

Paul V. Murphy

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Education

Ph.D., History, Indiana University, 1996
M.A., History, Indiana University, 1991
B.A., magna cum laude, History, Hanover College, 1988

Positions Held

Professor of History, 2013 to present, Grand Valley State University
Associate Professor of History, 2004-2013, Grand Valley State University
Assistant Professor of History, 1999-2004, Grand Valley State University
Visiting Assistant Professor of History, 1998-1999, Washington University
Temporary Assistant Professor of History, 1997-1998, Truman State University
Adjunct Instructor, 1996-1997, Butler University
Visiting Lecturer and Associate Instructor, 1992-1997, Indiana University, Bloomington
Visiting Lecturer, 1996, Indiana University—Purdue University at Indianapolis
Visiting Lecturer, 1995, Purdue University Extension Program, Anderson, Indiana

Current Projects

“American Intellectuals and the Search for a ‘New Humanism,’ 1910-1950” (in progress)

“The Roots of the Humanist Manifesto of 1933” (under review)

Co-editor with Jon Lauck, Andrew Seal, Gleaves Whitney, and Joe Hogan, *Mapping Midwestern Minds: Essays on the Intellectual History of the Midwest* (book proposal under review)

“The United States in the 1920s,” *Oxford Reference Encyclopedia in American History* (in process)

Publications

The New Era: American Thought and Culture in the 1920s (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012)

The Rebuke of History: The Southern Agrarians and American Conservative Thought (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001). Winner, 2001 Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks Award; *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title for 2002

“The Last Progressive Historian: Warren Susman and American Cultural History” (forthcoming, *Modern Intellectual History*)

“Divorcing Robert Penn Warren from the South,” *rWp: An Annual of Robert Penn Warren Studies* 5 (2005), 75-86

- “‘The Good War’: Collective Memory and World War II in America,” *Grand Valley Review*, 25 (Fall 2002), 44-58
- “The Social Memory of the South: Donald Davidson and the Tennessee Past,” *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, 55:3 (Fall 1996), 256-69; reprinted in Carroll Van West, ed., *Two Hundred Years of Tennessee History* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1998), 323-42
- “The Sacrament of Remembrance: Donald Davidson and His Southern Past,” *Southern Cultures*, 2:1 (Fall 1995), 83-102
- “Agrarians, Vanderbilt,” and “Weaver, Richard M.,” in Clarence L. Mohr, ed., Volume 19: *Education*, of *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011).
- “Allegheny Uprising,” “Where the Lilies Bloom,” and “Wild River,” in Rudy Abramson and Jean Haskell, eds., *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2006)
- “The Idea of the South,” in Mary Kupiec Cayton and Peter W. Williams, eds., *Encyclopedia of American Cultural and Intellectual History* (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2001)
- “Philip L. Graham” and “Gorham Munson,” in John A. Garraty et al., eds., *American National Biography* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999)
- “The Agrarians” and “Donald Davidson,” in *The Tennessee Encyclopedia*, ed. Carroll Van West (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998)
- “Prophet of the Particular,” *Commonweal*, Nov. 5, 2010, pp. 28-29
- “Donald Davidson and Modern American Conservatism,” *Historically Speaking*, 5:2 (Nov. 2003), 26-28
- “The Clinton Legacy,” *Freeman*, 4:3 (Jan.-Feb. 2001), 15
- “The Knowledge Industry’s Brave New World,” *OAH Newsletter*, 24:4 (Nov. 1996), 5-6
- Review of *The Great Agnostic: Robert Ingersoll and American Freethought*, by Susan Jacoby in *Society for U.S. Intellectual History Book Reviews*
<http://s-usih.org/2016/04/freethought-ingersoll-and-u-s-intellectual-history.html>, posted April 10, 2016
- Review of *The Growth of American Thought*, by Merle Curti in *Society for U.S. Intellectual History Book Reviews* [Classic Series] <http://s-usih.org/2016/02/classics-review-the-growth-of-american-thought-revisited.html>, posted Feb. 28, 2016
- Review of *The Indicted South: Public Criticism, Southern Inferiority, and the Politics of Whiteness*, by Angie Maxwell, in *Journal of Southern History*, 81:3 (Aug. 2015), 762-63.
- Review of *Superfluous Southerners: Cultural Conservatism and the South, 1920-1990*, by John J. Langdale III, in *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, 97:2 (Summer 2013), 251-54.
- Review of *Neoconservatism: The Biography of a Movement*, by Justin Vaisse, in *Reviews in American History*, 39:4 (December 2011), 735-40.
- Review of *Cowboy Conservatism: Texas and the Rise of the Modern Right*, by Sean P. Cunningham, in *Journal of*

