

Jessica Leslie Arnett

315 S Main Street
Wellington, OH 44090
jarnett@oberlin.edu

Employment

July 2022-Present, Assistant Professor of Comparative American Studies and Environmental Studies, Oberlin College

August 2021-Present, Lecturer of Indigenous History, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Department of History

Spring, 2021, Instructor, Tufts University, Department of History, and University of Minnesota, Department of History

August 2019—Jan 2021 City Forester and ISA Certified Arborist, City of Michigan City, IN

Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Instructor, University of Minnesota, Department of History

Education

University of Minnesota, Department of History, PhD., April 2018
Committee: Jean O'Brien (Co-Advisor), Barbara Welke (Co-Advisor), David Chang, Katherine Hayes, Bianet Castellanos, Juliana Hu Pegues
Dissertation: "Between Empires and Frontiers: Alaska Native Sovereignty and U.S. Settler Imperialism"

New York University, Draper Interdisciplinary Program in Humanities and Social Thought, M.A. 2011
Master's Thesis: "The Land Speaks: Alaska Native Anticolonial Movements and the Development of Indigenous Consciousness"

California State University, San Marcos, History, B.A. 2008

Research and Teaching Interests

American Indian History, 19th and 20th Century U.S., Indigenous Studies, Global History, Law, Race, U.S. Settler Colonialism and Empire, Decolonization

Publications

Articles

“Unsettled Rights in Territorial Alaska: Native Land, Sovereignty, and Citizenship from the Indian Reorganization Act to Termination” (*The Western Historical Quarterly* 48, No. 3) Fall 2017

Book Reviews

Book Review, Stephen W. Haycox, *Alaska: An American Colony* 2nd ed. ((*Pacific Northwest Quarterly*) (Forthcoming)

Book Review, James Barnett and Ian Hartman, eds., *Imagining Anchorage: The Making of America’s Northernmost Metropolis* (*Pacific Northwest Quarterly* Vol. 110, no. 3) Fall 2019.

Book Review, William Schneider, *The Tanana Chiefs: Native Rights and Western Law* (*Native American and Indigenous Studies*, Vol. 6, Issue 1) Spring, 2019

Book Review, Nick Golodoff, Rachel Mason, Brenda Maly, *Attu Boy: A Young Alaskan’s WWII Memoir* (*Native American and Indigenous Studies*, Vol. 3, Issue 2) Fall, 2016

Book Review, Igor Krupnik and Michael Chlenov, *Yupik Transitions: Change and Survival at Bering Strait, 1900-1960* (*Native American and Indigenous Studies*, Vol. 2, Issue 2) Fall, 2015

Works in Progress

Book Manuscript, *Categories of Empire: Native Sovereignty and Settler Imperialism in Territorial Alaska*

Article, “Reindeer in Trust: Indigeneity, Race, and Indian Policy in Territorial Alaska”

Awards and Honors

The J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History, June 9-22, 2019 (Declined)

2018 Western Historical Association Bert Fireman and Janet Fireman Award for Best Graduate Student Article “Unsettled Rights in Territorial Alaska: Native Land, Sovereignty, and Citizenship from the Indian Reorganization Act to Termination”

Finalist, 2015 Organization of American Historians Louis Pelzer Memorial Award for Best Graduate Student Article “Jim Crow Dispossession: Alaska Native Land, Sovereignty, and the Making of Citizenship in the Early Civil Rights Era”

Honorable Mention, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Student Paper Prize “Alaska is as American as Apple Pie: Alaska Native Sovereignty, Citizenship, and the Domestication of Empire in the Cold War,” Awarded at the 2014 annual conference, Austin, TX

Fellowships and Grants

University of Minnesota, Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, (2016-2017) (\$23,000)

Council on Library and Information Resources Andrew Mellon Fellowship for Dissertation Research in Original Sources (2015-2016) (\$25,000)

Dwight D. Eisenhower Foundation Research Travel Grant (Fall, 2015) (\$850)

Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Short Term Fellowship (Summer, 2015) (\$5,000)

University of Minnesota Thesis Research Travel Grant (2015) (\$2,500)

James W. Scott Research Fellowship, Western Washington University (2014-2015) (\$800)

Graduate Research Partnership Program Research Grant (Summer 2014) (\$4,000 Stipend + \$1,000 Research Expenses)

Harry S. Truman Library Institute Research Grant (2013-2014) (\$1,925.00)

Invited Talks, Lectures, and Presentations

“Between Empires and Frontiers: Alaska Native Sovereignty, Land, Labor, and Belonging in Territorial Alaska,” Western Washington University, Center for Pacific Northwest Studies, Bellingham, WA (August 14, 2015)

