

Gillian Sarah Macdonald, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Current

- 2024- Interim Director of Lab for Education and Advancement of Digital Research (LEADR), Michigan State University.
- 2022- Assistant Professor of History (Fixed-Term), Michigan State University.
- 2024- Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CERES) Core Faculty, Michigan State University.
- 2023- Digital Humanities (DH@MSU) Core Faculty, Michigan State University.

Previous

- 2023 Associate Director of Lab for the Education and Advancement in Digital Research, Michigan State University.
- 2021-2022 Post-Doctoral Public History and Archives Assistant, Clarke Historical Library.
- 2020-2021 Adjunct History Instructor, Central Michigan University.

EDUCATION

- 2021 PhD, Transnational and Comparative History, Central Michigan University, May 2021
Major: Early Modern Europe | Minor(s): Medieval Civilization, United States Survey
Dissertation: “Challenging Borders: The Revolutionary Scottish Administration and the Coast, 1688-91.”
- 2017 Master of Research, History, University of Strathclyde, November 2017
Thesis: “Scotland and Regime Change: Strategic Security and the Revolution of 1688-90.”
- 2016 Master of Arts, History, Central Michigan University, August 2016
- 2014 Bachelor of Arts with Honors, First Class, History with Politics, University of Strathclyde, May 2014
Dissertation: “Its All About the Money: A study into the primary reasoning and motivations behind British foreign policy to the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s.”

SCHOLARLY & CREATIVE ENDEAVORS

Books

- In Progress *Where Borders Lie Amiss: The North Channel and the Scottish Revolution, 1688-91* (book manuscript).

*Peer Reviewed Articles (*written as a Graduate Student)*

- 2025 “Scrollytelling, Storytelling, and StoryMaps: Folding in the Story,” Gillian Macdonald, Dani Willcutt and Aubree Marshall, *ACRL Critical Digital Humanities Cookbook* (forthcoming, 2025).
- 2024 “Sailors, Spies, and Sovereignty: Greenock’s Revolutionary Turmoil, 1688-1691,” *Britain and the World* 17, no.1 (2024): 23-41, <https://doi.org/10.3366/brw.2024.0411>.
- 2024 “Bestowing charity: war widows and the privy council during the Williamite revolution in Scotland (1688-91)” *Parliaments Estates & Representation* (2024), <https://doi.org/10.1080/02606755.2023.2279382>.
- 2020 “Black-boxes, flying packets, and espionage: the information trade and Scottish governance, 1689-91” *Parliaments Estates & Representation* 40, no. 3 (December 2020): 269-289, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02606755.2020.1853882>.*
- 2019 “Intertwined from the Beginning: Regime Change, Strategic Security, and the Scottish Revolution, 1688-90” *Historical Studies* Vol. 19 (2019): 33-60.*

Chapters in Edited Collections

- 2025 “Real and Imagined Enemies: The Privy Council and Prisoners of War, 1688-1708” *The Scottish Privy Council from Revolution to Union, 1689 to 1708* ed. Allan Kennedy, Alastair Mann, and Alan MacDonald (forthcoming 2025).

Public and Digital History Projects

- 2024 [Networking Letters of Revolution](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14171108), Gillian Macdonald and Morgan Fox, DH@MSU Seed Grant Project, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14171108>.
- 2022 Digital Exhibit Creator, [Abundant Waters: Our Relationship with Michigan’s Most Precious Resource](https://www.clarkehistorical.org/exhibits/abundant-waters), Exhibit, Clarke Historical Library, Mount Pleasant, MI.

- 2021-2022 Curator, Content Researcher, “Abundant Waters: Our Relationship with Michigan’s Most Precious Resource,” Exhibit, *Clarke Historical Library*, Mount Pleasant, MI.
- 2019 Graduate Assistant, “The Hemmingway Collection at the Clarke,” Exhibit, *Clarke Historical Library*, Mount Pleasant, MI.
- 2018 Graduate Assistant, “Aristocracy on the Saginaw Trail: Tocqueville in Michigan,” Exhibit, *Clarke Historical Library*, Mount Pleasant, MI.