American History, 98:1 (June 2011), 272-73.

Review of *Late Modernism: Art, Culture, and Politics in Cold War America*, by Robert Genter, in *U. S. Intellectual History* <http://s-usih.org/2011/01/fresh-look-at-twentieth-century.html>, posted Jan. 20, 2011.

Review of *Maynard Adams: Southern Philosopher of Civilization*, by Glenn Blackburn, in *Journal of Southern History*, 77:1 (Feb. 2011), 228-29

Review of *In Search of Another Country: Mississippi and the Conservative Counterrevolution*, by Joseph Crespino, in *American Historical Review*, 113:2 (April 2008), 534-35

Review of *The American Discovery of Tradition, 1865-1942*, by Michael D. Clark, in *Journal of American History*, 93:1 (June 2006), 224-25

Review of *Party Games: Getting, Keeping, and Using Power in Gilded Age Politics*, by Mark Wahlgren Summers, in *South Carolina Historical Magazine*, 106: 2-3 (April/July 2005), 190-92

Review of *In the Great Maelstrom*, by Charles J. Holden, in *Journal of Southern History*, 70:2 (May 2004), 459-60

Review of *The Role of Ideas in the Civil Rights South*, ed. by Ted Ownby, in *Journal of American History*, 90:3 (Dec. 2003), 1089-90

Review of *Not the Triumph but the Struggle*, by Amy Bass, in *Review of Politics*, 65:4 (Fall 2003), 455-57

Review of *Fugitive Theory*, by Christopher M. Duncan, in *Journal of Southern History*, 68 (Feb. 2002), 223-24

Review of *Orphan of the South*, by Thomas A. Underwood, in *Journal of American History*, 88 (Dec. 2001), 1125

Review of *Max Lerner*, by Sanford Lakoff, in *Journal of American History*, 86 (Dec. 1999), 1389

Review of *The Unregenerate South*, by Mark Malvasi, in *Journal of American History*, 85 (Sept. 1998), 733-34

Review of *The Modern Temper*, by Lynn Duménil, in *Journal of American History*, 84 (Sept. 1997), 706-707

Review of *Civil Rights and the Idea of Freedom*, by Richard H. King, in *Southern Historian*, 15 (Spring 1994), 121-22

Review of *An Old Creed for the New South*, by John David Smith, in *Southern Historian*, 13 (Spring 1992), 124-25

Review of *The Social Gospel in Black and White*, by Ralph E. Luker, in *Southern Historian*, 13 (Spring 1992), 145-46

Conference Papers

“Humanist Thought in the Early Twentieth Century: A Failed Common Ground,” Progressive/Conservative: A Common Ground Summit, Hauenstein Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 15-17, 2016

“A. Eustace Haydon, *The New Humanist* (1928-1936), and the Spiritual Aims of Progressivism,” Seventh Annual Society for U.S. Intellectual History Conference, Washington, D.C., Oct. 13-15, 2015

