

Robert B. Caldwell Jr.

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POSITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

The University at Buffalo
Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies, August 2022–Present
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Indigenous Studies, September 2023–Present
Buffalo, NY

Brown University
Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies, Spring 2022
Providence, RI

Hampshire College
Visiting Assistant Professor of Native American and Indigenous Studies, January 2021–May 2023
Amherst, MA

SOWELA Tech Community College
Assistant Professor of History and Geography August 2019–December 2021
Lake Charles, LA

The University of Texas at Arlington
Digitization Specialist, February 2019– June 2019
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, College of Liberal Arts, September 2018– January 2019
Instructor and Graduate Researcher, History Department, Fall 2016 – May 2018
Graduate Teaching Assistant, History Department, August 2011 – May 2016
Arlington, TX

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2018	History	University of Texas at Arlington
M.A. 2011	Heritage Resources	Northwestern State University of Louisiana
M.S. 2003	Labor Studies	University of Massachusetts Amherst
B.A. 2001	History and Anthropology	University of New Orleans

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

William S. Willis, Jr. Fellow, *The American Philosophical Society*, 2024–2025
Humanities Institute Fellow, *The University at Buffalo*, 2023–2024
New Faculty Fellow, *The University at Buffalo*, 2023–2024
Ethics and the Common Good Fellow, *Hampshire College*, 2022–2023
Race, Indigeneity, and Settler Colonialism in Global Perspective, *Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies*, 2021–2022
Katrin L. Lamon Fellowship, *School for Advanced Research*, 2020–2021
Jay and Deborah Last Fellowship, *American Antiquarian Society*, 2020–2021
Daythal L. Kendall Fellowship, *American Philosophical Society*, 2016
Patricia and John Klingstein Short-Term Fellowship, *New York Historical Society*, 2016
Smithsonian Native American Awards (Visiting Student), *Smithsonian Institution*, August 2016
Dean's Research Travel Award, *UT Arlington*, April 2016
Honorable Mention, Ford Doctoral Fellowship, *The National Academies*, 2016 and 2017
Jenkins Garrett Award, *UT Arlington*, March 2014
George Wolfskill Award for Outstanding Graduate Paper, *UT Arlington*, March 2013
Virginia Garrett Award in Cartographic History, *UT Arlington*, October 2012

Native American Student Scholarship, *UT Arlington*, September 2012
Ida V. Hall and George Kohfeldt Endowed Scholarship in Southwestern Studies, *UT Arlington*, 2011 and 2012
Graduate Student Award, Phi Alpha Theta, *Northwestern State University of Louisiana*, April 2011
Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, *Northwestern State University of Louisiana*, November 2010
Kyser Graduate Scholarship in Heritage Resources, *Northwestern State University of Louisiana*, April 2010
Graduate Dean's Fellowship, *University of New Orleans*, August 2005
Golden Key International Honor Society, *University of New Orleans*, May 2001

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Choctaw-Apache Foodways. Nacogdoches, TX: Stephen F. Austin State University Press, 2015.

Collaborative Scholarship

with Erin v. White, *The TexAss Reader: The Legion of Liberty vs. Slaveholders' Republic in Primary Documents*. Stephen F. Austin State University Press, 2025.

"Neither the One nor the Other," *Journal of American History Podcast* Episode 15 August 6, 2024.

with Thomas Parrie, eds. *Choctaw-Apache Voices*. Nacogdoches, TX: Stephen F. Austin State University Press, 2023.

The River Bottom, (Co-producer), directed/edited by Avery Lowery. Southern Foodways Alliance, 2016.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Tipis in Texas and along the Gulf of Mexico as depicted in Eighteenth-Century Spanish Maps." *The Gulf Coast Historical and Biographical Record* Vol. 60 (1) Summer 2024.

"Persistence on the Edge: The Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb," *Native South*. Vol. 19, 2020.

"Choctaw Frontier: Incursions and settlement in Northwest Louisiana and East Texas, 1760-1836," *North Louisiana History* Fall 2020.

Book Chapters

"Be-ing and Longing in the shadow of Jeffrey Amherst" in *Belonging in Higher Education: Perspectives and Lessons from Diverse Faculty*. Eds. Nicolas D. Harten, Terrell L. Strayhorn and Fred Bonner. Routledge 2024.

"Filé Man: Colson's Creole-Indigenous Continuity" *Louisiana Creole Peoplehood: Afro-Indigeneity and Community*. Eds. Rain Prud'homme-Cranford, Andrew Jolivet, and Darryl Barthé. University of Washington Press, 2021.

