

WILLIAMJAMES HULL HOFFER
Professor of History
Seton Hall University

Department of History
Seton Hall University
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Education:

Johns Hopkins University, Ph. D., History, May 22, 2003; M.A., History,
May 27, 1999
Dissertation: "Leviathan Bound: Changing Congressional Concepts of the U.S.
Administrative State, 1858-1891," Advisor: Louis P. Galambos

Harvard Law School, J.D., June 6, 1996
HARVARD JOURNAL ON LEGISLATION, Articles Editor

Rutgers College, B.A., *Summa cum laude*, May 20, 1993
Double major: History with honors, Political Science with honors, Minor:
Economics, Secondary Field: Philosophy
Thesis: "Bureaucrats at Bay: The United States Department of Commerce and
the Formation of Industrial Policy, 1900-1920"
Rutgers College General Honors Program
Henry Rutgers Thesis Scholar

Employment:

Professor, History Department, Seton Hall University, September 2014-present;
Associate Professor, September 2008-August 2014; Assistant Professor,
September 2002-August 2008

Courses Taught:

U.S. History I & II; American Legal History I & II; American Military
History; World History of Warfare; Economic History of the U.S.; History
of the Global Economy; Introduction to Historical Research; Senior
Seminar; Colloquium: U.S.; American Legal History (Graduate);
PDR: U.S. (Graduate); Independent Research; Master's Thesis Research

Service:

Pre-Law Advisor, 2004-07; History Department: Advisor to History Majors,
2003-08; Islamic/Middle East Search Committee, 2005-06; Latin America
Search Committee, 2007-08; U.S. History Search Committee, 2012-13;
College of Arts & Sciences: Parliamentarian, 2003-04; By-Laws
Committee, 2003-07; College Planning Committee, 2006-09; Chair pro

tem, 2010-11; Educational Policy Committee, 2010-11, 2012-present, chair, 2013-15; Faculty Senate: Senator, 2005-09; Academic Policy Committee, Co-chair, 2008-09; Faculty Guide & By-Laws Committee, Chair, 2005-07; Academic Facilities Committee, 2006-09; Calendar Committee, 2004-06; Library Committee, 2003-05; Arts & Sciences Dean's Search Committee, 2011-12; University Rank & Tenure Committee, 2015

Teaching Assistant, Johns Hopkins University, 1999-2002

[taught discussion sections of Undergraduate Seminar in History (historical methods for history majors), Occidental Civilization: Ancient World, The Global Economy in the 20th Century]

Honors, Awards, Fellowships:

American Association of University Presses, Outstanding Book Award, 2008
Choice Outstanding Academic Title, 2008 [for Essential History]
Samuel I. Golieb Fellowship, The Legal History Colloquium, New York University School of Law, 2001-2
Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education, 1997-2001
Arthur O. Lovejoy Honorary Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, 1998-2001
Johns Hopkins University Graduate Student Fellowship, 1996-97, 2001-2
Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society (elected Junior Year)
Rutgers University Harold L. Poor Prize in History (2nd Place, for Thesis)

Publications:

In Progress:

"Nation of Lawyers: A New Constitutional History of the United States",
(Manuscript in preparation).
"Passing Beneath the Shadow: A Journey into George R. R. Martin's World of Ice and Fire and "Game of Thrones"" (Manuscript in preparation).
Co-author, The Clamor of Lawyers: The American Revolution and Crisis in the Legal Profession (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, expected Fall 2018).

Books:

Co-author, The Supreme Court: An Essential History, 2nd Edition. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2018.
Co-author, The Federal Courts: An Essential History. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016. 560 pp.
Plessy v. Ferguson: Race and Inequality in Jim Crow America. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2012. ix 219 pp.
Co-author, Reading and Writing American History: An Introduction to the

Historian's Craft, Fourth Edition, Volumes I & II. Boston: Pearson [Custom], 2011.

The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor, Idealism, and the Origins of the Civil War. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010. 152 pp.

To Enlarge the Machinery of Government: Congressional Debates and the Growth of the American State, 1858-1891. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007. xiii 258 pp.

Co-author, The Supreme Court: An Essential History. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2007. ix 491 pp.

Co-editor, The Abortion Rights Controversy in America: A Legal Reader. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004. 343 pp.

Articles/Book Chapter:

"Plessy v. Ferguson: The Effects of Lawyering on a Challenge to Jim Crow", Journal of Supreme Court History 39(1) (2014): 1-21.

"Toward the 'Good' Research Assignment: An Academic Speaks", in Successful Strategies for Teaching Undergraduate Research, Marta Deyrup and Beth Bloom, eds. (Lanham: Scarecrow Press, 2013), 45-58.

