

William E. Hardy, PhD

Assistant Professor of History / Lincoln Scholar



Biography

William E. Hardy is Assistant Professor of History and Lincoln Scholar in the History Department, Paul V. Hamilton School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Lincoln Memorial University. He earned both his B.A. and M.A. in American History at the University of Louisville with a minor field in Latin America and his Ph.D. in 19th Century American History at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He also earned his Masters of Education in Initial Teacher Licensure, Secondary Education at Lincoln Memorial University and is currently licensed to teach Social Studies (6-12) in Tennessee. Previously, Hardy served as an Academic Coordinator and Project Manager at the East Tennessee Historical Society on three, one-million dollar Teaching American History Grants awarded by the United States Department of Education and is a frequent presenter at teacher professional development workshops throughout East Tennessee.

Teaching and Research Interests

Hardy's teaching and research interests include American history, with primary areas of interests in the American Civil War and Reconstruction eras, the life and times of Abraham Lincoln, Gilded Age, Military, Southern, and Tennessee History, nineteenth century political and legal culture writ large (in both its local and its national manifestations), diplomatic relations between the United States and Latin America, urbanization and industrialization, and the history of sport in the United States. He also teaches the University's mission specific General Education Core Curriculum courses (LNCN 100 / CIVX 300).

Representative Publications and Presentations

Publications

“‘A Perfect Mania’: The Origins of ‘Base Ball’ in Knoxville, Tennessee.” *Journal of East Tennessee History* 94 (2022): 58-87 (winner of the East Tennessee Historical Society's 2023 McClung Award for best article in the current volume of the *Journal of East Tennessee History*).

Reconstruction and the Civil War's Legacy, Editor, vol. 10 in *Tennessee in the Civil War Series: Best of Tennessee Historical Quarterly* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 2015).

“Beneath the Gilding: Knoxville's Million Dollar Fire of 1897.” *Journal of East Tennessee History* 85 (2013): 24-47.

“The Margins of William Brownlow's Words: New Perspectives on the End of Radical Reconstruction in Tennessee.” *Journal of East Tennessee History* 84 (2012): 78-86.

“Varieties of Hierarchies and Class in Sub-Saharan Africa” in *World History Encyclopedia, Era 5: Intensified Hemispheric Interactions 1000-1500*. Ed. Alfred J. Andrea. (Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO, 2011), 119-20.

“South of the Border: Ulysses S. Grant and the French Intervention,” *Civil War History* 54 (March 2008): 63-86.

“Advice from Monticello: The East Tennessee College Lottery Scheme and the Origins of Thomas Jefferson’s Academical Village,” *Journal of East Tennessee History* 80 (2008): 28-46.

“Reconstructing Andrew Johnson: The Influence of Laissez-Faire Constitutionalism on President Johnson’s Restoration Policy,” *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* 65 (Spring 2006): 71-92.

“The Toils and Opportunities of War: A Michigan Chaplain in Civil War East Tennessee,” *Journal of East Tennessee History* 77 (2005): 76-93.

“‘I Must Go Through However’: Ulysses S. Grant, the Swing around the Circle, and Presidential Ambition,” *Southern Historian* 26 (2005): 55-74.

Presentations

“Tennessee’s Great Sphinx: Governor DeWitt Clinton Senter of McMinn County, Tennessee.” C. Scott and Muriel Mayfield Foundation Heritage School Lecture Series, McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, Athens, Tennessee, July 15, 2023.

“Uninvited Guests: The State of Franklin, Shays’s Rebellion, and the Constitution” & “Connecting Tennessee’s Founding to the Nation’s Founding.” (Lead presenter) “Tennessee During the Nation’s Founding.” Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Summer Teacher Institute (Knox County Schools Social Studies Teachers, 6-12), East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville, Tennessee (site visits/presentations at Blount Mansion & Marble Springs State Historic Site, Knoxville, Tennessee & Tipton-Haynes Historic Site, Johnson City, Tennessee), June 7-9, 2023.

“‘A Perfect Mania’: The Origins of ‘Base Ball’ in Knoxville, Tennessee.” Brown Bag Lecture Series, East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville, Tennessee, May 10, 2023.

“Origins of Base Ball in Knoxville, Tennessee.” Annual Meeting of the Membership, Historic Ramsey House, Knoxville, Tennessee, July 9, 2022.

“Some Key Points of Tennessee’s 1834 & 1870.” Tennessee Humanities Teacher Workshop, East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville, Tennessee, June 28, 2022.

“‘Under Rebel rule once more’: The Constitutional Convention of 1870 and the end of Tennessee’s Reconstruction.” The Historic Homes of Knoxville Statehood Lecture Series, Mabry-Hazen House, Knoxville, Tennessee, February 23, 2021.

“Secession and Emancipation in Civil War Tennessee.” Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Teacher Workshop, East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville, Tennessee, April 6, 2019.

“Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson: The Winning Ticket of 1864.” Andrew Johnson National Historic Site Sesquicentennial Program, Behan Arena, Tusculum College, Greeneville, Tennessee, November 18, 2014.

“Steven Spielberg, Historian? Emancipating Lincoln” (with a screening of Steven Spielberg’s *Lincoln*). *Of Sword and Pen: Pivotal Moments in Civil War East Tennessee* Exhibit Lecture Series, East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville, Tennessee, August 11, 2013.

“‘Fare well to all Radicals’: The Downfall of William Brownlow’s Radical Regime.” Brown Bag Lecture Series, East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville, Tennessee, April 10, 2013.

“‘Becoming the Great Emancipator: Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation in Context and Memory.’” Brown Bag Lecture Series, East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville, Tennessee, August 22, 2012.

“‘That’s the last speech he will ever make’: The Assassination of President Lincoln” (with a screening of Robert Redford’s *The Conspirator*). *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War* Exhibit Lecture Series, East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville, Tennessee, January 8, 2012.

“‘I’m Afraid the Town is Gone’: Knoxville’s Million Dollar Fire.” Knox Heritage Lunch & Learn Lecture Series, Market Square Room, Knoxville, Tennessee, February 24, 2011.

“‘The Old Hickory of this Age’: Andrew Johnson, the Last Jacksonian.” President Andrew Johnson Bicentennial Celebration, Greeneville, Tennessee, November 15, 2008.

LMU and other Professional Service

LMU

Executive Director of the Lincoln Center for the Study of Leadership and Public Policy

Co-directs General Education Core Curriculum courses (LNCN 100-Lincoln’s Life and Legacy / CIVX 300-American Civics)

Student Awards Committee (2022-present)

Undergraduate Student Success Committee (2022-present)

Professional Service

East Tennessee Historical Society Education and Interpretation Committee (2022-present)

Gilder Lehrman Tennessee Teacher of the Year Selection Committee (2021-present)

Book Review Editor, *Journal of East Tennessee History*, Vols. 81-86 (2009-2014)