

**CASSANDRA L. YACOVAZZI**  
College of Arts & Sciences  
University of South Florida  
8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota FL 34243  
330.209.9745 [cyacovazzi@usf.edu](mailto:cyacovazzi@usf.edu)

## CURRENT POSITION

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2018-present      Assistant Professor of History, College of Arts & Sciences, University of South Florida, Sarasota, Florida

## EDUCATION

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2015      Ph.D. in History, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO  
Dissertation: “‘So Many Foolish Virgins’: Nuns and Anti-Catholicism from Maria Monk to the Know-Nothings” (Committee: John Wigger, Catherine Rymph, Steven Watts, Jeffrey Pasley, John Evelev, Kathleen Sprows Cummings)

2009      M.A. in History, Baylor University, Waco, TX

2006      B.A. in Liberal Arts, Malone University, Canton, OH  
*Magna cum Laude*

## PUBLICATIONS

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Book: *Escaped Nuns: True Womanhood and the Campaign Against Convents in Antebellum America* (Oxford University Press, 2018)

Book Chapter: “The Popery Panic: Nativism, Anti-Catholicism, and Violence in Antebellum America,” in *Catholics and Violence in the Nineteenth Century Global World* (Routledge, forthcoming)

Review: *The Laywoman Project: Remaking Catholic Womanhood in the Vatican II Era* by Mary J. Henold (Cornell University Press, 2020), *Fides et Historia* 51, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2021)

Book Chapter: “‘Down with the Convent!’: Anti-Catholicism and Opposition to Nuns in Antebellum America,” in *Blackwell Companion to American Religious History* (Wiley-Blackwell, February 2021)

Interview: “5 Questions with Cassie Yacovazzi,” *Religion in American History: A Group Blog on Religion in American Culture and History*, blog (June 2019)

Review: *Elizabeth Seton: American Saint* by Catherine O’Donnell (Cornell University Press, 2018), *The Historian* 81, no. 3 (Fall 2019): 484-485.

Encyclopedia Entry: “Elizabeth Ann Seton,” in *American Religious History: Belief and Society through Time* (ABC-CLIO, December 2020)

Encyclopedia entry on “Katharine Drexel,” in *American Religious History: Belief and Society through Time* (ABC-CLIO, forthcoming, September 2020)

Interview: “The Author’s Corner with Cassie Yacovazzi,” for *The Way of Improvement Leads Home: Reflections at the Intersection of American History, Religion, Politics, and Academic Life*, blog (September 2018)

Review: *Refugee Nuns, the French Revolution, and British Literature and Culture* by Tonya J. Moutray, *History of Women Religious of Britain and Ireland* (H-WRBI) (2016).

“Along Missouri’s German Highway,” *Missouri Humanities* (Fall/Winter 2015-16).

Review: *Four Steeples Over the City Streets: Religion and Society in New York’s Early Republic Congregations* by Kyle T. Bulthuis, *Fides et Historia* 47, no. 2 (Summer/Fall 2015).

Review: *Religion and the Public Conscience: Ecumenical Civil Rights Work in Seattle, 1940-1960* by Randi J. Walker, *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 104, no. 4 (Fall 2013).

Article: ““Are You Allowed to Read the Bible in a Convent?”: Protestant Perspectives on the Catholic Approach to Scripture in Convent Narratives, 1830-1860.” *U.S. Catholic Historian* 31, no. 3 (Summer 2013).

Blog Post: “Rome in America: Reflections on the 2014 Rome Seminar,” for *Religion in American History*, blog (December 21, 2014)

## EXPERIENCE

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2019-present	<i>Assistant Professor</i> University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
2018-2019	<i>Visiting Assistant Professor</i> University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
2017-2018	<i>Adjunct Instructor</i> Stephens College
2015-2018	<i>Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow</i> University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring 2015	<i>Teaching Fellow</i> University of Missouri, Department of History

Spring & Summer 2013	<i>Teaching Fellow</i> University of Missouri, Department of History
2010-2016	<i>Adjunct Instructor</i> Moberly Area Community College
2009-2015	<i>Graduate Teaching Assistant</i> University of Missouri, Department of History American History to 1865 / from 1865

