

Ann M. Ostendorf, PhD
Professor of History, Gonzaga University
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Prior Academic Positions

History Department Chair, Gonzaga University, 2021–2024.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar, University of Tokyo and Japan Women's University, 2019–2020.

Co-Director, Under-represented Minority Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow Program, 2014–2019.

Publications in Progress

"The Racializations of Romani People in the Long Nineteenth Century." Special issue, edited with Vita Zalar, under review with *Patterns of Prejudice*.

"The Racializations of Romani People in the Long Nineteenth Century: An Introduction." With Vita Zalar, under review with *Patterns of Prejudice*.

Romani Americans: Making Atlantic Empires, Races and Nations. Book manuscript under preparation.

Books

The Romani Atlantic. Edited with Martin Fotta. Cambridge University Press, 2026. [Open Access](#).

Sounds American: National Identity and the Music Cultures of the Lower Mississippi River Valley, 1800–1860. The University of Georgia Press, 2011. [Limited preview available](#).

Articles and Book Chapters

"Early Modern Transatlantic Deportations of Romani People." In *Deportation Practices and Deportation Experiences in the Early Modern Period*, ed. Mathias Beer and Stephan Steiner (forthcoming).

"Five Hundred Years of Romani Atlantic History: Flows, Circulations and Migrations that Made the Modern World." With Martin Fotta, in *The Romani Atlantic*, ed. Martin Fotta and Ann Ostendorf. Cambridge University Press, 2026. [Open Access](#).

"Familiar Outsiders Abroad: Relational Racialization in the Romani Atlantic World." In *The Romani Atlantic*, ed. Martin Fotta and Ann Ostendorf. Cambridge University Press, 2026. [Open Access](#).

"The Limits and Opportunities of Romani American History." *Romani Studies* 34, no. 1 (2024): 13–38. <https://doi.org/10.3828/rost.2024.2>. Published in Polish as "Historia Romów amerykańskich. Historyczne nieobecności i ich konsekwencje," *Studia Romologica* 18 (2025): 11–50.

"Louisianští Romové: Konstrukce rasy v koloniálním Karibiku." *Romano Dzaniben* 28 (2021): 33–55. (Louisiana Romani: Constructing Race in the Colonial Caribbean) <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10404617>.

"Louisiana Bohemians: Community, Race, and Empire." *Early American Studies* 19, no. 4 (2021): 659–698. Winner of the Louisiana Historical Association's Glenn R. Conrad Prize for best article in Louisiana history. <https://doi.org/10.1353/eam.2021.0021>.

"To Get Himself Out of Slavery": Escape, Justice, and Honor in the Life of a Colonial French Louisiana Bohemian (Gypsy)." *Frühneuzeit-Info* 31 (2020): 140–156. <https://www.univie.ac.at/iefn/publikationen>.

- "Novel Adventures: Using *The Journey to the West* to Teach Tang China History and Culture." *Education About Asia* 25 (Fall 2020): 12–17.
<https://www.asianstudies.org/publications/ea/archives/novel-adventures-using-the-journey-to-the-west-to-teach-tang-china-history-and-culture/>
- "Racializing American 'Egyptians': Shifting Legal Discourse, 1690s–1860s." *Critical Romani Studies* 2, no. 2 (2019): 42–59. <https://doi.org/10.29098/crs.v2i2.50>.
- "The Mythical Musical Boatmen: Integrating National Icons in Early American Culture." *American Music* 37, no. 2 (2019): 197–228. <https://doi.org/10.5406/americanmusic.37.2.0197>.
- "Music of the Early American Republic." *The American Historian* 19 (February 2019): 14–19.
<https://tah.oah.org/february-2019/music-in-the-early-american-republic/>.
- "Contextualizing American Gypsies: Experiencing Criminality in the Colonial Chesapeake." *Maryland Historical Magazine* 113 (Fall/Winter 2018): 192–222.
<https://www.mdhistory.org/publications/maryland-historical-magazine-online/>.
- "'An Egyptian and noe Xtian Woman': Gypsy Identity and Race Law in Early America." *Journal of Gypsy Studies* 1 (2017): 5–15. <https://doi.org/10.33182/jgs.v1i1.526>.
- "Where Music is Not the Devil Enters: Children's Music Instruction in Late Nineteenth-Century Milwaukee." *Wisconsin Magazine of History* 89 (Winter 2005–2006): 2–11.
<https://content.wisconsinhistory.org/digital/collection/wmh/id/43129/rec/43>.
- "Song Catchers, Ballad Makers and New Social Historians: A Historiography of Appalachian Music." *The Tennessee Historical Quarterly* (Fall 2004): 192–202. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/42631932>.

