

# Jordan O. Alexander

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## Education

### Ph.D. in Public History, Concentration: Oral History

August 8, 2020

Middle Tennessee State University

*Dissertation title:* “Subtle Revolutionist: The Life and Political Career of Senator Edward W. Brooke”

*Committee:* Michael Davis, Louis M. Kyriakoudes (chair), Brenden Martin, Carroll Van West

### M.A. in American History

May 14, 2016

Liberty University

### B.S. in History, Minor: English

May 10, 2014

Liberty University

## Research Interests:

My research in Black History focuses on the life and political career of Senator Edward W. Brooke, the first, popularly elected, African American senator since Reconstruction. He served in the U.S. Senate from 1967 to 1979. My research specifically assesses Brooke’s co-sponsorship of the 1968 Fair Housing Act and his protection of civil rights during his two terms in the Senate.

## Teaching Experience

Lecturer, Middle Tennessee State University

August 2021 – Present

- Teach undergraduate History classes residentially and online
- Mentor students

Adjunct Professor, Middle Tennessee State University

August 2020 – May 2021

- Taught undergraduate History classes residentially and online
- Hosted optional Zoom meetings

## Conference Presentations

The Slave Dwelling Project Conference, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

October 2018

- Participated in a panel discussion about the augmented interpretation of the slave dwelling

Old Salem Museum and Gardens, Hidden Town in 3D, Winston–Salem, North Carolina

May 2018

- Participated in a group presentation on slavery’s complexities in a nineteenth century Moravian town

Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Conference, Orlando, Florida

January 2016

- Presented a research paper on A.M.E. Bishop Henry M. Turner

## Honors and Awards

Bart McCash Memorial Scholarship

March 2018

Nels Andrew Cleven Founder’s Paper Prize, Superior Graduate Paper

September 2016

Graduate Research Symposium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Poster Presentation

March 2016

## Presentations

Guest Lecturer, Summer Education Institute, Franklin, Tennessee

May 30, 2024

- Presented on “Black Reconstruction: Its Victories, Challenges and Limitations; The Political Career of Bishop Henry M. Turner as a Case Study of Reconstruction”

Guest Lecturer, Middle Tennessee State University, Teaching Historical Thinking

October 3, 2023

- Discussed ways to teach slavery accurately and fairly within primary and secondary education

Guest Speaker, Southside Elementary School, Lebanon, Tennessee

May 8, 2023

- Presented on “What Does a Historian Do?”

- Presented on the Roots of Tennessee's Musical Traditions

### Current Book Project

Alexander, Jordan O'Neal. *Civil Righter: The Life and Political Career of Senator Edward W. Brooke* (University of Massachusetts Press) (Manuscript under peer review)

### Works in Progress

Alexander, Jordan O'Neal. "The Life and Political Career of Connecticut State Treasurer Gerald A. Lamb." *Connecticut History Review* (Journal article under external review)

### Publications

Alexander, Jordan O'Neal (Winter 2024). "Attorney General Edward W. Brooke, the Politics of Gradualism and Immediacy, and the Struggle for Civil Rights." *Journal of African American History* Vol. 109 (Iss. 1), 53–75. <https://doi.org/10.1086/726855>

Alexander, Jordan (2021). "Striving for Civil Rights: Senator Edward W. Brooke, President Richard Nixon's 'Southern Strategy' and the Supreme Court." *Journal of Supreme Court History* Vol. 46 (Iss. 2), 206–228. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jsch.12274>

Alexander, Jordan O'Neal (2020). "Subtle Revolutionist: The Life and Political Career of Senator Edward W. Brooke." <https://jewlscholar.mtsu.edu/handle/mtsu/6270>

Alexander, Jordan., other authors. (2018). "Coalmont Library Heritage Development Report."

Alexander, Jordan., other authors. (2018). *The British Empire: A Historical Encyclopedia*. 2 Vols.