## SELECTED CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

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January 2022	“Thinking Like a Woman”: How Mary Kay Forged a Feminine Ideal on Empowerment, Beauty, Capitalism, and Religion, 1963-1979,” American Society of Church History, New Orleans, LA
January 2022	Chair and Commentator: “Scandal, Schism, and Enslavement: Women Religious Negotiating Race, Gender, and Authority in 19 <sup>th</sup> Century American Catholicism,” American Catholic Historical Association, New Orleans, LA
November 2021	“Women in Business: The Mary Kay Cosmetics Story,” Lakewood Ranch History Club, Sarasota, FL
March 2021	“Power without Picketing: Mother Cabrini and the Woman’s Suffrage Movement, 1848-1920,” Dunedin Public Library, Dunedin FL
December 2020	“La Madre: Mother Cabrini and the Italian American Experience,” Lakewood Ranch History Club, Sarasota, FL
June 2019	“What was it like on the US home front during D-Day?” <i>Bradenton Herald</i> , interview by James A. Jones, Jr., Sarasota, FL
May 2019	“Episode 75: The Campaign Against Convents in Antebellum America with Cassandra L. Yacovazzi,” <i>The Age of Jackson Podcast</i> , podcast
April 2019	“Think Pink: How Mary Kay Built An Empire on Lipstick and Applause.” USFSM Research Pecha Kucha, Sarasota
February 2019	Chair and Commentator: “Kotex, Courtship, and Cosmetics: The Commodification of Feminine Hygiene, Domesticity, and Love in America.” Florida Conference of Historians, Sarasota

- January 2017 “Damp Dungeons and Happy Homes: Anti-Convent Propaganda, Domesticity, and the American Family Ideal, 1830-1860.” AHA, Denver
- October 2016 “All Happy Families: Women, Domesticity, and Family in the Anti-Slavery and Anti-Convent Movements.” Conference on Faith and History, Virginia Beach
- July 2016 “Painted Women and Veiled Nuns: Images of Women in Nineteenth-Century City Mysteries and Convent Narratives.” SHEAR, New Haven, CT
- January 2016 “‘So Many Foolish Virgins’: True Womanhood, Nuns, and Propaganda in Antebellum America.” American Society of Church History, Atlanta
- October 2014 “Beware of Foreign Influence’: Anti-Catholicism and Religious Liberty in Early America.” Kinder Forum on Constitutional Democracy, Columbia, MO
- September 2014 “No Bibles Allowed: Perspectives on Catholic Approaches to Scripture in Nineteenth-Century Convent Narratives.” Conference on Faith and History, Malibu
- July 2014 “Our Country, Our Women: The Influence of Anti-Convent Propaganda on the Massachusetts Know-Nothing Party.” SHEAR Annual Meeting, Philadelphia
- March 2014 “Our Nation, Our Women: The Massachusetts Nunnery Committee and the Symbolism of the Nun in Antebellum America.” Missouri Conference on History, Columbia, MO
- February 2014 “From the Wilderness to the Cloister: A Comparison of American Captivity and Convent Narratives.” 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Popular Culture and American Culture Associations Conference, Albuquerque
- October 2012 “‘A Nun with Quite a Beard’: Convent Life and Gender in the Escaped Nun Tales, 1830-1860.” Conference on Faith and History, Boston
- March 2012 Chair and Commentator: “Religion and Society in the Antebellum U.S.” 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Conference on History, Columbia, MO
- January 2012 “The Yankee and the Pontiff: Mark Twain and Leo XIII’s Critique of Modernity.” American Historical Association (AHA), Chicago

- April 2011 “The Catholic Crusade Against Contraception: A Battle Between Religion and Modernism, 1916-1930.” Organization of American Historians (OAH), Houston
- October 2008 “Elizabeth Ann Seton: An American Saint.” Conference on Faith and History Biennial Meeting, Bluffton, OH
- October 2006 “Reinhold Niebuhr and the Paradox of Patriotism.” Christianity and Cultures Conference, Ohio

### **SELECTED GRANTS & AWARDS**

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- Spring 2020 Recipient of University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee Faculty Research Accelerator Grant
- Spring 2019 Nomination for American Society of Church History Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize for “Outstanding scholarship in the history of Christianity by a first-time author”
- Spring 2018 Nomination for Postdoctoral Teaching Award, University of Missouri
- Fall 2014 Kinder Dissertation Fellowship, Forum on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri
- Summer 2014 Forum on Constitutional Democracy Travel Award, University of Missouri
- July 2014 SHEAR (Society for Historians of the Early Republic) Graduate Travel Award
- Summer 2014 William Wilcher Endowment Travel Grant, University of Missouri, Department of History
- June 2014 Rome Seminar 2014, Recipient of Tuition Waiver and Stipend, University of Notre Dame
- May 2014 Adjunct Instructor Excellence in Teaching Award, Moberly Area Community College
- April 2014 John D. Bies International Travel Scholarship
- February 2014 Heldrich-Dvorak Travel Fellowship, Southwest Popular / American Culture Association
- Spring 2013 Donald K. Anderson Teaching Assistant Award, University of Missouri Graduate School

