

Richard J. Boles

Department of History
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Academic Employment

Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

Assistant Professor of colonial and revolutionary American history, Native American history, and African American history, August 2016 to present

The City College of New York, CUNY, New York, NY

Visiting Assistant Professor of early American history, August 2013 to August 2016

Education

The George Washington University, Washington, DC

Ph.D. in American Religious History, May 2013

Dissertation: "Dividing the Faith: The Rise of Racially Segregated Northern Churches, 1730-1850"

Committee: David Silverman (Director), Dewey Wallace (Co-Director), Robert Cottrol, Eric Arnesen, Denver Brunsman, and Christine Leigh Heyrman

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

M.A. in History, 2006

B.A. in History, 2005, *summa cum laude*

Publications and Research

Scholarly Monograph:

Dividing the Faith: The Rise of Segregated Churches in the Early American North, Early American Places Series (New York University Press, Dec. 2020), 352 pages, ISBN-13: 978-1479803187.

Peer Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters:

"Nemasket/Middleborough and Religious Diversity in Colonial New England," in *Companion to American Religious History*, edited by Benjamin Park (Wiley-Blackwell, March 2021).

"African Americans and Northern Lutherans during the Eighteenth Century," *Lutheran Quarterly* 33, no. 2 (Summer 2019): 153-179.

"'An Unclean Person' or 'A Fit Candidate for a Church Member': Kingston Pease and Northern Baptist Churches," *Rhode Island History* 75, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2017): 32-45.

“Documents Relating to African American Experiences of White Congregational Churches in Massachusetts, 1773-1832,” *New England Quarterly* 86, no. 2 (June 2013): 310-323.

Book Reviews:

Dan B. Wimberly, *Cherokee in Controversy: The Life of Jesse Bushyhead*. *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* XCVI, no. 4 (Winter 2018-19).

Kyle T. Bulthuis, *Four Steeples over the City Streets: Religion and Society in New York's Early Republic Congregations*. *William and Mary Quarterly* 72, no. 3 (July 2015).

Peter P. Hinks and Stephen Kantrowitz, ed., *All Men Free and Brethren: Essays on the History of African American Freemasonry*. *Journal of the Early Republic* 34, no. 2 (Summer 2014).

Edward E. Andrews, *Native Apostles: Black and Indian Missionaries in the British Atlantic World*. *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 112, no. 2 (Spring 2014).

Alan P.F. Sell, *Enlightenment, Ecumenism, and Evangel*. *The Heythrop Journal: A Bimonthly Review of Philosophy and Theology* 52, no. 6 (Nov. 2012).

Other Publications (some peer reviewed):

“People of Color Finding Aid,” online resource for the New England’s Hidden Histories project and Congregational Library & Archives, fall 2020,
<<http://congregationallibrary.org/POCFindingAid/Introduction>>

“Rev. Samson Occom” and “Black Churches in Antebellum North,” in *Race and Ethnicity in the United States: From Pre-contact to the Present*, edited by Russell M. Lawson (Greenwood imprint of ABC-CLIO, October 2019).

“Why Triangular,” “The Three Countries,” and “In Their Own Words” (articles on Atlantic slave trade) for *DIG Into History* 20, no. 5 (May/June 2018) - magazine on world history and archaeology for students ages 9 to 15.

“African-Americans and New England Congregationalism 1730-1830,” *The Congregationalist: Magazine of the Congregational Way* 165, no. 4 (December 2013).

“Race and Colonial Congregational Churches: Some Surprising Findings,” *Bulletin of the Congregational Library*, Second Series, 9, no. 1 (Spring/Summer 2012).

“African Americans: Overview,” on the State of Pennsylvania Heritage Society’s website for the sesquicentennial of the Civil War,
<<http://pacivilwar150.com/ThroughPeople/AfricanAmericans/HistoricalOverview.html>>, September 2009.

“Rev. William Levington,” in *African American National Biography*, edited by Henry Louis Gates and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008).

Select Scholarly Presentations

“Exceptionalism No More: Religious Diversity in Colonial New England,” American Society of Church History virtual annual meeting, February 5, 2021.

“From West Africa and Narragansett Bay: African American and Native American Religious Diversity in New England” paper and panel accepted (but not delivered) for the American Historical Association annual meeting, January 2021 (panel organizer).

“Interracial But Not Integrated: African Americans, Indians, and New England’s Colonial Churches,” public lecture sponsored by the Congregational Library and Old South Meeting House, Boston, June 5, 2019.

“‘Man cannot serve two Masters’: African Americans’ Religious Loyalties in Northern Colonies,” American Historical Association annual meeting, January 4, 2019 (panel organizer).

“‘Not of whites alone, but of blacks also’: Racial Inclusion in New England Churches 1730-1749,” American Society of Church History annual meeting, January 5, 2019 (panel co-organizer).

