
RAYMOND M. HYSER III

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in History, University of Texas at Austin. June 2026
- History of Science, Technology, and Medicine; Environmental History
 - Dissertation: “Caribbean Ceylon: Coffee Landscapes, Knowledge Networks, and Environmental Transformation in the 19th-Century Global Tropics”
 - Dissertation Committee: Sumit Guha, Bruce Hunt, Stuart McCook, Megan Raby, and Justin Roberts
- M.A. in Social Sciences, The University of Chicago. June 2017
- Thesis: “Fatal Resistance: The Last Days of King Coffee and the Rise of Ceylon Tea”
 - Thesis director: Fredrik Albritton Jonsson
- B.A. in History & Art History, University of Virginia. May 2016
- Distinguished Majors Program in History
 - Thesis: “Mapping Conflict: An Investigation of Land Attitudes and Causations of the New Zealand Wars”
 - Thesis director: Erik Linstrum

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Postdoctoral Fellow, Program in British, Irish and Empire Studies, June 2026–Present
University of Texas at Austin.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- “Uneven Grounds: Quality and Place in mid-19th Century Colonial Ceylon’s Native and Plantation Coffee,” *Agricultural History* 99, no. 4. Nov 2025

Book Chapters

- “Forests and Fungus: The Formation of and Collapse of Coffee Landscapes in British Ceylon,” in *Raw Capital: (Un)Natural Histories of Business and the Environment*, edited by Gregory A. Hargreaves, Timothy J. LeCain, and Nicole Welk-Joerger (In Press), University of Pennsylvania Press. Fall 2026

Book Reviews

- Dagomar Degroot, *The Frigid Golden Age: Climate Change, the Little Ice Age, and the Dutch Republic, 1560-1720* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), *Not Even Past*. Feb 2021
- Lynn Hollen Lees, *Planting Empire, Cultivating Subjects: British Malaya, 1786-1941* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017) on [H-Net Reviews](#). June 2020

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

British, Irish and Empire Studies Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	March 2024
Outstanding Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	February 2024
Graduate Student Research Grant, Agricultural History Society.	December 2023
Gale-NACBS Digital Scholar Lab Fellowship, North American Conference on British Studies.	July 2023
Airfare Grant, American Institute for Sri Lanka Studies.	April 2023
Julius S. Scott III Short-Term Fellowship in Atlantic and Caribbean History, William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan (Declined).	March 2023
Graduate Student Assembly Travel Award, University of Texas at Austin.	March 2023
College of Liberal Arts Summer Writing Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	March 2023
British, Irish and Empire Studies Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	March 2023
Bernadotte E. Schmitt Grant, American Historical Association.	April 2022
History Department Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	April 2022
CAORC Multi-Country Research Fellowship (Alternate), Council of American Overseas Research Centers.	March 2022
Dissertation Planning Grant, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies.	Feb 2022
British, Irish and Empire Studies Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.	Dec 2021
Association of American Universities Ph.D. Career Pathways Fellowship University of Texas at Austin.	Sept 2020–May 2021
Churchill Scholarship, University of Texas at Austin.	Jan 2020–May 2020
Social Sciences Scholarship, The University of Chicago.	Sept 2016–June 2017
Travel and Research Grant, University of Virginia.	July 2015

ACADEMIC HONORS & AWARDS

Professional Development Award, University of Texas at Austin.	April 2026
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Professional Development Award, University of Texas at Austin.	June 2025
Professional Development Award, University of Texas at Austin.	May 2024
Professional Development Award, University of Texas at Austin.	April 2023
Professional Development Award, University of Texas at Austin.	June 2022
Charles Perry Graduate Student Paper Award for “Caribbean Ceylon: West Indies Planters and the Transformation of Coffee Cultivation in 19 th Century British Ceylon,” Southern Conference on British Studies.	Dec 2020
Bernard Chamberlain Memorial Prize in History for Best Undergraduate World History Thesis, University of Virginia.	May 2016

DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Positions

Team Lead, <i>JapanLab/Epoch History Games Initiative</i> , UT Austin.	Oct 2025–Present
Senior Student Associate-Project Design and Management for <i>AVAnnotate</i> , The Humanities Institute, UT Austin.	Aug 2025–Present
Fellow, The Community Symposium on the Theory and Practice of Digitization, University of Texas at Austin Libraries.	Aug 2023–Nov 2023
Project Associate for <i>World History Commons</i> , Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University.	May 2022–Aug 2022
Project Assistant for <i>‘Rocking the Status Quo’: Racial Justice Struggles in Austin</i> , Directed by Dr. Laurie Green.	Sept 2021–Dec 2021
Project Associate for <i>World History Commons</i> , Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University.	May 2021–Aug 2021
Steering Committee Member and Developer, <i>Beyond 2020: Living History</i> , UT Austin.	Aug 2020–Present
Digital Humanities Developer, funded through AAU Ph.D. Career Pathways Fellowship, <i>Not Even Past</i> , UT Austin.	Aug 2020–May 2021
Project Associate for <i>World History Commons</i> , Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University.	May 2020–Aug 2020

Publications

“Theory & Practice of Digitization Community Symposium: Projects	Jan 2024
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- and Reflections,” *TexLibris*, <https://texlibris.lib.utexas.edu/2024/01/theory-practice-of-digitization-community-symposium-projects-reflections/>.
- “Building Your Academic Presence Online in Three Steps,” *Not Even Past*, Oct 2021
<https://notevenpast.org/building-your-academic-presence-online-in-three-steps/>.
- “Texas Hurricanes: Past, Present, and Future,” *Not Even Past*, Jan 2021
<https://notevenpast.org/texas-hurricanes-past-present-and-future/>.
- “Getty McGuire’s Botanical Basics,” *Not Even Past*, Dec 2020
<https://notevenpast.org/primary-source-getty-mcguires-botanical-basics/>.
- “IHS Climate in Context: Analyzing Trees as Historical Evidence,” *Not Even Past*, Dec 2020
<https://notevenpast.org/ihs-climate-in-context-analyzing-trees-as-historical-evidence/>.
- “IHS Climate in Context: New Scholarship on Climate, Plague, and the Medieval World,” *Not Even Past*. Nov 2020
<https://notevenpast.org/ihs-climate-in-context-writings-on-climate-plague-and-the-medieval-world/>.
- “IHS Climate in Context: Exploring Scholarship on the Little Ice Age,” *Not Even Past*, Sept 2020
<https://notevenpast.org/ihs-climate-in-context-exploring-scholarship-on-the-little-ice-age/>.
- “Long Teaching Module: Women and Empire,” *World History Commons*, July 2020
<https://worldhistorycommons.org/long-teaching-module-women-and-empire>.
- “Primer: Commodities,” with Dr. Adam Clulow, *World History Commons*, July 2020
<https://worldhistorycommons.org/primer-commodities>.
- Digital Humanities Certificates**
Project Management Strategy and Design Certificate, The Humanities Institute, UT Austin. Dec 2025
- SELECTED CONFERENCES, PRESENTED PAPERS AND WORKSHOPS**
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- “Tropical Migrations: The Afterlife of Ceylon Coffee in Colonial Australia,” Agricultural History Society, Atlanta, GA. June 2026
- “Global Tropics in Motion: The Environmental Reimagining of Eastern Australia Through Coffee,” Britain and the World Conference, Boston, MA. Apr 2026
- “Uneven Grounds: Quality and Place in Nineteenth-Century Colonial Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” Earth and Environmental Sciences Forum, History of Science Society, virtual. Apr 2026
- “Of Rats and Men: Exploring Ceylon’s Coffee Plantations Through a Multi-Species Lens,” American Society of Environmental History, Kansas City, MO. Mar 2026

