

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**THOMAS F. JACKSON**

University of North Carolina Greensboro  
Associate Professor, Department of History  
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## **EDUCATION**

<b>Ph.D., U.S. History, Stanford University, Stanford, CA</b>	1994
Thesis Committee: Clayborne Carson, Director; Barton J. Bernstein, David M. Kennedy	
<b>M.A., U.S. History, Stanford University, Stanford, CA</b>	1987
<b>B.A., Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.</b>	1981

## **MAJOR PUBLICATIONS**

*From Civil Rights to Human Rights: Martin Luther King Jr., and the Struggle for Economic Justice* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006). Winner of the Organization of American Historians' Liberty Legacy Foundation award for the year's best book on any aspect of the civil rights struggle since the nation's founding. <http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14280.html>

"Review of 'From Cambodia to Carolina: Tracing the Journeys of New Southerners.'" Levine Museum of the New South. *Journal of American History*, 94 (1), 221-224.

"The Civil Rights Movement," in *Poverty in the United States: An Encyclopedia of History, Politics, and Policy*, eds. Gwendolyn Mink and Alice O'Connor (Santa Barbara, Ca.: ABC-CLIO, 2004), v. 1, pp. 182-188.

"The Kerner Commission," in *Poverty in the United States: An Encyclopedia of History, Politics, and Policy*, eds. Gwendolyn Mink and Alice O'Connor (Santa Barbara, Ca.: ABC-CLIO, 2004), v. 1, pp. 423-424.

"The State, the Movement and the Urban Poor: The War on Poverty and Political Mobilization in the 1960s," in Michael B. Katz, ed., *The "Underclass" Debate: Views from History* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1993).

*A Guide to Research on Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Modern Black Freedom Struggle* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Libraries, 1989).

## **ACADEMIC AWARDS AND VISITING FELLOWSHIPS**

Liberty Legacy Foundation Award Recipient for *From Civil Rights to Human Rights*,  
Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting  
Fellow, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, University of Virginia

April, 2007  
Spring, 2008

Fellow, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, University of Virginia	Fall, 2003
Center Fellow, International Center for Advanced Studies, Project on Cities and Urban Knowledges, New York University	1999-2000
Visiting Scholar, Russell Sage Foundation	1998-99
Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania	1997-98
NEH Summer Seminar, "The Roots and Legacies of the 1960s," Tucson, Arizona	1996
Fellow, Joint Training Program on Urban Poverty Issues, Northwestern University	1993-94
Social Science Research Council Urban Underclass Dissertation Fellowship	1991-92
University Fellowship, Stanford University Department of History	1983-85, 1986-88

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

***Jobs and Freedom: The Black Revolt of 1963 and the Contested Meanings of the March on Washington.*** (Book-length manuscript in progress). Audiovisual presentation April 11, 2008, Miller Center, UVA: <http://millercenter.org/scripps/digitalarchive/colloquiaDetail/3922>

How was it that a March originally imagined as a mass protest by unemployed workers for higher wages and public sector jobs became transformed into a mass rally in support of John Kennedy's civil rights bill, at least in the minds of most citizens? Why did original plans for militant civil disobedience at the Capitol turn into a one-day March to the Lincoln Memorial? In the context of widely covered mass protest in over 100 cities, and widespread official and media predictions of violence in Washington, DC, the Kennedy administration, mainstream media outlets, and moderate elements of the civil rights coalition reigned in the March's tactics. Far-reaching demands for public works, increased and extended minimum wages, and a new federal Fair Employment Practices Commission, were widely but not entirely overlooked in press coverage. In the face of a clear campaign by the Kennedy administration to sell the March has an international advertisement for American democracy, many in the black freedom movement and interracial left struggled to assert that the March -- and the local mass mobilizations it celebrated and supported -- were the beginning and not the culmination of a revolution in economic as well as racial relations.

**"Human Rights in a Civil Rights Struggle: Septima P. Clark and the Expanding Vision of Citizenship Education,"** under revision for resubmission the *Journal of Southern History*.

With 40 years experience teaching poor and working class African Americans, in 1956 Septima Clark of the Highlander Folk School developed a model of citizenship and literacy education on Johns Island, South Carolina, that had radical implications for the civil rights movement. Citizenship educators increasingly concerned themselves with substantive social and economic rights, as well as with concrete community benefits they expected would follow a full share of political power. Clark represents a key transitional figure in black women's activism, from early 20<sup>th</sup> century church and club-based welfare work, to the self-empowering, rights conscious activism of the late 1960s, organized around issues of community welfare, equal welfare-state entitlements and economic justice.