"North v. South: A Legal History of the Caning of Charles Sumner," Rutgers Law Journal 43(3) (Fall/Winter 2013): 515-539.

"The Caning of Charles Sumner and the Origins of Civil War," North and South Magazine 12(6) (March 2011): 12-19 [excerpt of Caning].

"William Paterson and the National Jurisprudence: Two Draft Opinions on the Sedition Law of 1798 and the Federal Common Law," Journal of Supreme Court History 2(1997): 36-50.

Encyclopedia Entries:

"Administrative State," The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Political and Legal History, Donald T. Critchlow and Philip R. VanderMeer, Editors in Chief, Volume I, New York: Oxford University Press, 2012, 10-15.

"Supreme Court," Princeton Encyclopedia of American Political History, Michael Kazin, ed., Rebecca Edwards & Adam Rothman, associate editors, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010, 788-95.

"Evarts, William Maxwell," Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law, Roger K. Newman, ed., New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009: 190.

"Stone, Harlan Fiske," Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the United States, David S. Tannenhaus and William S. Boyd, eds., Woodbridge, CT: Macmillan Reference USA, 2009: 1500 words.

"Frankfurter, Felix," "Promissory Estoppel," Oxford Companion to American Law. Kermit L. Hall, editor-in-chief, New York: Oxford University Press, 2002, 322-3, 657.

Book Reviews:

Kevin Butterfield, The Making of Tocqueville's America: Law and Association in

- the Early United States, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015). Journal of the Early Republic, Volume 38, Number 1, Spring 2018, 175-77.
- Congress and the Crisis of the 1850s, Paul Finkelman and Donald R. Kenneon, eds. (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2012). Journal of American History (2013) 99: 1247-1248.
- Stephanie Newbold, All but Forgotten: Thomas Jefferson and the Development of Public Administration, New York: State University of New York Press, 2010. Journal of Southern History 77(4) (November 2011): 920-21.
- Phillip J. Cooper, The War Against Regulation: From Jimmy Carter to George W. Bush. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2009. H-Law, H-Net Reviews. August, 2010. Internet, <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=30429>.
- Christian G. Fritz, American Sovereigns: The People and America's Constitutional Tradition Before the Civil War. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008. Common-place, 10(3.5) (May 2010), Internet, <http://www.common-place.org/interim/reviews/hoffer.shtml>.
- Brian Balogh, A Government Out of Sight: The Mystery of Authority in Nineteenth Century America. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009. Journal of American History, 97(1) (June 2010): 175-6.
- Stephen Mihm, A Nation of Counterfeiters: Capitalists, Con Men, and the Making of the United States. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2007. The Historian, 71(4) (December 2009): 859-60.
- David E. Kyvig, The Age of Impeachment: American Constitutional Culture since 1960, Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2008. Law and History Review, (Spring 2009): 238-9.
- Judy Kutulas, The American Civil Liberties Union and the Making of Modern Liberalism, 1930-1960. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006. American Communist History, 7(1) (June 2008): 90-92.
- "Dark Ages?" Laura Kalman, Yale Law School and the Sixties: Revolt and Reverberations. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005. Reviews in American History, 34 (September 2006): 379-84.
- Craig Bradley, The Rehnquist Legacy. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006. H-net Book Review, H-Law@H-net.msu.edu, Internet, (September 2006).
- Robert Harrison, Congress, Progressive Reform, and the New American State. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2004. Democratization (12)(2) (April 2005): 265-7.
- Tim Koopmans, Courts and Political Institutions: A Comparative View. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2003. H-net Book Review, H-Law@H-net.msu.edu, Internet, (September 28, 2004).
- Aryeh Neier, Taking Liberties: Four Decades in the Struggle for Rights. New York: Public Affairs, 2003. American Communist History 2 (2) (December 2003): 248-50.
- William M. Wiecek, The Lost World of Classical Legal Thought: Law and Ideology in America, 1886-1937. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998, 2001. The American Historical Review 108(4) (October 2003): 1159-60.

