

Call for Papers

12th Annual University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate History Conference

Putting History to Work

March 5-6, 2016
Amherst, Massachusetts

The Graduate History Association of the University of Massachusetts Amherst invites proposals for its annual interdisciplinary conference. This year's conference is entitled "Putting History to Work," and will take place on March 5-6, 2016.

The Graduate History Association is pleased to announce that the Graduate History Conference will be held in conjunction with a History Communicators workshop exploring effective history communication across disciplines, sponsored by the UMass Department of History. A public panel discussion with Jim Grossman, Executive Director of the American Historical Association, and other featured guests, will take place on Friday, March 4th. GHA conference presenters are invited to attend a networking dinner that evening with workshop participants, including academic professionals, journalists, science and technology writers, bloggers, fiction and non-fiction authors, and more.

This conference invites submissions that investigate how we make history work for diverse communities. The theme of the conference, Putting History to Work, is meant to be a playful, ambiguous approach to a wide variety of questions confronting historians in today's globalized society. Some questions that might elaborate on this theme, but which will not limit the scope of presentations: How do we make history work for social justice, for social movements? How do historians help social movements draw on histories of their antecedents? How does history work for public policy? What work does history do outside of the academy? Alternately, what is the history of work? How have histories of work changed? This conference is open to submissions from research in any historical period or geographic location. There will be cash prizes given to the best papers.

We welcome submissions from graduate students of History, African-American Studies, English, Comparative Literature, Medieval Studies, Anthropology, Political Science, Journalism and other disciplines relevant to competing approaches to history and today's society. The following are just a few examples of possible presentation fields and subjects, although we will gladly receive others:

- Communication
- Public History
- Oral History
- African Diaspora
- Gender and Sexuality
- Popular Culture
- Social Movements
- (Im)migration
- Labor History
- Science and Technology

Graduate students interested in participating in this conference should submit a one-page paper proposal, resume or CV, and a brief two to three sentence biography (.doc, .docx or .pdf format) for consideration by January 15, 2016. Accepted submissions will be required to provide a full version of the presentation paper by February 15, 2016 so that the papers may be judged for the conference prize(s). In your proposal please include a paper title, abstract, and very brief statement indicating your discipline and areas of geographic, chronological, and thematic focus, as well as any presentation A/V needs. We also welcome proposed panels, which should include a brief description of the panel along with individual paper proposals.

Please e-mail materials to ghapage@history.umass.edu & cscruggs@history.umass.edu. Accepted applicants will be notified by February 1.