

**Rebecca Tinio McKenna**

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**EDUCATION**

Yale University. PhD in History, December 2010  
Yale University. MA in History, May 2005  
Barnard College, Columbia University. BA in American Studies, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, May 1999

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Notre Dame (2020-present)  
Concurrent Faculty, Department of American Studies, University of Notre Dame (2020-present)  
Faculty Fellow, Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies, University of Notre Dame (2018-present)  
Affiliated Faculty, Notre Dame Initiative on Race and Resilience (2021-present)  
Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Notre Dame (2011-2020)  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, Southern Connecticut State University (2010-2011)

**PUBLICATIONS (refereed)**

**Book**

*American Imperial Pastoral: The Architecture of US Colonialism in the Philippines*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017.  
-Co-published in Quezon City, Philippines by Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2019.

**Articles**

“Igorot Squatters and Indian Wards: Toward an Intra-imperial History of Land Dispossession,” *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 18:2 (April 2019).  
With David Suisman, Introduction to “New Approaches to Music and Sound,” special issue of *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 22:4 (2023): 367-83.  
doi:10.1017/S153778142300018X

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“Elephant in the Room: Making the Ivory Piano Key at the Turn of the Twentieth Century,” under review with *Modern American History*  
“Wondrous Box: A Story of How the Piano Became American,” book manuscript

**PUBLICATIONS (non-refereed)**

**Book and Article Reviews**

*Monetary Authorities: Capitalism and Decolonization in the American Colonial Philippines*, by Allan E. S. Lumba. *Labor*, forthcoming.  
*Gods of the Upper Air*, by Charles King. Introduction to H-Diplo Roundtable, July 2020.  
<https://hdiplo.org/to/RT21-53>

*How to Hide an Empire: A History of the Greater United States*, by Daniel Immerwahr. H-Diplo, November 2019. URL: <https://hdiplo.org/to/RT21-17>

*Cities and Nationhood: American Imperialism and Urban Design in the Philippines, 1898-1916*, by Ian Morley. *Urban History* 46: 4 (November 2019).

“Pocket-Sized Imperialism: U.S. Designs on Colonial Currency,” by Alvita Akoboh. H-Diplo, April 26, 2018. URL: <http://tiny.cc/AR761>

*State and Finance in the Philippines, 1898-1941: The Mismanagement of an American Colony*, by Yoshiko Nagano. *Pacific Historical Review* 86:3 (August 2017).

*God’s Arbiters: Americans and the Philippines, 1898-1902*, by Susan K. Harris. SHGAPE (Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era), H-NET Reviews, January 2012. URL: <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=33661>

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C. Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2021

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (\$60,000), 2018

Myrna F. Bernath Book Prize, awarded by The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2018

Smithsonian Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$21,000), 2018—declined

Rodney G. Dennis Fellowship in the Study of Manuscripts, Houghton Library, Harvard University, 2007

Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders Dissertation Research Grant, Yale University, 2007

The MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies Dissertation Research Grant, Yale University, 2007

### **INTERNAL GRANTS**

Major Henkels Grant (\$20,000) from the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame, for organizing April 2022 conference “Global Religion and American World-Making” with members of the US in the World Working Group (Notre Dame, Department of History)

Major Henkels Grant (\$20,000) from the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame, for organizing March 21-22, 2014 conference “American Empire: The State of the Field” with Dr. Jason Ruiz

Small Henkels Grant (\$2825) from the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame, for organizing April 5, 2018 public lecture by Dr. Julie Greene, University of Maryland

Small Henkels Grant (\$2000) from the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame, for organizing April 20, 2017 public lecture by Dr. Vicente Rafael, University of Washington

### **INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS**

Guest on [The Race & Podcast](#), Society for Architectural Historians (February 26, 2023)

Participant in “Urban Spaces: Isolation, Inequalities and Expectations,” webinar hosted by the Ateneo de Manila University Press, Manila, Philippines (August 2020)

“Parlor, Port, Company Town, and Saloon: Scenes from a History of the Piano,” Keynote Address for “Peripheries: The Politics of Space and Place,” History Graduate Student Association annual conference, Brown University (February 2019)

“Cordillera Capital: Baguio and the Architecture of U.S. Colonialism in the Philippines,” presented at the Center for South Asian Studies, University of Michigan (January 2017)

### **PAPERS AND COMMENT PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES**

Commentator on panel “Imperial Sounds: Music, Race, and US Empire in the Philippines,” American Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada (November 2023)

Commentator on panel “The Farthest West: Gender, Indigeneity and Settler Colonial Logics in Transpacific U.S.- Philippines History,” Western Historical Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV (October 2019)

“Writing US Foreign Relations History,” Roundtable discussion, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference, Arlington, VA (June 2019)