Non-Peer Refereed Writing

- In progress “Bringing DH into the Classroom: Best Practices, Tips, and Tricks” Gillian Macdonald, Aubree Marshall, Ashley Cerku, and Daniel Fandino, *Proceedings of the H-Net Teaching Conference*.
- 2023 Teaching Highlight: LEADR Class, Gillian Macdonald & Aubree Marshall, DH@MSU Newsletter, available here: <https://us17.campaign-archive.com/?u=8be39096da7cf33f13b95046a&id=2de83b4d84>
- 2022 “Abundant Waters: Our Most Precious Resource,” Clarke Historical Library: News and Notes, <https://www.clarkehistoricallibrary.org/2022/03/abundant-waters-our-relationship-with.html>
- 2022 “Abundant Waters: Our Relationship with Michigan’s Most Precious Resource,” Friends of the Library Newsletter, Park Library, https://www.cmich.edu/docs/default-source/academic-affairs-division/libraries/university-library/newsletters/20220310_friendsofthelibrariesnewsletter_march2022298522029-274f-4575-b01a-72da2af422f1.pdf?sfvrsn=351a2bad_7
- 2022 ““One of the Most Wonderful Things”: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Detroit Walk to Freedom,” Clarke Historical Library: News and Notes, <https://www.clarkehistoricallibrary.org/2022/01/one-of-most-wonderful-things-martin.html>
- 2021 “Happy Holidays from the Clarke!” Clarke Historical Library: News and Notes, <https://www.clarkehistoricallibrary.org/2021/12/>
- 2021 “Who’s that looking at me from the courtyard?” Clarke Historical Library: News and Notes, <https://www.clarkehistoricallibrary.org/2021/11/>
- 2021 “A Fall of Fires: The 150th Anniversary of the Peshtigo and Great Michigan Fires,” Clarke Historical Library: News and Notes, <https://www.clarkehistoricallibrary.org/2021/10/a-fall-of-fires-150th-anniversary-of.html>
- 2021 “Lest we Forget: Remembering September 11,” Clarke Historical Library: News and Notes, <https://www.clarkehistoricallibrary.org/2021/09/lest-we-forget-remembering-september-11.html>

Editorial Work

- 2019 Editor [Re]Collection, CMU History Department, Mount Pleasant MI.
- 2018-2019 Editorial Assistant, *Michigan Historical Review*, 2 Issues (Fall 2018, Spring 2019).
- 2018-2019 Books Received Editor, *Michigan Historical Review*, 2 Issues (Fall 2018, Spring 2019).

Book Reviews

- 2025 Review of E. Wesley Reynolds, *Coffeehouse Culture in the Atlantic World, 1650-1789* for H-Net Albion (forthcoming).
- 2022 Review of Karin Bowie, *Public Opinion in Early Modern Scotland, c.1560-1707* for *Eighteenth-Century Scotland* (June 2022).
- 2019 Review of Oliver Ayers, *Labored Protest: Black Civil Rights in New York City and Detroit during the New Deal and Second World War* for *Michigan Historical Review* (Fall 2019).
- 2019 Review of David Nichols, *Peoples of the Inland Sea: Native Americans and Newcomers in the Great Lakes Region* for *Michigan Historical Review* (Spring 2019).

Public Appearances

- 2025 Voice Actor – Janet Shaw, *Worlds Turned Upside Down*, R2 Studios, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (forthcoming).
- 2024 Voice Actor - Janet Shaw, [Episode 55: An Insurrection was Hourly Expected](#), *Your Most Obedient & Humble Servant*, R2 Studios, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (December 2024), .
- 2023 Invited Appearance, “Truth or Treason? Sources for the Study of Jacobitism,” University of Guelph Special Collections, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0WKmMZ6BaE&t=1s>
- 2022 Invited Author Interview, BBC Radio Scotland, “[Time Travels: Motorbikes and McDonalds](#)” (May 2022).

Invited Talks, Lectures, and Workshops

- 2025 Digital Mapping Workshop, LEADR10, MSU (January 29).
- 2024 Digital Presence and Digital Publishing, Graduate Professionalization Workshop, MSU (November 20).
- 2024 Digital Projects in the Classroom, LEADR10, MSU (November 20).
- 2024 Network Analysis Workshop, HST251: Doing Digital History, MSU (November 12).

- 2024 Digital Publishing Workshop, LEADR & DH@MSU (November 7).
- 2024 CV, Digital Presence, and Resume Workshop, LEADR & Career Services, MSU (September 24).
- 2023 “Crossing Borders: Jacobites, Williamites, and a Navigable Frontier,” *Center for Scottish Studies*, University of Guelph, February 2023 details available here: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/history/events/scottish-research-circle-dr-gillian-macdonald-jacobites-williamites-and-navigable>.
- 2022 “[Protecting the Post: The Privy Council and the Postal System \(1689-91\)](#),” Scottish Privy Council Project Workshop, University of Stirling (Virtual).
- 2017 “The Treaty of Versailles and the Spanish Civil War,” HST 102: Western Civilization from 1700-Present, Central Michigan University, Spring Semester.
- 2017 “The Treaty of Versailles and the Spanish Civil War,” HST 102: Western Civilization from 1700-Present, Central Michigan University, Fall Semester.
- 2016 “The Spanish Civil War,” HST 102: Western Civilization from 1700-Present, Central Michigan University, Spring Semester.

AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Associate Fellow, Royal Historical Society, London, United Kingdom.
- 2024 Digital Humanities Professional Development Funding Award, DH@MSU, Michigan State University.
- 2024 Digital Humanities Seed Funding Grant, *Networking Letters of the Revolution*, DH@MSU, Michigan State University (awarded \$2000).
- 2024 College of Social Science, Center for Integrative Social Sciences, Teaching Excellence Award, Michigan State University (nominated).
- 2024 Tetrad Interdisciplinary Research Grant (co-PI), *A Search for Research: Mapping Archives in a Time of War*, Michigan State University (awarded \$30,000).
- 2022 American Historical Association Travel Grant.
- 2017 CMU History Department Travel Grant.
- 2017 Office of Research and Graduate Studies Presentation Grant.
- 2017 Office of Research and Graduate Studies Research & Creative Endeavors Grant.
- 2017 PhD Fellowship, Department of History.
- 2016 International Graduate Historical Studies Conference, Best CMU Graduate Research Paper, “Sugar-coated Security: Imperial Warfare, Security, and the Caribbean Islands during King William’s War (1689-1697).”
- 2015-2020 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of History.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2024 Head of Research [Remote], Diverse Young Leaders, Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2021-2022 Research Assistant, Dr. Gil Starks, Joanna Reiking, Dr. Roy Burlington, Faith Johnston Project (*Faith Johnston: Selected Writings, Poems, and Prose*, 2023).
- 2021 Digital Database Curator and Research Assistant, Dr. Gregory Smith, Department of History, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI
- 2018-2019 Graduate Assistant in Public History and Archives, Clarke Historical Library, Mount Pleasant MI.
- 2017 Research Assistant, Dr. Andrew Wehrman, Department of History, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI ([The Contagion of Liberty: The Politics of Smallpox in the American Revolution](#), 2022).

RECENT CONFERENCE ACTIVITY & PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

- 2024 “A Crisis in Communications: Information and Governance in Scotland (1689-1691),” American Historical Association, San Francisco (January).
- 2023 “Contesting the Waters: The Empire in Infancy and the Irish Sea,” North American Conference for British Studies, Baltimore (November).
- 2023 “Methods of Persuasion: Petitions, Supplications, and Appeals during the Scottish Revolution,” American Historical Association, Philadelphia, (January).
- 2022 “Sailors, Spies, and Sovereignty: Greenock’s Revolutionary Turmoil, 1688-1691,” Britain and the World, University of Plymouth (in absentia June).
- 2021 “[The Privy Council and Prisoners of War: The Scottish Revolution \(1688-90\)](#),” New England Historical Association, Emmanuel College (April, Virtual).
- 2021 “Real and Imagined Enemies: Revolutionary Prisoners of War (1689-1691),” Enemies in the Early Modern World 1453-1789: Conflict, Culture and Control, Edinburgh University (November, Virtual).
- 2021 “Measures of Control: Scottish Coasts and the Revolution (1691),” American Historical Association, New Orleans (in absentia, January).

- 2019 “The Scottish Government, Spies, & Revolution of 1688-90,” International Graduate Historical Studies Conference, Mount Pleasant, MI (March).
- 2019 “Black Boxes, Flying Packets, and Espionage: The Scottish Government, Spies, & Revolution of 1688-90,” International Commission for History of Representative & Parliamentary Institutions, Andorra (June).
- 2018 “Regime change, strategic security, and the Revolution of 1688-90 in Scotland: the role and activities of the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Privy Council, 1689-91,” Refereed Research Poster, Student Research and Creative Endeavors Exhibition, Mount Pleasant MI (April).
- 2017 “An International Tyranny: English Polemics and the Dutch Revolt 1571-1574,” International Graduate Historical Studies Conference, Mount Pleasant, MI (March).
- 2017 “Regime change, strategic security, and the Revolution of 1688-90 in Scotland: the role and activities of the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Privy Council, 1689-91,” International Commission for History of Representative & Parliamentary Institutions, New Orleans & Paris (September).
- 2016 “Sugar-coated Security: Imperial Warfare, Security, and the Caribbean Islands during King William’s War (1689-1697),” International Graduate Historical Studies Conference, Mount Pleasant, MI (March).

