long Island rape trial,” *Native American and Indigenous Studies* 6, no. 1 (June 2019): 1-31.

“Mindful of their bellies and gullets: Anatomical imagery and discourse in England’s colonization of North America,” *Journal of Early American History* 9, no. 1 (April 2019): 3-33.

“‘Lands fit for use’: Native subsistence patterns and Euroamerican agricultural landscaping in colonial New York,” *New York History* 97, no. 3/4 (Summer/Fall 2016): 293-318.

“History, Memory, and the Indian Struggle for Autonomy in the 17th-century Hudson Valley,” *Early American Studies* 13, no. 3 (Summer 2015): 714-42.

Book Reviews

John Strong, *America’s Early Whalers: Indian Shore Whalers on Long Island, 1650-1750*, in *Native American and Indigenous Studies* (forthcoming)

- Martha Saxton, *The Widow Washington: The Life of Mary Washington*, on the Washington Independent Review of Books (17 June 2019), <http://www.washingtonindependentreviewofbooks.com/bookreview/the-widow-washington-the-life-of-mary-washington>
- Patrick Spero, *Frontier Country: The Politics of War in Early Pennsylvania*, in *Ethnohistory* 64, no. 4 (October 2017): 539-40.
- Susanah Shaw Romney, *New Netherland Connections: Intimate Networks and Atlantic Ties in Seventeenth-Century America*, in *New Jersey Studies* 3, no. 2 (Summer 2017): 282-84.
- Jason W. Warren, *Connecticut Unscathed: Victory in the Great Narragansett War, 1675-1676*, in *New England Quarterly* 88, no. 2 (June 2015): 327-30.
- Mark L. Thompson, *The Contest for the Delaware Valley: Allegiance, Identity, and Empire in the Seventeenth Century*, in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 139, no. 2 (April 2015): 218-19.
- Kees-Jan Waterman and J. Michael Smith, eds., *Munsee Indian Trade in Ulster County, New York, 1712-1732*, in *New York History* 95, no. 4 (Fall 2014): 647-50.
- Tom Arne Midtrød, *The Memory of All Ancient Customs: Native American Diplomacy in the Colonial Hudson Valley*, in *Ethnohistory* 60, no. 2 (Spring 2013): 328-30.
- Sally McMurry and Nancy Van Dolsen, eds., *Architecture and Landscape of the Pennsylvania Germans, 1720-1920*, in *Pennsylvania History* 80, no. 2 (Spring 2013): 307-10.
- Robert Olwell and Alan Tully, eds., *Cultures and Identities in Colonial British America*, in *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History* 8, no. 3 (Winter 2007).

Digital History Project Reviews

IndianNation.org, in *The Journal of American History* 102, no. 2 (September 2015): 636-37.

Encyclopedia entries

“Powhatan Confederacy” and “French and Indian War,” Ed. Carlos E. Cortes, *Multicultural America: A Multimedia Encyclopedia* (SAGE Reference, 2013)

Other publications

“Dutch colonization’s disruption of the Hudson Valley’s Native landscape,” *de Halve Maen: Journal of the Holland Society of New York* (Fall 2018)

Invited blog post/web essay, “A Legacy of River Protection and Restoration in the Rappahannock,” *American Rivers—Rivers Connect Us*, <https://www.americanrivers.org/2018/06/a-legacy-of-river-protection-and-restoration-in-the-rappahannock/> (18 June 2018)

Invited blog post/web essay, “Native Sovereignty, from History to Standing Rock,” *The Panorama—Expansive Views from The Journal of the Early Republic*, <http://thepanorama.shear.org/2017/11/08/native-sovereignty-from-history-to-standing-rock/> (8 November 2017)

PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS

Life Along the Rappahannock: An Oral History Project, Friends of the Rappahannock, <https://www.riverfriends.org/oral-history/> (work with project leader Woodie Walker and F.O.R. staff on project planning, intern/staff training, interview research and question

development, interviews, transcription, transcript editing, promotional activities, archiving), 2016-present

- Grant support:
 - The Duff McDuff Green, Jr. Fund, The Community Foundation, 2017, \$7500
 - River Counties Community Foundation (application pending)
- Archived/reproduced:
 - Excerpted in Voices of Virginia History Project, Dr. Jessica Taylor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 - Archived in UMW Libraries Special Collections and University Archives, Digital Collections, https://umw.access.preservica.com/collection_e24e3d1d-97b3-46c1-bba3-b9d1b0d0061d/

