

CAITLIN FITZ

Department of History
Northwestern University
1881 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60208-2220
(847) 467-2906
c-fitz@northwestern.edu

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Associate Professor, Department of History, Northwestern University, 2018 – present

Wender Lewis Teaching and Research Professor, 2026-2029

Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence, 2025-2028

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Northwestern University, 2011–2018

Barra Postdoctoral Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, U. of Pennsylvania, 2010-11

Ph.D., Yale University, Department of History, 2010

M.Phil., Yale University, Department of History, 2008

M.A., Yale University, Department of History, 2006

A.B., Princeton University, Department of History and Program in American Studies, 2002

Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

“Os EUA e a Independência do Brasil: Uma História Escondida,” in *Independências do Brasil*, eds.

André Roberto de A. Machado, Andréa Slemian, and Claudia Chaves, trans. by Fabrício Prado
(forthcoming).

Originally published online as part of the 2022 bicentennial Blog das Independências, in collaboration
with Brazil’s Associação Nacional de História and the scholarly journal *Almanack*.

“The Monroe Doctrine and the Indigenous Americas,” *Diplomatic History* 47.5 (Nov. 2023), 802-22.

“Latin America and the Radicalization of U.S. Abolition,” *Journal of American History* 108.4 (March 2022), 701-725 (“*Editor’s Choice*”).

“The United States in the Americas,” *Cambridge History of America and the World*, Vol. 1, ed. Eliga Gould, Paul Mapp, Carla Pestana (Cambridge University Press, 2022), 544-577.

“Nation, Continent, Hemisphere: Situating the United States in the Vast Early Americas,” *The William and Mary Quarterly* 78.2 (April 2021), 207-214.

Our Sister Republics: The United States in an Age of American Revolutions (W.W. Norton/Liveright, 2016).

Reviewed and Featured in (selected):

The Wall Street Journal; *The Atlantic*; *Dissent*; *The Times Literary Supplement* (London);

The Chronicle of Higher Education; *Claremont Review of Books*; *Americas Quarterly*;

C-SPAN American History TV; *BackStory with the American History Guys*;

Amazon.com (A Best Book of the Month Selection in History, July 2016)

“The Hemispheric Dimensions of Early U.S. Nationalism: The War of 1812, Its Aftermath, and Spanish American Independence,” *Journal of American History* 102.2 (September 2015), 356–379.

“‘Suspected on Both Sides’: Little Abraham, Iroquois Neutrality, and the American Revolution,” *Journal of the Early Republic* 28.3 (Fall 2008), 299–335.

“‘A Stalwart Motor of Revolutions’: An American Merchant in Pernambuco, 1817–1825,” *The Americas* 65.1 (July 2008), 35–62.

Portuguese translation: “Um acérrimo motor de revoluções: um comerciante norte-americano em Pernambuco, 1817-1825,” in *Confederação do Equador: A luta pela cidadania na construção do Brasil*, eds. George F. Cabral de Souza and Marcus Joaquim Maciel de Carvalho, translated by Paulo Montini de Assis Souza Júnior (Brasília, Senado Federal, 2025), 251-290.

“The Tennessee Antislavery Movement and the Market Revolution, 1815–1835,” *Civil War History* 52.1 (March 2006), 5–40.

PUBLIC WRITING

“The Declaration of Independence Turns South,” *Project Syndicate*, June 15, 2026.

“The People Who Profited Off the Trail of Tears,” *The Atlantic*, May 2020.

“Part of the Wider World After All,” *Wall Street Journal*, November 30, 2018.

“Freedom on the March,” *Wall Street Journal*, November 14, 2017.

“Lives Lost For Their Countries,” *Wall Street Journal*, July 12, 2017.

Short untitled contribution to *Fresh Takes on the Declaration of Independence*, e-book edited by Danielle Allen and Emily Sneff, Declaration Resources Project, Harvard Univ. (June 2017).

