

Matthew Laubacher

Associate Professor
Ashford University

Education

- 2011 Ph.D., History
 Arizona State University
 Dissertation: “Cultures of Collection in Late Nineteenth Century American Natural History”

 Dissertation Committee: Monica Green, Manfred Laubichler, & Kent Wright
 Major Field: History of Science
 Minor Field: Modern Europe
- 2004 M.Ed., Cross-Cultural Teaching, National University
- 2001 B.A. History/B.S. Biology, University of California, San Diego

Teaching and Professional Experience

Department Chair, Department of Social Sciences, Ashford University, 2013-2014; 2015
Courses Taught: “World Civilizations II (1500-Present)”; “United States History Since 1865”; “Twentieth-Century Europe”; “World War II”; “Science and Culture”; “Historiography and Historical Methodologies;” “History Capstone”

Non-Teaching responsibilities include: Supervising and training the full time faculty chairs and core full time faculty within the Social Science Department while working as the History Program Chair (see below) concurrently. In addition to full time faculty, the Department included over four hundred adjunct faculty, and served over 2500 students, while maintaining a heavy presence in the University’s general education curriculum. As department chair, I serve on the college leadership committee with other department chairs and deans, was tasked with implementing the department’s faculty mentoring and development policies, supervising curricular and assessment development of department courses, advising Program Chairs on Program Review, work with instructional support staff to support best practices within the online classroom, and was responsible for the evaluation of Core Faculty within the Department. In addition, I have served on a number of university-wide task forces that seek to encourage student engagement and retention within the online classroom.

Associate Professor and Chair of History 2014

Courses Taught: “Twentieth-Century Europe”; “World War II”; “Science and Culture”

Non-Teaching Responsibilities include: Supervising Full Time and Part Time History faculty, maintaining and improving history curriculum with respect to Program Review

Action Plan, Serving as the Co-Chair of the HIS 204 Gateway to Completion Committee, coordinating Full time faculty outreach/coaching/collaboration with Associate Faculty, and supervise the development of standardized assessment rubrics for use in History classes, and continuing to serve as the College's Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Representative.

Associate Professor & Core Faculty, College of Liberal Arts, Ashford University, 2014

Courses Taught: "United States History Since 1865"; "Twentieth-Century Europe"; "World War II"; "Science and Culture"; "Historiography and Historical Methodologies;" "History Capstone"

Non-Teaching Responsibilities include: Ensuring best practices amongst adjunct faculty via institutional peer review and mentoring programs, serving on the University Curriculum Committee, serving on an institutional taskforce regarding discussion fora and assessment, and serving as a contributing author on the self-study for the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts Program Review.

Associate Professor & History Program Chair, Ashford University, 2011-2013

Courses Taught: "World Civilizations I (to 1500)"; "World Civilizations II (1500-Present)"; "United States History Since 1865"; "Twentieth-Century Europe"; "World War II"; "Global Socioeconomic Perspectives"; "Science and Culture"; "Liberal Arts Capstone"

Non-Teaching responsibilities included: Served as the first online program history chair at Ashford University, was responsible for hiring and mentoring full time faculty, coordinating the development of curriculum and standard assessments for the online history program, engaging adjunct faculty in quarterly professional development, serving as a faculty peer reviewer, coordinated the mentoring new and/or struggling adjunct faculty, and attended accreditation conferences. I served as the interim chair of the following programs at this time: Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, Liberal Arts, Social Science, Environmental Studies, and general education Mathematics. In addition, I served on a number of faculty search committees and was the chaired the History Program Review.

Adjunct Faculty – Ashford University (Online), 2008-2011

Courses Taught: "Introduction to Cultural Anthropology"; "World Civilizations I (to 1500)"; "World Civilizations II (1500-Present)"; "United States History Since 1865"; "The American Constitution"

Adjunct Faculty – Rio Salado College (Online), 2007-2011

Course Taught: "Introductory Biology for Allied Health"

Non-Teaching Responsibilities: Attendance at Compliance and Professional Development trainings twice a year.

Faculty Associate – Arizona State University 2010-2011

Courses Taught: “Western Civilizations II; 1400-1750”; “Modern Britain, 1688-Present”

Graduate Teaching Associate (Instructor) – Arizona State University 2008-2010

Courses Taught: “Western Civilizations II; 1400-1750”; “Western Civilizations III; 1750-Present”

Publications:

Laubacher, M (2012). “The ‘Mandarin-Missionary Strategy’: Spencer Fullerton Baird, Robert Kennicott, and the Hudson’s Bay Company. *Endeavor* 36 (2), 46-54.