Panels Organized

- 2024 “New Directions in Early Modern Scottish Studies,” Northeastern Conference on British Studies, Hartford, CT.
- 2024 “The Perils and Promises of Teaching with Digital Tools,” H-Net Teaching Conference (Virtual).
- 2021 “New Perspectives on Early Modern Parliaments,” New England Historical Association (Virtual).

Panel Chair

- 2024 “The Perils and Promises of Teaching with Digital Tools,” H-Net Teaching Conference (Virtual).
- 2023 “Topics in European and American Parliamentary and Political Culture in the 19th and 20th centuries,” American Historical Association, Philadelphia.

Workshop and Brown Bag Participation

- 2019 “The Perils of the Politics of the Sea: Scotland and the Revolution of 1688-90,” Works-In-Progress, History Department, Central Michigan University (November).
- 2015 “Reduce those Rebels to their due Obedience’ Strategic Security and the Revolution of 1688-90,” Early Modern Graduate Seminar, Strathclyde University.
- 2015 “A Lost Opportunity’ Regime Change during the Revolution of 1688-90,” PGPR Graduate Seminar, Strathclyde University.

EVENTS ORGANIZED

- 2025 “Fear Faith and Praxis,” Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities and Social Sciences, Kellogg Event Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (20-21 February).
- 2024-2025 LEADR10: The Ten-Year Anniversary of the Lab for the Education and Advancement of Digital Research, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

COURSES TAUGHT

Michigan State University

Undergraduate Courses

- HST 201: Historical Methods and Skills – The American Revolution
- HST 201: Historical Methods and Skills – The Public Sphere in France
- HST 201: Historical Methods and Skills – Witchcraft
- HST 250: History and Technology of the Digital Age
- IAH 221B: The Great Ages: The Medieval and Early Modern Worlds (I): Renaissance and Reformation
- ISS 310H: People and the Environment (I)
- ISS 310: People and the Environment (I)
- ISS 325: War and Revolution (I): International Security
- ISS 325: War and Revolution (I): Espionage and Spycraft

Central Michigan University

Undergraduate Courses

- HST 101WI: Western Civilization: From Ancient Times to 1700
- HST 102WI: Western Civilization, From 1700-Present
- HST 111WI: United States History to 1865: Quest for Liberty
- HST 112WI: United States History from 1865: Struggle for Liberty
- HST 200WI: Medieval Civilization

HST 200: Medieval Civilization (online)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Honors Thesis Faculty Mentor

2024 Kyle Pryzgodá

Past Committee Work

2022 DEI Strategic Planning Delegation (Fixed-Term Faculty Representative), Michigan State University, 2022

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Learning Community

2024-2025 Digital Humanities Pedagogy Learning Community, with Kristen Mapes (Associate Director of DH@MSU).

Current Committee Work

2024- Digital Humanities @ MSU Advisory Committee, Spring 2024-Spring 2025

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2024 Manuscript Reviewer, *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2024-2025 Programming with Python, Learning Community, Michigan State University.

2024 Giving Constructive Feedback to Graduate Students, CSS Workshop, Michigan State University.

2024 Addressing Unconscious Bias, Nonprofitready, Virtual.

2024 DREAM Lab, Price Lab for Digital Humanities, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, June)

2024 *Digital humanities: humanities research in the digital age*, Open Learning Course, Open University (Virtual, March)

2024 Software Carpentry: Programming with Python and More, Michigan State Library, MSU (February)

2024 Digital Fellows Program, Digital Humanities, Michigan State University (January-March)

2022 Creating and Caring for Digital Collections, Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS), Virtual (January)

LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS

Languages

English – native fluency

German – reading knowledge

Statistics – intermediate

HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, Python, Unix

Skills

Paleography – advanced

Content Management – Squarespace, Omeka, Wordpress, GitHub, Drupal

Adobe – Acrobat, Premier Pro, Photoshop, Indesign

Affinity – Photo, Designer

Videoconferencing – Microsoft Teams, WebEx, Zoom

Data Visualization – Flourish, Voyant, StoryMap JS, Timeline JS, SketchFab, Net.Create, ArcGIS, Gephi

3D Printing – MakerBot, Ultimaker, PRUSA

Vector Drawing – SketchUp

AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association

Britain and the World

International Commission for the History of Representative & Parliamentary Institutions

North American Conference for British Studies

Royal Historical Society