"Native Peoples Should Tell Their Own Stories" in Denise E. Bates, ed. *We will Always Be Here: Native Peoples on Living and Thriving in the South*. University Press of Florida, 2016.

Publications In Progress

Indians in their Proper Place: Social Sciences and the Mapping of Native America (Working Title) Under contract with the University of Nebraska Press.

Zwolle Tamales (Working Title). Under contract with Louisiana State University Press.

“Albert Gallatin and the Emergence of Ethnological Mapping in the United States” *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* (under revision).

with Jean-Luc Pierite and Isabella Uttley Rosado, “Indigenous Presence, History and Present: Land as Living Archive at Hampshire College” in Marla Miller and Alice Nash, ed. *Indigenous Histories in New England: Pastkeepers and Pastkeeping* (forthcoming).

Book Reviews and Encyclopedia

“Lewis and Clark Expedition” and “John Wesley Powell,” entries in *History of Cartography, Vol. 5: The Cartography in the Nineteenth Century*, ed. Roger J.P. Kain. University of Chicago Press, 2026. (anticipated)

with Delaney McNulty, *Talking Back: Native Women and the Making of the Early South* by Alejandra Dubcovsky (review). *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 48 (2) 2025.

“Filé” 64 *Parishes Encyclopedia*. March 3, 2025.

“Zwolle Tamales” 64 *Parishes Encyclopedia*. October 19, 2024.

“Choctaw-Apache Tribe of Ebarb” 64 *Parishes Encyclopedia*. September 6, 2024.

The Great Power of Small Nations: Indigenous Diplomacy in the Gulf South by Elisabeth N. Ellis (review) *American Historical Review* 129 (2), June 2024.

Earthworks Rising: Mound Building in Native Literature and Arts by Chadwick Allen (review). *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 47 (3) 2024.

City of Disposessions: Indigenous Peoples, African Americans, and the Creation of Modern Detroit by Kyle T. Mays (review). *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 47 (2) 2024.

Review of Cherny, Robert W, *Harry Bridges: Labor Radical, Labor Legend*. H-Net Reviews. July 2024.

Native Removal Writing: Narratives of Peoplehood, Politics, and Law by Sabine N. Meyer (review) *Great Plains Research* 34 (1) Spring 2024.

Caldwell on Cole, *Dockworker Power: Race and Activism in Durban and the San Francisco Bay Area* (review) H-Net Reviews, August 2023.

“De-colonizing North America” (Review essay analyzing Thomas King’s *The Inconvenient Indian* and Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz’s *Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States*) *Against the Current*. 172, Sept.-Oct. 2014.

Review of Nicola Pizzolato, *Challenging Global Capitalism: Labor Migration, Radical Struggle, and Urban Change in Detroit and Turin* (Book review) *Traversea: A Journal of Transatlantic History* Vol. 4, 2014.

“Making their own freedom.” Review of Marcus Rediker’s *The Amistad Rebellion: An Atlantic Odyssey of Slavery and Freedom*. (Book review) *Against the Current*. 168. Jan.-Feb. 2014.

“Mass Murder at Colfax, The Bloody Death of Reconstruction” (Book reviews of LeeAnna Keith, *The Colfax Massacre* and Charles Lane, *The Day Freedom Died*) *Against the Current*. 144, Jan-Feb. 2010.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (FULL LIST AVAILABLE AT WEBSITE)

Spaces of Overlapping Sovereignty: Communicative Violence, Kinship Diplomacy, and Ethnographic Mapping in the Gulf South Borderlands, American Society of Ethnohistory, San Antonio TX Oct 9-11, 2025

"Fabricating Indians; Fabricating Borders: Maps and Native North America" (invited lecture) Buffalo Humanities Festival, September 20, 2025.

"The art of collaboration in Indigenous history courses," 15th Storyteller's Conference, April 5, 2025.

Invited panelist, "Books, Bites and Dialogue: Belonging, Resilience, and Identity," moderated by Michele Turner, THRIVE Conference, Madison College, March 28, 2025.

"Mapping Indigenous presence and dispossession: 19th and 20th-century micro-geographies and anthropological regional maps of Native North America." American Philosophical Society. March 19, 2025.

"Ho Minti Society: An Indigenous Community Organization" (Poster panel), 5th Indigenous Studies Conference, Tulane University. March 15, 2025.

Invited panelist, The Future of History is Indigenous: A gathering for Indigenous faculty and graduate students of Indigenous history. Organized by Aroha Harris. Sponsored by Te Pouhere Kōrero and Jackman Humanities Institute. Woodland Cultural Centre, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, November 23, 2024.

