

Jonathan Soucek

Department of History, Purdue University, 100 N. University St. West Lafayette, IN

Education

Purdue University, West Lafayette

PhD – History (May 2024)

- Dissertation: “Rainbows Through the Storm: Anti-Poverty Activism, Racial Rainbow Rhetoric, and the Impact of Multiracial Coalition Building on American Politics.”
- Committee Members: Cornelius Bynum (Chair), Nancy Gabin, Rebekah Klein-Pejšová, Jakobi Williams.

Minnesota State University, Mankato

MA - History (May 2019)

- Thesis: “*Highway 61 Revisited: A Grassroots History of the Poor People’s Campaign in the Mississippi Delta.*”
- Committee Members: Angela Jill Cooley, Matthew Loayza, Frederick Slocum

BS - Political Science and History (May 2017)

Publications

- “Why Was the Red in the Rainbow Faded? American Indians and Multiracial Coalitions in the 1960s and 1970s,” *American Indian Quarterly*, Accepted for Publication.
- “Obedience to the Law is Not Liberty: The Poor People’s Campaign and the Struggle for Civil Rights in Marks, Mississippi,” *The Journal of Mississippi History*, 84, no. 3 and 4 (Fall and Winter, 2022): 158-187.
- “Liberty Denied: The Nonpartisan League in Blue Earth County,” *The Blue Earth County Historian*, 23, no.4 (Fall 2017): 10-12.
- “Under Pressure: The Nonpartisan League in South Central Minnesota,” *Journal of Undergraduate Research at Minnesota State University Mankato*. 17 (2017), Article 4.

Presentations

- “Rainbows Through the Storm: Rainbows Through the Storm: Anti-Poverty Activism, Racial Rainbow Rhetoric, and the Impact of Multiracial Coalition Building in Minnesota on National Politics.” Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota. May 7, 2024.
- “‘It’s a Family Affair’: The Rainbow Club of the Twin Cities and Multicultural Liberalism in Postwar Minnesota.” Northern Great Plains History Conference, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. September 2023.
- “‘Sweet Home Chicago’: The Rainbow Coalition from Fred Hampton to Jesse Jackson.” Panel: Black Political and Economic Empowerment at the Local Level. Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Jacksonville, Florida, September 2023. (Panel Organizer).
- “Beyond Civil Rights: The 1968 Poor People’s Campaign and the Human Rights Revolution.” History Graduate Student Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette. March 2023.
- “Everybody’s Got a Right to Live’: Black Power Activists in the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign.” Panel: Beyond Nonviolence and Self-Defense: Civil Rights, Black Power, and the Fight for Economic Justice, Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Montgomery, Alabama. (Panel Organizer). September 2023.

- “Why is the Red in the Rainbow Faded? Native Americans and Multiracial Coalition Building in the Late 1960s and Early 1970s.” Northern Great Plains History Conference, North Dakota State University, Fargo. September 2023.
- “‘Shoot to Kill’: State Violence in the Making of the Illinois Black Panther Party.” Racial Violence: The American (His)Story, A Joint Meeting of the Global Institute for Research Education and Scholarship and the Greenwood African American Studies Center. Virtual. July 2021.
- “‘Standing at the Crossroads’: The Intellectual and Socioeconomic Origins of the Poor People’s Campaign in Memphis and the Mississippi Delta.” Panel: Evaluating the Poor People’s Campaign from a Grassroots Perspective. Southern Historical Association, Louisville, Kentucky. (Panel Organizer). November 2019.
- “The End of the U.S. – Dakota War and the Beginning of Emancipation: Rethinking the Freedom Narrative of the Civil War.” Intersections and Crossings: A Joint Meeting of the Western Canadian Studies Conference and the Northern Great Plains History Conference, Brandon MT. September 2019.
- “Obedience to the Law is Not Liberty: Social Capital and the Poor People’s Campaign in Marks, Mississippi.” History Graduate Student Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette Indiana. March 2019.
- “*Highway 61 Revisited: The Long Civil Rights Movement and Reevaluating the Poor People’s Campaign.*” Northern Great Plains History Conference, Minnesota State University, Mankato. September 2018.

Work Experience

- Limited Term Lecturer, History Department, Purdue University, West Lafayette (October 2024 – present).
- Adjunct Professor, History Department, Minnesota State University, Mankato (January 2022 – present).
- Graduate Assistant, History Department, Purdue University, West Lafayette (August 2019 – May 2024).
- Graduate Assistant, History Department, Minnesota State University, Mankato (August 2017 – May 2019).
- Blue Earth County Historical Society, Hubbard House Assistant (May 2017 – August 2022).

