

Clifton Crais, CV, April 2023

CLIFTON CRAIS, Ph.D.¹

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Education

Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins University, Department of History, May 1988

Master of Arts, The Johns Hopkins University, Department of History, May 1984

Bachelor of Arts, University of Maryland, Department of History, May 1982

Employment

Professor of History, 2004 to present

- Direct nationally ranked Ph.D. program, brought ranking up to number 6 in the country
- Involved in all aspects of undergraduate and graduate program, especially graduate professionalization

Professor of History, Kenyon College, 2001 to 2004

Chair, Department of History, Kenyon College, 1995 to 1998

Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, 1994 to 1995

Associate Professor of History, Department of History, Kenyon College, 1993 to 2001

Assistant Professor of History, Department of History, Kenyon College, 1988 to 1993

University Research Scholar, Institute of Social and Economic Research, Rhodes University,
May to July, 1992

Visiting Associate, Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town, 1991-2

Visiting Associate, Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town, 1989

¹ Abbreviated curriculum vitae. Does not include book reviews, most speaking engagements, presentations, conferences organized, and many other activities.

Visiting Scholar, Department of History, University of Cape Town, 1989

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Cape Town, 1989

Kenan Teaching Fellow, The Johns Hopkins University, January to May 1987

Visiting Scholar, Institute of Social and Economic Research, Rhodes University, July to September 1985

Select Publications

Books

In Progress

Born in Blood: The Violent Making of the Modern World, (Picador, sold in 2022 to in a pre-empt to Picador Press for six figures, and to the University of Chicago Press by auction for high five figures, to be published 2024)

Published

History Lessons (Overlook, April 2014; paperback 2015; Penguin, electronic, 2014); *Library Journal* “Best Books of 2014”; *Kirkus* “Best Memoirs of 2014”; Prize for Georgia Author of the Year. Featured in *The New Republic*, the *New York Times*, *Library Journal*, and other publications and venues.

The South Africa Reader: History, Culture, Politics, edited with Thomas McClendon (Duke University Press, 2013)

Poverty, War and Violence in South Africa (Cambridge University Press, 2012); *Library Journal* “Best Seller”

Sara Baartman and the Hottentot Venus: A Ghost Story and a Biography, with Pamela Scully (Princeton University Press, 2008 (twice), 2010), now in 22nd printing;; *Library Journal* “Best Seller”; featured in *Los Angeles Times*, *Times Higher Education Supplement*, *TLS*, *The Page 99Test*, *Johns Hopkins Magazine*; *Foreword Magazine*, Cape Town Book Fair, radio programs in the United States, South Africa, Australia, starred review, *Publisher’s Weekly*, nominated for Pulitzer and other prizes, finalist for the Paton Prize. Voted one of five best books on the body at [Five Books](#).

Area Editor, *Oxford Encyclopedia of World History*, 8 vol. (Oxford University Press, 2008)

Clifton Crais, CV, April 2023

The Politics of Evil: Magic, Power and the Political Imagination in South Africa, (Cambridge University Press, October 2002; also published in Africa as a special paperback in the new Cambridge University Press Africa Series.) Reprinted edition, 2009. Winner of the OAH Prize, 2004.

The Culture of Power in Southern Africa: Essays on State Formation and the Political Imagination (Heinemann, 2003), editor and contributor

Breaking the Chains: Slavery and its Legacy in Nineteenth-Century South Africa, (Witwatersrand University Press, 1994, distributed in the U.S. by Indiana University Press, 1995), co-editor and contributor

White Supremacy and Black Resistance in Pre-Industrial South Africa: The Making of the Colonial Order in the Eastern Cape, 1770-1865 (Cambridge University Press, 1992, and Witwatersrand University Press, 1992.) Finalist for the 1993 Alan Paton Prize

Articles and Chapters

Review article based on Richard Price's *Making Empire: Colonial Encounters and the Creation of Imperial Rule in Nineteenth-Century Africa*, *American Historical Review*, 114, 4 (October, 2009)

"Race and Erasure: Sara Baartman and Hendrik Cesar in Cape Town and London," *Journal of British Studies*, 47 (April 2008), with Pamela Scully

"Sovereignty and the Politics of Culture in South Africa," *Journal of Social History*, special issue on the future of social history, Spring 2006

"Chiefs and Bureaucrats in the Making of Empire. A Tale from the Transkei, South Africa, October 1880," *American Historical Review*, Fall 2003. This article also appeared as a chapter in 2005, in Knut Nustad and Christian Krohn-Hansen, eds., *The Anthropology of the State*

"Conquest, State Formation and the Subaltern Imagination in Rural South Africa," in *The Culture of Power in Southern Africa*, Clifton Crais, ed.