"The Place of History in Contemporary Indigenous Cultural Resurgence..." (invited plenary roundtable organizer and moderator) 66th Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association, March 23, 2004.

Scholars@Hallwalls: Robert Caldwell, "Iconic American Indian Tipi in Spain's Second Age of 'Discovery,'" March 8, 2024.

"Louisiana Tribes, the Federal Recognition Problem, Climate Change, and Survivance" (invited presenter), Indigenous Peoples Conference, Center for Indigenous Peoples Education and Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology, Luzon Philippines, October 28, 2023.

"From Jacales to Tipis." The Indigenous Gulf: Second Annual Greater Gulf Symposium (invited), Lamar University Center for History and Culture, Beaumont TX April 4, 2023.

Doing the Work: Amplifying Marginalized Voices and Stories (invited roundtable panelist) 31st Annual Milton Plesur Graduate Conference, University at Buffalo (SUNY). March 11, 2023

"Natives on the Map" (invited lecture) Daemen University, November 16, 2022

With Joseph A.P. Wilson, "Choctaw-Apache Ethnogenesis and the Federal Recognition Problem." Beyond the Binary of Black and White: Native American Identity in the Deep South during the Late 19th and 20th Centuries, American Society for Ethnohistory, University of Kansas, Lawrence Kansas, September 10, 2022

"Indigenous Struggles and Decolonization: Theory and Practice." The University of Rojava, June 23, 2022

“Albert Gallatin, Philology, and the Emergence of Ethnological Mapping in the United States: Natural Sciences and Republican Ideals,” American Philosophical Society Indigenous Studies Seminar, May 13, 2022

Seeds and Soil (invited panelist), Gathering at the Crossroads: Five College Native American and Indigenous Studies Symposium, April 26, 2021.

Indigenous Voices, Being Native Today: Indigenous Identities in the Gulf South, New Orleans Center for the Gulf South Third Annual Indigenous Symposium, March 12, 2021.

“The Choctaw-Apache Community of Sabine Parish, Louisiana.” Creating Community and Identity in 18th Century Louisiana. New Orleans and the Mississippi Delta: Cultural Crossroads; Society for the History of Discoveries 60th Annual Meeting, November 2020.

Native Resilience and Nation-Building in the Twentieth Century: A Roundtable Discussion.” Southern Historical Association 83rd Annual Meeting, November 2017.

“Mapping Indian Country: Culture Areas, Linguistic Stocks, and the Genealogy of a Map” (Poster presentation). American Historical Association 131st Annual Meeting, January 2017.

“Metate and Log Mortar, Corn and other foods in the Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb, Louisiana” Southern Foodways Alliance Symposium, The University of Mississippi, September 2016.

“Choctaw Frontier: Westward migrations prior to Indian Removal.” United Choctaw Conference, October 2014.

Persistence on the Edge: The Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb. “Beyond the Bayuk: Louisiana’s Indigenous Diasporas and Transnational Traces.” Native American and Indigenous Studies Sixth Annual Meeting, May 2014.

Apaches in Louisiana? The Ebarb Community’s Lipan Connections. “Border Crossings and Boundaries: How the Apaches Defied Geographical and Cultural Borders.” The 118th Meeting of the Texas State Historical Association, March 2014.

Exploring Choctaw-Apache Territoriality. “Possessing Indigenous Places: American Indian Land, Law, and Identity in Louisiana.” American Historical Association 127th Annual Meeting, January 2013.

ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Secretary, HoMinti Society, a cultural heritage nonprofit. *Zwolle, Louisiana*. September 2013- Present

Board of Directors, Louisiana Historical Association, 2022-2025

Council Member, Society for the History of “Discoveries,” 2022-2024

Board Member, Texas Map Society 2022-2024

President, Native American Student Association, *University of Texas at Arlington*, May 2012 – May 2013

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Geographers

American Historical Association

American Society for Ethnohistory

American Studies Association

Louisiana Historical Association

North Louisiana Historical Association
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
Organization of American Historians
Fellow, *Royal Geographical Society*, Inducted September 2018.
Society for the History of Discoveries
Texas State Historical Association
World History Association

SEMINAR & WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE

New Faculty Academy on Scholarship, Writing, and Publishing University at Buffalo, Spring 2023
Material Maps in the Digital Age: NEH Summer Seminar at the Newberry Library, June and July 2019
Digital Native American and Indigenous Studies NEH Workshop at IUPUI, May 2017