“The Accidental Patriots,” *The Atlantic*, December 2016.

“What the baby Bolivar boom tells us about how we used to view South America,” *Los Angeles Times*, invited op-ed, August 21, 2016 (Sunday edition). Adapted excerpt from my book. Republished on the online portal of the Philadelphia Inquirer (philly.com) as “When U.S. idealism transcended racial and religious differences,” August 29, 2016.

“When the Fourth of July Embraced Latin America Too,” *Wall Street Journal*, July 2–3, 2016, weekend “Review” section. (Adapted and excerpted from my book.) Reprinted in the newspaper’s Spanish-language edition as “Cuando EE.UU. admiraba las revoluciones de América Latina,” July 4, 2016. Reprinted in the Europe and Asia editions (English language), July 4, 2016.

“Passing With Flying Colors,” *Wall Street Journal*, June 18–19, 2016, weekend “Review” section.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians (2026-2029)

Wender-Lewis Teaching Professorship, Northwestern University (2026-2029)

Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence, Northwestern Univ. (2025-28)

WCAS Course Enhancement Grants, for Women’s Sports: A Global History (2025, 2026)

Course Development Fellowship, Northwestern Chabraja Center for Historical Studies, for Women's Sports: A Global History (2024-25)

American Council of Learned Societies Faculty Fellowship, Oscar Handlin Fellow (2018–2019)

James Broussard Best First Book Prize, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (co-winner, 2017)

Honorable Mention, PROSE Award for Professional and Scholarly Excellence, U.S. History category, Association of American Publishers (for *Our Sister Republics*, 2017)

Distinguished Teaching Award, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern (2017)

American Council of Learned Societies Faculty Fellowship (2014–2015)

George Washington Egleston Historical Prize, Yale University (for dissertation, 2011)

Robert M. Leylan Fellowship in the Humanities, Yale University (2009–2010)

Samuel Flagg Bemis Grant, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (2008–2009)

Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Fellowship, for research at the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (2008–2009)

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies (2004–2005)

Fulbright Fellowship, Brazil (2002–2003)

C. O. Joline Thesis Prize, Princeton University (2002)

Willard Thorp Thesis Prize, Princeton University (2002)

PUBLIC HISTORY COLLABORATIONS

Scholarly Adviser, Museum of the American Revolution, digital interactive on “The Declaration’s Journey” (2026)

Program Committee, Museum of the American Revolution, “The International Journey of the Declaration of Independence” (2025-26)

Invited speaker, Chicago Stars FC events (spoke at a press conference and a public event about the history of women’s sports, September 2025)

Scholarly Adviser and Contributor, *The Long Struggle for Equality: The Declaration of Independence at 250*, Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History, online and traveling exhibition (2022-24)

Scholarly Adviser, ¡Viva la Libertad! *Forming More Perfect Unions Across the Americas*, Newberry Library exhibition and programming (2020-2022)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION (SELECTED)

Editorial Board, *Diplomatic History* (2026-2028)

Search Committee, *Journal of the Early Republic* editor (2025)

Advisory Council, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (2025-2028)

Program Committee, “For 2026” conference, Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture (2025-2026)

Program Committee Co-Chair, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, 2021-2022

Editorial Board, *Early American Studies*, 2018–2022

Nominations Committee, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (2018–2021; Co-Chair 2020-2021)

Program Committee, 2019 annual meeting, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic

Program Committee, 2015 joint annual meeting for the Society of Early Americanists and the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture

Manuscript referee for (selected):

The William and Mary Quarterly

The Journal of American History

The Hispanic American Historical Review

The Americas

The Journal of the Early Republic

Diplomatic History

The Journal of African American History

The Journal of Southern History

The Journal of the Civil War Era

Early American Studies

Pacific Historical Review

The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography

Review of Politics
International History Review (UK)
American Nineteenth Century History (UK)
Almanack Braziliense (São Paulo)
Co-herencia (Medellín, Colombia)
Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture/UNC Press
The University of Pennsylvania Press
The University of Chicago Press
Princeton University Press
W.W. Norton

