

Nathan Seeley, Ph.D.

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Public Historian and museum professional who is passionate to work with institutions to make history more accessible and interactive. Ten years experience as a teacher. Passionate grant writer, educator, and project manager. Research interests include U.S. history, local history, and public history/museum studies.

Professional Experience

CURATOR & COLLECTIONS MANAGER

Frankenmuth Historical Association | July 2024 - Present

- Curate content for museum galleries, including rotating temporary exhibits quarterly
- Preserve FHA Collections using preventative conservation methods, including the monitoring of regular climate data recordings, developing emergency disaster preparedness plans, and pest control.
- Curate and deliver educational content for all ages through interactive exhibits, lectures, and other educational programming.
- Accession, catalog, and process incoming donations into FHA collections.
- Supervise interns, volunteers, and train incoming Coordinator of Education & Events

COLLECTIONS MANAGER

St. Lorenz Heritage Committee | Oct 2024 - Present

- Organized, developed, and executed plan for full inventory of collection
- Accessioned and cataloged new objects and “found in collections” objects
- Trained and supervised Heritage Committee members during inventory project and cataloging
- Developed core documents, including a Collections Management Policy, Disaster Plan, Temporary Custody Form, and Deed of Gift form
- Facilitated the move of nearly 1,000 Past Perfect records to St. Lorenz’s own account
- Reorganized museum and curated new content and displays for St. Lorenz Museum

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, EVENTS, & EXHIBITS

Frankenmuth Historical Association | September 2020 - July 2024

- Developed, organized, and implemented year-round educational programming for all ages
- Successfully acquired over \$112,000 in various grants for capital improvement and professional development
- Tripled revenue from educational programming and increased attendance by 400%
- Managed the curation, maintenance, and cleaning of temporary and permanent exhibits
- Acquired grants, conducted research, developed content, for a \$400,000 Museum Renovation geared to make the museum more accessible and interactive
- Managed and improved FHA’s reach through social media
- Organized and managed fundraising events, including overseeing the FHA’s most profitable auction ever

COURSE DESIGNER AND ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Mid-Michigan College | January 2020 - Present

- Taught college level History and Political Science courses
- Collaborated with Dean and head of History Department to rewrite master course syllabi, major assignments, and framework for history courses
- Planned and implemented collaborative and active learning strategies
- Redeveloped two History courses using Open Educational Resources which now serve as Master shells for all faculty
- Coordinated and led the Calibration Innovated Project, which provided faculty with training and tips for improving student feedback and grading. Developed rubrics that aligned with course assessment policies.

HISTORY GRADER, ONRAMPS

University of Texas | January 2020 - Present

- Provided written feedback on six assignments per year for 140+ students
- Participated in professional development, including grading calibrations with other professors
- Facilitated student learning by providing detailed, constructive written feedback for students

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

Florida International University | August 2020 - May 2022

- Instructed four History courses per year virtually
- Coordinated Writing in History tutoring program
- Trained and supervised History tutors while maintaining schedules
- Facilitated undergraduate and graduate fellowships for the Department of History, member of committee to determine fellowship winners
- Organized undergraduate Writing-in-History competition

PROJECT COORDINATOR AND HEAD CURATOR

Historic Hampton House | May 2017 - May 2018

- Supervised team of volunteers to develop history curriculum for the Brownsville Unity Music Project
- Interviewed community members and recorded their memories of the Hampton House
- Served as liaison between FIU, the University of Miami, and the Historic Hampton House
- Organized, collected, and recorded detailed notes on all artifacts related to the Hampton House
- Participated in planning and evaluation for the organization and its programs

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Saginaw Valley State University | August 2022 - December 2022

- Solo instructor for HIST 111: Introduction to Historical Methods
- Taught students research and writing methodologies in a writing-intensive course
- Developed course syllabus, assignments, and learning outcomes to align with general education and department standards
- Collaborated with SVSU's Zahnow Library to introduce students to library resources and archival sources

Education

Doctor of Philosophy, History | Florida International University | Miami, FL | 2019

Master of Arts, African and African Diaspora Studies | Florida International University | Miami, FL | 2016

Bachelor of Arts, History (Minor: Black Studies) | Saginaw Valley State University | Saginaw, MI | 2014

Publications

“Carlton Moss and African American Cultural Emancipation,” Indiana University Press: *Black Camera* 9, no. 2 (Spring 2018).

Grants

St. Lorenz Heritage Committee - Collection Reorganization (\$15,000)	FY24
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Professional Development (\$600)	FY23
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Capital Improvement Grant (\$40,000)	FY22
Frankenmuth Community Foundation General Grant (\$50,000)	FY22 & FY23
Foundation for Our Communities (Frankenmuth Credit Union) Grant (\$13,700)	FY24
Frankenmuth Community Foundation Legacy Ball Partner (\$58,134)	FY22
Saginaw Community Foundation General Grant (\$15,000)	FY23
Duane & Dorothy Bierlein Foundation (\$5,000)	FY22
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Professional Development Grant (\$1,050)	FY22
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Professional Development Grant (\$1,150)	FY21

Invited Talks and Lectures

“Wilhelm Loehe & the Founding of Frankenmuth,” Wickson Memorial Library. February 2025.

“The Interurban of Frankenmuth,” Wickson Memorial Library. June 2024.

