

Catherine A. Stewart
Professor of History

Department of History
Cornell College
Mount Vernon, Iowa
(319) 895-4373

cstewart@cornellcollege.edu

1815 B Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
(319) 688-0142
(319) 594-6371

As a cultural historian specializing in American and Ethnic Studies, my work as a scholar and teacher focuses on the politics of cultural representation and the history of race. Because I teach at a small liberal arts college that prizes interdisciplinary work and faculty collaboration, my courses regularly incorporate a wide range of historic materials and introduce students to historical methods (archival research, documentary, oral history) and issues such as public memory and commemoration, the ideological work accomplished by visual representations, and spatial conceptualization (through visits to historic sites and structures).

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. 1999 State University of New York at Stony Brook, Department of History
Dissertation: "Native Subjects: 'Race' and the Rise of Ethnographic Authority in the Federal Writers' Project." Advisors: William R. Taylor, Matthew Jacobson, Nancy Tomes, and Lawrence W. Levine.
- M.A. 1992 State University of New York at Stony Brook, Department of History
Thesis: "Fade to Gray—From Melodrama to Masquerade: The Metatext of the Image, the Wilderness of Leisure, and the Death of Language in Soap Opera and Silent Film."
- B.A. 1989 Lawrence University, *Magna cum laude*
Honors Thesis: "*Hermanas de la Chingada*: Mexican Women's Gender Construct Expressed through Cultural Archetypes from the Conquest to the Twentieth Century."

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Full Professor, Department of History, Cornell College, 2012-present; Associate Professor, 2005-2012; Assistant Professor, 1999-2005

Lower Level Courses:

Introduction to Ethnic Studies (EST 123)
The Making of Modern America (HIS 154)
Public Memory and Public History (HIS 240)
American Lives: African American Autobiography (HIS 255)
Reel History: African Americans and Film (HIS 257)
Reel History: The Cold War and American Film (HIS 257)
Slavery and the Environment in a Comparative Context (HIS/ENV 260)

Upper Level Courses:

U.S. Social History since 1940 (HIS 354)
African Americans in U.S. History (HIS 356)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Upper Level Courses:

Work and Leisure in Modern America (HIS 358)

The Documentary Imagination during the Great Depression (HIS 364)

Newberry Library Short-Term Seminar, Chicago: The Transformation of America's Second City, 1880-1940 (HIS 369)

Chautauqua Series: *High Brow, Low Brow, No Brow: Culture and Democracy in the U.S.* (October 2006), Cornell College.

Adjunct Instructor, Department of History, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1994-99

Courses: *The Modern Color Line* (HIS/AFS 277); *U.S. Urban History* (HIS 319); *History of American Popular Culture* (HIS/Cinema Studies 326); *Change and Reform in the U.S., 1877-1917* (HIS 367); *U.S. Social History, 1870-1970* (HIS 370).

Teaching Assistant, Department of History, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1990-94

Courses: *U.S. History, Post-Civil War to the Present* (HIS 104); *U.S. History, 1919 to the Present* (HIS 268); *The Witch and the Healer in History* (HIS 316); *American Constitutional Development* (HIS 329); *Women in U.S. History* (HIS 333); *Change and Reform in the U.S., 1877-1919* (HIS 367); *U.S. History, Colonial to Reconstruction* (HIS 369); *U.S. Social History, Reconstruction to 1950* (HIS 370).

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTARIES

Book, *Long Past Slavery: Representing Race in the Federal Writers' Project*. University of North Carolina Press, forthcoming 2016.

“‘Crazy for This Democracy’: Postwar Psychoanalysis, African American Blues Narratives, and the Lafargue Clinic.” *American Quarterly* 65, no. 2 (June 2013).

Review of Micki McElya, *Clinging to Mammy: The Faithful Slave in Twentieth-Century America* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2007), *The Historian* 71 (2009): 614-16.

Review of Jerrold Hirsch, *Portrait of America: A Cultural History of the Federal Writers' Project* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003), *American Communist History*, Vol. 3, no. 2 (2004): 292-94.