**"American Gandhi:" Martin Luther King , Jr., the Freedom Movement and American Political Culture (Article in progress; potentially a book years hence).**

An examination of the discursive power and limitations of political celebrity, "American Gandhi" asks: To what degree did King and the advisers who shaped his "public image" successfully frame issues of racism and economic injustice in their attempts to mobilize his base and appeal to larger constituencies in terms of consensus values? How did various media institutions and journalists in turn frame King's message in accordance with their own settled routines and definitions of "civil

rights" and justice? What did King mean to ordinary people, who consumed these often contradictory messages on their own terms?

***"A Burning House": Urban Knowledge, Public Discourse and the 1960s Ghetto Revolts***

(Research begun in September 2003. First article to be written on the assumptions and recommendations of the Kerner Commission).

Between 1963 and 1968, nearly 200 U.S. cities experienced violent confrontations between residents of poor African American neighborhoods and the official forces of public order. This is a synthetic study of how politicians, riot commissions, social scientists, journalists, civil rights leaders, and ghetto residents themselves experienced and explained this tragic wave of violence. Questions of causation, context, responsibility and 'who rioted' were all sharply contested at the time. Whose voices were most loudly amplified through the nation's channels of communication in this period? Whose urban 'knowledge' gained authority in a nation sharply divided into publics along lines of race, class, gender, political ideology and education?

## **PAPERS AND INVITED LECTURES**

"Jobs and Freedom: The Black Revolt of 1963 and the Contested Meanings of the March on Washington." Invited lecture, GAGE Colloquium, Miller Center for Public Affairs, April 11, 2008.

<http://millercenter.org/scripps/digitalarchive/colloquiaDetail/3922>

"Bread of Freedom: Religious Consciousness and Economic Justice in the Civil Rights Movement."

Invited presentation at Stetson University's Annual Howard Thurman Lecture, Daytona, Florida, November 13, 2007.

Commentator, "Urban Politics and the War on Poverty," Grassroots Struggles in the War on Poverty, Miller Center for Public Affairs, UVA, November 9, 2007. Webcast, presentation begins at minute #

55: <http://millercenter.org/scripps/digitalarchive/conferenceDetail/87>

**"Martin Luther King and the Other America,"** Invited presentation at Aurora Forum at Stanford University: Martin Luther King and Economic Justice: The Fortieth Anniversary Commemoration of Dr. King's , Palo Alto, California address on racism and poverty, April 24, 2007. Webcast and transcript:

<http://auroraforum.org/events.php?id=45>

"Human Rights in a Civil Rights Struggle: Septima P. Clark and the Expanding Vision of Citizenship Education," Paper presented to the Southern Historians of the Piedmont, University of North Carolina Greensboro, March 2005.

"Fires in the 'Dark Ghetto': The Riot Commissions, the Grass Roots and African American Political Thought, 1964-1968." Paper presented to the University of Virginia, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Lecture Series, and Carter Woodson Institute Visiting Scholars Talks, October and November 2003.

"Human Rights in a Civil Rights Struggle: Septima P. Clark and the Expanding Vision of Citizenship Education," Paper presented to the Citadel Conference on Civil Rights in South Carolina, March 2003.

Commentator, "Expanding the Civil Rights Agenda: The War on Poverty in the Deep South," November 6, 2003. Southern Historical Association, Baltimore Maryland, November 2002.

Invited Discussant, "The Great Society: Then and Now," Miller Center for Public Affairs, University of Virginia, November 2000.

"Power to Poor People: The Poor People's March and the Rights Consciousness of the 1960s," Paper presented to the New York University International Center for Advanced Study, November 1999.

"Keys to the Dark Ghetto: The Urban Crisis and the Ideology of the Nonviolent Freedom Movement, 1965-68," Paper presented to the Annual Meeting, Organization of American Historians, April 1999; Columbia University Urban Studies Forum, February 1999; Russell Sage Foundation Weekly Seminars, May 1999.

Commentator, "Participation and 'The Poor': Community Organizing and the US Welfare State in the 1960s," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago Illinois, November 1998.

