

**CASSANDRA L. YACOVAZZI**  
Department of Liberal Arts  
University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee  
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## CURRENT POSITION

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2019-present            University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee  
Sarasota, Florida  
Department of Liberal Arts, Assistant Professor of History

## EDUCATION

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2015                      Ph.D. in History, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO  
Dissertation: “‘So Many Foolish Virgins’: Nuns and Anti-Catholicism  
from Maria Monk to the Know-Nothings” (Committee: John Wigger,  
Catherine Rymph, Steven Watts, Jeffrey Pasley, John Evelev,  
Kathleen Sprows Cummings)

2009                      M.A. in History, Baylor University, Waco, TX

2006                      B.A. in Liberal Arts, Malone University, Canton, OH  
*Magna cum Laude*

## PUBLICATIONS

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*Escaped Nuns: True Womanhood and the Campaign Against Convents in Antebellum America*  
(Oxford University Press, 2018)

“‘Down with the Convent!’: Anti-Catholicism and Opposition to Nuns in Antebellum  
America,” *Blackwell Companion to American Religious History* (Wiley-Blackwell,  
forthcoming, November 2020)

“5 Questions with Cassie Yacovazzi,” *Religion in American History: A Group Blog on  
Religion in American Culture and History*, blog (June 2019)

Review of *Elizabeth Seton: American Saint* by Catherine O’Donnell (Cornell University Press,  
2018), *The Historian* 81, no. 3 (Fall 2019): 484-485.

Encyclopedia entry on “Elizabeth Ann Seton,” in *American Religious History: Belief and  
Society through Time* (ABC-CLIO, forthcoming, September 2020)

Encyclopedia entry on “Katharine Drexel,” in *American Religious History: Belief and Society  
through Time* (ABC-CLIO, forthcoming, September 2020)

“The Author’s Corner with Cassie Yacovazzi,” for *The Way of Improvement Leads Home: Reflections at the Intersection of American History, Religion, Politics, and Academic Life*, blog (September 2018)

Review of *Refugee Nuns, the French Revolution, and British Literature and Culture* by Tonya J. Moutray, *History of Women Religious of Britain and Ireland* (H-WRBI) (2016).

“Along Missouri’s German Highway,” *Missouri Humanities* (Fall/Winter 2015-16).

Review of *Four Steeples Over the City Streets: Religion and Society in New York’s Early Republic Congregations* by Kyle T. Bulthuis, *Fides et Historia* 47, no. 2 (Summer/Fall 2015).

Review of *Religion and the Public Conscience: Ecumenical Civil Rights Work in Seattle, 1940-1960* by Randi J. Walker, *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 104, no. 4 (Fall 2013).

“‘Are You Allowed to Read the Bible in a Convent?’: Protestant Perspectives on the Catholic Approach to Scripture in Convent Narratives, 1830-1860.” *U.S. Catholic Historian* 31, no. 3 (Summer 2013).

“Rome in America: Reflections on the 2014 Rome Seminar,” for *Religion in American History*, blog (December 21, 2014)

## EXPERIENCE

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2019-present	<i>Assistant Professor</i> University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
2018-2019	<i>Visiting Assistant Professor</i> University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
2017-2018	<i>Adjunct Instructor</i> Stephens College
2015-2018	<i>Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow</i> University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring 2015	<i>Teaching Fellow</i> University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring & Summer 2013	<i>Teaching Fellow</i> University of Missouri, Department of History
2010-2016	<i>Adjunct Instructor</i> Moberly Area Community College
2009-2015	<i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i> University of Missouri, Department of History American History to 1865 / from 1865

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

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2015-2016	<i>Heritage Resources Coordinator</i> Missouri Humanities Council
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I coordinated all facets of heritage tourism, specifically focusing on the Missouri German Heritage Corridor pilot project. This included conducting regular public meetings/communication with non-profits, community organizations, and local government officials, and creating a state-wide inventory of heritage resources.

2010-2014

*Academic Tutor*

Student Success Center

As a tutor, I met regularly with students to go over their writing assignments and class notes and to help them study for exams, ensuring their ability to both understand and articulate the course content.

### SELECTED CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

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May 2020

“‘If a Woman Feels Pretty on the Outside’: The Promise of Success, Self-Confidence, and Sisterhood in Mary Kay Cosmetics.” The Eighteenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexuality, Baltimore

June 2019

“What was it like on the US home front during D-Day?” *Bradenton Herald*, interview by James A. Jones, Jr., Sarasota, FL

May 2019

“Episode 75: The Campaign Against Convents in Antebellum America with Cassandra L. Yacovazzi,” *The Age of Jackson Podcast*, podcast

April 2019

“Think Pink: How Mary Kay Built An Empire on Lipstick and Applause.” USFSM Research Pecha Kucha, Sarasota

February 2019

Chair and Commentator: “Kotex, Courtship, and Cosmetics: The Commodification of Feminine Hygiene, Domesticity, and Love in America.” Florida Conference of Historians, Sarasota

January 2017

“Damp Dungeons and Happy Homes: Anti-Convent Propaganda, Domesticity, and the American Family Ideal, 1830-1860.” AHA, Denver

October 2016

“All Happy Families: Women, Domesticity, and Family in the Anti-Slavery and Anti-Convent Movements.” Conference on Faith and History, Virginia Beach

July 2016

“Painted Women and Veiled Nuns: Images of Women in Nineteenth-Century City Mysteries and Convent Narratives.” SHEAR, New Haven, CT