Courses Taught

Minnesota State University, Mankato

- HIST 190: United States to 1877
- HIST 191W: United States since 1877

Purdue University

- HIST 151: United States History to 1877
- HIST 152: United States History since 1877

Courses Assisted

Minnesota State University, Mankato

- HIST 170: Ancient World Civilization to 1500
- HIST 190: United States to 1877
- HIST 191: United States Since 1877

Purdue University

- HIST 152: United States Since 1877
- HIST 353: Sports in America
- HIST 371: Society, Culture, and Rock and Roll
- HIST 384: History of Aviation
- HIST 387: History of the Space Age

Guest Lectures

- “Circumventing the Two Party System: The History of Success. Third Parties and the Lessons they Provide for our Current Situation,” History on Tap, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. October 18, 2022.
- “The ‘Father and Protector of Whites’: Portrayals of Toussaint Louverture in the American Painite Press.” History on Tap, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. October 15, 2020.
- “The Civil Rights Movement,” Guest Lecture, HIST 152: U.S. Since 1877, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. November 5, 2020.
- “Jim Crow and the Stirrings of Reform” Guest Lecture, HIST 152: U.S. Since 1877, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. September 10, 2020.
- “Riding the Tiger: Vietnam and the Failures of Cold War Politics,” Guest Lecture, HIST 152: U.S. Since 1877, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. April 14, 2020.
- “The World the World War Built: Fighting for Democracy at Home and Abroad during World War II,” Guest Lecture, HIST 152: U.S. Since 1877, Purdue University, West Lafayette. April 7, 2020.
- “‘Cheerful Robots’: Consumerism, Conformity, and Anxiety in the Affluent Society,” Guest Lecture, HIST 191: U.S. since 1877, Minnesota State University, Mankato. April 4, 2019.
- “‘Love Me I’m Liberal!’ Why Cold War Liberalism Failed in 1968,” Guest Lecture, HIST 268: History of Law and Citizenship, Minnesota State University, Mankato. March 19, 2019.
- “A Hard Rain Fell: 1968 and the Crumbling of Cold War Liberalism,” Guest Lecture, HIST 191: U.S. since 1877, Minnesota State University, Mankato. November 7, 2018.
- “The Contagion of Liberty: The Expansion and Limitations of Freedom during the American Revolution,” Guest Lecture, HIST 190: U.S. to 1877, Minnesota State University, Mankato. October 11, 2018.
- “The Peculiar Institution: Slavery in the Antebellum South” Guest Lecture, HIST 190: U.S. to 1877, Minnesota State University, Mankato. April 5, 2018.
- “New Intellectual Currents in the 1840s: The Search for a Perfect World,” Guest Lecture, HIST 190: U.S. to 1877, Minnesota State University, Mankato. November 9, 2017.

Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

- Gale Family Legacy Fellowship, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota (2023-2024).
- Moody Research Grant, Lyndon B. Johnson Foundation, Austin, Texas (2023).
- Graduate Student Paper Award, Northern Great Plains History Conference, Fargo, North Dakota (2022).
- William E. Lass Award, Northern Great Plains History Conference, Fargo, North Dakota (2022).
- Harold D. Woodman Graduate Research Award, Department of History, Purdue University, West Lafayette (2022, 2023).

- Medgar and Myrlie Evers Research Fellowship Runner-Up, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute (2022).
- Miletus L. Flaningam Award, Department of History, Purdue University, West Lafayette (2021).
- Purdue PROMISE Award, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University, West Lafayette (Fall 2019; Fall 2022).
- Kessel Peace Institute Essay Contest Winner (2019).
- William E. Lass Student Research and Writing Award, Minnesota State University, Mankato (Spring 2018; Fall 2018; Spring 2019).
- David Taylor Scholarship, Department of History, Minnesota State University, Mankato (2017).
- Phi Alpha Theta National History Honors Society, Minnesota State University, Mankato (2017).

Professional Service

- Film Festival Committee, ASALH (2023 – present).
- Academic Programming Committee, ASALH (2023 – present).
- History Graduate Student Association Biannual Graduate Student Conference Coordinator, Purdue University, West Lafayette (Spring 2023).
- Officer for the Purdue History Graduate Student Association (HGSA) (Fall 2020 – Spring 2023).

Professional Memberships

- Association for the Study of African American Life and History.
- American Historical Association.

Public Engagement

- Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Committee, West Lafayette, Indiana (2021 - present).
- Designer of the History Department Display Case, Minnesota State University, Mankato (Fall 2018 - Spring 2019).
- Regional History Day Coordinator, South Central Minnesota (Spring 2018).
- Volunteer with the Blue Earth County Historical Society (2018 – present).
- Blue Earth Historical Society, *Farmer-Labor Rally, 1918*; Organizer (September 13, 2017) and *Old-Fashioned Independence Day*; Organizer (July 2, 2022).
- Crossroads Campus Ministry; Public Relations Coordinator, Spring 2016 – Spring 2017, President - Fall 2017).