Oral History Interview with Stetson Kennedy, former Director of Folk Life Studies for the FWP in Florida, Beluthahatchee, FL, 2005, DVD (requested for archival deposit by the Director of the Folklife Division of the Library of Congress—forthcoming).

“Imag(e)ined Communities: Portraits of the Diaspora,” Short Documentary Video, Anglo-American Media Workshop, London, England, Summer 1991.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Feast, Flood, and Famine: Zora Neale Hurston’s Search for African American Folk Culture,” Keynote Speaker, National Endowment for the Humanities’ Big Read, African American Museum of Iowa, 2009.

“Representing the Race: Zora Neale Hurston and the Florida Writers' Unit,” Center for Florida History, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL, October 2005.

“Black Letters, Lives, and Racial Lines: Zora Neale Hurston’s and Langston Hughes’ Correspondence on the Color Line,” Brown Bag Lecture Series, African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa, October 2002.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “The New Maid: African American Domesticity and the Economics of the Color Line during the Great Depression,” Mid-America Conference on History, McKendree University, September 10-12, 2015.
- “Pack Your Books and Your Machetes: Interdisciplinary Practices for Place-Based Learning,” co-presenter, Colorado College’s Inaugural Symposium on Field Study, July 8-11, 2015.
- “‘Limitations of Life’: Black Domesticity, White Womanhood, and the Economics of the Color Line during the Great Depression in Hollywood’s *Imitation of Life*,” Humanities, Arts and Interest Group (HAIG) Lecture, Cornell College, January 2011.
- Panel Chair, “Erasures,” Global Perspectives on Gender and the History of Slavery, Obermann Humanities Symposium, University of Iowa, October 13-15, 2010.
- “‘Crazy for This Democracy’: Psychoanalytic Theory and African American Autopathography,” American Association for the History of Medicine, Cleveland, OH, April 2009.
- “‘Crazy for This Democracy’: Psychoanalytic Theory and African American Autopathography,” Northeast Modern Language Association, Boston, MA, February 2009.
- Seminar Fellow, “Slavery: Scholarship and Public History,” Gilder Lehrman Institute and the Council of Independent Colleges Summer Seminar, Columbia University, August 9-11, 2004.
- “Going Native: Zora Neale Hurston’s Navigations on the Borders of Race and Class,” 37th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference, Minneapolis, MN, October 2002.
- “Native Accents: Zora Neale Hurston’s Ethnographic Navigations,” Black History Workshop, “Women in the Making of the Black World,” University of Houston, March 2001.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Richard and Norma Small Distinguished Professor, Cornell College, 2015-17.
- Campbell McConnell Research Grant, Cornell College, 2013-14.
- Sabbatical Grant, Cornell College, 2012-13.
- Dimensions’ Center for the Science and Culture of Healthcare Research Grant, Cornell, 2009.
- Environmental Studies Travel Grant for Course Development, Cornell Mellon Workshop, Gerace Research Centre, San Salvador, Bahamas, July 2009.
- Campbell McConnell Travel Grant, Cornell, 2009.
- Campbell McConnell Fellowship, Cornell, 2005-06.
- FaCE Grant for Sabbatical Planning, Associated Colleges of the Midwest, 2005-06.
- President’s Award to Distinguished Doctoral Students, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1999.
- Madeline Fusco Women’s Fellowship, SUNY at Stony Brook, April 1999.
- Distinction, Ph.D. Oral Examinations, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1993.
- Best Teaching Assistant Award, Department of History, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1992-93.
- Distinction, M.A. Oral Examinations, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1991.
- Teaching Assistantship, Department of History, SUNY at Stony Brook, 1990-94.

SELECTED SERVICE

- Member, Diversity Committee, Cornell College, 2013-14.
- Humanities Evaluator, Iowa City Book Festival, Humanities Iowa, 2012.
- Member, Literary Arts Center Committee, Cornell College, 2011-12.
- Member, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association’s Book Award and Travel Grant Committee, 2007-08.
- Executive Member, Associated Colleges of the Midwest Minority Concerns Committee, 2001-04.
- Faculty Advisor, Sister for Sister (Student Organization for Women of Color), Cornell College, 2000-03.