2013-2014 Academic Year	Dissertation Fellowship, University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring 2013	Graduate Student Association Travel Award, University of Missouri
Fall 2012	Organization Research Group Travel Award, University of Missouri
Spring 2012	Summer Research Grant, University of Missouri, Department of History
Spring 2011	TA Choice Award, Sponsored by the Missouri Student Association
Spring 2011	Organization Research Group Travel Award, University of Missouri
Fall 2009	Supplemental Graduate Fellowship, University of Missouri, Department of History

#### **ACADEMIC & COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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Spring 2022	Interview Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Instruction, USF Department of History
Fall 2021-present	Member of the USF Department of History Diversity Committee
Fall 2020-present	Chair of the USF College of Arts & Sciences Diversity Committee
Fall 2020-Spring 2021	Member of the USF Department of History Graduate Committee
Spring 2020-present	Board Member of Lakewood Ranch History Club
Fall 2020	Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to <i>The Journal of Southern History</i> (Southern Historical Association)
Fall 2020	Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to <i>Book History</i> (Johns Hopkins University Press)
Summer 2020	Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to <i>Modern American History</i> (Cambridge University Press)
Spring 2020	Served as mentor for Senior student's "Outstanding Project" in Department of Liberal Arts, USFSM (Alexandra Guelzow, "'The Glorious RBG: The Meritorious Life of Ruth Bader Ginsberg'")
Fall 2019-Present	Member of the Duvall Family Studies Committee, USFSM

Fall 2019-Spring 2022	Board Member of the Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation
Fall 2019	Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to <i>Modern American History</i> (Cambridge University Press)
Summer 2019	Voting member of Academic Regulations Committee (ARC), which reviews student petitions
Spring 2019-present	Faculty liaison in History for USF Dual Enrollment program
Spring 2019	Served as mentor for Senior student's "Outstanding Project" in Department of Liberal Arts, USFSM (Jason Wall, "It All Started with a Train")
Spring 2019	Served as an external reviewer for a student's honor thesis, USFSM (Sofia Paschero, "Conflicts with Inner and Outer Identities: Of the Deferred action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Recipients")
Fall 2018	Volunteer marshal for University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Fall Commencement Ceremony
Fall 2018	Participation in Freshmen Preview Open House recruitment for the Department of Liberal Arts at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
Fall 2018	Assessment of History majors at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
Fall 2017	Served as external reviewer for manuscript submission to <i>Ohio Valley History</i> (The Filson Historical Society)
2016-2018	Deutschheim Verein Society, Board Member
2014-2015	Research Assistant for Professor Steven Watts, University of Missouri, Department of History
2010-2018	Columbia Chorale
2010-2015	Big Brother, Big Sister of Columbia, MO
2012-2013	History Graduate Student Association Vice President, University of Missouri
Fall 2012	Graduate Peer Mentor, University of Missouri

2009-2013 Academic Tutor, University of Missouri, Student Success Center  
2007-2009 Marketing Information Specialist, Baylor University Press  
2006-2007 Archival Intern, First Ladies' National Library

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

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2015-2016 *Heritage Resources Coordinator*  
Missouri Humanities Council  
I coordinated all facets of heritage tourism, specifically focusing on the Missouri German Heritage Corridor pilot project. This included conducting regular public meetings/communication with non-profits, community organizations, and local government officials, and creating a state-wide inventory of heritage resources.

2010-2014 *Academic Tutor*  
Student Success Center  
As a tutor, I met regularly with students to go over their writing assignments and class notes and to help them study for exams, ensuring their ability to both understand and articulate the course content.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Berkshire Conference of Women Historians  
American Historical Association (AHA)  
American Society of Church History (ASCH)  
American Catholic Historical Association (ACHA)

## REFERENCES

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John H. Wigger  
Professor of History  
University of Missouri  
[wiggerj@missouri.edu](mailto:wiggerj@missouri.edu)  
573.882.2481

Steven Watts  
Professor of History  
University of Missouri  
[wattss@missouri.edu](mailto:wattss@missouri.edu)  
573.882.7866

Catherine E. Rymph  
Associate Professor of History  
University of Missouri  
[rymphc@missouri.edu](mailto:rymphc@missouri.edu)  
573.882.4320

Jonathan S. Perry  
Associate Professor of History  
University of South Florida  
[sperry@usf.edu](mailto:sperry@usf.edu)  
941.359.4248