

## **SHAWN A. FISHER**

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### **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy in History, 2013  
*University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee*

M.Ed. in Secondary Education and History, 2006  
*Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas*

Bachelor of Arts, Social Science, 1997  
*Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas*

### **DISSERTATION**

*The Battle of Little Rock.* Focus on the state and federal mobilization of white, Southern soldiers – active duty paratroopers and National Guardsmen – who were ordered to defend black activists in the South during the period of 1955 to 1965, with an emphasis on the military operation in support of the integration of Little Rock Central High in 1957.

### **CURRENT TEACHING POSITION**

Faculty, Associate Professor, Harding University, 2010 to Present

- Teach a four-course load of survey and upper level history classes.
  - US Military History, Arkansas History, and Development of the Modern US.
  - American History Survey I and II, Western Civilization II.
- Visiting faculty, Harding University Florence, Spring 2017.
- Faculty organizer, American Experience Tour. Summer 2016, 2018.
- Faculty advisor, Harding University Veterans Association.
- Faculty advisor, Harding University ROTC.
- Teach historical principles, projects, concepts, research techniques and sources, and methodology.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Arkansas History Commission. Appointed by Governor Asa Hutchinson, 2020-2027.
- Chairman, Arkansas World War I Centennial Commemoration Committee. Appointed by Governor Asa Hutchinson, 2016-2018.
- James L. Foster and Billy W. Beason Award for Best Dissertation in Arkansas history, from the Arkansas Historical Association, 2013.
- Best Prospectus Award for “An Epitaph for Dixie: Southern Soldiers, Southern Manhood, and the Little Rock Central High Crisis.” University of Memphis Endowment Committee, 2010.
- Ruth and Harry Woodbury Fellowship in Southern History, University of Memphis, 2008.
- Major L. Wilson Graduate Paper Prize, University of Memphis, 2008. Phi Alpha Theta, National History Honor Society, 2006.

### **ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**

- Contracted for a book on the CIA’s Secret War in Laos, Helion Publishing, UK. Forthcoming.
- Contracted for a three-book series on elite special forces unit MACV-SOG, Military Assistance Command, Studies and Observation Group, Helion Publishing, UK. Forthcoming.

- “Arkansas and the Great War: Southern Soldiers win a National Victory.” In *War at Home*, University of Arkansas Press, 2020.
- *The Battle of Little Rock*. University of Arkansas Press, forthcoming.
- “Operation Arkansas,” review in *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 73, No. 4, Winter 2014.
- “Masculinity and the Uniformed Southerner: The Arkansas National Guard and the Little Rock Crisis.” In *Black and White in the American South, 1800-2000*, edited by Lydia Plath and Sergio Lussanna, 112-133. Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2009.
- “The National Guard” and “The Battle of Sadr City,” in the *Encyclopedia of Modern Middle East Wars: A Social, Political, and Military History*, ABC-CLIO, 2011.

### PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

- "The First Twenty-Five: An Oral History of the Desegregation of Little Rock's Public Junior High Schools." Moderator, book and panel discussion of Dr. Bell-Tolliver's book at Bullock Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in coordination with Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, February 2018.
- “Central Veterans.” Panel host and moderator at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, November 10-11, 2017.
- “Arkansas and the Great War: Southern Soldiers fight for a National Victory.” WWI in Arkansas: The Home Fires Burning seminar at the Old State House, Fall 2017.
- “Arkansas Women in Twentieth Century Southern History.” Moderator, Annual meeting of the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers, 2015.
- “The Battle of Little Rock: the Cold War and the US Army at Little Rock Central High.” Annual meeting of the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers, 2013.
- “The Battle of Little Rock.” Keynote speaker at the Forty-First Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Political Science Association, 2014.
- Phi Alpha Theta Regional conference, 2013.
- “The Cold War, Civil Rights, and the Arkansas National Guard.” Annual meeting of the Tennessee Conference of Historians, 2010.
- “Entitled to its Protection: Abraham Lincoln, James Wolfe Ripley, and Body Armor during the American Civil War,” a presentation given to the Arkansas Civil War Roundtable, Fall 2010.
- “Helmets in the Halls: The Arkansas National Guard at Little Rock Central High,” 76th annual conference of the Society for Military History, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, 2009.
- “The Cold War, the Second Reconstruction, and the Arkansas National Guard at Little Rock Central High,” War and American Identity Conference, Clinton Institute of American Studies, University College Dublin, Ireland, 2009.
- “Masculinity and the Uniformed Southerner: The Arkansas National Guard and the Little Rock Crisis,” Masculinity in the American South Postgraduate Symposium, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, 2008.

