

Donald A. Yerxa

Curriculum Vitae

The Historical Society
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History Department
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. American History, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, 1982.
Dissertation: "The U.S. Navy and the Caribbean, 1914-1941."
- M.A. History, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, 1974.
Thesis: "Admiral Samuel Graves and the Falmouth Affair: A Case Study in British Imperial Pacification, 1775."
- B.A. History, Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Massachusetts, 1972.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Templeton Oxford Seminars on Science and Christianity, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University, 1999-2001.

WORK HISTORY

Director, The Historical Society, January 2009 –
Assistant Director, The Historical Society, September 2001 to December 2008
Director, Pre-Law Program, Eastern Nazarene College, January 1997 to June 2009
Chair, Department of History, Eastern Nazarene College, July 1994 to June 2009
Professor of History, Eastern Nazarene College, August 1992 to June 2009
Professor of History/Coordinator of Faculty Services, LEAD Adult Education Program, Eastern Nazarene College, October 1991 - August 1992
Professor of History/Registrar of Adult Education, Eastern Nazarene College, November 1990 - October 1991
Associate Professor of History/Registrar of Adult Education, Eastern Nazarene College, August 1990 - November 1990
Adjunct Instructor of History, Curry College, Milton, Massachusetts, 1989 - 1990
Independent Scholar, August 1988 - July 1990
Associate Professor of History/Director of Admissions, Eastern Nazarene College, 1983 - 1988
Assistant Professor of History/Director of Admissions, Eastern Nazarene College, 1980 - 1983
Instructor of History, Eastern Nazarene College, 1977 - 1980

EDITING

Senior Editor, *Historically Speaking*, January 2009 –
Editorial Board, *Fides et Historia*, January 2009 –
Editorial Committee, *New Global Studies*, 2007 –
Guest co-editor with William R. Shea, “Focus on the Scientific Revolution,” *European Review*,
XV:4 (October 2007).
Editor, *Historically Speaking*, September 2001 – December 2008.
Associate Editor, *Research News and Opportunities in Science and Theology*, June 2000 -
December 2000.
Contributing Editor, *Books & Culture*, April 1999 –

PUBLICATIONS

A. Books:

Species of Origins: America’s Search for a Creation Story (co-authored with Karl Giberson).
Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2002.
Admirals and Empire: The U.S. Navy and the Caribbean, 1898-1945. Columbia: University of
South Carolina Press, 1991.
The Burning of Falmouth, October 18, 1775. Portland: Maine Historical Society, 1976.

B. Edited Volumes:

Recent Themes at the Interface of Science, Religion, and History: Historians in Conversation.
Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, forthcoming in 2009.
Recent Themes in World History and the History of the West: Historians in Conversation.
Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, forthcoming in 2009.
Recent Themes on Historians and the Public: Historians in Conversation. Columbia: University
of South Carolina Press, forthcoming in 2009.
Recent Themes in Military History: Historians in Conversation. Columbia: University of South
Carolina Press, 2008.
Recent Themes in Historical Thinking: Historians in Conversation. Columbia: University of
South Carolina Press, 2008.
Recent Themes in the History of Africa and the Atlantic World: Historians in Conversation.
Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.
Recent Themes in Early American History: Historians in Conversation. Columbia: University of
South Carolina Press, 2008.

C. Articles and Chapters:

1. Forthcoming

“Big Questions and the History of Science and Religion” in *Recent Themes at the Interface of
Science, Religion, and History: Historians in Conversation*. Columbia: University of South
Carolina Press, forthcoming in 2009.
“History on a Large Scale” in *Recent Themes in World History and the History of the West:
Historians in Conversation*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, forthcoming in
2009.
“Historians’ Audiences” in *Recent Themes on Historians and the Public: Historians in
Conversation*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, forthcoming in 2009.

2. Published

“Coherence, Complexity, and the Place of Africa and the Atlantic World in World History” in
Recent Themes in the History of Africa and the Atlantic World: Historians in Conversation.
Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.

