

# SABRINA THOMAS

Associate Professor, David A. Moore Chair in American History  
Wabash College

---

## Education

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, Ph.D., History 2015  
Dissertation: "The Value of Dust: Policy, Citizenship and Vietnam's Amerasian Children"  
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Kyle Longley  
Butler University, Indianapolis, IN, M.S., Counseling, 2003  
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, B.A. History, cum laude 1999

## Professional Experience

Associate Professor, David A. Moore Chair in American History, Wabash College 2021-Current  
\*Department Chair (2022-2025)  
Assistant Professor, Wabash College 2015-2021  
Dissertation Completion Fellow, Middle Tennessee State University 2014-2015  
Faculty Associate, Arizona State University 2012-2014  
Academic Advisor Athletics, Indiana University, Arizona State University 2003-2009  
University of Colorado

## Course Development

Black Germany  
Bloods: The African American Experience in Vietnam  
Race, Class, Gender and Punishment: A History of Mass Incarceration in America  
Sports, War, and Masculinity  
Lessons and Legacies of War: Remembering the Vietnam War/Immersion Trip  
Vietnam War Stories: Introduction to Oral History  
Malcolm, Martin, and Mandela  
The History and Politics of Hip Hop

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

*Scars of War: the Politics of Paternity and Responsibility for the Amerasians of Vietnam*, University of Nebraska Press, (2021).  
\*Nominated for the Bancroft Book Prize  
"Scholarship During the Covid-19 Pandemic: An Academic Reflection,"  
*Diplomatic History* 45, no. 3 (2021): 622-630.  
"Blood Politics: Reproducing the Children of 'Others' in the 1982 Amerasian Immigration Act"  
*Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 26, no. 1 (February 2019): 51-84.  
<http://doi.org/10.1163/18765610-02601001>

## Other Publications

Published Interview, Deirdre Shesgreen, "'Something has been missing': Children of the Vietnam War are pushing for more family reunifications," *USA Today*, December 3, 2021.  
Op-Editorial, "The Legacy of HHS," *The Dispatch*, May 11, 2018.  
Article Review, *Diplomatic History*, October 6, 2016. Anita Casavantes Bradford. "*La Nina Adorada del Mundo Socialista*:" The Politics of Childhood and the US-Cuba-USSR Relations, 1959-1962."  
*Diplomatic History* 40:2 (April 2016): 296-326.  
Published Interview, Calvin Godfrey, "Left Behind: America's Ongoing Policy Indifference Toward Foreign-Born Citizens," *VN Express International* (International Edition), November 27, 2016.

## Works in-Progress

"When War Creates Life: Race, Nation and Belonging for Children Born From War," Currently preparing

for Andrew J. Huebner and Jennifer D. Keene (eds), *The Cambridge History of War and Society in America*, Cambridge University Press, 2023.  
*The Soul of Blood and Borders: Brown Babies, Black Amerasians and the African American Response*.  
Currently preparing for submission to academic press.

### **Grants/Fellowships**

Elmer L. Andersen Research Scholars Program, University of Minnesota (2021-2022)  
McLain- McTurnan-Arnold Research Grant (2021-2022)  
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Research Grant (Summer 2021)  
Oral History in the Liberal Arts Faculty Project Grant, Great Lakes Colleges Association (Spring 2020)  
Coss Faculty Development Award (2018-2020)  
Thomas Mellon Mini Research Grant for Asian Studies, Wabash College (Summer 2016)  
Middle Tennessee State University, Underrepresented Minority Dissertation Completion  
Teaching Fellow (2014-2015)  
Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Study, Block Grant (2014)  
Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Study, Travel Grant (2010-2012)  
Arizona State University, Doctoral Enrichment Diversity Fellowship, (2009-2010)  
NCAA Women's Enhancement Post-Graduate Scholarship (2001-2003)

