

Curriculum Vitae  
**MELANIE D. NEWPORT**  
University of Connecticut  
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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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2016— University of Connecticut, Hartford  
Assistant Professor of US History  
Affiliated Faculty in American Studies, Urban and Community Studies

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## EDUCATION

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2016 Temple University, Ph.D., History.  
Dissertation: “Jail America: The Reformist Origins of the Carceral State”  
Advisor: Heather Ann Thompson  
Committee: Lila Corwin Berman, Bryant Simon, Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve

2009 University of Utah, Master of Arts, History.  
Master’s Thesis: “Grassroots Power: The Utah Eagle Forum, 1972-2009”

2006 Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, History.

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

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Crime and punishment, urban history, legal history, American politics and political institutions, African American history, history of capitalism, social movements, recent American history.

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book Manuscript

*Community of the Condemned: Chicago and the Transformation of the American Jail*. Under contract, University of Pennsylvania Press, Politics and Culture in Modern America Series. Expected Spring 2021)

### Anthology Chapters

“The Utah Eagle Forum: Legitimizing Political Activism as Women’s Work.” In *Oral History, Community, and Work in the American West*, edited by Jessie L. Embry, 247-266. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2013.

Under review, “Contesting Mass Incarceration: African Americans in Chicago’s Jails.” In *New Histories of Black Chicago* (Champaign: University of Illinois Press), expected 2020.

## Book Reviews

“Crime and Punishment in the Jim Crow South. Edited by Amy Wood and Natalie Ring.” *Journal of African American History*. (forthcoming)

“Incarcerating the Crisis: Freedom Struggles and the Rise of the Neoliberal State. By Jordan T. Camp.” *Journal of American History* 105, no. 1 (June 2018), 208–209, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jahist/jay107>.

“City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles, 1771-1965. By Kelly Lytle Hernández.” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 37, no. 3 (Spring 2018), 127-128, [www.jstor.org/stable/10.5406/jamerethnhist.37.3.0127](http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5406/jamerethnhist.37.3.0127).

“From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Making of Mass Incarceration in America. By Elizabeth Hinton.” *Journal of Social History* 51, no. 3 (Spring 2018), 650-652, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jsh/shw119>.

## Encyclopedia Articles

“Alice’s Restaurant,” “Griffiths, Martha,” “Guthrie, Arlo,” “Mink, Patsy Takemoto,” and “Smith, Margaret Chase.” In *The Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, edited by Jim Baugess and Abbe Debolt, Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011.

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## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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### National

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| 2018 | Short Term Travel Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago                          |
| 2016 | Black Metropolis Research Consortium Short-Term Summer Fellowship, University of Chicago |
| 2015 | Society for United States Intellectual History Conference Grant                          |
| 2015 | Digital Humanities Summer Institute Course Scholarship (declined)                        |
| 2014 | Robert L. Platzman Memorial Fellowship, University of Chicago                            |
| 2012 | Annette K. Baxter Student Convention Travel Grant, American Studies Association          |

### Internal

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| 2017-2018 | Provost’s Teaching Award, University of Connecticut (Spring & Fall 2017, Spring 2018)                        |
| 2016      | Zimring Award, Temple University Department of History   |
| 2014-2015 | Graduate School Senior Doctoral Fellowship, Temple University  |
| 2013-2014 | Graduate Associate Fellowship, Center for the Humanities at Temple   |
| 2010-2012 | George Adams Research Scholarship, Temple University   |
| 2011      | Edward R. and Essie Baron Award for Outstanding Teaching Assistance, Temple University Department of History |
| 2006      | Outstanding Senior Paper, Pacific Lutheran University Department of History                                  |
| 2004-2006 | Academic Scholarship, Pacific Lutheran University  |
| 2004-2006 | Q-Club Scholarship, Pacific Lutheran University  |

