

# SKYLAR RAY

## Curriculum Vitae

---

---

Department of History  
(254) 733-8845  
Skylar\_Ray@baylor.edu

Baylor University  
One Bear Place #97306  
Waco, Texas 76798

---

---

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of History, Baylor University Expected August 2022  
Dissertation Title: “Healing Minds, Saving Souls: Evangelicals and Mental Health  
in the Age of the Therapeutic”  
Preliminary Exam Fields: American Religion; United States since 1877;  
Christianity in Latin America  
Advisor: Elesha Coffman

M.A., Department of History, Baylor University May 2017  
Thesis Title: “A Prophet Unwelcome: *Motive* Magazine, the Methodist Student  
Movement, and Midcentury Methodism”  
Primary Field: 20<sup>th</sup> Century US Religious and Cultural History  
Advisor: Barry Hankins

B.A., Oral Roberts University (*summa cum laude*) May 2014  
Double major in History and Spanish  
Study abroad, Institute of Spanish Studies, Valencia, Spain, Spring 2011  
Study abroad, Jerusalem University College, Summer 2014

### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

Recipient of the Lynn E. May, Jr. Study Grant, Southern Baptist Historical Library and  
Archives, 2021

Recipient of the Baylor University Graduate School’s Summer Dissertation Fellowship,  
2021

2019 Scholar, Baptist Scholars International Roundtable, Regents Park College, Oxford  
University, July 1-4, 2019

Second place, Modern and Contemporary Research Seminar Graduate Student Paper  
Contest, Baylor University, September 2018

Graduate School Fellowship, Baylor University, 2017-2022

Outstanding Senior Paper, Oral Roberts University Department of History, 2014

Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society, 2013-present

Sigma Delta Pi Honor Society, 2013-present

Trustee's Academic Scholarship, Oral Roberts University, 2010-2014

William A. Bushman Memorial Scholarship Essay Competition Winner, 2010

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Panels Organized**

*"Clinicians, Communists, and Charismatics: Health and Medicine in 20th Century Christianity,"* Thirty-Second Biennial Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, [accepted; conference postponed due to COVID]

*"Learning to be Christian: Print Culture and the Formation of Religious Identity,"* Thirtieth Biennial Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, Virginia Beach, Virginia, October 19-22, 2016

### **Papers Presented**

"Psychosis as Sin: American Evangelicalism's Public and Private Struggle with Mental Health, 1965-1995," Society for U.S. Intellectual History Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee, [accepted; conference postponed due to COVID]

"'A Christian Answer to Mental Illness': Fuller Seminary and the Evangelical Encounter with Modern Psychology," Thirty-Second Biennial Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, [accepted; conference postponed due to COVID]

"Highlighting Hidden History: The Waco History App," Texas State Historical Association's virtual Spring Meeting, March 3, 2021

"Clanging Symbols: Latin American Pentecostalism and the United Methodist Church, 1960-1990," American Society of Church History Winter Meeting, New York City, New York, January 3-6, 2020

"Learning to be Liberated: Women and Gendered Value Transmission in Midcentury Student Movements, 1965-1970," Fifty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the History of Education Society, Columbus, Ohio, October 31-November 3, 2019

"'Wonderfully Ecumenical?': The Southern Baptist Convention, the Mainline, and 1960s Social Concern," Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Baptist Scholars International Roundtable, Regents Park College, University of Oxford, July 1-4, 2019

"'The Liberation Struggle Has Many Different Facets': Gender, Religion, and Race in South Africa's University Christian Movement, 1967-1972," American Society of Church History Winter Meeting, Chicago, Illinois January 3-5, 2019

“The Origin of Secularization is in Christian Faith Itself”: *motive* Magazine and the Formation of Secular Saints in the Methodist Student Movement,” Thirty-First Biennial Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 4-6, 2018

“Midcentury Moral Minority: *motive* Magazine and the Methodist Student Movement,” Thirtieth Biennial Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, Virginia Beach, Virginia, October 19-22, 2016

“Reflections from a Novice Oral Historian,” Fifth Annual Meeting of the Texas Oral History Association, Waco, Texas, April 23, 2016

### **Campus Talks**

Guest Lecturer, “American Evangelicalism,” The Christian Heritage, Baylor University, April 19, 2021

“Finding Funding,” Graduate Pathways for Success, Baylor University, March 2, 2020

Panelist, “Applying to Graduate School,” Historiography, Baylor University, November 21, 2019

“Beginning the Job Search,” Graduate Pathways for Success, Baylor University, October 28, 2019

“How to Interview Well,” Graduate Pathways for Success, Baylor University, October 17, 2019

“Starting Well: Building a Good Relationship with Your Advisor/PI,” Graduate Pathways for Success, Baylor University, September 3, 2019

Guest Lecturer, “The Spirit of 1968,” World History Since 1500, Baylor University, April 12, 2019

“The History Paper: Learning Objectives, Methodology, and the Writing Process at the Undergraduate Level,” Baylor University Writing Center, February 8, 2019

Guest Lecturer, “Realignment in the Long 1960s,” History of the United States Since 1877, Baylor University, November 6, 2018

Guest Lecturer, “A *motive* for Change: The Mainline, the University, and 20th Century Student Movements,” History and Foundations of Higher Education, Baylor University, October 24, 2018.