Alexander, Jordan O. (2016). "Trailblazer: The Legacy of Bishop Henry M. Turner during the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Jim Crowism." Masters Theses 414. <http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/masters/414>

Alexander, Jordan. (2016). Blog. "Charleston: Crossroads of Colonial America." <https://charlestoncrossroadofcolonialamerica.wordpress.com>

Alexander, Jordan. (2015). Blog. "Jamestown Settlement and Fort: English Destiny in a New World." <https://wtpohw16.wordpress.com>

Alexander, Jordan O. (2015). "Trailblazer: The Legacy of Bishop Henry M. Turner During the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Jim Crowism." *Bound Away: The Liberty Journal of History* Vol. 1 (Iss. 1), 1–11. <http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/ljh/vol1/iss1/5>

Alexander, Jordan. (2014). Blog. "The Campaign Memorabilia of Senator Edward W. Brooke." <https://tcmosedwbrooke1966.wordpress.com>

Alexander, Jordan O. (2014). "African–American Chaplains Who Served in the Civil War." Research Booklet.

### Department Service

MTSU, History Department, General Education Committee (Voluntary)

August 2025 – Present

- Discuss and vote on proposed general education classes

### Professional Service

Phi Alpha Theta, Virtual Arkansas and Tennessee Regional Conference  
Discussant/Judge – "Panel 3: Race, Gender, Sexuality and Politics"

April 26, 2025

- Evaluated undergraduate and graduate students' research papers
- Provided constructive feedback for students

Tennessee History Day, State Contest, Judge

April 5, 2025

- Evaluated middle school students' documentaries
- Provided constructive feedback for students

Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Atlanta, Georgia  
Archives and Audiovisual Aide Intern

August 2019 – December 2019

- Ensured proper care and maintenance of all documents handled
- Created and prepared descriptive information on textual and/or audiovisual material
- Prepared textual and/or audiovisual material for preservation work, including re-folding, re-sleeving and re-boxing
- Digitized black and white negative photos

Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center, Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
Archivist in Residence

January 2019 – May 2019

- Cataloged objects to create a digital inventory with PastPerfect collections management software
- Conducted oral histories with alumni of Bradley Academy
- Inventoried and photographed artifacts in the museum

### University Service

MTSU, Middle Tennessee History Day Regional Contest, Judge

February 2018 – Present

- Evaluate middle and high school students' history exhibits, research papers and documentaries
- Provide constructive feedback for students

MTSU, Faculty Learning Community, "Integrative Themed Surveys"

April 26, 2023

- Proposed and redesigned general education survey course, Survey of African American History II (Reconstruction to the Present)
- Proposed and designed new general education survey course, Black Politics through Artistic Expression (Spring 2025)

MTSU, Public History Program, Graduate Student Assistant

January 2020 – August 2020

- Researched the impact of COVID-19 in Rutherford County, Tennessee, for a digital history project
- Created a database to help expand the program's outreach among potential graduate students
- Served as a liaison between the Public History Program Director and program applicants
- Assisted professor with grading undergraduate students' assignments and History exams
- Helped revise Public History program newsletter

MTSU, Oral History Association, Graduate Student Assistant

January 2018 – December 2018

- Created a regional database to help expand OHA partnerships in the Southeast
- Updated program template for the 2018 Annual OHA Conference
- Scheduled meetings for various committees at the 2018 Annual OHA conference
- Worked in conference registration
- Provided assistance and directions to conference attendees as well as escorting committees to meeting rooms

MTSU, Africana Studies Program, Graduate Student Assistant

August 2017 – December 2017

- Advised director on new courses to implement in the program
- Helped revise the undergraduate program
- Interacted with juniors and seniors to increase understanding of the graduate school process

Liberty University, Graduate Student Assistant, Lynchburg, Virginia

August 2014 – May 2016

- Assisted professors in grading undergraduate students' assignments, tests, and projects
- Taught upper division American and world history classes in place of primary professors
- Proctored History exams for residential undergraduate students
- Conducted quiz and exam review sessions for undergraduate students
- Taught undergraduate History classes online

### Grants

President's Commission on the Status of Women, Curriculum Integration Grant, \$1,350

June 2022