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## PANELS AND WORKSHOPS

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- 2019 Chair and Comment, The Politics of Sex, Drugs and Guns Since the 1960s: Rethinking the Political History of the Carceral State, Remaking American Political History Conference, June 6.
- 2019 Invited Speaker, “I’m Afraid of Cook County Jail’: Making Space for Women in Chicago’s Jails,” Modern American Society and Culture Seminal, Massachusetts Historical Society, March 26.
- 2019 Discussant, "Integration and Gentrification: Signifiers of Racial Placemaking in the Modern Metropolis" workshop, Brown University, February 15.
- 2019 Presenter, “Carceral Contingencies and Visions of 1960s Jail Reform,” American Historical Association conference, January 6.
- 2018 Invited Speaker, “Jails Everywhere are Inadequate”: Histories of County Jails before 1970 and Beyond, Vera Institute of Justice Jail Symposium, October 25.
- 2018 Presenter, Crime and Punishment and the End of Richard J. Daley’s Chicago roundtable, Urban History Association Conference, October 20.
- 2018 Chair, The Intellectual Underpinnings of Urban Policing in 20th Century U.S. panel, Urban History Association Conference, October 20.
- 2018 Chair and Comment, Institutional Reformation: Chicago and Delinquent Youths panel, Urban History Association Conference, October 21.
- 2018 Presenter, “Men Whose Lives are Always Public: Humanity and Citizenship in 1950’s Cook County Jail,” Yale University Histories of the Carceral State Working Group, September 25.
- 2018 Presenter, Organizer, “Metropolitan Corrections: Federal Engagement with Local Jail Policy in Chicago,” Urban Federalism in Post-1945 America panel, Policy History Conference, May 19.
- 2018 Chair and Comment, Federalism: Seen through the New Deal, Johnson, and Reagan/Bush panel, Policy History Conference, May 17.
- 2018 Invited Speaker, “‘Men Whose Lives are Always Public’: Building a ‘Community of the Condemned’ at Chicago’s Cook County Jail, 1954-1958,” Tamiment Library Cold War Seminar, New York University, May 3.
- 2017 Chair and Comment, America and the Politics of Union panel, New England Historical Association Conference, October 28.

- 2017 Presenter, Organizer, “‘Making up for Earlier Deficiencies’: Worker Retaining and Misdemeanant Incarceration in Chicago,” Rethinking Carceral Labor Struggles: Unions, Job Training, and Parole for Incarcerated Workers in the Twentieth Century US panel, Labor and Working Class History Association conference, June 24.
- 2017 Presenter, “‘Fashioning a Noose’: Citizenship and the Necropolitics of Jail Suicide,” Contested Citizenship conference, University of Connecticut, March 31.
- 2016 Discussant, “Research on Mass Incarceration and Smart Decarceration,” University of Connecticut School of Social Work panel, December 1.
- 2016 Invited Speaker, “The Intertwined Histories of the Chicago Police Department and Cook County Jail,” Plenary Panel: Policing in Cities, Policing in History, Urban History Association Conference, October 16.
- 2016 Presenter, Organizer, “Cook County Jail and the Black Metropolis,” Roundtable on African Americans and Criminal Justice in 20th Century Chicago, Urban History Association Conference, October 15.
- 2016 Presenter, “Cook County Jail: Racism, Violence, and the Dangerous History of Jail Reform,” Black Metropolis Research Consortium Summer Short-term Fellows panel, July 13.
- 2015 Presenter, “LEAA Grants for Expansion at Cook County Jail and the Local Origins of Mass Incarceration,” Crime, Punishment, and Federalism: The Curious Case of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration panel, Legal History Association Conference, October 31.
- 2015 Presenter, “Pragmatic Criminology at the University of Chicago and the Origins of Jail Reform,” Postwar Criminology panel, Society for US Intellectual History Conference, October 18.
- 2015 Presenter, “‘A Jail Without Bars’: Winston Moore and the Local Origins of Mass Incarceration at Cook County Jail,” Local Narratives of Policing, Punishment, and the Politics of Community Control panel, Association for the Study of African American Life & History conference, September 25.
- 2015 Presenter, “County Jail Master Plans and the Local Origins of Mass Incarceration,” The Criminalization of Race in History and Global Societies: Social Activism and Equal Justice, Monmouth University Interdisciplinary Conference on Race, April 18.
- 2014 Presenter, “Origins of the Urban Mega Jail,” Capitalism and the Carceral State roundtable, Cornell Conference on the Histories of American Capitalism, November 9.

- 2014 Presenter, “Federal Courts and the Massive Expansion of Cook County Jail, 1968-1995,” Drugs, Jails, and Juvenile Justice: Communities and the State at the Dawn of Mass Incarceration panel, Social Science History Association conference. November 6.
- 2014 Presenter and Panel Organizer, “A New Penology of Cook County Jail’: Rehabilitation and Local Politics in 1950s Chicago,” Crime, Policing, and Incarceration in Chicago panel, Urban History Association conference, October 11.
- 2014 Presenter, “Incarcerating the Poor: Bail Policy and Overcrowding in Cook County Jail, 1965-1988,” Prison Politics in Postwar America panel, Policy History Association conference. June 7.
- 2014 Participant, “Constituting Federalism” seminar, Institute for Constitutional History, National Endowment for the Humanities, New York Historical Society. February.
- 2014 Presenter, “Cook County Jail, the Law Enforcement Assistance Association, and the Construction of the American Carceral State,” Neoliberal America and the Carceral State panel, American Historical Association conference. January 5.
- 2013 Presenter, “Postwar American Jail Expansion and the Origins of Mass Incarceration.” The American Racial State in the Long Twentieth Century conference, University of Michigan. May 11.
- 2013 Presenter, “Rethinking the History of American Jails in the Postwar Era.” Police, Prisons, and Power: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Criminal Justice conference, City University of New York. April 12.
- 2012 Organizer and Presenter, “Federal Policy and the Making of a Carceral State.” Mass Incarceration: Art, Advocacy, and the Academy conference and teach-in, Tyler School of Art, Temple University. November 29.
- 2012 Presenter, State of the Field Roundtable: “Building Critical Prison Studies: Current Scholarship and New Directions.” American Studies Association Conference. November 17.
- 2012 Presenter, “Justifying Mass Incarceration: Portrayals of the Rehabilitation of the Women of Purdy Prison, 1971-2011.” Women and Media: Representations Past and Present conference, Queen’s University Belfast. March 10.
- 2011 Presenter, “The Utah Eagle Forum, Mormon Conservatism, and the Rise of the Tea Party.” Barnes Club conference, Temple University. March 26.
- 2010 Presenter, “Regulating Sin: The Moral Majority, the Body, and the Political Culture of the Reagan Era.” Barnes Club conference, Temple University. March.

