

# CURRICULUM VITA

## I. ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

A. Name: James E. McWilliams Title: Associate Professor

### B. Educational Background

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Thesis/Dissertation</b>
Ph.D.	2001	The Johns Hopkins University	History	<i>From the Ground Up: Economic Development and the Rise of an Internal Economy in the Massachusetts Bay Region, 1630-1700</i>
M.A.	1996	The University of Texas at Austin	American Studies	
B.A.	1991	Georgetown University	Philosophy	

### C. University Experience

<b>Position</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Associate Professor of History	Texas State University	2003-present
Associate Fellow in Agrarian Studies	Yale University	2007-2008
Visiting Assistant Professor of History	Southwest Texas State University	2000-2003

### **Teaching Honors and Awards:**

University Honors Professor of the Year Award, Texas State University (2004)

Honors Program (SWT) Honors Advisor of the Year, 2001-2002

### **Courses Taught:**

History 1310—History of the United States before 1877

History 3365—The Early American Republic, 1763-1789

History 3363—Early American History to 1763

History 4365—Early American History: The Revolutionary Period, 1763-1789

History 5313—Graduate Seminar in Colonial British America

Honors 1390—The Evolution of American Culture, 1607-1850

History 3565—Social and Intellectual History of the U. S., 1776-1850

History 5390—Directed Studies (graduate course)

History 5399—Thesis

Directed:

- Philip Sozansky, “A Mystical Sense of Community: Hood’s Texas Brigade and the Social, Cultural, and Environmental Dimensions of Combat Success in the Army of Northern Virginia.” (December 2006) **Winner of the Brunsen Award for Best Thesis in History at Texas State**
- Benjamin A. Hicklin, “Coin and Commerce: Specie and the Development of the Early Massachusetts Economy.” (May 2008) **Winner of the Brunsen Award for Best Thesis in History at Texas State**
- Beau Steenken, “Legislating Existence: The Pequot Indians Under Anglo-American Law.” (May 2008) **Currently nominated for the Brunsen Award for Best Thesis in History at Texas State**

## II. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

### Books:

*Just Food: How Locavores are Endangering the Future of Food and How We Can Truly Eat Responsibly* (Little, Brown, forthcoming 2009)

*American Pests: The Losing War on Insects from Colonial Times to DDT* (Columbia University Press, 2008)

*Building the Bay Colony: Local Economy and Culture in Early Massachusetts* (University of Virginia Press, 2007)

*A Revolution in Eating: How the Quest for Food Shaped America* (Columbia University Press, 2005) **\*Chosen as an “Outstanding Title” by University Press Books for Public and Secondary School Libraries**

### Chapters in Books:

“Groping for National Identity by Forging a National Cuisine,” in Donald A. Yerxa (ed.), *Recent Themes in Early American History: Historians in Conversation* (University of South Carolina Press, 2008)

“Eat Global, Eat Local: The Prospects of Life Cycle Assessments and Sustainable Food Production,” *Proceedings of the World Export Development Forum* (October 2007).

“The Quest for Markets: Economic Adaptation and the End of Declension in the Massachusetts Bay Region, 1630-1700,” in Alan Tully and Robert Olwell (eds.), *Cultures and Identities in Colonial British America* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006).

### Academic Articles (refereed):

“Butter, Milk, and a ‘Spare Rib’: Women’s Work and the Transatlantic Economic Transition in Seventeenth-Century Massachusetts,” *The New England Quarterly* (LXXXII) no. 1 (March 2009, forthcoming), p. 1-20.

- “The horizon opened up very greatly.: Leland O. Howard and the Transition to Chemical Insecticides in the United States, 1894-1927” *Agricultural History* (Fall 2008).
- “Cuisine and National Identity in the Early Republic,” *Historically Speaking* (May/June 2006), 5-8.
- ”African Americans, Native Americans, and the Origins of American Food,” *The Texas Journal of History and Genealogy*. Volume 4 (2005), p.12-16.
- “„how unripe we are”: An Intellectual Construction of American Food,” *Food, Society, and Culture* (Fall 2005), p. 143-160.
- “‘To Forward Well-Flavored Productions’: The Kitchen Garden in Early New England.” *The New England Quarterly* (March 2004), p. 25-50.
- “Integrating Primary and Secondary Sources,” *Teaching History* (Spring 2004), p. 3-14.
- “The Transition from Capitalism and the Consolidation of Authority in the Chesapeake Bay Region, 1607-1760: An Interpretive Model,” *Maryland Historical Magazine* (Summer 2002), p. 135-152.
- “New England’s First Depression: An Export-Led Interpretation,” *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* (Summer 2002), p.1-20 .
- “Work, Family, and Economic Improvement in Seventeenth-Century Massachusetts Bay,” *The New England Quarterly* (September 2001), p. 355-384. **Winner of the 2000 Whitehill Prize in Colonial History (this prize is given annually to the best essay published that year in colonial history).**
- “Brewing Beer in Massachusetts Bay, 1640-1690.” *The New England Quarterly* (December 1998), p. 353-384.

