

Thomas B. Blakeslee
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CURRICULUM VITAE

Education

Harvard University November 2025

Ph.D.

Harvard University May 2020

Master of Arts, History

University of California, Berkeley

Bachelor of Arts: History, with Honors December 2017

Solano College

Associate of Arts: History, Highest Honors May 2014

Associate of Arts: Social Science, Highest Honors May 2014

Associate of Arts: Elementary Teacher Preparation, Highest Honors May 2014

General Exam Fields

“Early America: Colonial and Antebellum American History” (Examiner: Dr. Walter Johnson)

“Modern America: 1865 – 1999” (Examiner: Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham)

“The Atlantic World: 1492 – 1820” (Examiner: Dr. Vincent Brown)

“Black Masculinities: Gender, Sexuality, and Social Life” (Examiner: Dr. Robin Bernstein)

Research Experience

Research Assistant July 2021 – Present

Harvard University, Dr. Walter Johnson

McNair Scholars Program December 2016 – December 2017

University of California, Berkeley

History Honors Thesis January 2017 – May 2017

“Runaway Love: The Role of Fatherhood in Resistance to Antebellum Slavery”

University of California, Berkeley

Teaching Experience

Head Instructor, Harvard University

- HIST 3920B: Colloquium on Teaching and Professional Practices Spring 2025
- HIST 3920A: Colloquium on Teaching and Professional Practices Fall 2024
- HIST 15G: Resistant Masculinity: Evolving Notions of Black Masculinities in U.S. History Fall 2022

Teaching Fellow, Harvard University

- HIST 74N: Major Themes in the 20th Century Spring 2023
- HIST 1223: The American Century: The U.S. Since WWII Spring 2022
- HIST 1028: Race, Capitalism, and the Coming of the Civil War Fall 2021
- HIST 1002: The 20th Century United States: Politics, Society, Culture Spring 2021
- GENED 1002: The Democracy Project Fall 2020

Private Tutor and Editor

- Black Student Parent Support Group, UC Berkeley August 2016 – December 2018
- Solano College April 2010 – May 2018

Conference Presentations

- “Archival Encounters: Recovering African American History” ASALH 109th Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. September 2024
- “Radical Paternity: Finding Black Fatherhood in the Archives” American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA. August 2023
- “Domestic Disturbances: The Shaping of Black Fatherhood, Manhood, and Resistance in the United States” History Prospectus Conference, History Department, GSAS Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. August 2021
- “Runaway Love: The Role of Fatherhood in Resistance to Antebellum Slavery” The 25th Annual McNair Scholars Research Symposium University of California, Berkeley, CA. July 2017

Interviews

“Freedom Now!” Interview with Dr. Gerald Horne on KPFK-FM Los Angeles.

November 16, 2024

Publications

Double book review: *The Kidnapping Club: Wall Street, Slavery, and Resistance on the Eve of the Civil War* and *The Last Slave Ships: New York and the End of the Middle Passage* in *New York History Journal*, 2022, Vol. 103 (2): 411–14. <https://doi.org/10.1353/nyh.2022.0062>.

Book review: *Rethinking Rufus* book review in *The Journal of African American History*, Spring 2022, Vol.107 (2): 298-300.

Article: “Runaway Love: The Role of Fatherhood in Resistance to Antebellum Slavery” *The McNair Scholars Research Journal* (April 2018).

Honors & Awards

Harvard University	History Prize Instructorship	April 2022
Harvard University	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	Spring 2022
Harvard University	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	Fall 2021
Harvard University	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	Spring 2021
Harvard University	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	Fall 2020
Solano College	Dean’s Honors	December 2012
Solano College	President’s Honors	December 2013

Grants

John Hope Franklin Center	Research Travel Grant	August 2024
Harvard University GSAS	GSC Summer Research Grant	April 2023
Charles Warren Center	Summer Research Grant	April 2022

Fellowships

Helmerich Center for American Research at the University of Tulsa	December 2025
Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning. Pedagogy Fellowship.	August 2024-June 2025
Library Company of Philadelphia. Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship.	January 2025
Dissertation Completion Fellowship. Harvard University History Department.	2023-24
American Antiquarian Society. Brown Family Collection Fellowship.	July-August 2023