

Keith Richards

Ph.D. Candidate

Department of History

Tulane University

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Education

Ph.D. in History

2020 – Expected 2026

Tulane University

Colonial Latin America, Atlantic World, & Early Spanish Caribbean

BA in History

2020

BA in Spanish

University of Central Florida

Magna Cum Laude

Burnett Honors College

Publications

“Competing Loyalties in Eastern Cuba: The Bayamo Rebellion of 1603” (Under Review)

“Enslaved Testimony in a Colonial *Pesquisa*: Illicit Commerce in Eastern Cuba, 1684-1691,” in *The Contractual Monarchy of the Iberian World: Negotiating Power and Status in the Spanish Empire, 1500-1700*, eds. Héctor Linares and Rich F. Lizardo (Leiden: Brill, under contract). (Accepted)

“Reconceptualizing the Spanish Caribbean in the Long Seventeenth Century: A Review Essay,” *The Latin Americanist* 68, no. 2 (June 2024): p. 297-300.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/tla.2024.a929910>

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

John Carter Brown Library Short-Term Fellowship

Sept. – Nov. 2025

John Carter Brown Library, Brown University

Paul and Elizabeth Selley Doctoral Fellowship

Aug. 2025 – May 2026

School of Liberal Arts, Tulane University

Omohundro Institute Travel Grant

Jun. 2025

Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture

Lapidus–OI Slavery and Print Culture Fellow

2024 – 2025 Academic Year

Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture

Lurcy Conference Funding Grant <i>History Department, Tulane University</i>	Apr. 2025
Graduate Studies Student Association Travel Award Grant <i>Tulane University GSSA</i>	Apr. 2025
Atlantic Empires Colloquium Travel Award <i>The Folger Shakespeare Library</i>	Oct. 2024
SLA Graduate Student Summer Research and Write-Up Award <i>School of Liberal Arts, Tulane University</i>	Summer 2024
Pennsylvania State University Conference Travel Grant <i>History Department, Pennsylvania State University</i>	Apr. 2024
Graduate Studies Student Association Travel Award Grant <i>Tulane University GSSA</i>	Apr. 2024
Lurcy Conference Funding and Research Grant <i>History Department, Tulane University</i>	Spring 2024
American Historical Association Annual Meeting Travel Grant	Jan. 2024
SLA Graduate Student Summer Research and Write-Up Award <i>School of Liberal Arts, Tulane University</i>	Fall 2023
Lurcy Conference Funding and Research Grant <i>History Department, Tulane University</i>	Aug. 2023
UF Center for Latin American Studies Travel Research Grant <i>Latin American and Caribbean Collection, University of Florida</i>	Jun. 2023
Greenleaf Fund <i>History Department, Tulane University</i>	Summer 2023
William R. Hogan Fellowship Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching <i>History Department, Tulane University</i>	May 2023
Lurcy Conference Funding <i>History Department, Tulane University</i>	Nov. 2022
Tulane School of Liberal Arts Funding <i>Dutch courses via University College London</i>	2022 – 2023 Academic Year
Stone Center/Tinker Summer Field Research Grant	Jun. 2022

Roger Thayer Stone Center of Latin American Studies, Tulane University

Greenleaf Fund **Summer 2022**
History Department, Tulane University

Newberry Library Renaissance Consortium Grant **Apr. 2022**
Newberry Library, Chicago, IL

Greenleaf Fund **Summer 2021**
History Department, Tulane University

Presentations

American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. **Jan. 2026**
Policing Cuba's Tierra Adentro: Contraband and Colonial Pesquisas in the 17th Century

XX Jornadas Internacionales de las Monarquías Ibéricas, Medellín, Colombia. **Nov. 2025**
Santiago de Cuba y las redes comerciales en el Caribe Sur, 1513-1700

Omohundro Institute Annual Meeting, Charleston, SC. **Jun. 2025**
Land Use and the Environment in Cuba's Cattle Industry, 1492-1700

Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, College Park, MD. **Jun. 2025**
The War Against Contraband: Projecting Royal Authority in 17th Century Santiago de Cuba

SECOLAS Annual Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico. **Apr. 2025**
Beyond the Imperial Margins: Eastern Cuban Trade Networks in the 17th Century Caribbean

La conflictividad esclava en los mundos ibéricos (siglos XVI-XVIII), Seville, Spain. **Jun. 2024**
Contrabando, esclavos y el archivo: una pesquisa en el oriente de Cuba a finales del siglo XVII

Cartografía, viajes y territorios: fuentes para los estudios americanistas, Seville, Spain **May 2024**
El contrabando en el Caribe a inicios de la Edad Moderna: perspectivas transnacionales

Forum on Early-Modern Empires and Global Interactions, Providence, RI. **Apr. 2024**
Pirates, Merchants, and the Legions of Hell: Remedios and the Caribbean in the Late 17th Century