Public Scholarship

- "The Case of the Missing Romani American History," *History Workshop*, 2025.
<https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/practice-history/the-case-of-the-missing-romani-american-history/>
- "De-Silencing the Archive: The Benefits of Microhistory for Romani American History," *Early American Studies Miscellany*, 2025. <https://web.sas.upenn.edu/earlyamericanstudies/2025/04/23/de-silencing-the-archive-the-benefits-of-microhistory-for-romani-american-history-ann-ostendorf/#>
- Romani Memory Map of the Americas, United Nations Human Rights Office (OHCHR), 2024, 2025.
<https://www.gonzaga.edu/academics/global-engagement/international-research-and-partnerships/active-partnerships/romani-memory-map-of-the-americas> and
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/minorities/advancing-roma-inclusion>
- "Romani History is American History," *Early American Studies Miscellany*, 2022.
<https://web.sas.upenn.edu/earlyamericanstudies/2022/03/16/romani-history-is-american-history/>

Invited Lectures

- "Memory and the Romani People in the Americas," Romani Memory Map for the Americas: Memory and Justice to Combat Antigypsyism, United Nations Human Rights Office (OHCHR), 2025.
- "A Conversation on Songbird," The Florentine Opera Versed Series, Milwaukee, 2024.

- "Romani Historiography and Memory," Conference on Critical Engagement with the History of Sinti and Roma," Academy in Exile and Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, Essen, 2023.
- "The Legacy of Racism and the Ethics of Yoga," Iyengar Yoga National Association of the United States, 2021. <https://vimeo.com/511913923/94a8d2f9a5>
- "The Racial Liminality of Colonial North American Romani Women," Institut für die Erforschung der Frühen Neuzeit (Research Institute for Early Modern Studies), 2020.
- "Music of Alabama and the American South," Endowed Chair Lecturer, Musicology Division of the School of Music, University of Alabama, 2015.
- "Creating the Nation: What the Constitution Didn't Do," Constitution Day Lecture, Gonzaga University, 2010.
- "Music Culture of Territorial Louisiana," Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Teacher Institute, McNeese State University, 2010.
- "Do Stuff: How to Live Life Like a Historian," Xi Gamma Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, Induction Ceremony Keynote, Gonzaga University, 2010.

Book Reviews

- Review of *Cultivated by Hand: Amateur Musicians in the Early American Republic*, by Glenda Goodman, *The New England Quarterly*, 98 (March 2025): 114–116.
- Review of *Harnessing Harmony: Music, Power, and Politics in the United States, 1788-1865*, by Billy Coleman, *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* 90 (Spring 2023): 331–333.
- Review of *The Cashaway Psalmody: Transatlantic Religion and Music in Colonial Carolina*, by Stephen A. Marini, *Journal of American History* (March 2022): 811–812.
- Review of *Maryland, My Maryland: Music and Patriotism during the American Civil War*, by James A. Davis, *Histoire sociale/Social History* 52 (November 2019): 386–388.
- Review of *American Roma: A Modern Investigation of Lived Experiences and Media Portrayals*, by Melanie R Covert, *Romani Studies* 29 (June 2019): 115–118.
- Review of *Gypsies: An English History*, by David Cressy, *Romani Studies* 29 (June 2019): 119–122.
- Review of *Sounds of the New Deal: The Federal Music Project in the West*, by Peter Gough, *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 106 (Summer 2016): 149.
- Review of *Working the Mississippi: Two Centuries of Life on the River*, by Bonnie Stepenoff, *Indiana Magazine of History* 112 (March 2016): 60–61.
- Review of *Untold Stories and Songs of America's First Immigrants*, by Joanna Brooks, *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 112 (Summer 2014): 495–497.
- Review of *Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music in the Civil War*, by Christian McWhirter, *Journal of American History* 99 (December 2012): 924–925.
- Review of *Jim Crow's Counterculture: The Blues and Black Southerners, 1890-1945*, by R. A. Lawson, *Journal of Southern History* 78 (Summer 2012), 498–499.
- Reviews of *River of Dreams: Imagining the Mississippi before Mark Twain*, by Thomas Ruys Smith, and *American Confluence: The Missouri Frontier from Borderland to State*, by Stephen Aron, *Journal of the Early Republic* 30 (Summer 2010): 338–341.