Discussant, Native American Heritage Month Panel Presentation, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN (December 3, 2014)

Conference Presentations

“Challenging the Homestead Act in Alaska: Protecting Native Land Through Townsites and Allotments”

Organization of American History, Los Angeles, CA, March/April 2023 (upcoming)

““Not Indian Country in Any Other Sense”: Native Sovereignty and New Frameworks of U.S. Westward Expansion in Alaska”

Western History Association, San Antonio, TX, October 2022 (upcoming)

““Duration Villages” and “Restricted Alien Settlements:” Aleut Internment, European Refugee Resettlement, and the Making of Imperial Space in Territorial Alaska”

Organization of American Historians, Boston, MA, March 2022

“Sui Generis: William Paul, Sr. and the Limits of Settler Imperial Law”

American Society for Legal History, Las Vegas, NV, October 2017

Round Table, “Alaska Native Studies as Scholar, Teacher, Activist”
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Vancouver, B.C., June 2017

“Between Empires and Frontiers: Native Sovereignty, Citizenship, and Civil Rights in Territorial Alaska,” Western History Association, St. Paul, MN, October 2016

“Tracing Circuits of Empire: Alaska Natives and Discourses of Race and Indian Law in the 20th Century United States,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Honolulu, HI, May 2016

“‘The land we were living on was being taken bit by bit’: Alaska Native Land *Re*-Possession and Belonging in the Matanuska Valley,” American Society for Ethnohistory Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, November 2015

“Between Empires and Frontiers: Alaska Native Sovereignty and U.S. Settler Imperialism,” Newberry Consortium for American Indian Studies Graduate Student Conference, Chicago, IL, August 2015

“Between Empires and Frontiers: Alaska Native Sovereignty, Statehood, and U.S. Settler Imperialism,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Washington D.C., June 2015

“‘To Be a Full-Fledged Citizen’: Alaska Native Sovereignty, Civil Rights, and the Politics of Land Ownership,” Organization of American Historians, St. Louis, MO, April 2015

“‘Alaska is as American as Apple Pie’: Alaska Native Sovereignty, Citizenship, and the Domestication of Empire in the Cold War,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Austin, TX, May 2014

“An End to United States Colonialism?: Ernest Gruening in Alaska,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, June 2013

Teaching and Related Experience

Instructor of Record

Indigenous Activism, Environmental Justice, and the State, (CASST/ENVS339), Oberlin College, Comparative American Studies and Environmental Studies (Fall, 2022)

Native Americans and American Law, (HIST3920R), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Department of History (Spring 2022)

Research and Writing in History, (HIST2100), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Department of History (Fall 2021)

United States History Since 1865, (HIST2020), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Department of History (Fall 2021) (Spring 2022)

Decolonization: Race, Empire, Archive (HIST 0109), Tufts University, Department of History (Spring 2021)

Law in American Life (HIST 3835), University of Minnesota, Department of History (Spring 2021)

Food in History (HIST3417), University of Minnesota, Department of History (Spring 2019)

Globalization: Issues and Challenges (HIST1015/GLOS1015), University of Minnesota, Department of History (Fall 2018)

American Indian History since 1830 (HIST 3872/AMIN 3872), University of Minnesota, Department of History (Spring 2018)

American Indian History to 1830 (HIST 3871/AMIN 3871), University of Minnesota, Department of History (Fall 2017)

The United States in the Twentieth Century, 1945-Present (HIST 3822), University of Minnesota, Department of History (Fall 2014)

United States History Since 1865 (HIST 102), University of Southern Indiana, Department of History (Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Summer 2013, Summer 2014, Summer 2015)

Teaching Assistantships

Authority and Rebellion: American History to 1865 (HIST 1301), Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota (Fall 2012, Fall 2013)

Global America: U.S. History since 1865 (HIST 1302), Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota (Spring 2014)

Civilization and the Environment: World History to 1500 (HIST 1011), Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota (Spring 2013)

Service

Program Committee, American Society for Environmental History, 2022-2023

Co-Chair, American Indian and Indigenous Studies Workshop, University of Minnesota (2014-2015)

Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Studies Committee, University of Minnesota
(Fall 2014)

References

Jean O'Brien, Professor, Department of History, University of Minnesota
obrie002@umn.edu

Barbara Welke, Professor, Department of History, University of Minnesota
Welke004@umn.edu

Juliana Hu Pegues, Associate Professor, Department of Literatures in English, Cornell
University
jhupegues@cornell.edu

Chris Caskey Russell, Associate Professor, Native American and Indigenous Studies,
University of Wyoming
ccaskey@uwyo.edu