

Ashton Gene Ellett

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History Department
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Education

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Ph.D. History (Degree Expected Spring 2017)

Doctoral Dissertation: **Recasting Conservatism: Georgia Republicans and the Transformation of Southern Politics since World War II**

Committee: James C. Cobb (chair), Charles S. Bullock III, Shane Hamilton, John Inscoe

M.A. History (Summer 2010)

Master's Thesis: **Organizing the Right: Service Clubs, Conservatism, and the Origins of the Two-Party South in Cobb County, Georgia, 1942-1968**

Committee: James C. Cobb (chair), John Inscoe, Bethany E. Moreton

Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri

B.A., *summa cum laude*, History and Political Science (Spring 2008)

Honors in History

Senior Thesis: **Service Clubs and the Development of the American Man in Post-World War II Suburbia**

Committee: Sam H. Goodfellow (chair), Richard L. Lael, Seulky McInneshin

Research Interests

Political and cultural history of the modern United States focusing on the development of partisan organizations with particular interest in the American South (esp. Georgia), the interplay politics and policymaking at the local, state, and federal levels, commercial-civic organizations, and the history of higher education. Secondary interests in civil rights and electoral law, business and corporate history, political biography, and U.S.-European relations with emphasis on Anglo-American affairs.

Publications

Commissioned Reports

The History of the Georgia Department of Transportation, 1916-2016 (Georgia Department of Transportation, 2016.) Co-written with Shane Hamilton and Stephen A. Durham.

Journal Articles

“Not Another Little Rock: Massive Resistance, Desegregation, and the Athens White Business Establishment, 1960-1961,” *Georgia Historical Quarterly* XCVI, No. 2 (Summer 2013): 176-216.

Book Reviews

Georgia Democrats, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Shaping of the New South by Tim S.R. Boyd, *Southern Studies*, forthcoming.

Jimmy Carter, the Politics of Family, and the Rise of the Religious Right by J. Brooks Flippen, *Bowtied and Fried: The Official Blog of the Southern Roundtable*, February 2013.

Looking South: Race, Gender, and the Transformation of Labor from Reconstruction to Globalization by Mary E. Frederickson, *Southern Studies*, Winter/Spring 2013.

Popular Pieces

“Democratic Party of Georgia,” *The New Georgia Encyclopedia* (forthcoming).

“Republican Party of Georgia,” *The New Georgia Encyclopedia* (forthcoming).

“Food, Power, and Politics: The Story of School Lunch,” *New Georgia Encyclopedia* at <http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/special-collections/food-power-and-politics-story-school-lunch>. Co-written with Jan Levinson Hebbard and Kaylynn L. Washnock. July 2015.

“The Story of School Lunch: Competitive Foods in the Cafeteria,” *Richard B. Russell Library Weblog* at <http://www.rbri.blogspot.com>. Co-written with Kaylynn L. Washnock, September 2014.

“The Story of School Lunch: Increased Participation in the 1950s,” *Richard B. Russell Library Weblog* at <http://www.rbri.blogspot.com>. Co-written with Kaylynn L. Washnock, September 2014.

“The Story of School Lunch: Congressional Food Fight,” *Richard B. Russell Library Weblog* at <http://www.rbri.blogspot.com>. Co-written with Kaylynn L. Washnock, September 2014.

“The Story of School Lunch: FDR and Surplus Commodities,” *Richard B. Russell Library Weblog* at <http://www.rbri.blogspot.com>. Co-written with Kaylynn L. Washnock, August 2014.

“The Story of School Lunch: Experimentation in the Progressive Era,” *Richard B. Russell Library Weblog* at <http://www.rbri.blogspot.com>. Co-written with Kaylynn L. Washnock, August 2014.

“The G.I. Bill of Rights,” *The American Yawp* at <http://www.americanyawp.com>, Joseph Locke and Ben Wrights, editors, Spring 2014.

“Lambert’s Café,” in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture: Recreation*, Hardy Jackson, editor (University of North Carolina Press, 2010).

Conference Presentations

“Paths to Power: Pavement Politics and the Life of Mr. Jim Gillis,” 2015 Meeting of the Georgia Association of Historians, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia, February 2015.

“No Child Will Go Home Hungry: Herman Talmadge and the Transformation of School Lunch, 1967-1972,” Scholars and Policymakers Symposium, Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies, Athens, Georgia, October 2014.

“Know Thy Audience: Georgia Republicans and the 1970 Gubernatorial Election,” 2014 Meeting of the Georgia Association of Historians, Athens, Georgia, February 2014.

“Conservatism in Flux: The Clash of Ideology and Practicality in Cobb County, Georgia: 1964-1965,” 2013 Meeting of the Georgia Association of Historians, St. Simons Island, Georgia, February 2013.

“Not Another Little Rock: The Athens White Business Establishment and the Fall of Massive Resistance in Georgia,” 2012 Annual Meeting of the Georgia Association of Historians, Macon, Georgia, February 2012.

“‘A Speedy Death from Want of Support’: The Cobb County Business Establishment and White Racial Extremism, 1960-61,” 2012 Atlanta Graduate Student Conference in U.S. History, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, February 2012.

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

“A Century of Pavement Politics: GDOT, Road Building, and the Creation of Modern Georgia, 1916-2016,” Symposium on Georgia’s Transportation History, Georgia Archives, Morrow, Georgia, forthcoming April 2016.