- January 2016 “‘So Many Foolish Virgins’: True Womanhood, Nuns, and Propaganda in Antebellum America.” American Society of Church History, Atlanta
- October 2014 “Beware of Foreign Influence’: Anti-Catholicism and Religious Liberty in Early America.” Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy, Columbia, MO
- September 2014 “No Bibles Allowed: Perspectives on Catholic Approaches to Scripture in Nineteenth-Century Convent Narratives.” Conference on Faith and History, Malibu
- July 2014 “Our Country, Our Women: The Influence of Anti-Convent Propaganda on the Massachusetts Know-Nothing Party.” SHEAR Annual Meeting, Philadelphia
- March 2014 “Our Nation, Our Women: The Massachusetts Nunnery Committee and the Symbolism of the Nun in Antebellum America.” Missouri Conference on History, Columbia, MO
- February 2014 “From the Wilderness to the Cloister: A Comparison of American Captivity and Convent Narratives.” 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Popular Culture and American Culture Associations Conference, Albuquerque
- October 2012 “‘A Nun with Quite a Beard’: Convent Life and Gender in the Escaped Nun Tales, 1830-1860.” Conference on Faith and History, Boston
- March 2012 Chair and Commentator: “Religion and Society in the Antebellum U.S.” 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Conference on History, Columbia, MO
- January 2012 “The Yankee and the Pontiff: Mark Twain and Leo XIII’s Critique of Modernity.” American Historical Association (AHA), Chicago
- April 2011 “The Catholic Crusade Against Contraception: A Battle Between Religion and Modernism, 1916-1930.” Organization of American Historians (OAH), Houston
- October 2008 “Elizabeth Ann Seton: An American Saint.” Conference on Faith and History Biennial Meeting, Bluffton, OH
- October 2006 “Reinhold Niebuhr and the Paradox of Patriotism.” Christianity and Cultures Conference, Ohio

## **SELECTED GRANTS & AWARDS**

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Spring 2020	Recipient of University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee Faculty Research Accelerator Grant
Spring 2019	Nomination for American Society of Church History Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize for “Outstanding scholarship in the history of Christianity by a first-time author”
Spring 2018 Fall 2014	Nomination for Postdoctoral Teaching Award, University of Missouri Kinder Dissertation Fellowship, Forum on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri
Summer 2014	Forum on Constitutional Democracy Travel Award, University of Missouri
July 2014	SHEAR (Society for Historians of the Early Republic) Graduate Travel Award
Summer 2014	William Wilcher Endowment Travel Grant, University of Missouri, Department of History
June 2014	Rome Seminar 2014, Recipient of Tuition Waiver and Stipend, University of Notre Dame
May 2014	Adjunct Instructor Excellence in Teaching Award, Moberly Area Community College
April 2014	John D. Bies International Travel Scholarship
February 2014	Heldrich-Dvorak Travel Fellowship, Southwest Popular / American Culture Association
Spring 2013	Donald K. Anderson Teaching Assistant Award, University of Missouri Graduate School
2013-2014 Academic Year	Dissertation Fellowship, University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring 2013	Graduate Student Association Travel Award, University of Missouri
Fall 2012	Organization Research Group Travel Award, University of Missouri
Spring 2012	Summer Research Grant, University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring 2011	TA Choice Award, Sponsored by the Missouri Student Association
Spring 2011	Organization Research Group Travel Award, University of Missouri
Fall 2009	Supplemental Graduate Fellowship, University of Missouri, Department of History

## ACADEMIC & COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Fall 2019-present	Member of the Duvall Family Studies Committee, USFSM
Fall 2019-present	Member of the Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation
Fall 2019	Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to <i>Modern American History</i> (Cambridge University Press)
Summer 2019	Voting member of Academic Regulations Committee (ARC), which reviews student petitions
Spring 2019	Created American History syllabi for Dual Enrollment program
Spring 2019	Served as an external reviewer for a student’s honor thesis
Fall 2018	Volunteer marshal for University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Fall Commencement Ceremony

Fall 2018 Participation in Freshmen Preview Open House recruitment for the Department of Liberal Arts at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee

Fall 2018 Assessment of History majors at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee

Fall 2017 Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to *Ohio Valley History* (The Filson Historical Society)

2016-2018 Deutschheim Verein Society, Board Member

2014-2015 Research Assistant for Professor Steven Watts, University of Missouri, Department of History

2010-2018 Columbia Chorale

2010-2015 Big Brother, Big Sister of Columbia, MO

2012-2013 History Graduate Student Association Vice President, University of Missouri

Fall 2012 Graduate Peer Mentor, University of Missouri

2009-2013 Academic Tutor, University of Missouri, Student Success Center

2007-2009 Marketing Information Specialist, Baylor University Press

2006-2007 Archival Intern, First Ladies' National Library

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Berkshire Conference of Women Historians  
 American Historical Association (AHA)  
 The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR)  
 American Society of Church History (ASCH)

## REFERENCES

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John H. Wigger  
 Professor of History  
 University of Missouri  
[wiggerj@missouri.edu](mailto:wiggerj@missouri.edu)  
 573.882.2481

Steven Watts  
 Professor of History  
 University of Missouri  
[wattss@missouri.edu](mailto:wattss@missouri.edu)  
 573.882.7866

Catherine E. Rymph  
 Associate Professor of History  
 University of Missouri  
[rymphc@missouri.edu](mailto:rymphc@missouri.edu)  
 573.882.4320

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 Associate Professor of History  
 University of South Florida  
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 941.359.4248