Swanson, A., Davis, B., McMahon, C., Ivy, K., & Laubacher, M. (2014). *Lessons learned: Video in the online classroom*. VII International Guide Conference, Universidad Panamericana, Guatemala City, Guatemala. ISBN: 9788897772026.

Presentations

Swanson, A., Davis, B., McMahon, C., Ivy, K., & Laubacher, M. “*Lessons learned: Video in the online classroom*” (Virtual presentation). VII International Guide Conference: Cultural Identity in the Midst of Global Modernizations: The Role of Distance Education, Universidad Panamericana, Guatemala City, Guatemala; April, 2014.

Laubacher, M. “Collection in Late Nineteenth Century Natural History: Collaboration, Expertise, and the Formation of Biological Knowledge.” Office of Creative Research and Scholarship Lecture Series, Ashford University; June, 2013

Laubacher, M. “The Evolution of the Local Expert: Frank Stephens, a Case Study.” History of Science Society 2012 Annual Meeting, November 2012, San Diego, California

Laubacher, M. “Desert as Laboratory: Surveys, Collectors, and the Synthesis of Systematic Natural History” History and Philosophy in the Desert Graduate Workshop, February 2011, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona

Laubacher, M. “The Growth of Collaborative Collecting: Spencer F. Baird, Robert Kennicott, and the Hudson Bay Company” History of Science Society 2010 Annual Meeting, November 2010, Montreal, Canada

Research and Teaching Interests

Research Interests: My research interests include examining the history of natural history and other forms of biology, understanding how theory informed practice in biology (and vice versa), the study of dissemination of ideas between cultures, studying transnational and comparative science, how science was practiced throughout formal and informal empire, and examining how science influenced cultural worldviews. I am also interested in larger questions facing both history and education, such as the role of the public in shaping the historical narrative, the

development of standards, as well as more theoretical questions regarding methodological approaches in teaching history.

Teaching Interests: I am interested in teaching a myriad of subjects, from the history of science, to American history, to the history of British and American empire, to comparative World History. I am especially interested in teaching interdisciplinary courses that require students to assess the role of literature, philosophy, and science in a cultural context.

Current Projects

Author: “The Impact of Embedded Digital Content on Student Engagement in the Online History Classroom” (data collection & planning stage)

Lead Author: “The Impact of Formative Writing Assessments on Student Success” (writing stage)

Author: “Cultures of Collection in Late Nineteenth Century Natural History” (planning & proposal stage)

UFP Research Grant: “Collection and Display: Evolution and the Field Museum” (preparation stage)

Textbook Reviews

Benzel, T, Dale, L. & Maniates, M. (2012) *Global Socioeconomic Perspectives*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Collica, K. & Furst, G. (2012). *Crime and Society*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Getz, T. R. & Brooke, J.E. (2012). *World History: The Human Experience from 1500*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Grafton, A. & Bell D. (2014) *Western Civilizations*. New York: W.W. Norton

Korgen, K. & Furst, G. (2012). *Social Problems: Causes and Responses*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Landrum, R. E. (2012). *Research and Writing in the Social Sciences*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Madahvi, F (2012). *World History: The Human Experience to 1500*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Stockwell, M. (2012). *The American Story: Perspective and Encounters to 1865*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Zack, N. (2012). *Race and Ethnicity*. San Diego: Bridgepoint Education

Online Course Design

2009: Arizona State University
HST 103: Western Civilizations
HST 367: Modern Britain

2012: Ashford University
LIB 332: Science and Culture

Fellowships and Awards

2015	University Fellows Grant (Ashford University)
2011	Doctoral Completion Fellowship (ASU)
2010	HSS Conference Travel Grant
2010	Summer Dissertation Improvement Grant (ASU)
2009	Smithsonian Doctoral Improvement Fellowship
2009	PACHS Visiting Dissertation Fellowship

Professional Memberships

American Historical Association

History of Science Society

Service

Ashford University

2014-2015	HIS 204 Gateway to Completion Committee, Co-Chair
2012-2015	University Curriculum Committee Representative, College of Liberal Arts
2014	Program Review Self Study Committee, B.A. in Liberal Arts
2013-2014	Discussion Forum Task Force
2012-2013	Program Review Committee Chair, History
2012-2013	Program Review Self Study Template Committee

2012 College of Liberal Arts Retreat

2012 Ashford University Faculty Retreat

2011-2012 Program Review Self Study Committee, Criminal Justice

Arizona State University

2008 Ad-Hoc Graduate Committee Review Board, Arizona State University

2007 Graduate Student Mentoring, Arizona State University