

NAOMI SUSSMAN

History Department - University of Oregon
305 McKenzie Hall 909.706.5734 nsussman@uoregon.edu



EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Yale University**, History, Distinction. New Haven, Connecticut. 2022
Dissertation:
Between the River and the Sea: The History of California's Native Heartland, 1781-1931
Committee: Ned Blackhawk (co-chair), Stuart Schwartz (co-chair), Gilbert Joseph, and Tatiana Seijas (Rutgers University)
- M.A., Yale University**, History, Distinction. 2017
Major Fields: Native North America; Colonial Latin America
Minor Field: Modern Mexican and Chicano Studies
- B.A., Macalester College**, History, Summa Cum Laude and Honors, St. Paul, Minnesota 2012

EMPLOYMENT

- Assistant Professor of History**, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. 2024- Present
- Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow**, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. 2022-2024
- Visiting Instructor**, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. 2019-2020

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Sussman, Naomi. In press. October 2024. "Related Around the Mountain?: Relational Sovereignty and Coalition Building in the California Interior," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3d ser., 81, no. 4 (October 2024): 721-766.
- Sussman, Naomi. 2019. "Indigenous Diplomacy and Spanish Mediation in the Lower Colorado-Gila River Region, 1771-1783" *Journal of the American Society for Ethnohistory*, 66(2): 329-352.
<https://doi.org/10.1215/00141801-7298819>

Book Reviews

- Sussman, Naomi. 2023. Review of *California, a Slave State* by Jean Pfaelzer. *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 104(1).
- Sussman, Naomi. 2020. Review of *Quill and Cross in the Borderlands: Sor María de Ágreda and the Lady in Blue, 1628 to the Present* by Anna M. Nogar. *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 100(1): 135-137.
<https://doi.org/10.1215/00182168-7993177>
- Sussman, Naomi. 2019. Review of *The Worlds of Junípero Serra: Historical Contexts and Cultural*

Representations edited by Steven W. Hackel. *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 99(3): 561-563.
<https://doi.org/10.1215/00182168-7573728>

Works in Progress

- Sussman, Naomi. "Building the Future with the Past: Indigenous Authorship and the Function of Ethnography." *Journal of the History of Ideas*. [State of the field article]
Status: Accepted for publication but not yet under production.
- Sussman, Naomi. "The Cost of a Collective Story: Vast Early America and Indigenous Sovereignities," *Critical Engagements Forum: #Republic250, Journal of the Early Republic*.
Status: Submitted and under consideration.
- Sussman, Naomi. *Between the River and the Sea: Relational Sovereignty in California's Native Heartland*. [Book manuscript]
Status: Under revision.

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Internal:

- University of Oregon*, Provost Startup Fund, \$50,000, 2024-2026
University of Oregon, New Junior Faculty Research Award, \$3000, 2024

External:

- University of Southern California*, Society of Fellows, Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2022-2024
Newberry Library, Long-Term Fellowship, 2022-2023 (Declined)
John Carter Brown Library, Short-Term Fellowship, 2021-2022
Huntington Library-Western History Association, Martin Ridge Fellowship, 2020-2021
Latin American Studies Association, Travel Grant, 2020
Yale University, Anna G. K. Garland Memorial Fellowship Fund, 2018-2019
Yale University, University Dissertation Fellowship, 2018-2019
Yale University Center for Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration, Travel Award, 2018
Yale University MacMillan Center, Field Research Award, 2017-2018
Yale University Center for Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration, Field Research Award, 2017
Yale University Howard Lamar Center, Research Fellow, 2017
American Society for Ethnohistory, Travel Award, 2016
Yale University, Ray Livingston Murphy Fellowship, 2015-2016
Yale University Beinecke Library, Pre-Prospectus Summer Fellowship, 2015
Yale University, Henry Robinson Shipman Scholarship in History Fellow, 2014-2015

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- "The Republic at 250," Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, 2024.
"Pathways: Native and Settler Territorialities in the San Bernardino Mountains," Western History

- Association, Los Angeles, 2023.
- “Settler Infrastructures and Native Territories of Resistance in the U.S. Southwest, 1857-1859,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Toronto, Canada, 2023.
- “NAIS Scholars Workshop,” Huntington Library, San Marino, 2022.
- “Writing a Common History: Cahuillas and Quechans in the Mission Indian Federation, Western History Association, Albuquerque (Online), 2020.
- “‘The Indians’ Road’: Mountain Passes, Horse Raids, and Colonial Contests in Southern California, 1800-1850,” Latin American Studies Association, Guadalajara, Mexico (Online), 2020.
- “The Mission Indian Federation and Indigenous Self-Determination in Early Twentieth-Century California,” American Society for Ethnohistory, State College, Pennsylvania, 2019.
- “Between the River and the Sea: Cahuilla and Cupeño Alliance-Making, 1810-1851,” Omohundro Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 2019.
- “Between the River and the Sea: Cahuilla and Cupeño Political Consolidation, 1819-1852,” *New and Emerging Studies of the Spanish Colonial Borderlands*, in collaboration with the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute Borderlands Seminar, the USC-Huntington Institute on California and the West, the Huntington Library, and University of California at Riverside, San Marino, California, 2019.
- “Lightning Roundtable on New and Emerging Studies of the Borderlands,” Western History Association, San Diego, California, 2017.
- “Finding Home at Pala: Layered Identities and Indigenous Community-Making in Southern California,” American Society for Ethnohistory, Winnipeg, Canada, 2017.
- “Politics, Paternalism, and the Redistribution of California Mission Lands, 1833-1905,” American Society for Ethnohistory, Nashville, Tennessee, 2016.
- “The Mission Project: Mission Nostalgia and Acculturative Education in Southern California, 1880-1930,” Yale Latin American History Consortium, 2016.
- “The Textual Continuum: Media and Method in Native Archives,” Newberry Library Consortium in Native American Studies, 2016.
- “An Expedient Alliance: Self-regulation and State Collaboration in Villa El Salvador,” ILASSA-35 Student Conference, 2015.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Assistant Professor

University of Oregon, History Department

- “Native California and the Southwest,” HIST 199, Fall 2024

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow.