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

- Presenter, “Energy and the ecological self in the 17th-century Hudson Valley,” American Society for Environmental History annual meeting, Columbus, OH, April 2019
- Roundtable participant, New Approaches to Teaching Early America, Virginia Consortium of Early Americanists, Virginia Commonwealth University, January 2019
- Presenter, “Colonization and the disruption of the Hudson Valley’s Native landscape,” New Netherland Institute 41st Annual Conference, Albany, September 2018
- Presenter, “The 17th-century Hudson Valley as a Native Place,” International Association for the Study of Environment, Space, and Place Annual Meeting, University of Mary Washington, April 2018
- Roundtable participant, “Incorporating Digital Tools: A Novice’s Experience,” Teaching History Digitally roundtable, Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Sacramento, April 2018
- Workshop participant (pre-circulated papers), “Hudson Valley Indians and the Ecological Self,” Virginia Consortium of Early Americanists Annual Meeting, University of Richmond, January 2018
- Workshop participant (pre-circulated papers), “Mindful of their bellies and gullets: Anatomical imagery in English colonization,” Early Modern History Workshop: Bodies Corporeal and Rhetorical, North American Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting, Denver, November 2017
- Presenter, “Human Bodies and the Natural World in the Hudson Valley’s Colonized Landscapes,” American Society for Ethnohistory Annual Meeting, Nashville, November 2016
- Presenter, “The trial of ‘an Indyan called Nangenutch or Will’: Race and the limits of sexual power in 17th-century New York,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association’s Seventh Annual Meeting, June 2015
- Presenter, “‘This Path between this Town and the Place where he lives:’ Pennsylvania’s Eighteenth-century Intercultural Landscape,” Pennsylvania Historical Association Annual Meeting: The Place of Pennsylvania, November 2014
- Presenter (pre-circulated papers), “Creating Histories and Recovering Autonomy in the Hudson Valley,” From Conquest to Identity: New Jersey and the Middle Colonies in the Seventeenth Century, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, March 2014

- Presenter, “‘Wee drink one water’: Rivers and Intercultural Relations in the Eighteenth-century Mid-Atlantic,” American Society for Ethnohistory Annual Meeting, New Orleans, September 2013
- Presenter, “The Body of America: Europe's Social Encounter with an Anthropomorphized Landscape,” The Society of Early Americanists' Biennial Conference, Philadelphia, March 2011
- Presenter, “The Colonial American Landscape as Human Body: English Personifications of New World Geography,” Claremont Graduate University Graduate Student Conference, C.G.U., April 2009
- Presenter, “The Colonial American Landscape as Human Body: English Personifications of New World Geography,” California American Studies Association Annual Conference, U.C. Santa Barbara, April 2009
- Comment, “The Making of the ‘Modern’ Environment, State, and Pharmaceutical Industry,” Under Construction: History Working Papers Conference, U.C. Irvine, May 2008
- Presenter, “Who Made Who? Clothing, Dress, and Bodies in Colonial Encounters,” Organization of American Historians 2007 Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, March 2007

Campus Talks

- Presenter, “Natives and Newcomers in the Colonial Hudson Valley,” Social Research Colloquium, University of Mary Washington, March 2019
- Co-presenter, “Oral History on the Rappahannock, From the Mountains to the Bay,” Talking History: Conversations about UMW Faculty Research, University of Mary Washington, February 2018
- Presenter, “Playing with Science: Early American Environmental History,” Talking History: Conversations about UMW Faculty Research, University of Mary Washington, February 2017
- Presenter, “‘Lands fit for use’: Native subsistence patterns and European agricultural landscaping in colonial New York,” Environmental Research Colloquium, University of Mary Washington, March 2016
- Invited lecture, “Power and Possession: Indians in the American Wilderness,” CPRD 299K: Mysterium Humanum: Wilderness, University of Mary Washington, October 2014
- Presenter, “‘We reckon orselves all one’: Rivers, roads, and intercultural landscapes in the colonial Mid-Atlantic,” Talking History: Conversations about UMW Faculty Research, University of Mary Washington, October 2013