SELECTED DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Distinguished Fellow, Searle Center for Advanced Teaching and Learning (2025-28)
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of History (2022-2027)
Faculty Advisory Board, Program in Legal Studies (2016–present)
Kaplan Humanities Council (2022-2024)
Advisory Committee, Title IX 50th Anniversary Commemorations at Northwestern (2021-2022)
Chair, Search Committee in Colonial North American History (2019-2020)
Provost's Advisory Council on Women Faculty (2016–2019)
Advisory Council, Chabreja Center for Historical Studies (2015–2017)

PROFESSIONAL TALKS, SEMINARS, AND COLLOQUIA (SELECTED)

Conversation with Sarah Pearsall about *Freedom Round the Globe: A World History of the American Revolution*, Chicago Humanities Festival (October 2026)

Chair, “Latin American Museum Narratives,” Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia, alongside *The Declaration's Journey* exhibition (September 2026)

Chair and Commenter, “The American Hemisphere as Political Laboratory: The Production, Collection, and Circulation of Republican Ideas,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic annual meeting, Philadelphia (July 2024)

Commenter, “Other Abolitions: Slavery & Abolitionist Policies in the U.S., Mexican, & Colombian Republics,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic annual meeting, Philadelphia (July 2024)

Tyler Lecture, “Latin America Independence and Vast Early America” conference, College of William and Mary (April 2024)

Society of the Cincinnati Lecture, University of Richmond (March 2024)

Roundtable panelist, “Do the Americas Have a Common History? On Hemispheric Forms of Imagination and Exchange,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, January 2023)

Featured Speaker, “Toasting Revolution,” in cooperation with the Newberry Library’s *Viva la Libertad* exhibition and the Chicago Shakespeare Project (May 2022)

Invited Speaker, “Conversations and Celebrations for the Bicentenario of Mexican Independence,” sponsored by the Mexican Embassy, the Mexican Cultural Institute, and Johns Hopkins University (Washington, DC, September 2021)

Commenter, “Reflections on Nineteenth Century Inter-American Relations: Cosmopolitan Travelers, Print Culture, and the Emergence of Transnational Capitalism,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, annual meeting (July 2021)

Conference paper, “Latin America and the Radicalization of U.S. Abolition,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, annual meeting (July 2021, rescheduled from July 2020 program)

Invited Paper, “Latin America and the Radicalization of U.S. Abolition,” Latin American Centre/Rothermere American Institute, Oxford University (April, 2021)

Pre-circulated paper, “Latin America and the Radicalization of U.S. Abolition,” Conference on Empire, Sovereignty, and Labor in the Age of Global Abolition, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania (February 2020)

Invited seminar paper, “Latin America and the Radicalization of U.S. Abolition,” Taller de Historia Global, Universidad de San Andrés, Buenos Aires (December 2020)

Featured Speaker, Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia, *Our Sister Republics* book talk (Zoom, May 2020); aired on C-SPAN American History TV (April 2021)

Invited lecture, “Bolivar, U.S.A.: The United States and Latin American Independence,” Rothermere American Institute and Latin American Centre, Oxford University, UK (June 2019)

Invited roundtable panelist, “Rethinking Early America: New Perspectives and Enduring Questions,” Organization of American Historians annual meeting, Philadelphia (April 2019)

Invited Seminar Paper, “The United States and the Americas, 1775–1825,” American Origins Seminar, University of Southern California–Huntington Library (December 2018)

Invited roundtable panelist, “To Trade or Not to Trade? Writing the History of the Early American Republic for Popular Audiences,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic annual meeting, Cleveland (July 2018)

Invited roundtable panelist, “New Approaches to the American Revolution,” Organization of American Historians annual meeting, Sacramento (April 2018)