“Two Turbulent Decades: The Georgia State Highway Department during Depression and War,” GDOT Centennial Documentary Film, February 2016.

“Becoming ‘Mr. Jim’: James L. Gillis Sr. and Political Bossism in Talmadge Era Georgia,” Symposium on Georgia’s “Three Governors” Controversy, Augusta, Georgia, January 2016.

“The Republican Party of Georgia: The Changing Nature Conservatism in the Once-Solid South,” Young Democrats of UGA/Clarke County, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 2014.

“Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*, and Revolutionary Era Political Philosophy,” Reacting to the Past (HIST 4115 – Michael Winship), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 2014.

“Rethinking Jackie Robinson: Race, Class, and Major League Baseball,” U.S. History since 1865 (HIST 2112 – Shane Hamilton), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, March 2014.

“The Vernon Johns Story: Race and Class in the Jim Crow South,” American Lives (HIST 4050 – John Inscoe), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, March 2014.

“Erskine Caldwell’s *God’s Little Acre* and the Southern Gothic Literary Tradition,” U.S. History since 1865 (HIST 2112 – Shane Hamilton), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, February 2014.

“Slavery and Political Theory in Late Republican Rome,” Society and Culture of Ancient Rome (HIST 3312 – Susan Mattern), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, February 2014.

“Days of Hope: Liberalism at High Tide,” U.S. History since 1865 (HIST 2112 – Chris Huff), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, October 2012.

“A Choice, Not an Echo”: Barry Goldwater, Conservatism, and the Other Side of the Sixties,” U.S. History since 1865 (HIST 2112 – Tom Okie), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 2012.

“From Plains to the Presidency: The Many Faces of Jimmy Carter,” First Year Odyssey Seminar: The Need to Lead (FYOS 1001 – Professors Chris Morgan and Jill Rucker), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, September 2011.

“From *Brown* to Bootle: The Athens White Business Establishment and the Fall of Massive Resistance in Georgia,” Student Speaker Series, History Graduate Student Association, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, September 2011.

“Unfogging *The Fog of War*,” Movie Night Lecture, UGA War & Society Workshop, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 2011.

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record, History Department, University of Georgia

United States History since 1865, Summer 2015

Graduate Seminar for Teaching Assistants: An Introduction to University History, Fall 2014

United States History between the World Wars, 1914-1945, Fall 2013

Teaching Assistant, History Department, University of Georgia

United States History to 1877

United States History since 1865

Preceptor, History Department, University of Georgia

Reacting to the Past: A Role-Playing Pedagogy

Tutor, Westminster College Peer Tutoring Program, Westminster College

National College Reading and Learning Association Level 3 Certified Peer Tutor

Public History Experience

Exhibition Research and Curatorial Intern, Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies, University of Georgia

The Interstates: Roads to Modern Georgia (tentative title, forthcoming 2018)

On the Stump: What Does It Take to Get Elected in Georgia? (2016-2017)

Food, Power, and Politics: The Story of School Lunch (Displayed 2014-2015)

Intern Editor, National Churchill Memorial, Westminster College

The Memo, the official newsletter of the National Churchill Memorial, 2009

Research Experience

Research Assistant, History Department, University of Georgia, University of Georgia, 2012.

Freelance Researcher, Nonprofit organizations and political campaigns, 2010-present.

Proxy Research Associate, Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies and Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Georgia, 2009-present

Honors and Awards

Excellence in the Educational Use of Historical Records (with the Richard B. Russell Library Access and Outreach staff), Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council, 2016

Vincent J. Dooley Graduate Research Award for Modern American History, History Department, University of Georgia, 2015 and 2013.

Gregory Graduate Research Award, History Department, University of Georgia, 2012-2015.

Grants for Research in Congressional Collections, Association for Centers for the Study of Congress, 2014.

Jason Manthorne Memorial Award, History Department, University of Georgia, 2014.

Gregory Graduate Travel Award, History Department, University of Georgia, 2014.

Carl Vipperman Teaching Assistant Award, University of Georgia, 2013.

Excellence in Student Research (Graduate Level) Using Historical Records, Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board (GHRAB), 2012.

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Georgia, 2011.

Award Nominee, UGA Entrant, Conference of Southern Graduate Schools Best Master's Thesis, 2010.

McFarland Family Endowed Scholarship, Westminster College, 2007-2008.

Professional and University Service

Submissions Reviewer, *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, 2013-present

Undergraduate Curriculum Coordinator, History Department, 2013

Mentor, First Year Graduate Student Program, 2012-2014

Treasurer, History Graduate Student Association, 2012-2013

Coordinator, Film Series, University of Georgia War & Society Workshop, 2011-2012

Charter Member, University of Georgia History of Capitalism Workshop, 2010-present

Scholarly Associations

American Historical Association

American Political Science Association

Politics and History Section

Political Networks Section

State Politics and Policy Section

American Studies Association

American Association of State and Local History

Georgia Association of Historians

Georgia Historical Society

Organization of American Historians

Southern American Studies Association

Southern Historical Association

Southern Political Science Association

Honor Societies

Alpha Chi

Omicron Delta Kappa

Phi Alpha Theta

Pi Sigma Alpha

Sigma Tau Delta