- “Robust but in Disarray: Thoughts on the Present State of Early American History” in *Some Recent Themes in Early American History: Historians in Conversation*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.
- “Transdisciplinarity and a More Meaningful Past.” pp. 99-104 in *Transdisciplinarity: Theory and Practice*. Ed. Basarab Nicolescu. Hampton Press, 2008.
- “Historical Inquiry and Thinking after Postmodernism” in *Recent Themes in Historical Thinking: Historians in Conversation*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.
- “The Curious State of Military History” in *Recent Themes in Military History: Historians in Conversation*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.
- “Historical Coherence, Complexity, and the Scientific Revolution,” *European Review*, XV:4 (October 2007), 439-44.
- “That Embarrassing Dream: Big Questions and the Limits of History,” *Fides et Historia*, XXXIX: 1 (Winter/Spring 2007), 53-65. [with responses by Ronald Wells and Wilfred McClay]
- “Has Airpower Come of Age?” in *International Seminar on Nuclear and Planetary Emergencies, 27th Session*. Ed. R. Ragaini (Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co., 2003), 224-38.
- “A Meaningful Past and the Limits of History: Some Reflections Informed by the Science and Religion Dialogue.” *Fides et Historia*, XXXIV:1 (Winter/Spring 2002), 13-30.
- “Phillip Johnson and the Origins of the Intelligent Design Movement, 1977-1991.” *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*, LIV:1 (March 2002), 47-52.
- “Contingency, Continuity, and Narrative: David Hackett Fischer’s Approach to History.” *Fides et Historia*, XXXIII:2 (Summer/Fall 2001), 73-75.
- “Remembering the Past: The Historical Philosophy of John Lukacs.” *Fides et Historia*, XXXIII:1 (Winter/Spring 2001), 121-29.
- “Macrohistory at the Millennium’s End: Recent Themes in World Historiography.” *Fides et Historia*, XXXI:2 (Summer/Fall 1999), 31-46.
- “Providence and the Christian Scholar.” *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, XI:1/2 (1999), 123-40 (with Karl Giberson).
- “The U.S. Navy in Caribbean Waters During World War I.” *Military Affairs [The Journal of Military History]*, LI (October, 1987). 182-87.
- “The U.S. Navy and the Caribbean, 1914-1941.” in *Naval History: The Sixth Symposium of the U.S. Naval Academy*. Ed. Daniel M. Masterson. (Wilmington: Scholarly Resources, 1987), 256-62.
- “The Special Service Squadron and the Caribbean Region, 1920-1940: A Case Study in Naval Diplomacy.” *Naval War College Review*, XXXIX (Autumn, 1986), 60-72.
- “Vice Admiral Samuel Graves and the North American Squadron, 1774-1776.” *The Mariner’s Mirror* [The Society for Nautical Research, Great Britain], LXII (November 1976), 371-85.
- “The Significance of the Falmouth Affair.” *Proceedings of the Maine Academic Historians*, (Spring 1975).
- “The State of Maine and the New Navy.” *Maine Historical Society Quarterly*, XIV (Spring 1975), 83-205.
- “The Burning of Falmouth, October 18, 1775.” *Maine Historical Society Quarterly*, XIV (Winter 1975), 119-60. Reprinted and published under a separate cover by the Maine Historical Society.

D. Review Essays:

1. Forthcoming

“Remembering Nelson.” *Books & Culture*, forthcoming

2. Published

“Guadalcanal,” *Books & Culture*, XIII:1 (January/February 2007), 44-46.

- “David Hackett Fischer’s *Liberty & Freedom* in Historiographical Perspective.” *Historically Speaking*, VII:1 (September/October 2005), 16-17.
- “The Return of Universal History.” *Books & Culture*, XI:4 (July/August 2005), 25-27.
- “The Evolving Debate,” *Science & Spirit*, XVI:1 (January/February 2005), 75-79.
- “Current Work on the History of Science and Religion.” *Historically Speaking*, IV:3 (February 2003), 24-26. (with William R. Shea).
- “What is Written in the Law?” *Books & Culture*, VIII: 6 (November/December 2002), 40-41.
- “The Small Chill: Rediscovering Climate’s Impact on History.” *Books & Culture*, VIII:3 (May/June 2002), 40.
- “First-Person Shooter.” *Books & Culture*, VI:5 (September/October 2000), 38-41.
- “New Voices from Philosophy of History Weigh in on Old Concerns: A Review Essay.” *Fides et Historia*, XXXI: 1 (Winter/Spring 1999), 143-49.
- “Darwinism Comes to America.” *Books & Culture*, V: 6 (November/December 1999), 30-34 (with Karl Giberson).
- “Is Geography Destiny?” in *Books & Culture*, V:3 (May/June 1999), 36-40.