Interviewee, Organization of American Historians Amplified Initiative (April 2018)

Chair, “From South to North: Latin America’s Impact on the Nineteenth Century United States,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting/Conference on Latin American History, Washington DC (January 2018)

Panelist, “Emiliano Mundrucu and the Sinews of Inter-American Abolitionism,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting/Conference on Latin American History, Washington DC (January 2018)

Roundtable panelist, “Legacy of Revolution in the Atlantic World,” annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association, Latin American and Caribbean Section, Dallas (November 2017)

Contributor, Second Book Writers’ Workshop, annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia (July 2017)

Invited comment, “Statistics, Souls, and the Transatlantic Slave Trade to Nineteenth Century Pernambuco,” University of Chicago conference on Slavery, Freedom, and the Making of Modern Brazil (June 2017)

Invited book talk, *Our Sister Republics*, Miami Prologue Society (March 2017)

Invited roundtable panelist, “‘Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story’: Hamilton and the Classroom,” Newberry Library public forum (February 2017)

Commenter, “The 1820s in Hemispheric Perspective: Small-Scale, Intimate Dynamics of Large-Scale Geopolitical Transformations,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting/Conference on Latin American History, Denver (January 2017)

Panelist, “The United States in an Age of American Revolutions,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting/Conference on Latin American History, Denver (January 2017)

Panelist, “Arming Independence: The U.S. Weapons Trade to Insurgent South America, 1810–1825,” Rocky Mountain Conference on Latin American Studies, Santa Fe (April 2016)

Panelist, “The Black Bolivars: African Americans in an Inter-American World, 1810–1830,” joint annual meeting of the Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Chicago (June 2015)

Invited seminar paper, “An Age of American Revolutions: The United States, Haiti, and Latin America, 1775–1825,” Berkeley Global History Seminar (April 2015)

Seminar paper, “The United States and Spanish American Emancipation, 1815–1825,” Columbia University Seminar in Early American History (April 2015)

Seminar paper, “The Inter-American Origins of the Democratic Party,” Missouri Regional Seminar in Early American History, the University of Missouri (March 2015)

Roundtable panelist, “Writing for the Public: What Makes a Successful Trade History Book,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City (January 2015)

Chair and co-commenter, “Connections and Disconnections between the Americas in the Long Nineteenth Century,” Conference on Latin American History annual meeting, New York City (January 2015, in conjunction with the American Historical Association annual meeting)

Invited guest instructor, “The Americas in the Age of Revolution,” Yale University freshman seminar (October 2014)

Invited Paper, “Slavery and Antislavery in the Age of American Revolutions: The United States and Spanish American Emancipation,” Seminar on Race and Slavery in the Atlantic World, Yale University (October 2014)

Invited Paper, “Foreign Revolutions and U.S. Party Politics, 1789–1860: The Narcissus Problem in U.S. Global Relations,” Symposium on Early U.S. Foreign Relations, Lilly Library, Indiana University (October 2014)

Seminar paper, “Bolivar, U.S.A.: Popular U.S. Enthusiasm for Latin American Independence, 1810–1825,” Boston Seminar in Early American History, Massachusetts Historical Society (October 2014)

Panelist, “Diplomacy from the Bottom-Up: Latin American Revolutionaries in the United States, 1810–1830,” annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, St. Louis (July 2013)

Pre-circulated paper, “The United States in the Age of Revolutions: A Reconsideration,” at “The American Revolution Reborn” conference, sponsored by the American Philosophical Society, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, and other partners (May 2013)

Seminar paper, “Agents of the American Revolutions: South American Rebels in the United States, 1810–1830,” Early American History and Culture Seminar, Newberry Library (March 2013)

Invited speaker, “The American Revolutions,” Chicago Humanities Festival (October 2012)

Invited plenary panelist, “1812: Global Dimensions,” annual conference of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Baltimore (July 2012)