Guest Lecturer, “The Great Depression,” History of the United States Since 1877, Baylor University, October 9, 2018

“Professional Presentations in the Historical Discipline,” McNair Scholars Program, Baylor University, July 27, 2018

Guest Lecturer, “Creating Public History,” Introduction to Oral History, Baylor University, February 14, 2018

Guest Lecturer, “Intro to Historical Research and Writing,” Thinking, Writing, & Research, Baylor University, February 9, 2018

Panelist, “Handling Transitions,” Brown Bag Colloquium Series, Baylor University, January 24, 2018

Featured Presenter, “Midcentury Moral Minority: *motive* Magazine and the Demise of the Methodist Student Movement,” Brown Bag Colloquium Series, Baylor University, November 2, 2016

Panelist, “Is Graduate School for You? *If So, What Should You Do?*,” Phi Alpha Theta-sponsored panel, Baylor University, September 15, 2016

Guest Lecturer, “The Civil Rights Movement,” History of the United States Since 1877, Baylor University, June 28, 2016

### **Public Engagement**

Co-host, “The History of Christianity Podcast,” 2020-present.

Leader, “The History of Waco Tour,” Brazos Fellows Program, Waco, Texas, 2019-2021 202.

Invited Speaker, “Race and Reconciliation in Waco History,” Rappaport Academy, Waco, Texas, April 2019.

Guest Lecturer, “Modern Protestants,” Brazos Fellows Program, Waco, Texas, March 5, 2019.

Invited Speaker, “The Hidden History of Waco,” Live Oak Classical School, Waco, Texas, January 21, 2018.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Book Chapters**

“‘Wonderfully Ecumenical’?: The Southern Baptist Convention, the Mainline, and 1960s Social Concern.” *Baptists and the Kingdom of God: Global Perspectives through Four Interpretive Lenses*, eds. T. Laine Scales and Beth Allison Barr, Baylor University Press [forthcoming]

“Free and Fettered:  *motive Magazine and the Ambiguity of Denominational Journalism,*” *Keeping the Faith: The Work of Religious Magazines*, Brill’s Studies in Periodical Culture Series [forthcoming]

Co-author, “Vietnam to 9/11,” *Cambridge Companion to American Protestantism*, edited by Jason Vickers, Cambridge University Press [forthcoming 2021]

### **Encyclopedia Entries**

“Renewal Movements in Mainline Protestantism.” In *American Religious History: Belief and Society Through Time*, edited by Gary Scott Smith. Vol. 3. ABC-CLIO, 2020.

### **Book Reviews**

“The World Come of Age,” Book Reviews, *Society for United States Intellectual History*, November 2018.

“The Future of Mainline Protestantism in America,” *Reading Religion*, American Academy of Religion Book Forum, July 2018.

### **Selected Online and Trade Publications**

“Arvizu v. Waco Independent School District,” *Waco History* app and website, June 2018.

“The Pulse of Waco Medicine: On the 150th anniversary of the McLennan County Medical Society, local doctors reflect on their careers and changes in the field.” *Waco Heritage and History*. Volume 42 (Spring 2016): 5-8

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Baylor University**

Teacher of Record for U.S. in Global Perspective, Fall 2021

Teacher of Record for U.S. History Since 1877, Spring 2021

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Editorial Assistant  
*Fides et Historia*

June 2020 to present

Doctoral Administrative Fellow  
*Baylor University Graduate School*

August 2019-May 2020

Responsibilities include creating and teaching professional development workshops for Baylor’s Graduate Pathways for Success program, facilitating meetings of the Conyers Scholars Program, and assisting with communication and paper submission for the Baptist Scholars International Roundtable.

Digital Historian May 2017-August 2018, June 2019-May 2020  
*Baylor University Institute for Oral History*

Position consists of generating editorial, visual, and audio content for the Waco History App and website through research, writing, media collection, and digital editing of interview excerpts.

Research Assistant Spring 2019  
*Baylor University*

Research Assistant to Dr. Elesha Coffman on her spiritual biography of Margaret Mead.

Teaching Assistant Fall 2018  
*Baylor University*

U.S. Since 1877:

Responsibilities include grading papers, exams, and assignments, as well as delivering lectures.

Business History:

Responsibilities include overseeing the final digital humanities research project, lecturing, and assisting with archival research.

Editorial Assistant June 2015-May 2017  
*Baylor University Institute for Oral History*

Responsible for audit checking, editing, and fact checking oral history interview transcripts, as well as writing interview abstracts.

Research Assistant April 2017-August 2017  
*Digital Floor Plan Database Analysis Project*

Worked with Baylor architectural scholar to conduct historical, sociological, and meteorological research relating to the building process of extant homes designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Lead Oral Historian August 2015-May 2016  
*McLennan County Medical Society Sesquicentennial Oral History Project*

Commissioned by the McLennan County Medical Society to conduct a series of oral histories with prominent local doctors on the evolution of the medical profession in the twentieth century and its relationship to American culture, religion, and society. Transcribed interviews and edited transcripts for inclusion in the Baylor University Institute for Oral History archival collection.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Graduate Academic Chair, Baylor University Department of History, Fall 2021-Spring 2022

Leadership Committee, Modern and Contemporary Research Seminar, Spring 2019-Fall 2019

Orientation Chair, Baylor University Department of History, August 2018-May 2019

Judge, Heart of Texas Regional History Fair, Baylor University, February 14-15, 2019

Brazos Fellows Program Tutor, Fall 2018-present

Workshop leader, "Living in Waco," Baylor University Graduate Student Orientation, August 15, 2018

Judge, Heart of Texas Regional History Fair, Baylor University, February 15-16, 2018

Member, Libraries and Information Technology Systems Advisory Council, 2015-2017

Member, Library and Information Technology Systems Student Advisory Group, 2015-Present

### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Reading and speaking proficiency in Spanish

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Women in the Academy Mentorship Program, 2017-2019

Conyers Scholars Program, 2018/2019 School Year

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association  
American Society of Church History  
Conference on Faith and History  
History of Education Society  
Oral History Association  
Texas Oral History Association