Public Talks

- Invited lecture, “Beyond Powhatan and Jamestown,” Becoming Virginia lecture series, Central Rappahannock Regional Library, Fredericksburg, VA, November 2019 (scheduled)
- Invited lecture, “Oral Histories of Life Along the Rappahannock,” University of Mary Washington Reunion Weekend Alumni College, May 2019
- Historical background and interpretation, Hunter’s Island Hike, Friends of the Rappahannock, Fredericksburg, VA, April 2019
- Nerd Nite FXBG presentation, “River Stories: Oral History on the Rappahannock,” Fredericksburg, VA, March 2018
- Classroom presentation, “Virginia Indians,” Angeline Winter’s 4th grade, Parkside Elementary, Fredericksburg, VA, November 2017

- Invited lecture, “‘Imagined, not understood’: The historical origins of Native American stereotypes,” Native American Cultural Celebration, James Farmer Multicultural Center, University of Mary Washington, November 2016
- Invited lecture, “Politics, priests, and health among Indians in colonial Virginia,” Central Rappahannock Regional Library, Fredericksburg, VA, August 2016
- Invited lecture, “Colonial Motherhoods and Mary Ball Washington,” Mary Washington House, Fredericksburg, VA, May 2013
- Presenter, “The American Revolution: Wartime experiences in military, civil, and Native American societies,” Teaching American History 5th Grade Teacher Institute, Santa Ana Unified School District, Spring 2009
- Presenter, “Teaching Native American and European Cultural Contact in a Fifth Grade Classroom: Conflict and Cooperation,” Teaching American History 5th Grade Teacher Institute, Santa Ana Unified School District, Summer 2006, 2007, 2008

HONORS AND AWARDS

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| Faculty Pedagogy Grant, UMW | Summer 2019 |
| Friends of the Rappahannock, 2018 Volunteer of the Year | 2018 |
| Supplemental Faculty Development Grant, University of Mary Washington | 2013-2018 |
| Jepson Fellowship, University of Mary Washington | 2017-2018 |
| U.C. Irvine, Chancellor’s Writing Fellowship | Winter and Fall 2009 |
| U.C. Irvine, School of Humanities, Summer Dissertation Fellowship | Summer 2009 |
| U.C. Irvine, Humanities Center Research Grant | 2008 |
| Robert L. Middlekauff and Mayers Fellowship, Huntington Library | Summer 2008 |
| U.C. Irvine, Travel Grant | 2006 |
| U.C. Irvine, Chancellor’s Fellowship | 2004-2010 |

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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| On Native Grounds: Studies of Native American Histories and the Land,
National Endowment for the Humanities/Community College
Humanities Association Summer Institute | 2015 |
| Domain of One’s Own Faculty Initiative, UMW | Spring 2014 |

SERVICE

Professional Service

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| Program committee, 2019 Virginia Consortium of Early Americanists
Annual Meeting | 2018-2019 |
| Program committee, 2018 Annual Meeting of the International Association
for the Study of Environment, Space, and Place | 2017-2018 |
| Manuscript referee, <i>New England Journal of History</i> | 2016 |
| Manuscript referee, Pearson, video e-course in Native American history | 2013 |
| Advanced Placement Reader, U.S. History, Educational Testing Service | 2011-2013, 2016-2019 |

University Service

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| General Education Learning Outcomes Summer Working Group, Humanities | 2019 |
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Admissions Representative, History and American Studies, UMW	2018-present
College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Research Grants Committee, (Secretary 2018-19), UMW	2017-present
Faculty Advisor, Native American Student Association, UMW	2016-present
Department Secretary, History and American Studies, UMW	2015-2018
University General Education Committee (Secretary 2015-17), UMW	2014-2017
Career Advisor, Department of History and American Studies, UMW	2014-2017
Job search committee, History and American Studies (American Studies/ Public History), UMW	2015-2016
Foreign Language Requirement ad hoc committee, UMW	2015
Facilitator, Native American Cultural Celebration panel discussion, UMW	2012-2013
Faculty Advisor, Bemidji State University History Club	2010-2011
Faculty Representative, U.C. Irvine History Graduate Student Association	2009-2010
Job Search Committee, 19 th -century U.S. slavery, U.C. Irvine	2007-2008
History and Theory Conference Steering Committee, U.C. Irvine	2005-2006
History Department Undergraduate Program Committee, U.C. Irvine	2005-2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