Black Experiences in the Wider Atlantic, State College, PA. **Apr. 2024**
Penn State University. *Blackness on the Margins: Race and Eastern Cuban Society in the 17th Century*

- American Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. **Jan. 2024**
Conference on Latin American History. *Creating Community: Espejo de Paciencia and the Fight Against Depopulation in 17th-Century Eastern Cuba*
- VII Simposio Internacional de Historia y Arqueología Marítimas, Lisbon, Portugal. **Oct. 2023**
Comercio ilícito en Cuba en los siglos XVI-XVII
- Seminário Internacional de Pós-Graduandos, Lisbon, Portugal. **Sep. 2023**
Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa. *Espejo de Paciencia and Revolt in Eastern Cuba, 1604-1608*
- 8th Summer Academy of Atlantic History, Kingston Upon Hull, England. **Aug. 2023**
"Provean de Ropa y Saquean sus Frutos": Illicit Commerce in Eastern Cuba, 1600-1715
- Frontiers, Borders, & Borderlands in the Early Global World, Los Angeles, CA. **May 2023**
Medieval and Early Modern Student Association UCLA. *Illicit Commerce and Eastern Cuban Society in the 17th-Century Spanish Caribbean Borderlands*
- SECOLAS Annual Meeting, Antigua, Guatemala. **Mar. 2023**
Illicit Commerce and Violence in 17th century Eastern Cuba
- The Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. **Nov. 2022**
Latin American and Caribbean Section. *Imagining St. Augustine: Cartography and Public Space, 1586-1702*
- Tinker Foundation Summer Research Symposium, New Orleans, LA. **Oct. 2022**
Contested Empires: Eastern Cuba, Illicit Commerce, and the 17th Century Caribbean
- Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC. **Mar. 2022**
Coerced Values: Lashings, Law, and Power in Spanish Florida, 1680-1700
- The Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. **Nov. 2021**
Digital Blassingame: An Exploration of Black New Orleans, Slave Testimony, and Slave Community (Roundtable)
- Transatlantic History Conference, Arlington, TX. **Oct. 2021**
Secret Prisons, Public Punishments: Havana and the Inquisition, 1610-1660
- LSU Graduate Student Association Conference, Baton Rouge, LA. **Mar. 2021**
"As Two Wings of the Same Bird": Cuban Support for an Independent Puerto Rico, 1959-1978

Public & Digital History Experience

Archival Assistant, New Orleans, LA
Preservation Hall

Aug. 2022 – May 2023

- Helped create catalogue of materials for a new archive

Publication Assistant, Tulane University **Fall 2022**
Society for American City and Regional Planning History

NEH-AHRC Spanish Paleography and Digital Humanities Institute **Spring 2022**
Unlocking the Colonial Archive, University of Texas at Austin

- Transcribed documents which have now been published:
- *no attribution (autor / author)*, 2022, "Noticias del Cabo de San Lucas, último término de la California meridional, 1769 febrero 16", <https://doi.org/10.18738/T8/3LSIMS>, Texas Data Repository, VI
- *Serra, Junípero, Saint, 1713-1784 (autor / author); no attribution / sin atribución (autor / author)*, 2022, "Carta respecto a la fundación de dos misiones en San Francisco, California, 1776 enero 20", <https://doi.org/10.18738/T8/LYS8L9>, Texas Data Repository, VI

Under-Mapped Spaces: New Methods and Tools for Critical Storytelling with Maps **Mar. 2022**
Public Space in the Lettered City: Mapping Whipping Routes in 17th-Century Santo Domingo, Stanford University

The Black New Orleans Project, LifexCode **Fall 2021**
GIS Project, Tulane University

Research Experience

Research at local archives in Santiago de Cuba and Bayamo, Cuba **Sept. 2024**

Research at the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain **May – Jul. 2024**

Research at local archives in Santa Clara, Trinidad, and Remedios, Cuba **Mar. 2024**

Research at the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain **Aug. – Nov. 2023**

Researcher, Preservation Hall, New Orleans, LA **Spring 2023**
Project on the history of the building that is now Preservation Hall

Research at the Archivo Nacional de la República de Cuba, Havana, Cuba **Jun. - Jul. 2022**

Research at the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain **May. – Jun. 2022**

Research Assistant, Tulane University **Fall 2021**
Project on trade between Veracruz, New Orleans, and Havana

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Department of History, Tulane University
Colonial Latin America

Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant

Department of History, Tulane University

New Orleans History, Taught by Rien Fertel

Spring 2022

Early New Orleans, Taught by Emily Clark

Fall 2021

The Digital Revolution, from Ada to Zuckerberg, Taught by Walter Isaacson **Spring 2021**

Service

Graduate Studies Student Association Representative
History Department, Tulane University

2021 – 2022 Academic Year

Skills

- Certification of proficiency in paleography (From University of Texas at Austin)
- Transcription & Translation experience from Spanish to English
- Languages: English (native), Spanish (C1), Italian (B2), French (B1), and Dutch (A2)