

# WHITNEY E. BARRINGER

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## INTERESTS

Dissertation topic: Institutional history of insane asylums/mental hospitals in Mississippi  
Fields of interest: United States history; social, labor, and immigration history; political and intellectual history; history of the state and culture of government; medical and mental healthcare history

## EDUCATION

### University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS

Doctor of Philosophy in History, GPA 3.80

Graduation: Aug 2016

Dissertation: "The Corruption of Promise:

The Insane Asylum in Mississippi, 1848-1910"

Defense Date: July 2016

Major Field: United States History since 1877

Minor Field: American History until 1877

Minor Field: European Enlightenment and Revolution (1650-1870)

Master of Arts in History, GPA 3.75

May 2011

### University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR

Bachelor of Arts in History, minor in Interdisciplinary Studies, GPA 3.89

May 2009

## FELLOWSHIPS

### University of Mississippi Dissertation Fellowship

Fall 2014

## PRESENTATIONS

### Southern Studies Brown Bag Series, Oxford, MS

Jan. 2015

Presenter

- Presented paper "The Entropy of Progress: The Origins and Decline of Mississippi's Insane Asylums"

### Washington University Graduate "History of the Future" Conference, St. Louis, MO

Oct. 2014

Presenter

- Presented paper "An Enlightened Kind of Mercy in a Harsh Kind of Darkness: The Collision of Idealism and Reality in Mississippi's Asylums"

### Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Conference, Memphis, TN Sept. 2014

Presenter

- Presented paper "Symptoms of Slavery and Freedom: Race in Mississippi's Insane Asylums in the Nineteenth Century"

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### University of Mississippi History Department, Oxford, MS

2010-2015

Teaching Assistant

- Teaching undergraduates History of Western Civilization from antiquity to modernity
- Lesson preparation for between 20 and 60 students for discussion sections every week
- Reading and grading essays and other assignments

### Wilson History and Research Center, Little Rock, AR

2007-2012

Exhibit Coordinator and Researcher

- Coordinated research, design, and photography departments with museums and printing businesses to produce exhibits
- Researched, authenticated, organized, accessioned, and preserved military artifacts
- Worked with multiple institutions and businesses in the Little Rock area, including the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, the Bowen Law School at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and Bennett's Military Supplies

**University of Central Arkansas Honors College, Conway, AR**

2006-2009

*Vino* Magazine Arts Section Editor, Copy Editor, and Coordinating Editor

- Coordinating Editor (Spring 2007, Fall 2008, Spring 2009)
  - Oversaw and contributed to the article suggestion process, served as staff-faculty liaison, contributed to layout and design process, provided secondary edits to the copy editor if necessary, conducted *Vino* meetings, and drafted a proposal for the first paid positions (scaled by involvement in the magazine) in *Vino* history
- Copy Editor (Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2008)
  - Edited every article that was published in *Vino*
- Section Editor (Spring 2006)
  - Contributed to the article suggestion process, oversaw the writing process with both staff and guest writers, and performed first edits on articles submitted in my section and second edits on other sections

**University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR**

2006-2008

*Vortex, UCA's Magazine of Literature and Art* Editor and Assistant Editor

- Editor (Fall 2007-Spring 2008)
  - Participated in the designing process and helped direct said process, expanded *Vortex* staff from eight to twenty members, negotiated (along with the advisor) the largest budget increase ever for the *Vortex*, planned all poetry readings, made all fliers requesting submissions from the student body, served as liaison and voting member of the University of Central Arkansas Publication Board, served as a representative of *Vortex* at the Arkansas College Media Association (ACMA), began the first ever cover contest for *Vortex*, and expanded *Vortex* Facebook group to over 300 members
- Assistant Editor (Fall 2006-Spring 2007)
  - Served as liaison to and voting member of the University of Central Arkansas Publication Board. played an integral role in the design of *Vortex*, packaged all submissions for the editors of *Vortex*, oversaw the editing process to ensure an ethical judging process, planned the *Vortex* release party, attended all poetry readings, and made all fliers requesting submissions from the student body

**Professional Memberships**

- Association for the Study of African American Life and History Student Member 2014-

**Volunteer Work**

- ACLU Tent Volunteer at Little Rock Pride Parade and Festival October 2015
  - POPUP West 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015
- Helped construct wooden sets as part of a business development initiative for 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Little Rock

**References**

- Joseph Ward, Professor and Chair of History - University of Mississippi  
662-915-7148  
jward@olemiss.edu
- Ted Ownby, Director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Professor of History and Southern Studies  
662-915-5993  
hsownby@olemiss.edu
- Marc H. Lerner, Associate Professor of History  
662-915-7529  
mlerner@olemiss.edu
- Charles Reagan Wilson, Professor of History (Retired)  
crwilson@olemiss.edu