“American Imperial Pastoral: Land and Labor in the US Colonial Philippines,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (April 2017)

“Turning Point 1916?” Roundtable discussion, American Historical Association Conference, Atlanta, GA (January 2016)

“The Road to New Empire: The Benguet Road and US Designs on the Philippines,” American Historical Association Conference, Washington, D.C. (January 2014)

“Liberating Labor: Building the Road to New Empire in the US Colonial Philippines,” Labor and Working-Class History Association Conference, New York, NY (June 2013)

“Burnham’s Baguio and the Labor of New Empire,” Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Seattle, WA (April 2013)

“Make Trade, Not War: Marketplaces and Market Relations in the US Colonial Philippines,” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference, Hartford, CT (June 2012)

“United States Designs on the Philippines: Burnham’s Baguio and the Grounds of New Empire,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Houston, TX (March 2011)

“Burnham’s Baguio and the Architecture of an Anti-Colonial Empire,” Urban History Association Fifth Biennial Conference, Las Vegas, NV (October 2010)

“‘New’ Empire Goes Primitive: Roads Construction in the Early U.S. Colonial Philippines,” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. (June 2009)

“‘A Commercial Awakening:’ Marketplaces in the US Colonial Philippines,” The History of Capitalism Conference, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (November 2008)

“‘An Educator of the People:’ Roads Construction in the Early US Colonial Philippines,” Pacific Coast Branch-American Historical Association Conference, Pasadena, CA (August 2008)

“Home Rules: ‘Topside’ and Hospitality in the Early US Colonial Regime,” First International Conference on Cordillera Studies, Baguio, Philippines (February 2008)

### **NOTRE DAME PRESENTATIONS**

Commentator on Kevin Kenny’s *The Problem of Immigration in a Slaveholding Republic* at Keough-Naughton-hosted book launch (October 9, 2023)

Chair, “At the Edges of Empire” panel for “Bloody Years of Peace Conference,” University of Notre Dame (October 8, 2021)

Panelist, “Histories of Anti-Asian Violence in the US: Politics, Gender, and Resistance,” Zoom webinar hosted by the Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies (April 29, 2021)  
Commentator on David Hollinger’s *Protestants Abroad: How Missionaries Tried to Change the World but Changed America*, Cushwa Center Seminar in American Religion (October 27, 2018)

## **TEACHING**

### **Courses Taught:**

(HIST 13184-02) “United States in the World in the Twentieth Century” (University Seminar)  
(HIST 13184-13) “Modern Vibes: Sound, Noise, and Music in Turn of the Twentieth-Century America (University Seminar)  
(HIST 33000) “History Workshop” (Gateway to History Major)  
(HIST 30606) “Gilded Age and Progressive Era” (Major-level course)  
(HIST 30645) “Interwar U.S.A.” (Major-level course)  
(HIST 30622) “American Consumer Culture in the Twentieth Century” (Major-level course)  
(HIST 43614) “U.S. Cultural History” (Department seminar)  
(HIST 43887) “Listening to the Gilded Age” (Department seminar)  
(HIST 53001) “Honors Methodology Workshop” (Honors thesis junior seminar)  
(HIST 53002) “History Honors Colloquium” (Honors thesis senior seminar)  
(HIST 83604) “U.S. History, 1890-present” (Graduate course in US History Colloquium series)  
(HIST 93305) “Empires and Colonies” (Graduate course, co-taught with Dr. Paul Ocobock)  
(HIST 86000) Graduate Directed Readings in the History of the US in the World

### **Graduate Dissertation Committees:**

Grace Song, “Understanding the Sim of the Mugunghwa Beneath the Sun: The Changing Perceptions and Relations of Korea through the Context of U.S. and East Asia, 1871-1953,” in progress (director of dissertation)  
Catalina Ospina, “Middle-Class Consumption and the Formation of the Middle Class in Colombia, 1920-1950,” in progress (co-director of dissertation)  
Sarah Pollnow, “Race, Class, and Power: Americans’ and Liberians’ Relations in the Long 1960s,” in progress  
Aitor Valdesogo, “Middle Classes and Attitudes towards Democracy and Authoritarianism in 1970s Argentina,” in progress  
Wenzheng Fang, “Trouble in Pangea: Introducing, Managing, and Eradicating Alien Species in America,” in progress  
Hannah Peckham, “‘Western Schools on Asiatic Soil’: American Higher Education Abroad,” in progress  
Lauren Hamblen, “‘Be a Missionary Every Day’: Missionary Citizenship and Evangelical Childhood, 1918-1973,” in progress  
Heather Lane (dissertation in progress)  
Ian Van Dyke, “Evangelical Multiculturalism in the Age of Fracture,” defended 2022  
Anna Holdorf, “A Harvest for Heaven and Earth: Religion, Agriculture, and Development in the Twentieth-Century U.S. and Latin America,” defended 2021  
Sejoo Kim, “American Postcolony: Decolonization, Development, and Nomadic Capitalism in the Northern Marianas, 1944-2005,” defended 2021