- “Quest for Quinine,” Digital Humanities and Heritage Futures: Case Studies from UT Austin, Antiquities Action 7th Annual Symposium, UT Austin. Mar 2026
- “A Tale of Two Plantations: Tracing Brazilian Influence in British Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” North American Conference on British Studies, Montreal, QC. Nov 2025
- “Tasting Place: The Landscapes of Native and Plantation Coffee in British Ceylon, History Department Visiting Committee Presentation, UT Austin. Nov 2025
- “Downpours and Development: How Monsoonal Rains Shaped Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” Agricultural History Society, St. Paul, MN. June 2025
- “Grounds for Concern: Creating Disorder Through Order in Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” American Society of Environmental History, Pittsburgh, PA. Apr 2025
- “Transforming Research with Tropy,” Institute for Historical Studies, UT Austin. Mar 2025
- “‘Incessant Rains and Strong Winds’: Floundering and Innovation in Ceylon’s Watery Coffee Culture,” Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History, Dallas, Texas. Mar 2025
- “Laborie’s Legacy: Tracing the Development of Agricultural Knowledge in British Ceylon’s Coffee Culture With Text Mining,” North American Conference on British Studies, Denver, CO. Nov 2024
- “Caffeinated Landscapes: Exploring Coffee Cropsapes and Environmental Knowledge In 19th-Century British Ceylon Through Text Mining,” Britain and the World Conference, University of Winchester, UK. June 2024
- “From Beans to Landscapes: Unraveling European Perceptions of the Tropics through Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” American Society of Environmental History, Denver, CO. Apr 2024
- “NACBS-Gale Fellowship Roundtable: Advancing Decolonization and Diaspora Research using Digital Humanities Methodologies,” North America Conference on British Studies, Baltimore, MD. Nov 2023
- “Cultivating Perceptions: Tropicality and Environmental Knowledge in Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” New Research on Sri Lankan History Seminar, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies History. Oct 2023
- “What’s a Forest to a Jungle?: Tropical Forestry in British Ceylon’s Coffee Culture,” History of Science, Technology, the Environment, and Medicine Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin. Oct 2023

- “The Trans-Imperial Roots of Ceylon’s Coffee Cropscape” (Co-Organizer),
Agricultural History Society, University of Tennessee. June 2023
- “Planting Coffee, Growing Fungus: Imperial Knowledge, Plantation Landscapes,
and the Onset of Coffee Leaf Rust in Colonial Ceylon,” American Society of
Environmental History, Boston, MA. Mar 2023
- Writing in Place Symposium, Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, &
the Environment of the South, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS. Feb 2023
- “‘An enemy, most insignificant in appearance’: *Hemileia vastatrix* and the
Ecological Upheaval of Coffee to Tea Cultivation in British Ceylon,”
North American Conference on British Studies, Chicago, IL. Nov 2022
- “‘Cultivated on the West India System’: The Formation of Coffee Landscapes
in British Ceylon,” Building Ecosystems/Selling Natures: At the Edge
of Environments and Economies Conference, Hagley Museum and Library. Oct 2022
- “Writing Agricultural History in Place Roundtable,” Agricultural History Society,
Stavanger, Norway. Aug 2022
- “Workshop: Teaching World History in Survey Courses using Open Education
Resources” (Organizer), World History Association, University of the
Basque Country (UPV/EHU). June 2022
- “Recreating the Caribbean in South Asia: Coffee Cultivation and West Indies
Planters in 19th Century British Ceylon,” Agricultural History Society,
Remote due to Covid-19. June 2021
- “Transplanting the West Indies: Coffee Cultivation, West Indies Planters, and
the Environment of British Ceylon,” World History Association of Texas,
Remote due to Covid-19. March 2021
- “Caribbean Ceylon: West Indies Planters and the Transformation of Coffee
Cultivation in 19th Century British Ceylon,” Southern Conference on
British Studies, Remote due to Covid-19. Nov 2020
- “‘Brought into tith by axe and fire’: Planters, Botanical Gardens, and the
Ecological Transformation of British Ceylon,” History and Philosophy
of Science Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin. Feb 2020
- “Fatal Resistance: The Last Days of King Coffee and the Rise of Ceylon Tea,”
Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies, University of Maryland. April 2018
- “The Secret of Aquatint: An Investigation into the Career of Francis Jukes,”
Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, Bridgewater College. March 2016

