

April Braden

Education

Doctor of Philosophy American Culture Studies | Exp: 2017 | Bowling Green State University
Dissertation Working Title: The Effects of the Post-Industrial Landscape on Class Identity Formation: An Ethnographic Study of Canaryville, Chicago
Major Area of Concentration: Critical Studies in Media, Film, and Culture
Public History Graduate Certificate

Master of Arts | 2010 | Loyola University Chicago
Major Area of Concentration: U.S. History
Minor Area of Concentration: Public History
Thesis: Shaping Up For A Man's World: Jane Fonda and the Fitness Revolution

Architecture Field School | 2009 | University of Wisconsin Madison
Fieldschool Research Assistant for 2012 Vernacular Architecture Forum

Bachelors of Arts | 2007 | Loyola University Chicago
Major Area of Concentration: History
Minor Area of Concentration: Classical Studies

Study Abroad | 2005 | University College Cork, Cork Ireland

Teaching Experience

Professor of History | North Lake College, Irving, TX | August 2017 –Present
Courses Taught: HIST 1301 US History to 1877
HIST 1302 US History since 1877

Instructor of Record | Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH | January 2014 – December 2015; May 2016 – June 2016
Courses Taught: WS 2000 Introduction into Women's Studies (1 section, 30 students)
ACS 2500 Cultural Pluralism (1 section, 30 students)
ACS 2500 Cultural Pluralism (1 section, 22 students – distance learning)

Graduate Teaching Assistant | Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH | August 2013-December 2013
Courses Taught: WS 2000 Introduction to Women's Studies (2 sections, 30 students each)

Adjunct Professor | Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL | January 2011 – August 2012
Courses Taught: HIST 100 Western Civilization I (2 sections, 30 students each)
HIST 101 Western Civilization II (1 section, 30 students)

Alternative Teaching Experience

Writing Center Tutor | Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL | August 2011 – August 2012

Tutored students in basic writing composition, revision, and language skills; created online compatible Adobe documents for students and faculty to streamline referral process; Created tutorials on academic research and citations for students.

Citizenship Tutor | Albany Park Community Center, Chicago, IL | March 2009-June 2009

Provided individual tutoring on civics, geography, English, U.S. History and other necessary knowledge to pass the U.S. Citizenship exam.

Youth Mentor | Youth Organizations Umbrella, Inc., Evanston, IL | October 2005 – May 2007

Created after school activities to foster creativity, basic life skills, and social interaction; Tutored students in general studies, Sixth through Eighth grade.

Fellowships and Awards

2016-2017 American Culture Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship | Bowling Green State University | August 2016-current

Monetary compensation covering tuition for doctoral studies and stipend while researching and writing dissertation

Graduate Teaching Assistant Fellowship | Bowling Green State University | August 2013- June 2016

Monetary compensation covering tuition for doctoral studies and stipend for acting as teaching assistant and instructor of record.

Alma Payne Scholarship | Bowling Green State University | April 2016

A monetary award to fund participation in the Oral History Summer School

Summer Professional Development Award | Bowling Green State University Graduate Student Senate | June 2015

A monetary award to fund participation in the 2015 Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Conference

Conference Presentations

“Forgetting Identity: Destroying Bowling Green, Ohio’s Industrial Past to Make Way for a Middle Class Future”

Vernacular Architecture Forum Summer 2015, Chicago, IL

“Sweaty Feminism: Jane Fonda and the Fitness Revolution”

Guest Lecture at Bowling Green State University Women’s Center, Spring 2015, Bowling Green, OH

“Mug Shot: A Look Into the Craft Brewery Tourism Industry”

Midwest Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association Fall 2014, Indianapolis, IN

“Shaping Up For A Man’s World: Jane Fonda and the Fitness Revolution”

Mid-America Conference on History Spring 2009, Norman, OK

“The Necropolitan Looking Glass: Graceland Cemetery and Chicago, Illinois”

Ohio University History Graduate Conference Spring 2009, Athens, OH

“Eternal Architecture: Neo-Classical Architecture and its Evolution in Graceland Cemetery, Chicago, Illinois”

Loyola University Chicago History Graduate Symposium Spring 2009, Chicago, IL

Symposiums and Workshops

Chicago Workshop: Oral History Intensive With Studs Terkel Radio Archive and Chicago Torture Justice Memorials Project

Oral History Summer School, Chicago IL, June 2016 (Upcoming)

“How Jane Fonda Became a Feminist: Fonda, Aerobics, and American Women in the 1980s”

Perdue University American Studies Graduate Student Symposium, West Lafayette, IN, April 2016

University Service

Graduate Mentor | American Culture Studies Mentor Program, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH | August 2014 – Present

Acted as mentor to incoming graduate students helping new students with the transition to graduate school and the move to Bowling Green, OH.

Cultural Studies Scholars’ Association| Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH | June 2014 –May 2015

Held the position of Treasurer and created and maintained budgets for Graduate and Undergraduate student organization. Helped organize the 2015 Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, fundraising events, and social events.

Administrative Core Accenture Budget Committee| Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH| January 2014-May 2015

Served as graduate student representative appointed by the University President. Committee focused on finding and implementing new ways to use technology to reduce university financial restraints.

Panel Moderator| Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies, Bowling Green, OH | February 2015

Panel Title: Regional Evolution: Changing Cultural Landscapes in the Midwest

Undergraduate Representative, Loyola University History Department | Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL | January 2006 – May 2006

Acted as an undergraduate representative sitting in on department meetings discussing new graduation requirements for History majors.

Public History Experience

Graduate Assistant | The Women's Center at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH | January 2015 – May 2015

Coordinate "Keep it Flowing," a donation drive to provide feminine hygiene products to food banks, homeless shelters, and Women's Shelters; identify and facilitate a working relationship with organizations on and off campus; organize and implement campus donation drive; identify appropriate grants; provide administrative assistance for the Center

Volunteer Grant Writer | Sylvania Historical Society, Sylvania, OH | September 2014 – December 2014
Research and draft appropriate grants for Society's new educational programming

Writing Intern | U.S. History Scene, Cambridge, MA | June 2014 – August 2014
Research and write five peer-reviewed articles published on the organization's website, www.ushistoryscene.com

Historical Research Intern | Chicago DeTours, Chicago, IL | October 2010 – December 2010
Research histories of the various locations on walking tours of Chicago's neighborhoods; Draft and revise tour text; Aid in obtaining user rights to archival research

Docent | McCormick Freedom Museum, Chicago, IL | June 2008 – March 2009
Provided guided tours; Aid in implementing large events such as Banned Books Week

Research Intern | C.I.R.C.L. – Coalition for Immigrant's Rights At A Community Level, York, PA | June 2006 – August 2006
Researched relevant information for Amnesty International, asylum and immigration cases, and other community organizations; filed federal immigration forms; managed client cases and performed basic office management.