- Anna Fett, “Peace Education for the World: People-to-People Programs, American Youth, and U.S. Power, 1946-1991,” defended 2021
- Carla Villanueva, “*Normalistas Rurales* and the Politics of Education in Peripheral Mexico during the Global Sixties,” defended 2020
- Philip Beyer, “How Firm the Foundation: The Lilly Endowment and Religion in Postwar America,” defended 2020
- Natalie Sargent, “Peculiar Positions of Power: Lay Women as ‘Good Americans and Good Catholics,’ 1875-1906,” defended 2019
- Jillian Plummer, “U.S. Catholic Cold War, The Ten Percent Movement, and Catholic Sisters: The Transformation and Decline of the U.S. Missionary Movement in Peru and Chile, 1958-1979,” defended 2019
- Christopher Flanagan, “A Revolution for Empire: The Centrality of Anglo-American Conceptions of Empire to the Formation of the United States, 1763-1801,” defended 2019
- Francis Bonenfant-Juwong, “Ever-Widening Circles: Private Voluntary Development, Colonialism, and Arab Palestinians, 1930-1960,” defended 2018 (co-director of dissertation)
- Laura Weis, “Interpreting Islam: U.S.-Indonesian Relations, 1953-1968,” defended 2018
- Felicia Moralez, “From Immigrants to Citizens: Mexicans and Settlement Houses in Gary, Indiana, 1919-1965,” defended 2018
- Lindsey Passenger Wieck, “Lattes, Skyscrapers, and *Comunidad*: Fighting for Authentic Spaces in Postwar San Francisco,” defended 2016
- Philipp Gollner, “Fencing Their America: Assimilation and Ethno-religious Minorities, 1884-1919,” defended 2016
- Benjamin Wetzel, “American Crusade: Lyman Abbott and the Christian Nation at War, 1860-1920,” defended 2016
- Craig Kinnear, “Legends of Logging: Paul Bunyan, the Hodag, and Bigfoot’s (Giant) Cultural Footprints on the United States Lumber Industry,” defended 2016
- Courtney Wiersema, “Nature at Home: Chicago and the Cultivation of Domestic Life,” defended 2015

**Graduate Examination Committees:**

- Edward Ablang, US in the World, in progress
- Aitor Valdesogo, US in the World, 2023
- Wenzheng Fang, US in the World, 2023
- Sarah Pollnow, US in the World, 2023
- Debora Rogo, US in the World, 2023
- Grace Song, US in the World, 2021
- Lauren Hamblen, US in the World, 2019
- Augusto Rocha Ramirez, US Imperialism, 2018
- Ian Van Dyke, US in the World, 2018
- Anna Fett, US in the World, 2018
- Catalina Ospina, US Imperialism, 2017
- Sejoo Kim, US in the World, 2017
- Carla Villanueva, US Imperialism, 2016
- Jillian Plummer, US in the World, 2015

Francis Bonenfant-Juwong, *US in the World*, 2015  
Laura Weis, *US in the World*, 2013  
Philipp Gollner, 20<sup>th</sup> c. *US History*, 2013  
Ben Wetzel, 20<sup>th</sup> c. *US History*, 2013  
Curtis Urban, 20<sup>th</sup> c. *US History*, 2013  
Michael Skaggs, 20<sup>th</sup> c., *US History*, 2013  
Lindsey Passenger Wieck, 20<sup>th</sup> c. *US History*, 2012