"Introduction," in *The Culture of Power in Southern Africa*, Clifton Crais, ed.

"Of Men, Magic and the Law: Popular Justice and the Political Imagination in South Africa," *Journal of Social History*, 1998

"Introduction," co-author Nigel Worden, in Crais and Worden, *Breaking the Chains: Slavery*

and its Legacy in Nineteenth-Century South Africa

"Slavery and Freedom in the Eastern Cape, 1770-1856," in Crais and Worden, *Breaking the Chains*

"Representation and the Politics of Identity in South Africa: An Eastern Cape Example," *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 1992

"The Vacant Land: The Mythology of British Expansion in the Eastern Cape, South Africa," *Journal of Social History*, 991

"Slavery and Freedom Along a Frontier: The Eastern Cape, South Africa: 1770-1838," *Slavery and Abolition: A Journal of Comparative Studies*, 1990

"Gentry and Labour in Three Eastern Cape Districts, 1820-1865," *South African Historical Journal*, 1986

Other Publications

"Memory Work/Post-Colonial Lives," (Art Criticism), in Bridget Baker, *A Temporary Admission: A Reader* (London, 2014)

co -author Pamela Scully, "The Curious Case of Caster Semenya," *NAACP Defender online*, , 2009

co -author Pamela Scully, "Hendrik Cesars and the Tragedies of Race in South Africa," *Wonders and Marvels*, 2009

A total of over one hundred papers and publications

Fellowships

NEH Fellowship, 2003

NEH Summer Stipend, 2002

Fulbright Senior Fellowship, 1999 (declined)

Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center, 1994-5

ACLS Fellowship/Grant-In-Aid, for Research in South Africa, 1993

Clifton Crais, CV, April 2023

Summer Stipend, National Endowment of the Humanities, for Research in South Africa, 1993

University Research Fellowship in the Institute of Social and Economic Research, Rhodes University, 1992

Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, University of Cape Town, 1988-9

Research Associate , Centre for African Studies University of Cape Town, December 1988 to December 1989

Administrative Service

Emory University

Director, Institute of African Studies (IAS), Emory University, 2010 to 2020

IAS is one of the oldest and most prominent centers of African Studies in the country. The institute has an undergraduate major and minor and maintains a very active research program involving students and faculty across the university.

- Worked closely with faculty and students
- Organized international conferences
- Organized and chaired advanced research seminar based on presentations by visiting scholars
- Collaborated with the Institute of Developing Nations, including relations with Africa and China
- Hosted international visitors
- Mentored junior tenure-track faculty

President ex officio of the Faculty Senate of the Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Emory University, and member of the Executive Council, 2016-7

The Senate is the central governance body for 539 faculty members in the Arts and Sciences. The Executive Council works directly with the Dean of the College and establishes the agenda for the Senate's work. It has the responsibility for overseeing all aspects of standing committees and works with the administration to establish the priorities and goals for the College and to create and implement policies regarding research, teaching, service, and the development, evaluation and reorganization of programs. We helped implement the college strategic plan, including new standards for tenure and promotion.

President of the Faculty Senate of the Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Emory University, and Vice-Chair of the Faculty of the Arts and Sciences, 2015-16

In addition to leading the Senate, I wrote the inaugural bylaws, hired staff, developed communications strategies, and led the effort in developing a new strategic plan for the college.

- Worked closely with faculty and college and university leadership
- Assisted standing committees
- Cultivated consensus and collaboration among faculty and administration while addressing major challenges facing the college
- Organized and presided over meetings of the faculty

Chair, Governance Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Emory University, and Vice-Chair of the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, 2014-5

The committee represented the Emory College Faculty, consulted with the administration, and oversaw the work of all standing committees.