University of Southern California History Department.

- “Borderlands,” GESM 130g, Spring 2024
- “Native American History,” GESM 130g, Fall 2023
- “Borderlands,” GESM 130g 35444R, Fall 2022

Part-time Acting Instructor, (Competitive Teaching Fellowship).

Yale History Department.

- “Native Peoples and the Making of the Southwest,” HIST 170J, Fall 2020

Visiting Instructor of Latin American History and Comparative Indigeneity.

Macalester College History Department.

- “The Native Southwest,” HIST 294-01, Spring 2020
- “Many Mexicos: Social Movements and State Formations Since Independence,” HIST 294-03, Spring 2020
- “Transnational Latin Americas,” HIST 381, Spring 2020
- “Introduction to Latin America and the Caribbean,” HIST 181, Fall 2019
- “Indigenous Americas,” HIST 294, Fall 2019

Graduate Student Instructor

Teaching Fellow (Assistant).

Yale University History Department.

- “Race, Power, and the Law,” Professor Daniel Martínez HoSang, Spring 2022
- “The World Circa 1800,” Professor Stuart Semmel, Spring 2021
- “A History of South Africa,” Professor Daniel Magaziner, Spring 2017
- “Introduction to American Indian History,” Professor Ned Blackhawk, Fall 2016

Guest Teaching

“Native Power and Black Resistance on the North American Plains,” The World Circa 1800, Yale University, 2021.

“Conquest,” Introduction to Latin America and the Caribbean, Macalester College, 2020.

“Looking Out From Indian Country,” Transnational Latin America, Macalester College, 2018.

“Spanish Colonialism in the Americas,” The American Experience, University of La Verne, 2017.

COLLABORATIVE WORK

Archive Workshop Series, Los Angeles, CA.

Co-Developer and Facilitator of forthcoming Archive Workshop for Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (with Agua Caliente THPO)

March 2023-Present.

NYU-Yale American Indian Sovereignty Project, New Haven, CT and New York, NY.

Graduate Student Researcher.

September 2021-May 2022.

“Toolkit of Resistance” Digital Prototype Exhibit, St. Paul, MN and San Pasqual, CA.

Co-Lead Designer and Coordinator with THPO David Toler and “The Native Southwest” Class.

January 2020-September 2020.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE & RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Advisory Committee, University of Oregon, History Department, Eugene, OR.
September 2024-Present.

The Yale Review, New Haven, CT.

Graduate Reader Fellow.

October 2020-May 2021.

Yale University Writing Center, New Haven, CT.

Graduate Student Writing Partner.

September 2020-Present. Previously, September 2015-May 2017.

American West/Early America Search, Yale University History Department, New Haven, CT.

Graduate Student Coordinator.

January 2017-May 2017.

Yale Latin American History Consortium Retreat,

Organizing Committee.

“Latin American History, 2025: A Changing Profession in a Changing World,” Yale University History Department, New Haven, CT. August 2015-May 2016.

Early Modern Empires Workshop, Yale University History Department, New Haven, CT.

Workshop Coordinator.

August 2015-May 2016.

Latin American Studies Working Group, Yale University MacMillan Center, New Haven, CT.

Workshop Co-coordinator.

August 2015-May 2016.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

Program Committee, Western History Association, 2024-2025.

AWARDS & PRIZES

Yale University, Frederick W. Beinecke Prize in Western History, 2022

Society for History of the Early American Republic, SHEAR Dissertation Prize, Finalist, 2022

Society of American Historians, Allan Nevins Prize, Nominated, 2022

Macalester College, Yahya Armajani Prize in Global History, 2012

Macalester College, Gateway Prize for Excellent Writing, Arts Division, Macalester College, 2011

LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES

Spanish, French, Portuguese

REFERENCES

Ned Blackhawk
Professor of History and American Studies
Yale University
Departments of History and American Studies
P.O. Box 208324
New Haven, CT 06520-8324
ned.blackhawk@yale.edu
(203) 432-8530

Gilbert Joseph
Farnam Professor of History, International Studies
Yale University
Department of History
P.O. Box 208324
New Haven, CT 06520-8324
gilbert.joseph@yale.edu
(203) 432-1380

Stuart Schwartz
George Burton Adams Professor of History
Chair, Council on Latin American and Iberian
Studies
Yale University
Department of History
P.O. Box 208324
New Haven, CT 06520-8324
stuart.schwartz@yale.edu
(203) 432-1375

Tatiana Seijas
Associate Professor of History
Rutgers University
History Department
219 Van Dyck Hall
16 Seminary Place
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
tatiana.seijas@rutgers.edu
(513) 255-6844