### GRANTS

- University of Memphis Endowment Committee Travel Grant, Spring 2011
- Russell F. Weigley Travel Grant, Society for Military History, Spring 2009
- University of Memphis Endowment Committee Travel Grant, Spring 2009
- University of Memphis Department of History Travel Grant, Summer 2008

### **HIGHER EDUCATION WORK HISTORY**

- Faculty, Arkansas State University-Heber Springs, 2009-2010
  - Taught a six course load of history and education classes.
  - Directed student placement for 30-hour classroom observations.
- Teaching Assistant, University of Memphis, 2007-2009
  - Independently taught both American history survey courses.
- Adjunct Instructor, Arkansas State University-Heber Springs and Beebe, 2007-2009
  - Taught two history classes per semester in addition to a full teaching assistantship and full graduate course load at the University of Memphis.
- Adjunct Instructor, Arkansas State University-Searcy, Workforce Education, 2007-2009
  - Taught Microsoft Word and Excel to adult learners.
- Adjunct Instructor, Harding University, 2007-2009
- Adjunct Instructor, Arkansas State Technical Institute, 2001-2002

### **OTHER WORK HISTORY**

- Instructor, Upward Bound, Harding University, 2000-2008
  - Taught classes and tutored “at-risk” students in a college-bound government-funded program which provided a bridge between high school and the first semester of college.
- English Instructor, Little Rock School District, 2007
  - Taught seventh graders in an urban, predominantly minority school.
- User Education and Technical Writer, Acxiom Corporation, 2006
  - In cooperation with computer programmers, created training documentation and presented highly technical proprietary training to corporate employees.
- English Instructor/Yearbook Sponsor, Central School District, Judsonia, Arkansas, 2004-2006
  - Taught all content areas to students from middle to high school age in a self-contained classroom.
  - Taught ninth grade English and sponsored the 2005 yearbook.
- Lieutenant, Training Officer, Harding University Department of Public Safety, 2001-2004
  - Created, taught, and managed a 180-hour training program for public safety officers on the state’s largest residential campus. Nationally certified trainer in a number of areas.
- History Instructor, Bradford School District, Bradford, Arkansas, 1997-2001
  - Taught history for two years at high school level and two years at middle school level.
  - Created an after-school history club which meet weekly and brought in politicians and area leaders as speakers.

### **TRAVEL AND LIFE EXPERIENCES**

- Education Director, Cloverdale Church of Christ, 2008-Present
  - Planned curriculum, organized staffing and teaching, and managed education budget for a church of approximately 600.
- Judge, Tennessee History Day, 2008-2009
  - Judged regional and state level history competition.
- President, Bradford Education Association, Bradford, Arkansas, 2000-2001
- Personnel Policy Committee, Bradford School District, 1999-2001
  - Chair, Personnel Policy Committee, 2001
- Resident Assistant, Harding University Florence, Italy, 1996
- Family Counselor, Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect, 1994
- Infantryman, 39th Infantry Brigade, Arkansas Army National Guard, 1989-1992
  - Counter-drug operations, Arkansas National Guard

- Jungle Operations Training Center, Fort Sherman, Panama.
- Joint Task Force Bravo, Soto Cano Air Force Base, Honduras.

### **NON-ACADEMIC PROJECTS, PAPERS, AND PUBLICATIONS**

- Christian-Vortisch, Hans, and Shawn A. Fisher. *High-Tech*. 2007. Co-author of a 240-page hardback, full-color illustrated book detailing technology from the 1700s to today.
- Fisher, Shawn. *Bearing Up*. White County Central School District, 2006. A collection of true stories written by 9th grade English students, this book was featured in state newspaper and TV coverage. The book was published through Lulu.com, a print-on-demand publisher.
- “Searcy and White County in the Great Depression” A 30-page paper submitted to the White County Historical Society and published on the society’s website. March 2004.
- Fisher, Shawn. *Dogfaces*. 2003. A 128-page history of the U.S. experience in WWII, including a comprehensive review of major events, personalities, and the home front. Details the selection, training, equipment, and composition of Army Ground Forces.
- Fisher, Shawn. *Hand of Steel*. 2002. A 32-page history of special operations in WWII. This booklet covers the special operations units of the major combatants, including Army Rangers, British Commandos and LRDG, and German Brandenburgers and SS-Jagdverbände.

### **NON-ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS**

- “Study Skills and Test Taking Strategies,” a workshop for at-risk high school students at Harding University’s Upward Bound Program. February, 2007.
- “Chalk for the Smartboard,” a one-day instructional technology workshop for the Wilbur D. Mills Educational Cooperative on the Smartboard interactive presenter and affiliated content. August, 2006.
- “Interactive Media in the Classroom,” a one-day instructional technology workshop for district teachers. This workshop explained the use of MovieMaker, PhotoStory, and web-based content to allow students to create “documentaries” in the classroom. White County Central School District. June, 2006.
- “Introduction to Computers,” a one-day workshop on computer basics for district teachers apprehensive about using computers. White County Central School District. July, 2005.
- “Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention,” a one-day workshop for female school teachers on personal safety and defensive techniques at White County Central School District. October, 2004.