

LAWRENCE TRENT MACNAMARA

Texas A&M University
Department of History
College Station, TX 77843-4236
t.macnamara@tamu.edu

DEGREES RECEIVED

Columbia University, Ph.D. in History, 2015
Columbia University, M.A. in History, 2010
Brown University, A.B. in History, 2003

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant professor, Texas A&M University, 2017-
Lecturer, Texas A&M University, 2016-17
Instructor, Barnard College, 2011-12

TEACHING & RESEARCH FIELDS

19th and 20th century U.S. history
Social, cultural, and intellectual history
Environmental history

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Book:

Birth Control and American Modernity: A History of Popular Ideas (Cambridge University Press, 2018; paperback, 2020)

Refereed articles:

“Sky God: Remaking the Heavens and Divinity in the Nineteenth-Century United States” *Religion & American Culture* 32:1 (Winter 2022), 30-67

“Why ‘Race Suicide’? Cultural Factors in U.S. Fertility Decline, 1903-1908,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 44:4 (Spring 2014), 475-508

Refereed book chapters:

“Being, Time, and Historical Demography” in K. Matthijs, S. Hin, J. Kok and H. Matsuo, eds., *Upside and down and inside out: The future of historical demography* (Acco Leuven, 2016)

“Introduction: Living in the Demos” in *Living in the Demos: Qualitative Approaches to Demographic Questions*. Special issue of *The History of the Family* (March 2015), with Yuliya Hilevych

Manuscript under review:

“The Celestial Commons: Heavenly Space and Earthly Power in the Early United States” *Journal of American History*. Submitted March 2021; resubmitted Jan. 2022

Fellowships & awards

Mansfield Prize, Adler Planetarium (\$1,000)

New England Research Fellowship Consortium, June-August 2022 (\$5,000)

Norton Strange Townshend Fellow, Clements Library, University of Michigan, May-June 2022 (\$2,500)

Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellow, American Antiquarian Society, June-July 2018 (\$1,850)

Melbern Glasscock Center Non-Tenure Track Faculty Research Fellowship Award, 2016-17 (\$1,500)

Scholar in Residence, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, 2014-15

Invited lectures

“Big Sky: Higher Places and Higher Meaning in the United States” Dallas Area Society of Historians, Feb. 25, 2022

“Popular Cosmology in Nineteenth Century America” Rauner Library, Dartmouth University, July 19, 2022

Conference papers

“The Heavens and Nature Religion in America” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Nov. 2019, New York, NY

“Big Sky: Popular Ideas about the Heavens in America” Social Science History Association, Nov. 2019, Chicago, IL

“‘Race Suicide’ and Procreative Mysticism in America, 1900-1940” Organization of American Historians, April 2018, Sacramento, California

“The Roosevelts, Race Suicide, and Reproductive Liberalism” Pursuing the Rooseveltian Century, Nov. 2017, Middelburg, Netherlands

“Birth Control on the Radio: Popular Ideas in a Democratic Movement” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Oct. 2017, Dallas, Texas

Other publications

“Why Do Fertility Rates Rise and Fall?” *The Atlantic* (March 26, 2019)

Languages

French (reading, speaking), Spanish (reading, speaking)

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Departmental service:

History of Science hiring committee (2023)

Undergraduate Committee (2021-)

Executive Committee (2018-2020)

Library Committee (2017-19, 2021-)

Ron Stone Texas History Endowment Committee (2020)

Graduate Internship Coordinator (2019-)
ACES Search Committee (2019-20)
Department Head Search Committee (2018-19)
David Chapman Graduate Fellowship Award Committee (2019)

College service:

CAS Environmental Initiative, steering committee (2023-)

Editorship:

Invited guest editor, “Qualitative approaches to demographic questions” Special issue of *The History of the Family* (March 2015), with Yuliya Hilevych

Conference panel organizer:

“Reading Fate in the Early Republic” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Nov. 2023, Denver, CO

“Big Sky: The Heavens, Technology, and Higher Meaning” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Nov. 2019, New York, NY

“Popular Ideas on Gender, Reproduction and Democratic Citizenship” Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Oct. 2017, Dallas, TX

Professional memberships:

Organization of American Historians
American Historical Association
American Society for Environmental History
Society for U.S. Intellectual History
History of Science Society