“The Origins and Early Days of Frankenmuth,” Michigan German Genealogy Society. March 2024

“Oktoberfest... in September?” Frankenmuth American Legion. September 2022.

“World War II in a German-American Town,” Castle Museum of Saginaw County History. September 2022.

“Conserving History,” Frankenmuth Conservation Club. May 2022.

MMC’s Black History Month Celebration: “Black Identity and Popular Culture,” Mid-Michigan Community College. February 2020.

“Pittsburgh’s Musicians’ Clubhouse: Transcending Boundaries in the Music Industry,” International Graduate Historical Studies Conference. Florida International University. March 29-30, 2019.

“Convict Labor and George Snow Hill’s ‘Construction of the Tamiami Trail,’” Wolfsonian-FIU, May 5, 2017.

“Local 471 Clubhouse: An Integrated Oasis in a Segregated Market,” National Association of African American Studies & Affiliates Joint National Conference. February 16, 2017.

“Pittsburgh’s Local 471,” 16th Annual Florida International University’s Department of History Conference. April 1, 2016.

“*The Negro Soldier* and the Double V. Campaign.” 2016 GSAW Scholarly Forum, Florida International University. March 28-29, 2016.

“Carlton Moss and African American Cultural Emancipation.” 2016 Graduate History Conference, Louisiana State University. March 4-5, 2016.

Courses Taught

HIS 230 (Native American History), Mid-Michigan College: Winter 2025 (Online)

HIS 101 (Issues in Western Civilization I), Mid-Michigan College: Winter 2025 (Online)

HIS 212 (U.S. History After the Civil War), Mid-Michigan College: Fall 2024 (Online)

HIS 211 (U.S. History Through Reconstruction), Mid-Michigan College: Spring 2024 (Online)

HIS 212 (U.S. History After the Civil War), Mid-Michigan College: Fall 2023 (Online)

HIST 111 (Introduction to Historical Methodology), Saginaw Valley State University: Fall 2022 (Face to face)

HIS.211 (U.S. History Through Reconstruction), Mid-Michigan Community College: Summer 2022 (Online)

AFH 2000 (African Civilizations), Florida International University: Spring 2022 (Online)

AMH 4570 (African American History), Florida International University: Spring 2022 (Online)

HIS 212 (U.S. History After Reconstruction), Mid-Michigan Community College: Spring 2022 (Online)

POL 201 (Introduction to Political Science), Mid-Michigan Community College: Spring 2022 (Online)

AMH 4570 (African American History), Florida International University: Spring 2021 (Online)

AFH 2000 (African Civilizations), Florida International University: Spring 2021 (Online)

AMH 4570 (African American History), Florida International University: Fall 2021 (Online)

AMH 4573 (African American History from the Late 19th Century), Florida International University: Fall 2021 (Online)

HIS 101 (Western Civilizations Prior to 1600), Mid-Michigan Community College: Fall 2021

HIS 102 (Western Civilizations After 1600), Mid-Michigan Community College: Summer 2021 (Online)

HIS 211 (U.S. History Through Reconstruction), Mid-Michigan Community College: Spring 2021 (Online)

HIS 102 (Western Civilization Since 1648), Mid-Michigan Community College: Spring 2021 (Synchronous)

HIS 101 (Western Civilization Until 1648), Mid-Michigan Community College: Spring 2021 (Synchronous)

HIS 101 (Western Civilization Until 1648), Mid-Michigan Community College: Spring 2021 (Online)

AMH 4573 (African American History Since Late 19th Century), Florida International University: Spring 2021 (Online)

AMH 4570 (African American History), Florida International University: Spring 2021 (Online)

AMH 2020 (U.S. History Since 1877), Florida International University: Fall A 2020 (Online)

AMH 2020 (U.S. History Since 1877), Florida International University: Fall B 2020 (Online)

POL 201 (Introduction to Political Science), Mid-Michigan Community College: Fall 2020 (Online)

HIS 211 (United State History Through Reconstruction), Mid-Michigan Community College: Winter 2020

EUH 2030 (Western Civilization/Modern Europe) with Dr. Michael Brillman: Fall 2014

AFH 2000 (African Civilizations) with Dr. Hilary Jones: Spring 2015

EUH 2030 (Western Civilization/Modern Europe) with Dr. Michael Brillman: Summer A 2015

AMH 2020/2042 (American History Since 1877) with Dr. April Merleaux: Fall 2015

AMH 2020/2042 (American History Since 1877) with Dr. Alexandra Cornelius: Spring 2016

AMH 2020/2042 (American History Since 1877) with Dr. Alexandra Cornelius: Summer 2016

WOH 2001 (World Civilizations) with Dr. Saad Abi-Hamad: Fall 2016

WOH 2001 (World Civilizations) with Dr. Saad Abi-Hamad: Spring 2017

AMH 2020/2042 (American History Since 1877) with Dr. Alexandra Cornelius: Summer 2018

AFH 2000 (African Civilizations) with Dr. Jean Rahier: Fall 2018

Volunteer Experience & Community Involvement

Member, St. Lorenz Heritage Committee	2024 - Present
Michigan Arts and Culture Council, Operational Grants Reviewer	2022
Saginaw Community Foundation, Scholarship Application Reviewer	2022