- 2009           Presenter, “Manifestations of a New-Right Corporeality in 20th Century Conservative Activism.” Bodies and Boundaries graduate student conference at The Pennsylvania State University. October.
- 2009           Presenter, “The Utah Eagle Forum: Oral History and Grassroots Activism in the West.” Western Historical Association conference. October.
- 2009           Presenter, “The Utah Eagle Forum: Evolving Visions of Women’s’ Citizenship and the Rise of the Conservative ‘Watchdog,’ 1972-2008.” Historians of the Twentieth Century United States conference. June.
- 2008           Presenter and Participant, “The Utah Eagle Forum: Using Oral History to Uncover Perceptions of Conservative Grassroots Activism.” Oral History and the Intermountain West seminar, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University. August.

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## **TEACHING**

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### **University of Connecticut-Hartford, Department of History**

Activism and Dissent in Modern America  
 Crime, Policing, and Punishment  
 History of Urban America  
 United States History to 1877  
 United States History since 1877

### **Temple University, Department of History**

Gender and World Societies  
 Intermediate Writing Seminar: Crime and Punishment in the United States  
 Cold War Culture  
 American Revolutions: Revolutions in African American History  
 Capstone Seminar: American Political History in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
 Intermediate Writing Seminar: America in the 1970s  
 Intermediate Writing Seminar: The History of Prisons in America  
 Race and Ethnicity in America  
 US History from 1877 to Present, teaching assistant to David Farber  
 Dissent in America, teaching assistant to Ralph Young  
 American Revolutions, teaching assistant to David Watt

### **Temple University, Department of Political Science**

History and Significance of Race in America

### **Community College of Philadelphia, Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies**

20<sup>th</sup> Century United States History  
 Colonial America through the Revolutionary War  
 Women in American History

**The College of New Jersey, Department of History / New Jersey Department of Corrections**  
Themes in American History: Crime and Punishment

**Princeton University, Center for African American Studies**  
Race and the American Legal Process, preceptor to Imani Perry

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**STUDENTS**

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**Undergraduate**

2019 Honors Thesis Advisor, Angelina Gadziala

**Graduate**

2019 External Reader, Matthew Guariglia

2019 External Reader, Brittney Yancy

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**SERVICE**

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**University of Connecticut**

2019 Graduate Affairs Committee, At-Large Member, Department of History

2019 Head's Advisory Board, Department of History

2019 Lunchtime workshop, "I'm Afraid of Cook County Jail': Making Space for Women in Chicago's Jails," School of Social Work, January 28.

2018-2019 Search Committee, Urban and Community Studies Director.

2018-2019 Academic Integrity Board, Hartford Campus

2018 Public Talk, UConn Hartford, "Community of the Condemned, Chicago and the Transformation of the American Jail," November 7.

2018 Panelist, Voter Wrongs: From the Plantation to the Penitentiary: Mass Incarceration and the Legacy of US Voter Suppression, Africana Studies Institute, Storrs campus, November 1.

2018 Search Committee, Center for Students with Disabilities, Regional Campus Coordinator, Hartford campus

2018- Faculty advisor, Human Rights Club, Hartford campus.

2018 Faculty advisor, Humility and Public Life project for Greenhouse Studios.

2017-2018 Faculty Coordinator, Courageous Conversations series, Hartford campus.

2017-2018 Faculty Council, Hartford Campus.

2017 Search Committee, Urban and Community Studies APIR position.

2017 Panelist, "Humanities in Action" panel, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, March 8.

2016 Faculty Partner, University of Connecticut Cities Collaborative.

2016 "A Scholarly Website: Why and How," Brown-bag lunch presentation, History Department, October 31.

