

Ashley Johnson Bavery
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of History, Eastern Michigan University, 2022-present

Assistant Professor of History, Eastern Michigan University, 2017-2022

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Chabraja Center for Historical Studies, Northwestern University, 2016-2017

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Binghamton University (SUNY), 2015-2016

EDUCATION

PhD, History, Northwestern University, 2015

MA, History, Northwestern University, 2010

BA with high honors in History and Spanish, Mount Holyoke College, 2007

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“‘Enemy Aliens’ in the Arsenal of Democracy: the Roots of Wartime Detention in Detroit,” accepted for inclusion in a special issue for the *Journal of Migration History*.

“Between Arabic, English, and Spanish: Syrian Migrations Between Mexico and the Midwest in the Twentieth Century,” in *Hidden Histories: Unauthorized European Migrations to the United States*, eds. Danielle Battisti and S. Deborah Kang, Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2025.

“Lifetimes of Instability: The Consequences of Excluding Syrian Boys on the Progressive Era Southern Border,” *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle East and North African Migration Studies* Vol. 11, No. 2, (2024).

“Locating Arab Americans in Greater Detroit: An Overview of MENA Archives in Southeast Michigan,” co-authored with Alexis Braun Marks, Mason Christensen, Amanda Ford, Steven Gentry, and Matthew Jaber Stiffler, *American Archivist* Vol. 86, Iss. 2 (2023).

“Militarizing the Northern Border: Violence and the Formation of the U.S. Border Patrol,” *Journal of American History*, Vol. 109, Issue 2, September 2022.

Bootlegged Aliens: Immigration Politics on America’s Northern Border. Politics and Culture in Modern America Series (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020).

**Winner of the First Book Award from the Immigration and Ethnic History Society*

“Crashing America’s Back Gate: Illegal Europeans, Policing, and Welfare in Detroit, 1921-1939,” *Journal of Urban History*, June 23, 2016.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

Industrial Crescent: Migration and the Making of Islam in Chicagoland (book manuscript in progress)

BOOK REVIEWS

Making the Mexirican City: Migration, Placemaking, and Activism in Grand Rapids, Michigan by Delia Fernández, *American Historical Review* (forthcoming).

Struggle for the Street: Social Networks & The Struggle for Civil Rights in Pittsburgh by Jessica Klanderug, *Journal of African American History* (forthcoming).

American by Birth: Wong Kim Ark and the Battle for Citizenship by Carol Nackenoff and Julie Novkov, *American Historical Review* (October 2023).

Muslims of the Heartland: How Syrian Immigrants Made a Home in the American Midwest by Edward Curtis, *Mashriq and Mahjar* (November 2022).

Race-ing Fargo: Refugees, Citizenship, and the Transformation of Small Cities by Jennifer Erickson, *Journal of American Studies* (December 2021).

"Borderlands: A Historiographical Essay," *Immigration and Ethnic History Society Newsletter* (Summer 2018).

Slovenes in Michigan by James Seelye Jr. *Michigan Historical Review* 44, no. 1 (2018).

"Contingent Citizens: Inclusion, Exclusion, and the Shifting Boundaries of American Immigration Laws." *Reviews in American History* 45, no. 4 (2017).

Deported: Immigrant Policing, Disposable Labor, and Global Capitalism by Tanya Maria Golash-Boza." *Labour / Le Travail*, vol. 80, 2017, pp. 348-350.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Sabbatical, Eastern Michigan University, Spring 2025

Faculty Research Fellowship, Eastern Michigan University, 2024

First Book Award, Immigration and Ethnic History Society, 2021

Faculty Research Fellowship, Eastern Michigan University, 2021

Faculty Research Fellowship, Eastern Michigan University, 2019

Summer Research Award, Eastern Michigan University, 2018

Business History Association Postdoctoral Award, 2016

Doris J. Quinn Dissertation Completion Fellowship (declined), 2015

Northwestern University Dissertation Writing Fellowship, 2014

Joseph Skinner Dissertation Award, Mount Holyoke College, 2014

Buffett Center for International Studies Summer Research Award, 2012

Northwestern Graduate Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2009-2014

GRANTS

James H. Brinkley Endowment for Faculty Professional Development and Innovation Award, Eastern Michigan University 2025

Upshur Institute for Civic Education Grant, Eastern Michigan University 2023 and 2024