- "Philosophy, Religion, and Intellectual Integration in *The New Humanist*, 1928-1936," Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Grand Rapids, Michigan, March 5-7, 2015
- "Humanism as a 'Way of Life': Liberals, Cultural Reform, and the Humanist Movement in the 1930s and 1940s," Society for U.S. Intellectual History Annual Conference, Irvine, California, Nov. 1-3, 2013
- "Claiming 'Humanism' in the 1930s: Conservatives, Radicals, and the Power of a Label," 72nd Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 3-6, 2013
- "The Roots of Twentieth-Century Cultural Criticism in 1920s America," Fourth Annual Intellectual History Conference, Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Center for the Humanities, CUNY, New York City, Nov. 17-18, 2011
- "The New Humanist Controversy and the Conservative-Modernist Split in American Intellectual Life," Third Annual USIH Conference, Center for the Humanities, Graduate Center, CUNY, New York City, Oct. 21-22, 2010
- "Interpreting a 'Hieroglyphic' Civilization: Warren Susman, the 1920s, and the Modernist Tradition," Second Annual USIH Conference, Center for the Humanities, Graduate Center, CUNY, New York City, Nov. 12-13, 2009
- "The Southern Agrarians, Radical Conservatism, and the Cultural Crisis of the 1920s," First USIH Conference on American Intellectual History (held in conjunction with the Thirty-Third Annual Great Lakes History Conference), Grand Rapids, Michigan, Oct. 17-18, 2008
- "Taking the Economic Turn: John Crowe Ransom's Curious Approach to God," Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, Washington, D. C., Dec. 27-30, 2005
- "The Southern Agrarians and Contemporary Debates on Collective Memory and the Function of History," Annual Meeting of the Georgia Association of Historians, Augusta, Georgia, April 13-14, 2001
- "The Southern Agrarians, Conservative Thought, and the Transformation of the American Right," Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, Illinois, Jan. 6-9, 2000
- "The Lost Cause Versus the Ghost Dance: Robert Penn Warren, Donald Davidson, and the Legacy of Southern Agrarianism," Tenth Annual Conference on American Literature of the American Literature Association, Baltimore, Maryland, May 27-30, 1999
- "Willmoore Kendall, the Politics of Order, and the Origins of the Modern Conservative Movement," Forty-first Annual Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, March 12-14, 1998
- "From Southernism to Conservatism: Southern Agrarianism and the Politics of White Southern Identity," Great Lakes American Studies Association Annual Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, March 7-8, 1997
- "Citizens of an Americanized Nowhere: The Southern Agrarians and the American Conservative Movement," From Redemption to Reaganism: American Conservatism in Historical Perspective, 1865-1980, Princeton, New Jersey, May 4, 1996
- "'Dance Back the Morning': Robert Penn Warren, Southern Agrarianism, and the Function of History," Annual Conference of the Midwest Popular Culture and Midwest American Culture Associations, Indianapolis, Indiana, Nov. 3-4, 1995
- "Russell Kirk and the Origins of the American Conservative Movement," Eleventh Annual Ohio Valley History Conference, Murray, Kentucky, Oct. 20-21, 1995

- "Southern Agrarianism After World War II: The Re-Interpretation of an Intellectual Tradition," Annual Meeting of the American Culture Association of the South, Richmond, Virginia, Oct. 5-7, 1995
- "The Genesis of Postwar Conservatism: A New Interpretation," Seventeenth Mid-America Conference on History, Springfield, Missouri, Sept. 14-16, 1995
- "Agrarian in Exile: Richard M. Weaver and Postwar Conservative Ideology," Southern Writers, Southern Writing Graduate Student Conference, Oxford, Mississippi, July 29-30, 1995
- "Civil Rights and Traditionalist Conservatism: The Intellectual Legacy of the Southern Agrarians," Fourth Annual American Studies Graduate Student Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 1-2, 1994
- "The Sacrament of Remembrance: Donald Davidson and the Southern Past," Telling About the South: A Student Conference on Social Memory and Southern History, Charlottesville, Virginia, March 19-20, 1994

