

ABIGAIL WARCHOL

curriculum vitae

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2026-present Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History
Oberlin College

EDUCATION

2026 PhD, Department of History
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Primary Field: African History, Secondary Field: Women's and Gender History
Graduate Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies
Dissertation: "Colonial Care: Children, Charity, and the Political Project in Senegal, 1920-1960"

2020 M.A., Department of History
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
M.A. Thesis: "Caretaking as 'Civilizing': Catholic Orphanages and the *Mission Civilisatrice* in Saint-Louis, Senegal, 1936-1949"

2013 B.A. summa cum laude, Department of Global Studies
University of Richmond
Phi Beta Kappa
Minors in History, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Scouts, Militants, and "Aofiennes": Adolescent Organizations and the Construction of Belonging in Postwar Senegal," *French Historical Studies*, accepted for publication

"Investing in 'Civilized' Futures: Orphans and Colonial Caretaking in Saint-Louis, Senegal, 1930-49." *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History* 25, no. 2 (2024).
<https://doi.org/10.1353/cch.2024.a935594>

Book Chapter

Jean-Baptiste, Rachel, Emily Burrill, and Abigail Warchol. "Marriage across Africa." In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History*. Oxford University Press, May 22, 2024.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277734.013.178>.

Book Reviews

"Review: Emily Clark, Ibrahima Thioub, and Cécile Vidal, eds., *New Orleans, Louisiana & Saint-Louis, Senegal: Mirror Cities in the Atlantic World, 1659-2000s*. (Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 2019).

Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association 62, no. 1 (2021): 101–3.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/27000026>.

“Review: Toby Green, *A Fistful of Shells: West Africa from the Rise of the Slave Trade to the Age of Revolutions* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019). *Afro-Asia*, Salvador, n. 64, p. 600–605, 2022.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2024	Bridges Beyond Carolina Summer Fellowship in Editorial Acquisitions University of North Carolina Press William Shorrock Conference Travel Award French Colonial Historical Studies
2023	Off-Campus Dissertation Research Fellowship, The Graduate School at UNC Chapel Hill (France, Spring 2023)
2022	Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship U.S. Department of Education (Senegal, AY 2022)
2020	Summer Pre-Dissertation Research Award UNC Global
2019	Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship (Wolof) U.S. Department of Education Global Partnership Award UNC Global
2018	Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship (Wolof) U.S. Department of Education

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Conferences Organized

2021	African Mobilities: The Means and Modalities of Movement(s) Within and Beyond Africa Spring Conference (virtual), Southeast Regional Seminar in African Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, March 2021
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Panels Organized

2023	Historicizing Humanitarianism, Social Welfare, and Charity in Africa, African Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, December 2023
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Papers Presented

2026	“Comparing Childhoods: The Centre Internationale de l’Enfance and the Colonial Politics of Social Pediatrics in 1950s Senegal,” African Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, upcoming December 2026 Author Meets Critic Roundtable: Negotiating Childhood by Kelly Duke Bryant, African Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, upcoming December 2026
2024	“Fraternity in Diversity”: “Adapted” Scouting in Postwar French West Africa, UNC-Kings College Workshop, Chapel Hill, September 2024

"Babies as "Radiant as Stars:" African Baby Contests in the Service of Colonialism and the Red Cross," Body Politics and International Organisations in the Global South Workshop, Geneva Graduate Institute, Switzerland, June 2024

"'African girls are preparing their future!' French West African girlhood, citizenship, and social change," French Colonial Historical Society Annual Conference, Charlottesville, VA, May 2024

"'Our future is in our hands, in our hearts:' Girlhood, community-building, and political change in French West Africa," 1955-60, UNC-Kings College Workshop, London, May 2024

2023 "Between publique and privé: Puericulture, charity, and the colonial project in interwar Ndar Toute, Senegal" African Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, December 2023

"Between Child Protection and Child Harm: Medico-legal Evidence and Colonial Knowledge in the Investigation of Rape in Senegal," Society for the History of Childhood and Youth Annual Meeting, Guelph, Ontario, June 2023

2020 "Youth as a Keyword in African Studies" ASR Keywords Panel, African Studies Association Annual Meeting (virtual), November 2020

"No Longer a "Special Situation": Orphans, Race, and Social Welfare in Senegal in the Age of Citizenship, 1946-1949," French Colonial Historical Society Annual Conference, Buffalo, NY (meeting cancelled due to COVID-19)

"A City of Orphans: Children, Catholicism, and the Civilizing Mission in Twentieth-Century Saint-Louis, Senegal," Georgetown African Studies Graduate Student Meeting, Washington, DC, February 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Oberlin College

Fall 2026 Modern African History

Fall 2026 Historiography Seminar, Colonial Intimacies: Gender and Sexuality in European Empires

Spring 2027 The French Empire, 18th Century to Present

Spring 2027 Research Seminar, From Empires to Aid Workers: Critical Histories of Humanitarianism in Africa

Spring 2027 Colonialism and Decolonization in Francophone Film

Instructor of Record, UNC Chapel Hill

Spring 2024 Modern African History

Teaching Assistant, UNC Chapel Hill

Spring 2026 20th Century Britain

Fall 2025 Europe and the World Since 1900

Spring 2025 Baseball and American History

Fall 2024 Transatlantic Slave Trade

Fall 2023 The World Since 1945

Fall 2021	U.S. History Since 1865
Fall 2020	The World Since 1945

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

2026	Book Review Assistant Editor, <i>Church History</i>
2024-26	Acquisitions Editorial Assistant, University of North Carolina Press
2024	Participant, Black Archival Imagination Lab Duke Manuscript Workshop Program
2023	Professional Development Chair, UNC Graduate History Society Organizer, UNC Graduate Research Colloquium African Studies Center Language Ambassador

LANGUAGES

French: professional proficiency (reading/writing/spoken)
Wolof: elementary proficiency

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

African Studies Association
French Colonial Historical Studies Association
Society for the History of Children and Youth