“3D in 2D: Alexander Calder and Herbert Matter,” MADRush Undergraduate Research Conference, James Madison University.	March 2016
“Casting Light Onto Darkness: Britain’s Motives for the Exploration of East Africa,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of Undergraduate Scholarship, Randolph College.	Oct 2015
“ <i>Metis</i> vs. <i>Andreia</i> : Generalship in the Peloponnesian War,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of Undergraduate Scholarship, Sweet Briar College.	Oct 2014
“The Othismos: Hoplite Warfare in Classical Greece,” MADRush Undergraduate Research Conference, James Madison University.	Feb 2014
“The Formation of the Jewish State from 1917-1947,” Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, James Madison University.	March 2014
“The Role of the Military in Early American History,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of Undergraduate Scholarship, Sweet Briar College.	Oct 2013
“The Islamic Conquests on Marseille’s Mediterranean Trade,” MADRush Undergraduate Research Conference, James Madison University.	Feb 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, HIS 315K The United States, 1492-1865 History, undergraduate, lower division.	Summer 2025
Teaching Assistant, HIS 315K The United States, 1492-1865 History, undergraduate, lower division.	Summer 2025
Instructor of Record, HIS 340R European Empires in Asia History and Asian Studies, undergraduate, upper division.	Spring 2024
Teaching Assistant, HIS 301J Globalization: A Modern History History, undergraduate, lower division.	Fall 2023
Teaching Assistant, HIS 315K The United States, 1492-1865 History, undergraduate, lower division.	Spring 2022
Teaching Assistant, HIS 329U Perspectives on Science and Math History, undergraduate, upper division.	Fall 2021
Teaching Assistant, HIS 315K The United States, 1492-1865 History, undergraduate, lower division.	Summer 2021
Teaching Assistant, HIS 315K The United States, 1492-1865	Summer 2021

History, undergraduate, lower division.

Teaching Assistant, HIS 322M History of Modern Science
History, undergraduate, upper division. Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant, HIS 329U Perspectives on Science and Math
History, undergraduate, upper division. Fall 2020

Teaching Certificates

Inclusive Classrooms Leadership Certificate Seminar for Excellence in Teaching
Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, UT Austin. Spring 2022

Advanced Teaching Preparation Certificate, Faculty Innovation Center,
UT Austin. Spring 2021

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

Outreach and Careers Development Coordinator, Department of History,
University of Texas at Austin. Mar 2023–Aug 2024

Editing Assistant for Dr. Sumit Guha's *Ecologies of Empire in
South Asia, 1400-1900*, University of Texas at Austin. Feb 2021–Mar 2021

Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Jonathan Levy,
The University of Chicago. Oct 2016–June 2017

Intern, Office of the Historian of the U.S. House of Representatives. May 2015–July 2015

SERVICE

Committee Member, Search Committee for Professor or Associate
Professor of History—British Empire, University of Texas at Austin. Sept 2024–Jan 2025

Fifth-Year Cohort Representative, History Graduate Student Council,
University of Texas at Austin. Aug 2023–Aug 2024

History Representative, College of Liberal Arts Graduate Student
Advisory Council, University of Texas at Austin. Nov 2022–Aug 2025

Fourth-Year Cohort Representative, History Graduate Student Council,
University of Texas at Austin. Aug 2022–Aug 2023

Co-Founder and Co-Organizer of the Material History Workshop,
University of Texas at Austin. Aug 2020–Present

Co-President of History Graduate Student Council, University of Texas
at Austin. June 2020–June 2022

History Department Representative, Graduate Student Assembly,
University of Texas at Austin.

Oct 2019–May 2020

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

World History Association	2022–Present
North American Conference on British Studies	2022–Present
History of Science Society	2022–Present
American Society of Environmental History	2021–Present
Agricultural History Society	2020–Present
American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies	2020–Present
Southern Conference on British Studies	2020–Present
Phi Alpha Theta	2016–Present

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

English	Native Speaker
German	Reading Proficiency
Spanish	Elementary Proficiency
Dutch	Elementary Proficiency