### **Academic Book Reviews:**

- The Early American Table*, by Trudy Eden, *Agricultural History* (Spring 2009)
- African American Foodways*, by Anne Bower (ed.), *American Historical Review* (Spring 2008)
- Food in History*, by Jeffrey Pilcher, *Journal of the Social History of Medicine* (Summer 2006)
- Seduced, Abandoned, and Reborn: Visions of Youth in Middle-Class America, 1780-1850*, by Rodney Hessinger, *Reviews in American History* (June 2006)
- Dining at the Governor’s Mansion*, by Carl McQueary, *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* (January 2004)
- Donald Barthelme: The Genesis of a Cool Sound* by Helen Barthelme. *Southwestern American Literature* (Fall 2002)
- Marriage in the Early Republic: Elizabeth and William Wirt and the Companionate Ideal*, by Anya Jabour, *Maryland Historical Magazine* (Summer 1999)
- Nature’s State*, by Susan Kollin, *The Texas Observer* (March 13, 2002)
- American Childhoods*, by Joseph Illick, *The Texas Observer* (June 21, 2002)
- Lone Star Justice: The First Century of the Texas Rangers* by Robert M. Utley, *Publisher’s Weekly* (June 3, 2002)

### **Selected Popular Writing:**

- “Our Home Grown Melamine Problem,” *The New York Times* (November 18, 2008)
- “Tainted Government,” *Slate* (December 29, 2008)

“Rusted Roots,” *Slate* (October 8, 2008)  
“Food Politics, Half Baked,” *The New York Times* (February 5, 2008)  
“Food that Travels Well,” *The New York Times* (August 6, 2007)  
“Out of Our Gourds,” *The New York Times* (October 25, 2006)  
“They Held Their Noses and Ate,” *The New York Times* (November 24, 2005)  
“The Narrow Halls of Academe,” *The Washington Post* (August 25, 2004)  
“Just Another Leftist Loon,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (January 8, 2004)  
“Plain Old Cowboy’s Winning Ways,” *The Los Angeles Times* (November 26, 2003)

**Contributing Writer Positions:**

*The Texas Observer* (2002-present)  
The History News Service (2003-2005)

**Editorial Positions:**

Book Review Editor (2004-2005) History News Network

**Fellowships, Awards, Grants, and Honors:**

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Program in Agrarian Studies, Yale University (2007-2008)
- Dean’s Award for Scholarly Excellence, Texas State (2007)
- Runner Up, Presidential Award for Scholarly Excellence, Texas State (2006)
- Research Enhancement Grant, Texas State University (2006)
- Runner Up, Presidential Award for Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activities, Texas State (2004)
- Dean’s Award for Excellency in Scholarly/Creative Activity, Texas State (2004)
- Schlesinger Library Research Support Grant, Harvard University (2004)
- The Linda D. Russo Travel Grant, the International Association of Culinary Professionals Foundation (January 2003)
- University Honors (Whitbread) Advisor of the Year Award, Texas State (2003)
- The Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts, scholar-in-residence (May and December 2002)
- W.H.B Clowse Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society (Summer 2001)
- The John E. Rovensky Fellowship in Business and Economic History, Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2000-2001)
- The Alfred D. Chandler Traveling Fellowship, Harvard Business School (2000-2001)
- The Johns Hopkins University Department of History Fellowship (1997-2001)
- University of Texas at Austin Research Assistantship (1996-1997)