"Framing the Dream: The National Press and the Invisible Radicalism of Martin Luther King," Paper presented to the University of Pennsylvania Department of History, Works in Progress Series, November 18, 1997.

"The Antipoverty Vision of the 1960s Black Freedom Movement." Paper presented to the Social Science Research Council Conference, "New Perspectives on the Urban Underclass," Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 1994.

Seminar, "Race and Poverty in the Great Society," Joint Graduate Training Program on Urban Poverty Issues, Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, Northwestern University, November, December, 1993.

"Social Policy and Poor People's Mobilization in the 1960s." Paper presented to the Center for the Study of Urban Inequality, University of Chicago, January 1994.

"The First Battle of the Third Reconstruction: African-American Leadership, Ideological Conflict, and Poverty, 1963-1968." Paper presented to the Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington, DC, December 1992.

## TEACHING

### **Assistant Professor of History, University of North Carolina Greensboro, 2000-Present:**

HIS 724: Graduate Colloquium: "The Long Civil Rights Movement."

HIS 332: Civil Rights and Black Freedom, 1940-1980 (Research Intensive and Writing Intensive: Circulated as the year's best proposal by the College Curriculum and Teaching Committee)

HIS 702: Graduate Colloquium in U.S. History, 1865-2000 (Spring 2005-Spring 2007)

HIS 703: Graduate Research Seminar in U.S. History

HIS 709: Graduate Research Seminar: "Public Culture in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America"

HIS 511: Research Seminar: "Mass Politics and Mass Media in the United States, 1932-2000"

HIS 524: Colloquium: "Politics, Popular Movements, and Political Culture, 1890-Today"

HIS 524: Colloquium: "Civil Rights: Social Struggle, Politics and Policies, 1940-1980"

HIS 524: Colloquium: "Poverty and the Welfare State in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America"

RCO 208: "The World House": Multicultural America, 1890-1945

RCO 209: "The World House": Multicultural America, 1945-Present"

HIS 212: "The U.S. Since 1865"

HIS 340: "The U.S. Since World War II" (Research Intensive and Writing Intensive, Speaking Intensive)

**Assistant Professor of History, Smith College, 1994-97:**

"Contemporary America: World War II to the Present"

"Colloquium: Women's Roles, Women's Activism in the U.S., 1890-1990"

"Research Seminar: American Social Movements in the Twentieth Century"

"The Development of Modern America, 1890s-Present"

"Colloquium: Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Cities, 1880-1995"

"Introduction to the History of the United States, 1877-Present"

**Instructor, Stanford University, 1991**

"Colloquium: Race and Poverty in the Great Society: Politics and Social Thought in the 1960s"

**RESEARCH, EDITING AND CONSULTING**

Consulting editor, *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., v. 5* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005)

Blackside, Inc., "The African American Religious Experience," Scholarly advisor. 1997

Blackside, Inc., "America's War on Poverty," Scholarly advisor. 1993-95

Martin Luther King, Jr., Papers Project, Stanford University: Researcher, bibliographer. 1985-87

**SERVICE**

Teaching Mentor to Benjamin Filene, UNCG History Department 2006-2008

Scholarship Mentor to Jeffrey Jones, UNCG History Department 2006-2007

University of North Carolina Greensboro African American Studies Program Committee 2000-07

Chair, University of North Carolina Greensboro History Department Programs Committee, Appointed September 2005

Chair, University of North Carolina Greensboro History Department Policies Committee, elected, August 2005.

University of North Carolina Greensboro Pre-Law Advisory Committee, appointed, August 2005.

University of North Carolina Greensboro Phone-a-thons for prospective students interested in the History major, Admissions Office, Spring, 2001, 2004, 2005.

University of North Carolina Greensboro Graduate Recruitment Subcommittee 2003

University of North Carolina Greensboro University Undergraduate Research Committee 2001-03

University of North Carolina Greensboro Undergraduate Studies Committee 2001-03

Undergraduate History Prize Committees, Smith College. 1994-97

Stanford Workshops on Political and Social Issues, Graduate Director. 1988--90

Stanford Humanities Seminar, Stanford University, Project Coordinator:

"Race and Ethnicity in the American Experience," a course development project in History

With Alberto Camarillo and George M Fredrickson.  
Research Assistant to David M. Kennedy, *Freedom from Fear*

1988  
1987