**Senior Theses Directed at the University of Notre Dame:**

Anna Grillo, [UNESCO, the US, and art looting conventions], in progress  
Zane Reeb, “The Moonshine Capital of the World: Crime, Change, and Power in Franklin County, Virginia” (2023—awarded best senior thesis by the Department of History)  
Emily Hannon, “Changing Textbooks, Changing Stories: The Development of *the American Pageant* from its Inception to the Present” (2023)  
Henry Jackson, “A Sermon in Humanity: Lyndon Johnson and the Presidential Election of 1968” (2023)  
Aysha Gibson, “The Louisiana State Penitentiary: A Study of the Prison’s Transition from Convict Leasing to the Angola Farm” (2022)  
Marina Bernovich, “The Impact of the United States’ Entry into World War I on Foreign Language Education in Milwaukee Public Schools” (2022)  
Kayley Schacht, “Swinging the Sweethearts: Jazz, Race, and Gender in Wartime America” (2022)  
William Gannon, “Rising from the Horseshoe: An Analysis of Irish-American Political Organization in Jersey City from the Progressive Era to the Eisenhower Era through the Scope of Mayor Frank Hague” (2020)  
Shannon Hennessey, “In Love with You and ‘Americanness’: How Popular Narratives of Interracial Marriage Influenced Hawaiian Statehood” (2019—awarded best senior thesis by the Department of History)  
Anne Vieser, “‘After all this is America’: Russian-Jewish Immigrants and the Experience of America in the Educational Institutions of the Lower East Side” (2018)  
Janet Stengle, “Bringing Back the Glass City: A History of Urban Revitalization in Toledo, Ohio” (2018)  
Rose Anderson, “Tom Pendergast and the Ten-Year Plan: Construction and Corruption in 1930s Kansas City” (2017)  
Sean Langan, “Carrying the Cross of Gold: William Jennings Bryan, the 1896 Presidential Election, and the Emergence of Concentrated Power” (2014)  
Roberto Rivera, “Too Big to Segregate: Wall Street, Section 10, and the New Deal’s Search for Market Perfection” (2013)  
Kellen Mathers, “Barren Forests, Bankrupt Minds: The U.S. Chemical Defoliation Campaign in Vietnam” (2012)

**Senior Theses Evaluated at the University of Notre Dame:**

Outsider reader for “Abraham Lincoln and Compensated Emancipation in Delaware” (2023)  
Outside reader for “The Liberators of an Earthly Hell: The Experiences of American Soldiers who Liberated Dachau and Buchenwald” (2022)

Outside reader for “A Triumph of Ghosts: Rhetoric, Rights, and Ruination of the ICESCR in the United States” (2021)  
Second reader for “Defining an American Catholic Nation: The University of Notre Dame’s Laetare Medal” by Jessica Olson (American Studies thesis) (2019)  
Outside reader for “Do the Angels in Heaven Speak Portuguese?: The Role of Portuguese Culture in Portuguese Catholic Schools, 1910-1980” (2019)  
Outside reader for “James Cardinal Gibbons: The Agent of Catholic Mobilization and Politicization during World War I” (2018)  
Outsider reader for “The Baseball War: The Federal League, Organized Baseball, and the Battle for the National Pastime” (2017)  
Outside reader for “‘Bringing the War Home:’ Witnessing, Remembering, and British War Photography of the First World War” (2016)  
Outside reader for “‘It was a great opportunity:’ American Involvement in World War I” (2012)

### **SERVICE**

#### **Service to the Department of History, University of Notre Dame:**

Department representative to College Council, 2023-2024  
Founder and faculty advisor to the U.S. in the World Working Group (for History graduate students), 2017-2023  
Member, Graduate Committee, 2022-2023  
Member, Executive Committee, 2022-2023  
Member, Latinx History Search Committee, Fall 2021  
Member, History Department Working Group on Race and Colonialism, Fall 2020-Spring 2021  
Member, Executive Committee, Spring 2021  
Member, Spousal Hiring Committee, 2019-2020  
Chair, Inclusive Excellence Committee, Fall 2019  
Member, Executive Committee, 2018-2019  
Member, Works-in-Progress Committee, 2018-2019  
Member, Inclusive Excellence Committee, 2017-2018  
Member, South Asian History Search Committee, 2016-2017  
Member, Space Reallocation Committee, 2016-2017  
Graduate Studies Committee, 2015-2016  
Member, Chinese History Search Committee, 2013-2014  
Graduate Studies Committee, 2012-2013  
Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2011-2012

#### **Service to the University of Notre Dame:**

Faculty Grants Review Committee, Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies, 2021-Present  
Kaneb Center Faculty Fellow, 2022-2023  
Member, Columbus Murals Exhibition Task Group, Spring 2020

#### **Professional Service:**

Council member, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age & Progressive Era (Dec. 2019-December 2022)  
Editorial Board, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* (Jan. 2018-April 2022)

Teaching Committee, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (Jan. 2020-June 2022)

Richard W. Leopold Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians (Dec. 2019-December 2022)

Best Article Prize Committee, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age & Progressive Era (May 2017-2019)

Program Committee, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age & Progressive Era (Jan. 2015-May 2017)

Article manuscript reviewer for:

*Pacific Historical Review*

*American Quarterly*

*Modern American History*

*Journal of Policy History*

*U.S. Catholic Historian*

*Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*

*Journal of Southern History*

*The Cordillera Review: Journal of Philippine Culture and Society*

Book manuscript / book proposal reviewer for:

Columbia University Press

Duke University Press

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

ND LEAD participant, fall 2023 to present

Recently Tenured Faculty Network participant, 2022-2023

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Organization of American Historians

The Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era

The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations