

Garrett McKinnon

North Carolina State University | History Department |

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CURRICULUM VITAE

(April 2026)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2023-Present Assistant Professor (Teaching), North Carolina State University, Department of History
 Courses Taught: *Modern United States History; American Military History; The World at War; U.S. Naval History; Spy vs. Spy: Cold War Intelligence History; The Vietnam War; History of U.S. Drone Warfare*
- 2023-2024 Pearson Postdoctoral Fellow in Aerospace History
 Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology
- 2023-2024 Visiting Instructor of History, Duke University, Department of History
 Courses Taught: *History of the World Wars; The United States in the World*
- 2020-2022 Graduate Instructor, Duke University, Department of History
 Courses Taught: *Civil War and Reconstruction in the United States; Cold War America; U.S. Political History; Introduction to the History of Modern Warfare*

EDUCATION

- 2022 Ph.D. History, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2014 M.A. History, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
- 2012 B.A. History, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 “The 1960 U-2 Crisis Reconsidered: Technology, Masculinity, and U.S. Airpower’s ‘Unmanning,’” *Diplomatic History*, Vol. 48, Iss. 4, September 2024, 520-548. Honorable Mention for SHAFR’s Stuart Bernath Scholarly Article Prize

Popular Publications

- 2024 “Tracing the Growth of a World Market for Military Drone Technology,” The Linda Hall Library’s *Hedgehog* magazine, No. 69, Summer 2024.
- 2022 “Alumni Profile Series: Tracy Campbell,” Duke University Graduate School, Professional Development Blog, 2022.

- 2019 “Duke on Gender Colloquium: Transnationally Thinking Men and Masculinities,”
Duke Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies Newsletter, Summer 2019.

Book Reviews

- 2026 Tanya L. Roth, *Her Cold War: Women in the U.S. Military, 1945-1980*,
University of North Carolina Press. *Cold War History*, forthcoming in 2026.
- 2017 J.P. Clark, *Preparing for War: The Emergence of The Modern U.S. Army, 1815-1917*,
Harvard University Press, *Civil War Book Review*, Vol. 19: Iss. 3, 2017.
- 2015 Matthew Carr, *Sherman's Ghosts: Soldiers, Civilians, and the American Way of War*,
The New Press, *Civil War Book Review* Vol. 17: Iss. 3, 2015.

In Preparation

- Monograph *Automating Violence: A History of United States Drone Warfare*, preparing early
chapters for review with University of North Carolina Press in summer 2026.
- Articles “Imagining Techno-War: Protest Songs and Critical Consciousness of the U.S.
War in Vietnam,” for the journal *Modern American History*.
- Reviews David W. Mills, *Cold War in a Cold Land: Fighting Communism in the Northern
Plains*, University of Oklahoma Press. Review in preparation for H-War.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, and AWARDS

- 2025 [*Stuart Bernath Scholarly Article Prize, Honorable Mention*](#)
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations for the article:
“The 1960 U-2 Crisis Reconsidered: Technology, Masculinity, and U.S.
Airpower’s ‘Unmanning.’”
- 2023-2024 [*Pearson Postdoctoral Fellowship in Aerospace History*](#)
Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology, Kansas City, MO
- 2022 *Bordin-Gillette Research Travel Fellowship*
Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- 2021-2022 *Perilman Advanced Doctoral Research Grant*
Center for Jewish Studies, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2021 *Teaching Military History Fellowship*
Appointment as Graduate Instructor of Record to teach course “Introduction to
the History of Modern Warfare,” Duke University, History Department
- 2020 *Provost Graduate Assistantship*
Digital Archives Expedition Intern, Duke University Rubenstein Library
- 2019, 2020 *Competitive Summer Research Fellowship for Advanced PhD Students*
Duke University Graduate School
- 2019 *Moody Research Grant*
Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation
U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, University of Texas, Austin

- 2019 *Research Fellowship*
Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology, Kansas City, MO
- 2019 *Research Fellowship*
Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History
Lemelson Center for Invention and Innovation, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 *Marjorie Kovler Research Fellowship*
John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, U.S. National Archives and Records
Administration, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- 2018 *Research Travel Grant*
Dwight D. Eisenhower Foundation
U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Abilene, Kansas
- 2018 *Aleane Webb Dissertation Research Award*
Duke University Graduate School
- 2018 *Summer Research Grant*
Duke University Department of History
- 2018 *Domestic Dissertation Travel Award*
Duke University Graduate School
- 2016, 2017 *Summer Research Fellowship*
Duke University Graduate School
- 2015-2020 *History Department Doctoral Fellowship*
Duke University Graduate School
- 2013 *History Department MA Thesis Research Grant*
Louisiana State University, Clyde C. Warwick Foundation
- 2008-2012 *Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) Scholarship*
State of Louisiana, full tuition scholarship to attend Louisiana State University

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION AND INVITED TALKS

- 2026 *Conference Paper Presentation*
“Operation Aphrodite: Reconsidering the United States’ First Drone Bombing
Mission,” History of Science Society and European Society for the History of
Science, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- 2025 *Conference Paper Presentation*
“Imagining Techno-war: Protest Music and Critical Consciousness of the U.S.
War in Vietnam,” History of Science Society, New Orleans, LA
- 2025 *Conference Paper Presentation*
“The New Top Guns: Tracing the Growth of a World Market for Military Drone
Technology,” Society for the History of Technology, University of Luxembourg

- 2024 *Co-Organizer and Panel Discussant*
Carolina Public Humanities, post-play panel discussion of Michael Frayn's *Copenhagen* at Burning Coal Theatre, Raleigh, NC
- 2024 *Works in Progress Seminar Presentation*
"A Silent Drone: Finding Meaning in Drone Technology's Absence from Vietnam War Music." North Carolina State University History Department, Raleigh, N.C.
- 2023 *Invited Lecturer*
"The Vietnam War," invited by Professor Dirk Bönker for the course "Introduction to the History of Modern Warfare," Duke University, Durham, N.C.
- 2023 *Works in Progress Seminar Presentation*
"Unmanly Powers: The 1960 U-2 Crisis, Gender Anxieties, and the Automation of United States Airpower." Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology.
- 2022 *Panel Discussant*
New Faces Conference XXIII, Triangle Institute for Security Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2022 *Works in Progress Seminar Presentation*
"Unmanly Powers: The 1960 U-2 Crisis, Gender Anxieties, and the Automation of United States Airpower." North Carolina State University History Department
- 2022 *Conference Paper Presentation*
"Unmanly Powers: The 1960 U-2 Crisis, Gender Anxieties, Religious Objections, and the Automation of United States Airpower." Duke Jewish Studies Research Symposium
- 2022 *Conference Paper Presentation*
"Unmanly Powers: Gender Anxieties, the 1960 U-2 Crisis, and the Automation of United States Airpower." Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations
- 2022 *Conference Paper Presentation*
"‘Invent for Victory’: The United States National Inventors Council and its Pursuit of Push-Button Violence, 1940-1945." Policy History Conference, Arizona State University.
- 2021 *Dissertation Chapter Work in Progress Seminar Presentation*
With invited commenter Professor Mark R. Wilson, UNC Charlotte, "‘Invent for Victory’: The United States National Inventors Council and its Pursuit of Push-Button Violence, 1940-1946." Duke History Department Methods Lab.
- 2020 *Panel Organizer and Panelist*
"Virtuality as Method: Teaching," Duke History Department Methods Lab
- 2019 *Invited Participant*
Conference on Drone Warfare, Peace Action's Interfaith Coalition on Drone Warfare, Princeton University Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J.

- 2018 *Invited Participant*
TechPlomacy Conference on Technology, Governance, and the Future of Diplomacy, Center for Strategic and International Studies, via Denmark's Ambassador of Technology Casper Klynge, Washington D.C.
- 2018 *Invited Lecturer*
"Onwards and Upwards Christian Soldier: Francis Gary Powers and the Suicidal Expectations of his Nation," invited by Professor Amy Laura Hall for the course "War and Christianity," Department of Ethics and Duke Divinity School.
- 2018 *Invited Lecturer*
"From Imperial Air Policing to Contemporary Drone Warfare," invited by Professor Adam Mestyan for the course "Violent Jihad: A Global History."
- 2017 *Co-Organizer and Panelist*
Conference On the Use of Drones in Warfare, Duke University, Department of Ethics and the Divinity School, in conjunction with the release of *Life in the Age of Drone Warfare*, eds. Lisa Parks & Caren Kaplan, Durham, Duke University Press, 2017.
- 2015 *Invited Participant*
National Security Scholars Conference with Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, Fuqua Business School, Duke University.
- 2014 *Conference Paper Presentation*
"The New Drone Misconception: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in the World Wars," Graduate History Conference, Louisiana State University.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

- 2024 For Duke University's Centennial Committee
Archival research for the book *Duke University: The First One Hundred Years, 1924-2024*, and for the film *Permanent Good: A Duke Documentary*.
- 2023 For Professor Kimberly Phillips-Fein, Columbia University
Examination of Duke University Professor William McDougall's papers at the Rubenstein Library in association with ongoing book project.
- 2018 For Professor Martin Duberman, City University of New York, Lehman College
Reading of materials from several collections held at Duke University's Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture. In support of the book: *Andrea Dworkin: The Feminist as Revolutionary*, The New Press, 2020.
- 2015 For Professor Aaron Sheehan-Dean, Louisiana State University.
Reading of Civil War era newspapers and other sources for moral critiques of violence outside regular combat. In support of the book: *The Calculus of Violence: How Americans Fought the Civil War*, Harvard University Press, 2018.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2025 Emergency Course Overload, History Department, NCSU
- 2025 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), Volunteer Summer Course Instructor
- 2023-2024 Archival Researcher for the book *Duke University: The First 100 Years*
By request of the Duke University Centennial Committee
- 2023 North Carolina State University, History Department Honors Program
Undergraduate Thesis Committee Member
- 2022 Duke University Alumni Profile Series Interview with Professor Tracy Campbell
- 2021-2022 Graduate Advisory Board to History Department Methods Lab
- 2020-2021 Co-Organizer, Graduate Student Working Group on Historical Methodology
History Methods Lab, Department of History, Duke University
- 2019 Peer Mentor to Incoming History Department PhD Student
Duke University History Graduate Student Association
- 2015-2016 Graduate Assistant Coordinator
Duke University History Department Colloquia Series
- 2013-2014 Graduate Student Conference Organizing Committee
History Graduate Student Association, Louisiana State University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Historical Association, Member
- Organization of American Historians, Member
- Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, Member
- Society for Military History, Member
- Society for the History of Technology, Member
- History of Science Society, Member