Comments and Lectures

- Panelist, Discussion of *Best of Enemies* Documentary Film, Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sept. 17, 2015
- Chair and commentator, "Morals and Values in Intellectual History," Sixth Annual Conference of Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Indianapolis, Indiana, Oct. 9-12, 2014
- Panelist, "Why Progressive? Why Conservative? The Debate," Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 15, 2013
- Commentator, panel, "One Step Beyond Left and Right: Political Extremism in the Twentieth Century," Borders, Boundaries, and Beyond: International Graduate Historical Studies Conference, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan, April 14, 2012
- Lecture, "Fighting for the National Mind: Liberal Modernists, Cultural Power, and Visions of a New Era in 1920s America," Lees Lecture, Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey, March 25, 2011
- Lecture, "Context for Conflict: Progressives, *Laissez-faire*, and the Promise of Democratic Government," Progressive Women's Alliance, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Feb. 16, 2011
- Lecture, "Confronting the 'Prayer Wheels of a Preoccupied Commercialism': Understanding Cultural Conflict and the Terms of Intellectual Debate in the 1920s," Notre Dame University Intellectual History Seminar, South Bend, Indiana, March 20, 2009
- Commentator, panel, "War and Identity: Putting America into Action: From Battlefield to Homefront," Thirty-First Annual Great Lakes History Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Oct. 20-21, 2006
- Chair and commentator, "Re-Assessing Indiana Politics in the Mid-Twentieth Century," Annual Meeting of the Indiana Association of Historians, Feb. 17-18, 2006
- Lecture, "Standing Athwart History: Conservatism, the South, and Dissent in Modern America," University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, Nov. 11, 2002.
- Lecture, "The Good War: The Cultural Memory and Moral Meaning of World War II in America," delivered in conjunction with "Engaging Memory: Contemporary Interpretations of War: The Art of Renee Zettle-Sterling," Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, Sept. 18, 2002

Commentator, panel, "Allen Tate's *The Fathers* in the Perspective of Virginia's Civil War," Douglas Southall Freeman and Southern Intellectual History Conferences, Richmond, Virginia, Feb. 21-24, 2002

Reading from *The Rebuke of History*, Thirteenth Annual Southern Festival of Books: A Celebration of the Written Word, Nashville, Tennessee, Oct. 12-14, 2001

Chair and commentator, panel, "Religion, Public Memory, and Power: Historical Perspectives on the Creation of Sacred Spaces," Making Sacred Spaces: The Sixth International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Built-Form and Culture Research, Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 16-19, 1997

Chair and commentator, panel, "Race, Gender, and Domesticity in the South," Great Lakes American Studies Association Annual Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, March 7-8, 1997

Honors and Awards

Hoover Archives Workshop on Political Economy, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, June 20-24, 2016

Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2002

Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks Award for Outstanding Literary Criticism, Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies, 2001

Winther Dissertation Fellowship, Indiana University, Fall 1994

Summer Research Fellowship, Indiana University, 1993

Grant-in-Aid of Research, Indiana University, April 1993

Winther Memorial Prize (for outstanding written qualifying exam), Indiana University, 1992

Travel Grant, Cornelius O'Brien Conference on Historic Preservation, September 22-24, 1989

History Department Fellowship, Indiana University, 1988-1989

Areas of Specialization

Modern U.S.; U.S. Intellectual, Cultural, and Political; American South
American Social Thought; Conservative Thought and Conservative Movement

Courses Taught

U.S. History Surveys (pre- and post-1877)

Introduction to American Civilizations

History of Democracy in America

Intellectual History of the United States

U.S. Constitutional and Legal History

U.S. since 1970

U.S. Transformed, 1877-1930

Recent American History, 1930 to present

U.S. History since 1945

Writing History. Topics: Humanism, Religion, and Faith; Capitalism and Culture; America in the 1920s; Consumerism in America