E. Book Reviews:

- Christian Scholar’s Review* (3)
- Fides et Historia* (4)
- Journal of Lutheran Ethics* (1)
- Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* (20); 1 forthcoming
- Science & Theology News* (6)

G. Encyclopedia Entries:

- Seven signed entries in *A Historical Dictionary of the Darwin Controversy*. Edited by Kenneth E. Hendrickson and Glenn M. Stanford (Athens: Athens Institute Educational Research, 2005).
- Five signed entries in *The United States in the First World War: An Encyclopedia* Edited by Anne Cipriano Venson. New York: Garland Publishing, 1995.
- One signed article and one signed entry in *The War of 1898 and U.S. Interventions, 1898-1934: An Encyclopedia*. Edited by Benjamin R. Beede. New York: Garland Publishing, 1994.
- Ten entries in the *Reference Guide to U.S. Military History, 1865-1919*. Edited by Charles R. Shrader. New York: Facts on File, 1993.

H. Interviews:

Historically Speaking:

- John Demos (January 2009)
- Russell Shorto (January 2009)
- Louis Masur (September-October 2008)
- Sir Max Hastings (July-August 2008) [Somewhat different version appearing in *Books & Culture*, (September/October 2008)]
- Mark Gregory Pegg (July-August 2008)
- John Charles Chasteen (July-August 2008)
- Daniel Walker Howe (March-April 2008)
- Brian Linn (January-February 2008)
- Jeremy Black (November-December 2007)
- David Brion Davis (July-August 2007)
- Felipe Fernández-Armesto (July-August 2007)
- Max Boot (January/February 2007)
- David Blackbourn (November/December 2006)
- Niall Ferguson. (November/December 2006)

Bryan Ward-Perkins (March/April 2006)
Rodney Stark (March/April 2006)
Tony Judt. (January/February 2006)
Richard Holmes (November/December 2005)
Sir Max Hastings (March/April 2005) [Reprinted in *Books & Culture* (March/April 2005)]
Bruce Mazlish (July-August 2004)
Peter Galison (November 2003) and (January 2004)
Wolfgang Schivelbusch (November 2003)
Joseph A. Amato (September 2003)
Richard J. Evans (June 2003)
Jay Winik (February 2003) [Abbreviated version reprinted in *Books & Culture*,
(July/August 2002)]
John Gaddis (February 2003)
David Cannadine (February 2003)
J.R. & William McNeill (November 2002)
Peter Nabokov (September 2002) [Abbreviated version reprinted in *Books & Culture*
(November/December 2002)]

Books & Culture

Harvey C. Mansfield (July/August 2001)
Andrew Walls (May/June 2001)
Alexander Keyssar (November 15, 2000) [online]
John Lukacs (July/August 2000) [with Karl Giberson]
A.N. Wilson (September/October 1999) [with Karl Giberson]
Jared Diamond (May/June 1999) [with Karl Giberson]
Jonathan Spence (March/April 1999) [with +Karl Giberson]
Sir John Polkinghorne (September/October 1998) [with Karl Giberson and Kent Hill]

Fides et Historia

David Hackett Fischer (Summer/Fall 2001)
John Lukacs (Winter/Spring 2001)

Christianity Today

Edward Larson (May 22, 2000) [with Karl Giberson]

Research News and Opportunities in Science and Theology

William Dembski (November 2001)
Ernan McMullin (July/August 2001) [with Karl Giberson]
Nancey Murphy (April 2001), 21, 33 [with Karl Giberson]
Sallie Baliunas (April 2001)
Alister McGrath (January 2001) [with Karl Giberson]
Martin Seligman (December 2000)
Barbara Fredrickson (October 2000)
Susan Harper (October 2000)

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS:

Eastern Nazarene College Professional Achievement Award, 2006, 2002, 1999
Eastern Nazarene College Alumni Achievement Award, 2003.
Participant in the European Science Foundation Network "Science and Human Values:
Religious Beliefs and the Interpretation of 'Nature,'" 2001-2003.
Templeton Foundation Grant to assist in writing of *Species of Origins*, 2000-2002.
Resident Member of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, 1998-
Eastern Nazarene College Teaching Excellence Award, 1995.
U.S. Navy Prize in Naval History for the Best Article on U.S. Naval History Published
During 1987; Honorable Mention, U.S. Navy Prize in Naval History for the Best Article on
U.S. Naval History Published in 1986.