- Created a new system of faculty governance in the College of Arts and Sciences
- Worked with faculty and college and university leadership, especially relating to issues of governance
- Developed a remarkable degree of consensus by meeting with departments and individual faculty (final vote on new governance system was 100-4)
- Presided over faculty meetings, including detailed presentations

Governance Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Emory University, 2013-4

- Took a leadership role during a period of considerable contention in the wake of the financial crisis and the closing of departments and programs

Founder and Co-Director, Interdisciplinary Workshop in Colonial and Post-Colonial Studies, Emory University, 2005 to 2011

The workshop is a university-wide effort involving faculty, graduate students, and visiting scholars.

- Organized and chaired advanced workshop seminar
- Organized conferences

Chair, Department of History, 2006-7

Instituted two research seminars to bring international scholars to present their work to the department and created an internal graduate seminar.

Professional Service

Emory

Founder and Co-Director (with Gyan Pandey), Workshop in Colonial and Post-Colonial Studies

Graduate Studies Committee, 2015-2017

Fulbright Committee, 2013-2017

Clifton Crais, CV, April 2023

Professionalization Officer, Department of History, Emory, 2008 to 2012

Director, Seminar in African History, Culture and Society, 2005-2008

Board, Institute of Developing Nations, Emory University, 2006 to 2010

Profession

Program Co-Chair, African Studies Association, 2013-14

Co-Chair, 2014 Meetings of the African Studies Association

Organizing Committee, Northeast Workshop on Southern Africa, 2002-03 2001-02 and 1999-2000

Board, GLCA Global Partners East and Southern African Regional Alliance

Panels Chair, History, African Studies Association, 1997

Chair and founder of the Kenyon Seminar, 1990-2001

Editorial Boards

Journal of Social History, 1997 to present

International Journal of African Historical Studies, 2002 to 2007

Most Recently Organized Conferences

Archival Lives: Violence and the Atlantic Slave Trade. Emory University, December 5-7, 2019

Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, 2014, conference organizer with Odile Cazenave

Most Recent Workshop Presentation

“Into the Dark: Nightmares of World History,” Horror and Enchantment: An Interdisciplinary Symposium. University of Michigan, October 11-12, 2019. This is part of a multi-year project.

Public

Numerous talks, interviews (National Public Radio, Pacifica Radio, Voice of America, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, NBC); book talks; distinguished lectures and addresses

Reviews

Manuscripts review for publications such as: Cambridge University Press; Heinemann Press (Social History of Africa Series); Indiana University Press; Ohio University Press; University of California Press; American Historical Review; Journal of Social History; International Journal of African Historical Studies; Journal of the History of Sexuality; African Studies Review; Theory and Society; Comparative Studies in Society and History; Human Organization

Fellowship reviews for National Endowment of the Humanities, American Council of Learned Societies/Social Science Research Foundation, Stanford Humanities Center, MacArthur Foundation; Fulbright; Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

Tenure and Promotion Reviews: Yale University, Rutgers University, Michigan State University, University of California, San Diego; University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), University of Michigan, Vanderbilt University

Advising

Graduate Students (27)

Principal Advisor: Rene Odanga, Gerardo Manrique de Lara Ruiz, Anjuli Webster, Georgia Brunner, Madelyne Stone, Abigail Meert, Ashley Parcels, Sunundan, Andrea Arrington, Jill Rosenthal, Katherine Fidler, Jane Hooper, Francis Musoni, Kara Moskovitz, Husseina Dinani, Robyn Pariser, Molly McCullers, working on topics such as: The Pondoland Revolt; Violence and Displacement in Zimbabwe; The Culture of Early Colonialism in Zambia; The Western Indian Ocean World; Land Struggles in Colonial Kenya

Secondary Advisor: Audrey Henderson, Daniel Thompson (Anthropology), Timothy Romans, Philip Misevich, Daniel Domingues de Silva, Jeremy Pool, Durba Mitra, Debjani Bhattacharyya, Navyug Gill, Aditya Deo, John Dunn, Dana Irwin, Jackie Gold; Jessica Reuther, Sean Wempe, Sara Mathis (Anthropology); Andre Wellington (Anthropology)

Undergraduate

I have directly supervised twenty-six (30) honors theses since AY 1990-91