New Netherland Institute
American Society for Environmental History
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
American Society for Ethnohistory
American Historical Association
McNeil Center for Early American Studies
Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture
Organization of American Historians

Updated 17 June 2019

***LIST OF INDEPENDENT STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS DIRECTED**

American Studies 485: Senior Thesis

- Kelly Leann Miller, “The Voices Behind the Blackfoot Residential Schools”
- Nancy Milroy, “American Deathways and Modern Environmentalism: Reuniting the Human and Natural Worlds via the Social and Physical Processes of a ‘Green Death’”
- Christopher Noebels, “Boy Scouts of America: Wilderness Study through Folklore”
- Michelle Justus, “The National Native American Veterans Memorial: Cultural Continuity and Healing for Veterans”

History 485: Historical Research (thesis)

- Meghan Olson, “Conversion Collision: King Philip’s War”
- Maggie Nunn, “The Social Construction of Rape in 18th-century Colonial America”
- Jason Milton, “Black, White, and Read All Over: The Month Following the Wounded Knee Massacre Through the Lens of American Newspapers”
- George Hareras, “The Native American Mascot Controversy: A History of Racial Stereotyping”
- Stephen Campbell, “Colonial South Carolina’s Heart of Darkness: The Indian Slave Trade”
- Ronald Vest, “1887, A Year in the Press: The Cherokee Nation, the Dawes Act, and the Local, Regional, and National Media”
- Lauren Garcia, “‘Cultivate Peace and Cordial Friendship’: The Evolving Views of Thomas Jefferson toward Native Americans”
- Jessica Reingold, “Mount St. Helens: A Tourist Hot Spot”
- Jack Manning, “Captivity and Consequence: How Captivity Narratives Explain the Clash of Cultures Between Iroquois and Colonial Societies”
- Jessica Chrisman, “For the Blue and the Gray: Native American Warriors in the Civil War”
- Anthony Markish, “The Banning of Christmas: A Study of the Banning and Reformation of Christmas in America”
- Eric Greenlaw, “How the ‘Savages’ Changed the War: Native American Tactics in the French and Indian War”
- Zachary White, “The Short-lived Popularity of the Eighteenth-century Pennsylvania Quakers”
- Mareta Bailey, “Catholic Conversion and its Effects on the Iroquois and Huron Social Structures”
- Lydia Jones, “The Demise of a Town with Promise: A Comparative Look at the Towns of Dumfries and Alexandria and their Varied Responses to Colonial Pressures”
- Mercia Spicer, “Choosing to Stay: Seeking to Understand the Choices of Women Captives”
- Megan Bannon, “Pioneer Farmer: An Analysis of George Washington’s Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Practices at Mount Vernon”
- Victoria Bond, “Captivity and Native American Customs during the Seven Years’ War;”
- Heidi Scanlon, “King Philip’s War: The Attack on Medfield”

- Jeffrey Conger, “Custer’s Last Stand: The Myth and Memory of the Battle of Little Bighorn”
- Kristen Lambert, “Photographs as Propaganda: Selling the Success of Native American Boarding Schools”
- Casey Mocarski, “Native American and Colonist Relations in Early Jamestown, 1607-1622”
- Cody Nester, “Colonial Oversights: How Famine Happened in Early British America”
- Robbie Pratt, “The Creation of Truth: A Study of Puritan Rhetoric in Captivity Narratives”
- Mary Moncure-Williams, “An American Star Rises in the Wake of a Dying British Flame: George Washington and Edward Braddock”
- Woodie Walker, “Land of Transition: A Bioregional Discussion of the Fall Line of the Rappahannock River, from Pre-contact through the Early Colonial Era”
- Kasey Mayer, “The Cherokee and their Reactions to the Dawes Act of 1887”
- Neil Sargent, “The Battle of the Bay: Humankind versus the Chesapeake Bay”
- Sean Ingraham, “The Drowning of a Valley: Progressive Era Politics Surrounding the Hetch Hetchy Debate”
- Madeline Coughlin, “Eighteenth-Century Female Quaker Ministers and Colonial Quaker Women’s Culture”
- Adam Kitchen, “Our Grand American Mythology and the Wilderness”
- William Senicola, “Frederick Law Olmsted: The Humanitarian Mind and American Landscape Architecture”