Canadian Business History Association Travel Grant, 2016

Kaplan Center For the Humanities, Mellon Grant on the Global Midwest, 2014

Henry Austin Clark Travel Grant, The Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Michigan, 2013
Mark C. Stevens Fellowship, Bentley Historical Library, Ann Arbor, 2012
Luso-American Foundation International Travel Grant, Lisbon, 2012
Labor History Grant, Labor and Working-Class History Association, 2012
Sam Fishman Travel Grant, Walter Reuther Library, Detroit, MI, 2012

SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Co-Organizer, "Migrant Oral History Project," 2023-present
 *Funded by the Upshur Center for Civic Education, Eastern Michigan University
Chair, Search Committee for Position in Middle Eastern History, 2023-2024.
Chair, First Book Award Prize Committee, Immigration and Ethnic History Society,
2021-present
Chair, Student Affairs Committee, 2020-2024
United States Diversity Representative, General Education Subcommittee on
Assessment, Eastern Michigan University, 2021-present
Faculty Senate Representative, Eastern Michigan University, 2020-2023
Co-Chair of Steering Committee, College of Arts and Sciences "Detroit" Year, 2020-2021
Chair, History Speaker Series, 2018-present
Steering Committee Member, Urban Studies Minor, 2018-present
Phi Alpha Theta and Student History Association Faculty Representative, 2018-2021
Manuscript Reviewer, Michigan State University Press, 2020
Member, Search Committee for Position in Social Studies Methods, 2019-2020

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

Plenary Speaker, "The Legacy of the 1924 Immigration Act," Johnson-Reed 100 Years
 Later: Critical Reflections on the Global Legacy of the 1924 Immigration Act,
 University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary, August 22-24, 2024
Panelist, "Origins, Impact, and Legacies of the 1924 Immigration Act," Joint
 Immigration History Research Center, March 20, 2024, Zoom
"The Immigrant's Journey to the United States," Star Lecture, Eastern Michigan
 University Honors College, September 21, 2023
"Syrians in Fort Dodge, Iowa" Iowa History 101 Series, State Historical Society of Iowa,
 July 13, 2023, Zoom.
"U.S. Anti-Semitism and Jewish Immigration History," Webinar on *The U.S. and the
 Holocaust* by Ken Burns, Eastern Michigan University, October 13, 2022.
Keynote Speaker, "Hidden Histories: Undocumented European Immigrants in the
 United States," September 14, 2022, Democracy Initiative, University of Virginia,
 Charlottesville, Virginia.
"Merging Arabic, English, and Spanish: Syrian Muslim Migrations in the Midwest
 Before World War II," Hidden Histories of Unauthorized Europeans Workshop,
 September 14-16, 2022, Democracy Initiative, University of Virginia,
 Charlottesville, Virginia
"Laying New Tracks: Syrians in Grand Rapids and the Midwest," Grand Valley State

University, October 6, 2022
 Book Talk, MacMillan Center for International Affairs and Area Studies, Yale University, April 4, 2022
 "Unauthorized Immigration and Jewish Detroit," Jewish Historical Society of Michigan, March 23, 2022
 Book Talk, Center for the Study of Comparative Immigration Studies and Center for International Migration, University of California San Diego and University of California Los Angeles, February 19, 2022
 Book Talk, History Hounds Lecture Series, Michigan Historical Society, November 10, 2021.
 "'Roots and Consequences of America's 1921 Immigration Act 100 Years Later,'" American Historical Association, February 23, 2021
 Book Talk and Interview, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, December 18, 2020
 Podcast Book Talk, Tales from the Reuther Library, Wayne State University, November 20, 2020
 "'The Guardians of America's Gates:' Militarizing the U.S.-Canada Border," The Immigration Act of 1924: Antecedents, Impacts, and Legacies Workshop, Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota, via Zoom, July 27-29, 2021

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

"Unauthorized European Immigration to the United States in the 20th Century," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, January 3-5, 2025.
 "Constructing a Safe and Sacred Space: Migrants Organize America's First Mosques," Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 11-14, 2024
 *Panel sponsored by the Immigration and Ethnic History Society
 "Resisting Respectability: Islam, Vice, and Violence in Postwar Chicagoland," Great Lakes History Conference, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI, October 5-7, 2023
 "Murder at the Broadway Lounge: Religion and the Underground Politics of Gary, Indiana," Midwestern History Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, May 18-19, 2023
 "The Unauthorized Mahjar: Syrian Migrations Between Mexico and the Midwest in the Early Twentieth Century," Newberry Library Borderlands Latinx Studies Workshop, Chicago, IL, April 29, 2022
 "Addressing (In)Equalities in the American History Classroom, A Roundtable," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, April 1-3
 Commentator, "Are Italians White?" Social Science History Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, November 11-14, 2021
 "Syrians at the Gate: Global Networks and Local Crossings on the U.S.-Mexico Border