**III. SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES**

**Invited Lectures and Papers Delivered:**

- Plenary Speaker (forthcoming April 27, 2009), “Agriculture’s Golden Mean: Achieving Global Sustainability in the Twenty-First Century,” Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Statewide Conference, University of California, Berkeley.
- Invited Lecture (forthcoming March 27, 2009), “Agricultural History and the Future of Food,” Knight Science Fellowships, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Invited Lecture, “American Pests: Insect Control in the United States,” Center for Multicultural Affairs, Texas A&M University (November 12, 2008)
- Invited Lecture, “The History of Insect Control,” Aspen Ideas Festival (July 8, 2008)
- Invited Lecture, “The Pen and the Plow: The Origins of Economic Entomology in the United States,” The American Antiquarian Society (April 2008)
- Invited Lecture, “Silent Spring, Insecticides, and the Origins of Earth Day,” Drexel University, Great Works Symposium (April 21, 2007)
- Invited Lecture, “.Let Us Spray.: The Origins of Insecticides in the United States,” Yale University, Program in Agrarian Studies (October 27, 2006).
- Invited Lecture, “Cuisines and Cultures,” The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey (April 27, 2006)
- Invited Lecture, Drexel University, the Benjamin Franklin Symposium, “Ben Franklin, Mario Batali, and the Birth of American Indulgence” (March 1, 2006)
- Invited Lecture, “Native Americans, African Americans, and the Origins of American Food,” The Culinary Historians of New York (September 14, 2005)
- Invited Lecture, “Native Americans, African Americans, and the Origins of American Food,” Fraunces Tavern Lecture Series, New York (September 14, 2005)
- Invited Lecturer, The Burrell Lecture delivered at Howard Payne University, “Native Americans, African Americans, and the Origins of American Food,” (February 10, 2005)
- Invited Lecturer, “Time and Space Convergence: A Joint U.S. History-Geography Curriculum,” Department of Geography, Texas State University (June 7-11, 2004)
- Invited Lecturer, “A Taste of the Past: Understanding the Transatlantic World Through Food,” World History Association of Texas Annual Meeting, February 28, 2004.
- “Anxious Merchants and Technological Change in Puritan New England,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Historians of Technology, San Jose, California (October 2002).
- “Accounting for the Past One Debit and Credit at a Time,” paper delivered at the Peabody Essex Museum (May 2002)

### **Media Appearances**

WHYY (NPR), Philadelphia, “You Bet Your Garden,” September 27, 2008  
 ABC (Australian Broadcasting Association), August 17, 2007, “By Design”  
 KUT (NPR) Austin, “Morning Addition,” August 11, 2007 (in studio)  
 KUT (NPR) Austin, “Morning Edition,” June 28, 2005 (in studio)  
 WBUR (NPR) Boston, “Here and Now with Robin Young,” July 5, 2005 (in studio)  
 WNYC (NPR) New York, “The Leonard Lopate Show,” July 21, 2005  
 WAMC Albany (NPR), “Roundtable” with Susan Arbetter, August 4, 2005  
 WURO Pittsburg, “On the Menu” with Ann and Peter Haigh, August 10, 2005

WREL, Lexington, VA. "Jim Bresnahan Show," August 10, 2005  
WERE, Cleveland, OH. "Maury's Market," September 8, 2005  
Houston Public Radio, "Front Row," September 8, 2005 (in studio)  
WHYY (NPR), Philadelphia, "A Chef's Table," September 12, 2005 (in studio)  
WKBK, Keene, NH. "What's Cooking with Luca," September 15, 2005  
WREL, Lexington, VA. "The Happy Cook," September 16, 2005

#### **IV. SERVICE**

##### **University:**

Faculty Advisor, Water Polo Club (2006)

##### **Department:**

Faculty Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta Society  
Search Committee: American History Position (2005)  
Landscaping Committee (2006-present)  
Graduate Program Outcome Committee

##### **Community:**

- "Native Americans, Backcountry Trade, and Food Preparation in the Colonial South," Brown Bag Lecture Series, Phi Alpha Theta Society, Texas State (November 2003)
- "Food Production in Colonial British America," commencement address, Phi Alpha Theta Society annual banquet, Texas State (May 2003)
- "What Did Early Americans Eat and Why Should We Care," Student/Faculty Lunch Bunch, Campus Community Center, San Marcos, Texas (April 2003)
- Invited Lecturer, "Native Americans, African Americans, and the Origins of American Food," Daughters of the Texas Revolution, Jacob's Well Chapter (March 14, 2005)