2016 Panelist, Academic Job Search Faculty Panel, UConn PostDoc Appreciation Week Data Blitz, September 23.

## Temple University

- 2012-2015 Board Member, Temple University Programming Advisory Council, Temple Contemporary Art Gallery, Tyler School of Art, Temple University.
- 2012-2013 Secretary, Temple University Graduate Students Association, American Federation of Teachers.
- 2011-2012 President, History Graduate Student Association, Temple University.
- 2010-2011 Secretary, History Graduate Student Association, Temple University.

## University of Utah

- 2008-2009 President, History Graduate Student Association and Graduate Student Advisory Committee, University of Utah.
- 2008-2009 Student Representative, History Department Graduate Committee, University of Utah.
- 2007-2008 Vice-President, History Graduate Student Association, University of Utah.

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## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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- 2019 "A History of Cook County Jail." Interview on Kite Line Radio, WFHB, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/kite-line-august-23-2019-a-history-of-cook-county-jail/id1161477952?i=1000447645989>.
- 2019 "The power broker: Can conservative icon Gayle Ruzicka stay relevant in today's Republican party?" Interviewed by *Deseret News*, March 6, 2019. <https://www.deseretnews.com/article/900058943/the-power-broker-conservative-icon-gayle-ruzicka-stay-relevant-in-todays-republican-party-abortion-utah.html>
- 2018-2019 Planning Committee, NCPH States of Incarceration Exhibit Opening Reception, Hartford Public Library.
- 2018-2019 Member, Connecticut History Day Advisory Group
- 2018-2018 Collaborator, ConnTours Digital Tours, CT Humanities
- 2018 "A History of Bail Reform," Interviewed by *South Side Weekly*, Jan. 31. <https://southsideweekly.com/a-history-of-bail-reform/>.
- 2017 "#MeToo Movement Draws Local Accounts Of Sexual Harassment and Assault," Interviewed by *The Hartford Courant*, Oct. 16. <http://www.courant.com/community/hartford/hc-news-metoo-social-media-trend-harrassment-20171016-story.html>
- 2017 Media support for Chicago Community Bond Fund, Sept. 21.
- 2017 Appearance on Chapters Podcast with Mary Mahoney, aired Sept. 8.
- 2017 "Why Historians Want You to Journal in the Age of Trump," interviewed by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 31. [http://www.chronicle.com/article/Why-Historians-Want-You-to/240214?cid=wcontentgrid\\_hp\\_2](http://www.chronicle.com/article/Why-Historians-Want-You-to/240214?cid=wcontentgrid_hp_2).
- 2017 Question and Answer with high school students developing a criminal justice themed play at HartBeat Ensemble's Youth Play Institute, March 28.
- 2017 Skype Question and Answer on "13th" documentary with sixth graders at Jason Lee Middle School, Tacoma, WA. March 2.
- 2017 "Lessons from 1970s Bail Organizing from the Cook County Special Bail Project of the Alliance to End Repression," briefing document for organizer Mariame Kaba.

- 2016 “Teaching Tips for Graduate Students,” The Chronicle of Higher Education, Vitae blog, September 26. <https://chroniclevitae.com/news/1558-teaching-tips-for-graduate-students>.
- 2015 “Chronic disease linked to poverty affects deaths behind bars,” interviewed by The Chicago Reporter, October 12. <http://chicagoreporter.com/chronic-disease-linked-to-poverty-affects-deaths-behind-bars/>
- 2015 “When a Psychologist Was in Charge of Jail,” blog post published by The Marshall Project criminal justice news outlet, May 21. <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2015/05/21/when-a-psychologist-was-in-charge-of-jail>
- 2015 “How your local jail became hell: An investigation,” Interviewed by The Week. March 31. <http://theweek.com/articles/540725/how-local-jail-became-hell-investigation>

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## RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT AND CERTIFICATION

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- 2013-2014 Reviewer for Online Course Content and Problem Sets, Learning Design Group, Cengage Learning.
- 2013-2014 Writing Tutor, Temple University Writing Center.
- 2011 Inside-Out Prison Education Exchange Training.
- 2008-2009 Project Coordinator and Transcriptionist, Cold Fusion Oral History Project, University of Utah, American West Center.
- 2009 Coordinator, Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams Japanese Internment Camp Photo Exhibit, University of Utah, American West Center.
- 2008 Transcriptionist, “We Shall Remain: A Native History of America and Utah,” KUED Utah Channel 7, PBS.
- 2007 Collections Processor, Special Collections, University of Utah Marriott Library.
- 2003-2004 Digitization Specialist, Pierce County (WA) Executive’s Office Document Scanning Project.

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## AFFILIATIONS

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American Historical Association  
 Association for the Study of African American Life and History  
 Labor and Working Class History Association  
 Organization of American Historians  
 Urban History Association

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## LANGUAGES

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Spanish and German, reading proficiency