- Before World War I," Western Historical Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR, October 27-30, 2021
- "The 'Guardians of America's Gates,'" Policing European Immigrants on the U.S.-Canada Border," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, January 3-5, 2020
- "Midwestern Migrants Roundtable: Workers on the Border Then and Now," Labor and Working-Class History Association, Durham, NC, May 30- June1, 2019.
- "Migration in Detroit: Immigration Politics, Policing, and Nativism on the Detroit-Windsor Border Before World War II," at On Edge: Mediating Cultural Borders, University of Windsor, May 23, 2019
- "Reform, Repatriation, and Deportation During the Depression," Emerging Immigration Scholars Conference, University of California Los Angeles, February 15-16, 2019
- "Deported from Detroit: Immigration Politics, Policing and Nativism on America's Northern Border," at Destination: Detroit, Communities of Migration in Metro Detroit, University of Michigan Detroit Center, Detroit, Michigan, September 27-29, 2018
- "Migrants at the Crossroads: Redefining Immigration Law on the U.S.-Canada Border During the Great Depression," at Law and Society Conference, Toronto, Canada, June 10, 2018
- "Migrant Crossings in Detroit, America's Motor City, Before World War II," at Migrant Narratives and the City, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, April 27-28, 2018
- "Illegal People, Legal Goods: Workers, the Auto Industry and Commuting at the Local Scale in the 1920s Detroit-Windsor Borderland," Labor and Working Class History Association Meeting, Seattle, WA, June 22-25, 2017
- "Bodies in Motion: State Deportation on the U.S./Canadian Border in the Early Twentieth Century," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, New Orleans, April 6-9, 2017
- "A Transnational Automobile Industry: Changing the Story of Free Trade on the U.S. Canadian Border Before World War II," Canadian Historical Association Annual Conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, May 30-31, 2016
- "Automobiles Across the Border: Reinterpreting Free Trade on America's Northern Border Before World War II," Business History Conference, Portland, Oregon, March 22-24, 2016
- "Migrations Across Dominions: Canada, the United States, and Britain," Northwestern Chabreja Center for Historical Studies Conference with Queen Mary's University, London, March 22-24, 2015
- "Crossing into Detroit: The Business of Migration on America's Northern Border," Chabreja Center for Historical Studies Conference on Borderlands, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, June 2-6, 2014
- "Stateless Migrants: Negotiating Atlantic Movements in a North American

Borderland, 1924-1933," Echoes of Migration, University of Lisbon, Portugal, November 6-9, 2012

PUBLIC HISTORY AND TEACHING MATERIALS

- Historical Consultant, WEMU, National Public Radio, 2025
- Consultant and Writer, Hidden Voices: the Untold Stories of Americans, New York Public School System, August 2024-present.
- Historical Consultant in Immigration, PBS's *Finding Your Roots*, Summer 2019
- Speaker and Expert, "Election Issues: Immigration" at the Ypsilanti District Library, March 4, 2020
- Speaker and Expert, "Immigrants at Ford," Ford Piquette Plant Annual Speaker Series, October 11, 2018

COURSES TAUGHT

Assistant/Associate Professor of History, Eastern Michigan University, 2017-present

The U.S. History Since 1877 (survey)

U.S. Immigration History (survey)

Researching and Writing History (upper-level undergraduate methods)

The U.S. After 1960 (upper-level undergraduate)

Senior Seminar (capstone writing course)

Jewish America, co-taught with Linguistics (undergraduate and graduate)

The History of Detroit (undergraduate and graduate)

U.S. Urban History (undergraduate and graduate)

Encountering U.S. Empire in Puerto Rico (undergraduate and graduate travel course)

Ireland and American Immigration (undergraduate and graduate travel course)

U.S. Foreign Relations (graduate)

Studies in Twentieth-Century U.S. History (graduate)

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Northwestern University, 2016-2017

Beyond Rosie the Riveter: Wages and Work in Modern America (first-year seminar)

Crime and Punishment in Modern America (upper-level seminar)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Binghamton University, 2015-2016

U.S. History, A Survey (lecture)

American Immigration and Ethnic History (lecture)

The City in 18th- 20th Century America (senior capstone)

Crime and Punishment in America (lecture)

American Legal and Constitutional History (senior capstone)

Instructor, Northwestern History Department, 2014

Underground America: Crime Since Prohibition (upper-level seminar)