“Revolutionary Political Legacies and Integrated Churches in the North,” Religion and Politics in Early America Conference, St. Louis, March 1-4, 2018.

“Northerners on the Vanguard: Churches and Slavery in the British Atlantic and Antebellum U.S.,” American Historical Association annual meeting, January 6, 2017.

“‘Not of whites alone, but of blacks also’: Black, Indian and European Protestants, 1730-1749,” manuscript chapter presented to the Early American Seminar Series at the University of Maryland, College Park, September 16, 2016.

“African American Religious Affiliation and the Limits of Northern Freedom 1780-1820,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic annual meeting, July 22, 2016.

“Antislavery, African Americans, and Pluralistic Churches in the American North, 1770-1820,” Social Science History Association annual meeting, November 12, 2015.

“Integrated Churches and the Politics of Race in the North, 1790-1820,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic annual meeting, July 17-20, 2014.

“African American and Indian Church Affiliation: Reevaluating Race and Religion in the North, 1730-1776,” Boston Area Early American History Seminar, February 5, 2013.

Honors, Grants, and Awards

Fellowships and Grants:

Spring 2019 Travel Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, Oklahoma State University

Newberry Library Consortium Travel Grant Program Award 2018

Dean's Incentive Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, Oklahoma State University, 2017

History Department Summer Research Travel Award, Oklahoma State University, 2017

Professional Staff Congress-City University of New York (PSC-CUNY) Research Grant 2015

The Albert J. Beveridge Grant for Research in the History of the Western Hemisphere 2013

New England Regional Fellowship Consortium Grant 2013-2014

Gilder Lehrman Fellowship 2011

American Congregational Association-Boston Athenæum Fellowship 2011-2012

Massachusetts Historical Society's African American Studies Fellowship 2010-2011

Cosmos Scholar 2010, a grant program of the Cosmos Club Foundation

District of Columbia Daughters of the American Revolution Graduate Fellowship

Awards:

History Club of Oklahoma State University, History Professor of the Year, 2017.

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society Member, Omicron Chapter, 2005 (undergraduate award).

Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society Member, Boston College, 2005 (undergraduate award).

Courses Taught

African American History to 1865

American Christianity in the Colonial Era

American Religious History

Era of the American Revolution

Early America: Colonial History to 1750

History Senior Seminar

Race and Religion in American History (Honors Add-On)

Survey of American History to 1877 (HIST 1483)

Survey of American History to Present (HIST 1103)

Blacks and Native Americans: Comparative Histories

African American Religions, 18th Century to Present

Early African American Life and Culture

Colonial and Revolutionary Era America – Graduate Reading Seminar

American Religious History – Graduate Reading Seminar

Native American Religions – Graduate Independent Study Seminar

Eighteenth Century American-British Political Culture – Graduate Independent Study Seminar

University and Professional Service

Steering Committee Member, Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies, Newberry Library of Chicago, April 2019 to February 2021.

Research and Prize Committee Member, American Society of Church History, 2019 to 2022.

Vice Chair, Group II Graduate Faculty Council, Spring 2021 to present.

General Faculty Representative on the Diversity Advisory Board, Oklahoma State University, 2018 to 2021.

Graduate Studies Committee, History Department, Oklahoma State University, 2019 to present.

Programing Committee Members, Fae Rawdon Norris Foundation for the Humanities, April 2019 to present.

Historian and Committee on Members in Course (selection committee), Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma of Oklahoma Chapter, March 2019 to present.

OSU Faculty Liaison for the Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies, July 2018 to present.

Teaching Committee, History Department, Oklahoma State University, 2019 to present; Chair of the Teaching Committee, Fall 2020 to present.

Academic Integrity Facilitator, Oklahoma State University, 2016 to present.

History Department's Scholarship and Philanthropy Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, 2016 to 2018.

History Department Search Committee Member: Department Head, Native American History, Religious Studies, and African American History positions, 2017 to present.

OSU Center for Sovereign Nations Faculty Partner, 2019 to present.

History Writing Course Curriculum Development Committee, History Department, City College of New York, 2014 to 2016.

Peer reviewer for the following academic presses and journals:

Oxford University Press

Routledge Press

Journal of Church and State

The Historian

Public History Work

Consultant for the New England's Hidden Histories project at the Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, Mass., 2018-present.

Historian Consultant for the Center for Reconciliation at the Cathedral of St. John, Providence, R.I. (Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island), January 2015.

Archivist Assistant, Summer 2009 & Summer 2012

Special Collections Center, Gelman Library, The George Washington University.

Interpretive Park Ranger, Fall 2006 to Summer 2007 & Summer 2008

Boston African American National Historic Site, Boston, MA

Led walking tours through the historic black neighborhood on Beacon Hill, wrote histories for official website, and developed a new history walking tour.

Historian, 2006 to 2007

EnviroBusiness, Inc. (EBI) Consulting, Burlington, MA

Evaluated the effects of telecommunication installations on historic properties.

Determined if properties were eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.