

John M. Lewis

PhD Candidate | Texas A&M University | Department of History
John-Lewis@tamu.edu

Education

PhD in History Texas A&M University Aug. 2019 – est. May 2026
Dissertation Title: Shovel in the Dirt, Hand on the Rifle: Pioneer Infantry During the Great War
Advisor: Dr. Lorien Foote

Master of Arts in History University of Tulsa Aug. 2017 – May 2019
Thesis Title: Gaming the Great War: World War I Video Games and Historical Memory
Advisor: Dr. Kristen Oertel

Bachelor of Arts in History University of Tulsa Aug. 2005 – Dec. 2009

Publications

Book Chapters

“Playing the Black Experience in No Man’s Land.” Chapter for Edited volume currently titled
‘That Pageant Terrible’: Cultural Representations of African American War Experience from the American Revolution to the Twenty-First Century. Edited by Steven Trout (University of Alabama) and Jenifer James (George Washington University). Draft with reviewers at UNC Press.

External Grants and Awards

U.S. Army Center of Military History
Colonel Charles Young Fellowship Aug 2023 – July 2024

Graduate Research Assistant Aug 2022 – July 2023

Internal Grants and Awards

Texas A&M University
Summer Research Funding 26 April 2022

Travel to Conference Grant 6 February 2020

University of Tulsa
Thomas H. Buckley Award 22 April 2019

Public History

Public Lecture

“D-Day: U.S. Forces and the Normandy Invasion,” Gathering, Eating, and Meeting of Seniors (GEMS), Monthly Meeting, Robertson County, TX, June 4, 2025.

Research

Researched and organized the preliminary unit participation lists for the Bosnia-Herzegovina Campaign Participation Credit (CPC) case involving over 600 units. U.S. Army Center of Military History, Spring and Summer 2024.

Research Assistant

Worked 43 individual Meritorious Unit Commendation and Army Superior Unit Award cases. U.S. Army Center of Military History, August 2022 to August 2023.

Assisted working of the Afghanistan Retrograde Meritorious Unit Commendation awarded to units in the Army by order of the President of the United States. This required awards review and research for over 250 individual Army units out of more than 500. U.S. Army Center of Military History, September and November 2022.

Assisted working several CPC cases related to the 1st Cavalry Division’s involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq during the War on Terror. U.S. Army Center of Military History, August 2022 to August 2023.

Conferences

Papers Presented

“Playing the Black Experience in No Man’s Land: African American Soldiers in World War I Video Games,” Biennial English Department Symposium, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, February 23, 2024.

“The Black Doughboy in American Minds During the Great War,” Annual Conference, Society for Military History, Norfolk, VA, May 21, 2021.

“The Palmetto “Men of Bronze”: The 371st Infantry, Jim Crow, and the Great War,” Annual Conference, Society for Military History, Arlington, VA, cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic, 2020.

“Racism Endemic in a Flu Pandemic: African American Troops in the Great War Fight the Flu,” Spring Colloquium, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK, 2019.

“The Great Debate: Civic Anti-Slavery Organizations Debated the Colonization

Movement,” Annual Missouri Conference on History, The State Historical Society of Missouri, Jefferson City, MO, March 16, 2018.

Panels Commentated

“Persecution and Assimilation Across the Globe,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2022.

Panels Chaired

“Idealism and Pragmatism: Diplomacy in Action,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2025.

“Reshaping Politics, Cultures, and Identities: Modern Interactions Between the US and the Middle East,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2025.

“Education and Athleticism in Black History,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2022.

“Persecution and Assimilation Across the Globe,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2022.

“Rethinking Power from Hellenization to Late Antiquity,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2022.

“Negotiating Race in Urban Spaces,” Texas A&M Annual History Conference, College Station, Texas, February 2020.

Research and Teaching Interests

World War I
African American Military History
19th and 20th Century American Military History
Race and Gender
War and Society
Video Games
War Gaming
Military Technology

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

U.S. Military History from 1609 to the Present, Texas A&M (Fall 2025)

Teaching Assistant

History of American Sea Power, Texas A&M (Dr. Lorien Foote, Spring 2025)

- Developed an in-class naval staff ride of the Battle of the Eastern Solomons with Dr. Foote
- Gave 4 lectures

U.S. Military History from 1609 to the Present, Texas A&M (Dr. Lorien Foote, Fall 2024)

- Gave 2 lectures

U.S. History to 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Walter Kamphoefner, Spring 2022)

U.S. History to 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Lorien Foote, Fall 2021)

- Gave 1 lecture

Summer Research Experience: Black Lives Matter at Texas A&M, Texas, and the World: A History of Black Protest in the U.S., Texas A&M (Dr. Cynthia Bouton, Summer 2021)

- Co-developed the class in a junior capacity with Dr. Bouton

U.S. History after 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Jessica Herzogenrath, Spring 2021)

- Gave 1 lecture

U.S. History to 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Robert Resch, First Section, Fall 2020)

U.S. History to 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Robert Resch, Second Section, Fall 2020)

U.S. History to 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Charles Brooks, Spring 2020)

U.S. History to 1877, Texas A&M (Dr. Robert Resch, Fall 2019)

Graduate Assistant

4th Crusade and Latin Empire, University of Tulsa (Dr. John Arnold)

Assistant for various classes, University of Tulsa (Dr. Kristen Oertel)

British Legal History, University of Tulsa (Dr. Thomas Buoye)

Professional Service

Conferences

Co-Organized the 12 th Annual TAMU HGSO History Conference	February 2022
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Department Service, TAMU

Committee Member, Digital Outreach Committee	2022 – 2023
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Financial Officer, History Graduate Student Organization	2021 – 2022
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Committee Member, Climate, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee	2021 – 2022
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