

Scott Leslie Matthews
Lecturer, Department of History
Georgia State University
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Education

University of Virginia

Ph.D. in American History, May 2008

Dissertation: “‘Up Against the World Like It Is’: Documentary Expression in the South, 1925-1965.”

Dissertation Advisor: Grace Elizabeth Hale

Outside Field of Study: African History

University of Virginia

M.A. in American History, May 2003

Master’s Thesis: “Man and Land: Arthur Raper, Jack Delano, and the Environmental Landscape of Greene County, Georgia, 1927 – 1942.”

Advisor: Edward L. Ayers

Guilford College

B.A. in History, with honors, December 1998

Honor’s Thesis: “Farm Tenancy and Race in the Tobacco Culture of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1865 – 1975.”

Teaching and Research Interests

Southern history; the history and practice of documentary expression; the Civil Rights Movement; religion in the South; white and black “Old-Line” Primitive Baptists; folk music revivals; Appalachian history and culture.

Fellowships and Awards

Center for the Study of the American South, UNC, Chapel Hill, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Southern Studies, July 2010 - June 2011.

Smithsonian Predoctoral Fellowship, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, January 15, 2007 through June 15, 2007. Advisors: Pete Daniel and David Haberstich.

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, African-American Mini-Grant to conduct research for the Louisa County Historical Society’s project on Rosenwald Schools in Louisa County, Spring 2005.

All-University Graduate Teaching Award, University of Virginia, Spring 2005.

Graduate Teaching Award, Department of History, University of Virginia, Spring 2005.

Southern Research Award, Department of History, University of Virginia, Fall 2003, 2005, and 2006.

Semi-Finalist for the Seven Society Teaching Award, University of Virginia, 2003, 2004, and 2006.

Teaching Recognition, Z Society, University of Virginia, Spring 2002.

The Hugh T. Lefler Undergraduate Award for Best Research Paper in North Carolina History by an Undergraduate Student, 1999.

Senior History Award, Department of History, Guilford College, 1998.

Phi Alpha Theta, History Honor Society, Guilford College, 1998.

Publications

Up Against the World Like It Is: A History of Documentary Expression in the South, University of North Carolina Press (under review).

“Privilege of Perception: Hale County, Alabama in the Documentary Imagination, 1880 - 2012,” *Southern Spaces* (forthcoming 2015).

Review of *Black Folklore and the Politics of Racial Representation* by Shirley Moody-Turner. *The Journal of Southern History* (forthcoming 2015).

“Queering Southern Gospel: A Review of Douglas Harrison’s *Then Sings My Soul*,” *Southern Spaces* (November 2012).

Review of *Haunted By Atrocity: Civil War Prisons in American Memory* by Benjamin G. Cloyd. *The Journal of Southern History* (February 2012).

“Flatlands in the Outlands: A Review of *Outlands: Land Over Time*, A Photography Exhibit at the Jennifer Schwartz Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia,” *Southern Spaces* (December 2011).

“The Day Is Past and Gone: Family Photographs from Eastern North Carolina,” *Southern Cultures*, Vol. 17, No. 2 (Summer 2011).

“John Cohen in Eastern Kentucky: Documentary Expression and the Image of Roscoe Halcomb During the Folk Revival,” *Southern Spaces* (Summer 2008). <http://www.southern-spaces.org/contents/2008/matthews/1a.htm>

Entries on agriculture and integration for the *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*, University of North Carolina Press, 2006.

Conferences and Presentations

Commentator for the panel “Religion, Culture, and Identity in the South” at the Atlanta Graduate Student Conference in U.S. History, Emory University, November 15, 2013.

Commentator for the panel “Redefining the New South: Boundaries of Race, Community, and Memory” at Atlanta Graduate Student Conference in U.S. History, Emory University, February 18, 2012.

“Hale County, Alabama in the Documentary Imagination, 1900 - 2010” - Paper presented at the Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, March 29, 2011.

“National Embarrassment and National Redemption: Civil Rights Movement Photography and the South,” Southern American Studies Association’s Biennial Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, February 17 - 19, 2011.

“1960: 50 Years On” - Participant in Roundtable at the 2010 American Studies Association’s Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 18 - 21, 2010.

“Mountain Voices, Mountain Faces: The Appalachian Photographs and Oral Histories of Shelby Lee Adams” - Paper presented at the 2010 Oral History Association’s Annual Meeting, October 27 - 31, 2010, Atlanta, Georgia.

“The Power of Poverty in the Popularization of Musician Roscoe Holcomb of Eastern Kentucky” - Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference, April 8 - 11, 2010, New Orleans, Louisiana.

“Documenting Race and Region: The Meaning of Photography and Film in the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee” - Paper presented at “Region, Class, and Culture: New Perspectives on the American South (A Conference in Honor of Pete Daniel), June 4 - June 6, 2009 at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee.

“Poverty and the ‘Privilege of Perception’: Hale County, Alabama as a Cultural Symbol in the Work of James Agee, Walker Evans, William Christenberry, and Samuel Mockbee.” Lecture and paper presented at the University of Virginia Art Museum’s “Southern Legacy Colloquia” in conjunction with the museum’s William Christenberry exhibition, “Site/Possession,” December 5, 2007.

“‘A Bold Adventure into the Wilderness’: John Cohen’s Documentary Vision in Appalachia,” seminar lecture given at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, June 2007

Teaching Experience

Georgia State University: Lecturer, Fall 2009 to present.

Course taught: Survey of United States History; History of the American South; 20th Century U.S. History; Introduction to Historical Studies.

Hollins University: Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Fall 2007 to Spring 2009.

Courses taught:

- Creating the American Nation (First half of U.S. survey)
- The Rise of Modern America (Second half of survey)
- Civil Rights Movement America
- The South Seen on Film: Hollywood, Race, and Region
- The Old South
- The New South
- Documentary Photography and Film in American History
- Poverty in American History and Culture
- Served as advisor for senior history theses.

University of Virginia: Adjunct faculty, Department of History, Fall 2004. Taught thesis seminar titled, "White Supremacy: The Central Theme of Southern History?"

University of Virginia: Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of History, August 2001 – December 2006.

Courses taught:

- The History of the Civil Rights Movement (four semesters) with Professor Julian Bond
- The Rise and Fall of the Slave South with Professor Edward Ayers
- The South in the Twentieth Century with Professor Grace Hale
- Rural Poverty in Our Time (two semesters) with Professor Grace Hale

Departmental Service

Director of Undergraduate Internships, Department of History, Georgia State University, Fall 2011 to present.

Memberships

The Southern Historical Association

The American Studies Association

The American Historical Association

The Organization of American Historians