### **Professional Conferences/Presentations/Podcasts**

Guest Speaker, The Critical Refugee Studies Collective, University of California (August 2022)  
Podcast Interview, [Military Historians are People Too!](#) With Brian Feltman and Bill Allison,  
Summer (July 5, 2022)  
Select Participant, Women in the World Institute, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations,  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (June 2022)  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (Roundtable), "Children and War: Race, Rights,  
and Rescue," (June 2022)  
Keynote Speaker, Vietnam War Conference, "1972: The War Between North and South Vietnam"  
Texas Tech University (April 2022)  
Strickland Scholar Speaker, Middle Tennessee State University, "Children and War" (March 2022)  
Biennial International Conference of the Society for the History of Children and Youth (Presenter), "The  
Color of Dust: The Race and Illegitimacy of Brown Babies and Black Amerasians," (June 2021)  
Engaging the World: Leading the Conversation on the Significance of Race, Chapman University,  
"Saving' Le Van Minh: Humanitarianism and Policymaking for the Amerasians of Vietnam"  
(March 2021)  
Speaker, McNair Scholars Program, University of Northern Colorado (February 2021)  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (Commentator), "The Philippines, Hawai'i, and  
Hong Kong: The Politics of Empire and Moral Imperatives" (Summer 2020, *postponed due to coronavirus*)  
Conference on Childhood Studies (Presenter), "20<sup>th</sup> Century Child Migrations to the United States:  
Continuity and Change," (May 2020, *postponed due to coronavirus*)  
Association for the Study of African American Life and History (Presenter), "Land, Power, Sex,  
and War: Blacks Exercising Power in the 19th and 20th Centuries," (October 2018)  
Vietnam War/American War Stories: A Symposium on Conflict and Civic Engagement – IU  
Bloomington Institute for Digital Arts & Humanities, invited participant (July 2018)  
Association for Asian American Studies (Roundtable Member) "30 Years Later: Lessons and  
Legacy of the Amerasian Homecoming Act," Annual Conference Roundtable (March 2018)  
American Historical Association, (Roundtable Member) "Intimate *Relations*: Reevaluating Transnational  
Relations of Gender, Sexuality, and Citizenship in the New Diplomatic History", Annual Conference  
Roundtable (January 2016)  
Oral History Association (Panel Chair) "Military Stories: Battlefield, Trauma, Service &  
Healing," Annual Conference (October 2015)  
Midwest World History Association, (Presenter) "Bridging the Gap: The Cold War Thaw of  
Race and Nation in the Amerasian Homecoming Act", Annual Conference

(September 2015)

Research Association of Minority Professors, (Presenter) “The Soul of Blood and Water: Transnationalism and Race Across the Oceans”, Annual Conference, (February, 2014)  
Mid-America Conference, (Accepted Panelist) University of Oklahoma, (September 2013)  
Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, (Presenter) “Mixing a Nation: Citizenship, Identity and the Vietnamese Amerasians” Annual Conference, (August 2013)  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, (Selected Participant) Annual Conference, Job Search Workshop, (June 2013)  
James E. Smith Midwest Conference on World Affairs, (Presenter) “The Value of Dust: The Politics of Citizenship and Vietnam’s Amerasian Children”, University of Nebraska Kearney, (September 2012),  
Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference, (Presenter) “The Dust of Life”, University Of Colorado, (September 2010)

### **Committee Service**

Grievance Committee (2022-2023)  
Trustee Admissions and Marketing Committee: Faculty Representative (2020-2023)  
Faculty Athletic Committee: Chair (2018-2020), Member (2016-2018, 2020-2022)  
Campus Culture and Climate Committee: Member (2018-2020)  
Phi Alpha Theta Honorary History Fraternity: Advisor (2017-Current)  
“Climate Change in the American Mind,” History-Biology Presentation (September 2019)  
“Remembering the First World War,” Community History Forum (November 2018)  
“Monuments and Patriotism” Wabash Democracy Fellows Community Deliberation, (October 2017)  
Gender Issues Committee: Member (2016-2018)  
Coordinator, Gender Violence Prevention Training. Don McPherson and Jacqui Schuman (September 2018)  
Organizer, "The Blind Spot of Masculinity" Don McPherson, (April 2018)  
Organizer/Moderator, Wabash Men and the #MeToo Movement with Eleanor Clift, (February, 2018)  
Coordinator, Gender Violence Forum with Jackson Katz, “Gender Violence, It’s a Man’s Issue” (February 2017)

### **Professional Service**

Dissertation Committee Member, William Ward, “The Exclusion of Filipino Amerasians from the 1982 & 1986 Amerasian Immigration and Homecoming Acts,” (Ph.D. Diss, University of Baltimore) Defense, Spring 2023.  
Board Member, Tim Lai Foundation for Amerasians (2022)  
Co-sponsor, “War, Memory, and Monuments Speakers Series” (Spring 2020)  
Vance Byrd, “Does it Sound Right Now?: Narrating the Battle of Atlanta”  
Martha Norkunas, “Memory, Trauma, and Identity”  
Doug Bradley, “Who’ll Stop the Rain: Respect, Remembrance and Reconciliation in Post Vietnam America” (\*Cancelled due to coronavirus)  
Faculty Speaker, "Free Speech in the Era of Cancel Culture and Political Correctness and the Weight of Words, Wabash College Democracy and Public Discourse/Democracy Fellows (Nov. 2019)  
Moderator, "Race, Riots, and Patriotism: Colin Kaepernick and the American Dream” Woodrow Wilson Guest Speaker Series (Nov. 2019)  
Campus Ambassador, Wabash College (Spring 2019-Current)  
Coordinator, "Dimensions of Diversity," "The Diversity Bonus: The Case for Inclusive History," Blane Harding Speaker, History Department, Office of the Dean (September 2018)  
Moderator, “Black Feminism/Womanism Forum: Philosophy, History, and Practice,” Guest Panel, Wabash College (2016/2018)  
Coordinator, “Remembering the Vietnam War Series: Screening of Ken Burns "Tet" screening,

panel and student immersion presentation (February 2018)  
Coordinator/Sponsor, "We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War,"  
History Department Speakers (November 2017)  
Coordinator/Co-Sponsor, Wabash College Criminal Justice Speaker Series (Spring 2017)  
Laura Bates, "Shakespeare Saved My Life"  
Amy Sayward, "Race, Faith, and Death: The Case of the Death Penalty"  
Lahny Silva, "Collateral Consequences of Incarceration"  
Moderator, 13<sup>th</sup> Film Discussion - Wabash Lecture & Film Committee, Malcolm X Institute of Black  
Studies, *Unidos por Sangre*, Muslim Students Association, Student Senate, and Wabash Democracy &  
Public Discourse (January 2017)  
Faculty Speaker, "Free Speech in the Post Truth Era,"  
Wabash College Democracy and Public Discourse/Democracy Fellows (Dec 2016)  
Faculty Sponsor, Black Studies Minor, Wabash College (Spring 2016)  
Editorial Board, *Journal of African American Studies*, (2016-2019)  
External Reviewer, NCAA Innovations in Research and Practice Grant Program (2016-2017)  
External Faculty Member, Immersion Trip, Tubingen, Germany (May, 2016)  
NCAA Diversity and Inclusion Forum (April, 2016)  
National Conference for Black Studies (March 2016)  
Co-Sponsor, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Speaker, Alonzo Jones, in collaboration with the Malcolm X  
Institute at Wabash College (January 2016)  
Member at Large, Arizona State University, History Graduate Student Association, (2012-2013)  
Reader, Educational Testing Services, College Board Advanced Placement U.S. History Exam  
(2013, 2014)  
Conference Registration, Annual Conference, Society for Historians of American Foreign  
Relations (2013)  
Conference Registration, Barack Obama and American Democracy Conference,  
The Center for Race and Democracy, Arizona State University (March, 2011)  
Conference Registration, Breaking Down the Walls: Foreign Diplomacy Conference,  
Arizona State University (March 2010)  
Coordinator, Diversity Across the Curriculum, Coordinator, Arizona State University (Spring 2010)  
Committee Member, Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Minority Affairs, U. of Colorado (2008)  
Mentor, National Association for Academic Advisors for Athletics (2007)  
Awards Committee, National Association for Academic Advisors for Athletics (2007)  
Selected Participant, Professional Development Institute, National Assoc. for Academic Advisors (2006)

### **Honors/Awards**

T.A.L.L. Award, Student Senate Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2018)  
Council of Independent Colleges and Gilder-Lehrman 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Presidency (2017)  
Arizona State University, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Excellence Award (2015)

### **Professional Associations**

American Historical Association  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations  
National Council for Black Studies  
Tim Lai Foundation