History Capstone: History and the Cultural Turn

Honors American Civilization I and II

Twentieth-Century American Thought and Culture

M.Ed. Graduate Colloquia. Topics: American Cultural History, 1890-1940; Twentieth-Century American Culture; U.S. in the Nuclear Age

Black America to the Civil War, Black America since the Civil War

Twentieth-Century American South

Conservatism and the American Right

Seminar in Post-Reconstruction American South

American Visions

Senior Seminar: America in the 1950s
Conservative Thought in the United States
Freedom, Meaning, and Identity: The Role of Mass Society in American Thought

Professional Experience

Instructor, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Aquinas College, 2015-
Society for United States Intellectual History (S-USIH), President, 2012-2013
S-USIH, Membership Committee, Society for United States Intellectual History, 2011-2012
S-USIH, Constitutional and Bylaws Committee, Society for United States Intellectual History, co-chair, 2011
Contributor, United States Intellectual History blog, 2007-2012
Member, Editorial Board, *Journal for the Study of Radicalism*, 2006-2010
Instructor, Summer Institute for Teaching American History, sponsored by West Shore Consortium for Dynamic History Instruction and Grand Valley State University, Ottawa Area Intermediate School District, July 31-Aug. 3, 2009; Aug. 2, 2011; Aug. 1, 2013
Instructor, Summer Institute for Teaching American History, sponsored by West Shore Consortium for Dynamic History Instruction and Grand Valley State University, Muskegon, Michigan, Aug. 7-8, 2006
Consultant, Social Studies History Themes Project, Michigan Educational Assessment Program, Michigan Department of Education and Michigan Department of Treasury, 2001
Reader, Advanced Placement U.S. History Reading of Exams, San Antonio, Texas, June 1997
Assistant to the Library Director, Historic Business Register Project, Indiana Historical Society, October 1996-May 1997
Summer Assistant, Historic Business Register Project, Indiana Historical Society, 1996
Associate Editor, *Southern Historian*, 1992-1996
Research Assistant, Professor Steven M. Stowe, 1991-1993
Editorial Assistant, *Journal of American History*, 1989-1992

University Service

Grand Valley State University, 1999-
University Faculty, Salary, and Budget Committee, 2014-
History Department Outreach Committee, chair, 2016-
History Department Strategic Planning Committee, 2015
Ad Hoc History Department Marketing Committee, 2015
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Strategic Planning Task Force, Winter 2015
History Department Personnel Committee, 2013-2014; chair, 2013-2014
Graduate Education Task Force, Office of Graduate Studies, 2011-2012
History Department Self-Study Committee, chair, 2011-2012
Assistant Chair, Department of History, 2008-2012
Co-coordinator, Great Lakes History Conference, 2011, 2001-2004
History M.A. Final Plan Task Force, chair, 2009-2014
Ad Hoc History Department Committee on Tenure and Promotion Standards, chair, Fall 2008
History Department Assessment Committee, 2007-2008 ; chair Winter 2008
History Department M.A. Committee, chair, 2007-2008
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, 2006-2009; chair, Winter 2009
History Department Personnel Committee, 2006-2007
Search Committees, History Department, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2007-2008, 2016-2017
Ad Hoc History Department Benchmarking Committee, Fall 2006
University Faculty Library Advisory Committee, chair, 2005-2008
History Department Curriculum Committee, Winter 2005
Ad Hoc History Department M.A. Committee, Winter 2005
University Academic Senate Faculty Library Task Force, Winter 2003; chair, Winter 2005
English Department M.A. Final Plan Task Force, Spring 2001
Chair, General Education Theme of "Democracy," 2001-2004

University Academic Senate, 2000-2003
Member, Delegation to University of Sarajevo, Bosnia, May 2000
History M.A. Committee, Fall 1999

Washington University, 1998-1999
Member, Senior Thesis Committees

Truman State University, 1997-1998
History M.A. Committee

Memberships

American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, Society for U.S. Intellectual History,
American Association of University Professors

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