Invited speaker, “The Black Bolivars: African Americans in an Inter-American World, 1810–1830,” Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University (May 2012)

Panelist, “Race in an Age of American Revolutions: The United States and Spanish American Emancipation,” annual meeting, Organization of American Historians, Milwaukee (April 2012)

Invited speaker, “Republicanism Without Borders: The United States and Spanish America in a Revolutionary Age,” Faculty and Fellows Colloquium, Buffet Center for International and Comparative Studies, Northwestern University (April 2012)

Featured speaker at a Nashville Public Library symposium on the War of 1812, “Andrew Jackson’s Bolivar: Tennesseans Embrace Spanish American Independence,” co-hosted by Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage, the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, the Tennessee State Museum, the Tennessee State Library and Archives, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University (March 2012)

Invited seminar paper, “An Imaginary Kindred: Spanish America in the Jacksonian Imagination,” Rocky Mountain Seminar in Early American History, Brigham Young University and the University of Utah (November 2011)

Panelist, “A White Republic in a Hemisphere of Color: The Inter-American Origins of the Democratic Party,” annual meeting, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia (July 2011)

Panelist, “Bolivar, U.S.A.: The United States and Spanish American Independence,” annual meeting, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, New Paltz (June 2011)

Invited panelist, “Latin American Exceptionalisms: Explaining the Persistence of Democracy in Latin America,” Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, New York University (April 2011)

Panelist, “The Hemispheric Dimensions of Early U.S. Nationalism: The War of 1812 and Spanish American Independence,” Warring for America Conference, sponsored by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, the Huntington Library, New York University, and the Library of Congress (March 2011)

Seminar paper, “The Problem of Slavery in a Hemisphere of Republics: The United States and Spanish American Emancipation,” the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania (November 2010)

Invited paper, “The United States in an Age of American Revolutions,” Circum-Atlantic Studies Working Group, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt Univ. (April 2010)

Seminar paper, “Newspaper Diplomacy in an Age of Revolution: South American Rebels and Royalists in the United States, 1816–1824,” International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World, Harvard University, working paper 08-08 (August 2008)

Panelist, “‘Real and True Americans’: Nationalism and Inter-Americanism in the Early Republic, 1815–1830,” annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA (July 2007)

Panelist, “‘Suspected on Both Sides’: Little Abraham, Iroquois Neutrality, and the American Revolution,” annual meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Université Laval, Quebec City (June 2006)

Teacher Workshops and Public Teaching Engagements

Speaker, “The American Revolution as World History,” Midwest Social Studies Education Hub (September 2026)

Lecturer, “From Bicycles to Bloomer Girls: How Chicagoans and Wildcats Shaped Women’s Sports,” Northwestern Alumnae lecture (March 2025)

Fulbright Foundation Speaker, “Alexander Hamilton, Man and Musical: The American Revolution in History and Memory” (May 2021)

Teacher Workshop, “¡Viva la libertad! *The Age of Revolutions in the Americas*,” OAH/Newberry Library (April 2021)

Teacher Workshop, “Foreign Relations in the Early American Republic: The War of 1812 and the Monroe Doctrine,” Humanities Texas (December 2020)

Alumnae of Northwestern Course Instructor, Out of Many, One? A Re-Introduction to Early American History (January-March, 2020)

Panelist, “How *Hamilton* Revolutionized the Message: When Music is the Means to Communicate,” School of Communications Alumni Event, Northwestern University (May 2018)

Alumnae of Northwestern Course Instructor, Hamilton's America (co-taught with Geraldo Cadava to around 300 Chicago-area residents, January–March 2018)

Seminar leader, Newberry Teachers' Consortium, seminar for high school teachers, "Latin American Independence and the United States," Newberry Library, Chicago (April 2016)

Seminar leader, Teaching American History program for high school teachers in Chicago area public schools (July 2012)

RESEARCH LANGUAGES: Portuguese ♦ Spanish ♦ French (with dictionary)