Presentations:

Academic:

- “Roundtable Discussion of the Progress of a History of the Federal Courts,” American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, November 7, 2014.
- “Plessy v. Ferguson: Race, Identity, and the Law Re-examined,” American Historical Association 127th Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 4, 2013.
- “Plessy v. Ferguson: Race, Identity, and the Perils of Legal History,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, Cape May, New Jersey, April 13, 2012.
- “North v. South: A Legal History of the Caning of Charles Sumner,” “The Constitution and the Sectional Conflict,” Rutgers-Camden Law School, Camden, New Jersey, April 12, 2011.
- “The Caning of Charles Sumner: Honor-Bound Assault and the Origins of the U.S. Civil War,” American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Ottawa, Canada, November 15, 2008.
- “A Tale of Two Departments: Debates in Congress on Education and Justice During Reconstruction,” American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio, November 12, 2005.
- “Leviathan Bound: Lawyers, Congress, and the Building of the U.S. State, 1858-1891,” Legal History Colloquium, New York University School of Law, New York, March 3, 2004.
- “Bringing the Courts Back In: The Evarts (Circuit Court of Appeals) Act of 1891 and Judicial State-building,” Legal History Colloquium, New York University School of Law, New York, February 20, 2002.

Public:

- Organizer and presenter, “Game of Thrones: History and Fantasy, A Panel Discussion”, “Vampire Trees: Outlandish Theories and the Cycle of Death in GoT, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey, October 5, 2017.
- Interview, New Jersey News 12, “Trump’s Lack of Details on Afghanistan Plan Prompts Mixed Reactions”, August 22, 2017, <http://newjersey.news12.com/story/36194203/trumps-lack-of-details-on-afghanistan-plan-prompts-mixed-reactions>.
- “Plessy v. Ferguson: How the Legal Basis for ‘Separate But Equal’ Was Established,” Henry M. Flagler Library and Museum, Palm Beach, Florida, February 16, 2016.
- Interview, “What Parts of U.S. History Should A.P. Students Learn?”, CBS Saturday Evening News, August 1, 2015.
- Panelist, “How We Teach U.S. History to Our Kids,” P.R.I.’s “To the Point”, August 6, 2015.
- “Legal Landmarks: Plessy v. Ferguson: Race and Inequality in America,” Kansas

- City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri, July 23, 2013.
- "The U.S. Constitution: Its Origins and Implications", A Forum in Honor of Constitution Day, Seton Hall University, September 17, 2013.
- "Legal Landmarks: Plessy v. Ferguson: Race and Inequality in America," Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri, July 23, 2013.
- "Hazard zet Backward," WSOU, Seton Hall University Radio, April 21, 2012.
- Interview on the Caning and Bleeding Kansas, Voice of America, Korean Service, December 28, 2010.
- Interview about U.S. Congressional Midterm Elections, Ebru TV, November 2, 2010, 9:30pm.
- Interview on The Caning of Charles Sumner, "Midday with Dan Rodricks," 88.1 FM WYPR, Baltimore, Maryland, August 4, 2010, 1-2pm.
- "Political Partisanship Draws Blood," Political Bookworm by Steven Levingston, Washingtonpost.com, July 14, 2010, Internet: http://voices.washingtonpost.com/political-bookworm/2010/07/political_partisanship_draws_b.html.
- "The Caning of Charles Sumner and the Origins of the Civil War," Eliakim P. Scammon Civil War Roundtable, Seton Hall University, May 2010.
- "Civility in Modern America Isn't as Bad as Before the Civil War," History News Network, (April 19, 2010), Internet: <http://hnn.us/articles/125680.html>.
- Interview about Supreme Court Nominee Sonia Sotomayor, "Delaware This Morning," WILM 1450 AM, Newsradio, May 27, 2009, 8:35am.
- Interview about Supreme Court Nominee Sonia Sotomayor, "Afternoon Drive," WCBS 880 AM, May 26, 2009, 5:30pm.
- Interview about Obama's Potential Supreme Court Nominees, "Equity Strategies" with Stu Taylor, Radio America, May 23, 2009.
- "The Sacred and the Profane: The Constitution and the U.S. Supreme Court," Constitution Day Speech, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey, September 18, 2006.

Professional Service:

- Co-editor, Dialogues in American History Series, Oxford University Press, 2013-16
- Co-editor, Landmark Law Cases and American Society Series, University Press of Kansas, 2014-present
- Co-editor, Witness to History Series, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009-present
- Moderator, H-FedHist [H-Net Discussion List], March 2012-2014,
- Editorial Board, H-Law [H-Net Discussion List], December 2006-2012
- Moderator, H-Law [H-Net Discussion List], July-September, 2007-2012
- Membership Committee, American Society for Legal History, 2008-11
- Referee for The Stanford Law Review
- Referee for Oxford University Press
- Referee for The Journal of American History
- Referee for Law and History Review
- Referee for University of Missouri Press

Referee for Law and Social Inquiry
Referee for Journal of Southern History
Special Issue Editor and "Introduction" for "Labor and the Law," Labor History
45(2) (May 2004).

Professional Memberships:

New Jersey Bar (admitted 1996, retired), D.C. Bar (admitted 1998, retired),
American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, American
Society for Legal History.