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Secretary and Founding Member, Ho Minti Society 2014-Present
Humanities Institute Executive Committee, 2025-2028
Organizer, Afro-Indigeneity Guest Lecture Series, The University at Buffalo and Online, Fall 2025
American Philosophical Society's NASI Undergraduate Internship Selection Committee
Powwow Committee, Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb, 2011-2014; 2019-June 2021-Present
Founding member, Southeastern Indigenous Language Network (SILN)
Organizer, HoMini Society Culture Camp, 2023-Present
Coordinator, Kabucha Toli/ Stickball, Hampshire College, Fall 2021-Spring 2023
Panel Moderator, "Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women," Sixth Annual American Indian Heritage Day in Texas, 2018
Judge, National History Day at U.T. Arlington, 2012, 2013, 2014
Secretary and founding member, Ho Minti Society, 2014-Present
Powwow Committee, U.T. Arlington, 2012-2015
Council member, Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb, 2011-2014
Delegate, National Congress of American Indians, 2012-2014
Digitization of the Ebarb Community Collection for CGHRC and Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Editorial Advisory Committee, Contemporary Issues and Methods in Indigenous Studies, University of Alabama Press, 2022- Present
Peer Review reader for University of Nebraska Press, *Louisiana History*, *Journal of Texas History*, *Texas Gulf Historical and Biographical Record*, *OpenStax* and other publishers, 2022-Present
Member, Board of Directors of the Louisiana Historical Association 2022-2025
Council Member, Society for the History of "Discoveries," 2022-2024; 2025-2027
Program Committee, Organization of American Historians 2024 Meeting, 2022-2024
Conference Planning Committee, NAISA Regional Gathering, Spring 2022
Conference Planning Committee, New Orleans Center for the Gulf South Indigenous Studies Symposium, 2022
Planning Committee, Indians at the Center: Rethinking U.S. History and Geography, The University of Texas at Arlington, February 2017
Section Editor, *Traversea a journal of Transatlantic History*, 2013-2017
Conference Planning Committee, Transatlantic History Conference, 2014, 2016

Symposium Planning Committee, Frontier Odyssey: The Lives and Legacy of Cynthia and Quanah Parker, The University of Texas at Arlington, April 16-17, 2014

SERVICE TO COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY

Graduate Director, University at Buffalo Department of Indigenous Studies, 2023-Present
Academic Grievance Pool, College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Faculty, University at Buffalo, 2025-2026
Ph. D Excellence Oversight Committee, University at Buffalo, Fall 2025-Present
Individual Development Awards Committee, UUP, University at Buffalo, 2023-Fall 2025
Faculty Search Committee, University at Buffalo Department of Indigenous Studies, 2022-Present
Curriculum Planning Committee, University at Buffalo Department of Indigenous Studies, 2022-Present
Planning Committee, Indigenous Health Symposium (Joint project of the UB's Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and the Department of Indigenous Studies) 2024
NAIS Faculty Mentor, Hampshire College, 2023-2024
Faculty Search Committee, NAIS position, Thematic Area: Decolonization, Racial Justice and Liberation, Hampshire College, Spring 2023
Indigenous Student Mentor, University at Buffalo Fall 2022
Planning Committee, Schocket Lecture and Pre-Lecture Seminar, Hampshire College, 2022
Student Mentor, "We Make Community by Hand," a course by William MacAdams funded by NAIS/Mellon Grant, Spring 2021
Graduation Committee, SOWELA Technical Community College, Spring 2020
Student Success Mentor, SOWELA Technical Community College, Fall 2019-Fall 2020
Louisiana's Native Culture (invited speaker) Illumination Series, SOWELA Technical Community College, February 18, 2020
Moderator, Language, Learning and Technology panel, College of Liberal Arts Student Spotlight Forum, The University of Texas at Arlington, April 4, 2019
Co-Moderator, Intertribal Discussion: Belonging and Identity, Native American Student Association, The University of Texas at Arlington, September 10, 2018
(Under direction of Linguistics Professor Colleen Fitzgerald) Local Organizing Committee, CoLang 2014: Institute on Collaborative Language Research, a National Science Foundation supported conference, Arlington Texas.
Judge, ACES (Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students) Conference, University of Texas at Arlington, 2013-2016 (undergraduate poster presentations and graduate papers)
Graduate Student Senate, University of Texas at Arlington, 2013-2015
Delegate, World Social Forum, 2003, Porto Alegre Brazil

TRIBAL AFFILIATION: enrolled, Choctaw-Apache Tribe of Ebarb