Review of *Anglophilia: Deference, Devotion, and Antebellum America*, by Elisa Tamarki, *NeoAmericanist Reviews* 5 (Spring/Summer 2010).

Conference Papers

Roundtable Organizer for “Romani Pasts and the Remaking of Historical Narratives,” with Jennifer Illuzzi, Ari Joskowicz and Dalen Wakeley-Smith. American Historical Association, New Orleans, 2027.

“Detangling Romani, Indigenous and Unmarked Bodies: The Emergence of Race in the Early Modern Atlantic World,” Romani History Workshop—Romani Racialization beyond Majority-Minority Narratives. Prague Forum for Romani Histories and the Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences, 2025.

“Deportations of Romani People to the Americas: Comparative Contexts and Experiences.” Conference on Deportation Practices and Experiences in the Early Modern Era: The Habsburg Empire in International Comparison. Institut für donauschwäbische Geschichte und Landeskunde, Tübingen, Germany, 2024.

“Anti-Romani Political Racism in the Nineteenth-Century United States.” Romani History Workshop—The Politicization of Xenophobia in Transatlantic Contexts: Past and Present. Prague Forum for Romani Histories at the Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, 2023.

“Colonial North American Romani and the Processes of Relational Racialization.” Associação Portuguesa de Antropologia, Evora, Portugal, 2022.

“Historians, or Scholars of History. On the ‘Ahistoriography’ of Romani American History.” Romani History Workshop—Methods, Sources, Ethics. Prague Forum for Romani Histories at the Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, 2022.

“The Transatlantic French Colonial Bohemian/(Romani) Diaspora.” French Colonial Historical Society Conference, Charleston, 2022.

Panel Organizer for “Responding to the State: Uncovering Romani Agency in Early Modern and Colonial Atlantic Worlds” with Paper Co-Presentation (with Martin Fotta) on “The Racialized Self: Experiencing Racialization in the Colonial Atlantic Lusophone and Francophone Worlds.” Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Roma Studies, Prague, Czech Republic, 2020, *postponed until 2021 (online) due to Covid 19*.

“The Global Future of the Gypsy Lore Society: A View from the Americas.” Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Roma Studies, Prague, Czech Republic, 2020, *postponed until 2021 (online) due to Covid 19*.

“Gypsies and Roma in American Studies: Scholarly Absence, Fictive Presence and Historical Disappearance.” Japan Association of American Studies Conference, Sapporo, Japan, 2020, *cancelled due to Covid 19*.

Panel Organizer for “Expanding Epistemologies in Romani Studies” with Paper Presentation on “What Can Romani Studies Learn from Native American Studies?” Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Roma Studies, Reykjavik, Iceland, 2019.

“Ambivalent Egyptians: Gypsies, Race and the Law in the Mid-Nineteenth Century United States.” Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Roma Studies, Bucharest, Romania, 2018.