Phi Kappa Phi, National Honor Society, 1983.
U.S. Navy Predoctoral Fellowship, 1976 - 1977.
University Fellowship, University of Maine, 1975 - 1976.
Maine Historical Society Prize Essay, 1975.

INVITED LECTURES, PROFESSIONAL PAPERS & SESSIONS:

Organizing Committee, Venice Summer School Science & Religion, Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti (with the support of the John Templeton Foundation), 2008-2010
(<http://vssr.info/>)

Conference Co-Director, "British Abolitionism, Moral Progress, and Big Questions in History," London, April 26-28, 2007. Wrote the grant, conceptualized the project, invited the participants, and ran the sessions. www.bu.edu/historic/london/conf.html.

"That Embarrassing Dream: Big Questions and the Limits of History," Conference on Faith and History Biennial Meeting ("Faithful Historians, Faithful History, and the History of the Faithful") at Oklahoma Baptist University on September 22, 2006.

"Let's Not be Too Quick to Win (or Avoid) the Evolution Wars," International Forum on Christian Higher Education, Dallas, Texas, March 31, 2006.

Chair of "The Religious Accommodation to Nazism in Germany" session, Northeast Regional Meeting of the Conference on Faith and History, Gordon College, March 25, 2006.

"David Hackett Fischer's *Liberty & Freedom* in Historiographical Perspective," at the New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Portland, Maine, April 30, 2005.

"History on a Large Scale: Macrohistory in a Global Age." Mount Vernon Nazarene University Artist/Lecture Series, April 19, 2005.

"The Evolving Debate," Mount Vernon Nazarene University Honors Society Colloquium, April 18, 2005

"The Evolving Debate," Northwest Nazarene University Lecture Series, March 29, 2005

Chair of "American Religious History" and "Big History and Human History" sessions, The Historical Society Conference on the Current State of Historical Inquiry, Boothbay Harbor, Maine, June 3-6, 2004.

"History on a Large Scale: Macrohistory in a Global Age." The 13th Annual David Franz Lecture, Gordon College, April 15, 2004.

"Intelligent Design: A New 'Species of Origins'?" Workshop on Science and Religion: The Book of Nature and the Book of Scripture, International School of Physics, Ettore Majorana Foundation and Center for Scientific Culture, Erice, Sicily, July 19, 2003.

"Has Air Power Come of Age?" Erice International Seminars on Nuclear War and Planetary Emergencies, Erice, Sicily, August 20, 2002.

Chair of "Reconstructions in Classical Greece" session, The Historical Society Conference on Historical Reconstructions, Atlanta, Georgia, May 17, 2002.

"A Meaningful Past and the Limits of History: Some Reflections Informed by the Science and Religion Dialogue," Pew Christian Scholars Program panel at "Christian Scholarship...for What?" Calvin College, September 28, 2001.

Chair of "Some Reflections on Globalization," Conference on Faith and History session at the American Historical Association's 115th Annual Meeting, Boston, January 5, 2001.

"Whither Providence? The Role of Divine Agency in the Methodology of the Christian Scholar" (with Karl Giberson) at "Exploring Truth in a Pluralistic Society: A Conference," Southern Nazarene University, March 3, 1999.

"Recent Themes in the Historiography of World History" Plenary Paper at the Conference on Faith and History: "Globalization and the Historian's Craft," Nashville, September 26, 1998.

- “Education and the Postmodern Mindset” at the Faith, Learning, Living Conference, Southern Nazarene University, June 1996.
- “Diplomacy and Defense Policy: The U.S. in the Caribbean, 1900-1941” at the Canadian Armed Forces Staff and Command College, April 1984.
- “The United States and the Caribbean, 1914-1941” at the Sixth Symposium of the U.S. Naval Academy, September 1983.
- “The Significance of the Falmouth Affair, 1775” at the joint meeting of the Maine Academic Historians and the New England Historical Association, April 1975.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

American Historical Association
American Scientific Affiliation
Colonial Society of Massachusetts
Conference on Faith and History
Organization of American Historians
Society for Military History
The Historical Society