- "A Bohémien Community in Colonial Louisiana." Louisiana Historical Association Annual Conference, Hidden Histories of Louisiana: New Orleans at 300, 2018.
- "A Bohémien Community in Colonial Louisiana." Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Roma Studies, Stockholm, Sweden, 2016.
- "What a Pity We Have Lost the Romance of the Gypsy Camp': Using Gypsies to Build a Nation." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference, New Orleans, 2015.
- "Gypsies and Roma: Perceptions and Realities in Nineteenth Century American History." Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Roma Studies, Istanbul, Turkey, 2012.
- "Dancing in the Middle Ground: Dance and Music Education in Early Nineteenth-Century New Orleans." Midwest World History Association, Chicago, 2010.
- "Integration or Exclusion: The Use of Dialect Lyrics and Early American Cultural History." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference, St. Louis, 2010, Presenter and Chair.
- "The Invention of Ethnic Music Genres along the Lower Mississippi." American Society for Ethnohistory, New Orleans, 2009.
- "The Spanish Never Made Us Dance the Fandango': Americanizing the Other and Ethnicizing the Nation along the Lower Mississippi." Louisiana Historical Association, Lafayette, Louisiana, 2008.
- "The Musical Culture of the Riverboat Men." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference, Boston, 2007.
- "The Sounds of Little Egypt: The Musical Culture of Cairo, Illinois, during the Mid-Nineteenth Century." The Music of the Ohio River Valley Symposium, 2006.
- "Where Song Is, There 'Tis Good to Dwell; For Wicked, Songs No Joy Foretell': The Importance of Music in the Education of Milwaukee's Youth." Society for the History of Children and Youth, Milwaukee, 2005.

Professional Activities

- Chair, "Between Cultural Appropriation and Ethnic Shifting" Conference, Institute of Ethnology at the Czech Academy of Sciences and the Prague Center for Romani Histories at Charles University, 2026.
- Workshop Participant, Romani History Seminar, hosted by the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, 2025.
- Conference Co-Organizer, "Racializing Romani People in the Nineteenth Century," Prague Forum for Romani Histories at the Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, 2024.
- Symposium Co-Organizer, "The Past, Present, and Future of Chicano/a Studies: An Inland Northwest Summit," William L. Davis, S.J. Lecture, Gonzaga University, 2024.
- Panel Commentator, Phi Alpha Theta, National History Honor Society, Pacific Northwest Regional Conference, 2011–2014, 2017–2018, 2024, 2026.
- Roundtable Discussant, French Research Center in Humanities and Social Sciences, "The Politicization of Xenophobia," Prague, 2023.
- Paper Discussant, Romani History Seminar, hosted by the Prague Forum for Romani Histories at the Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, 2023.

Participant, Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, Second Book Writers' Workshop (SHEAR 2BWW), 2021.

Panelist and Workshop Facilitator, Pacific Northwest American Studies American Studies Association Conference, "Creating Institutional Space for Native American and Indigenous Studies," Walla Walla, 2016.

Professional Service

International Advisory Board, Prague Center for Romani Histories, Charles University, 2025–present.
<https://www.romanihistories.org>

Organizing Committee, Romani Memory Map in the Americas, United Nations Human Rights Office (OHCHR), 2023–present. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/minorities/advancing-roma-inclusion>

Associate Member, The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIAC), 2022–present.

Advisory Board, *Journal of Gender, Ethnic, and Cross-Cultural Studies*, 2020–present.
<https://epublications.marquette.edu/jgecp/editorialboard.html>

Editorial Board, *Frühezeit-Info* (Early Modern Info), 2019–present. <https://iefn.univie.ac.at/redaktion/>

Advisory Board, Institut für die Erforschung der Frühen Neuzeit (Research Institute for Early Modern Studies), 2019–present. <https://iefn.univie.ac.at/ueber-uns/>

Steering Committee, Prague Forum for Romani History at the Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, 2023–2025. <http://www.romanihistories.usd.cas.cz/steering-committee/>

Awards and Honors

Michigan State University Libraries Visiting Scholar, 2026.

Glenn R. Conrad Award for the best article in Louisiana history, Louisiana Historical Association, 2021.

Fulbright U.S. Scholars Program, Study of the United States (Teaching in Social Sciences and Humanities), Japan, 2019/2020.