

William E. Hardy, PhD

Assistant Professor of History / Lincoln Scholar



Biography

William E. Hardy is an 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) and has developed an Honors Lincoln course (LNCN 110).

Representative Publications and Presentations

Publications (last five years)

“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*)

Presentations (last five years)

“A. Lincoln Confronts Slavery, Race, and Reconstruction.” Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Summer Teacher Institute, East Tennessee History Center, May 30, 2024

“Crash Course – Lincoln's Life and Legacy: 10 Things You Should Know About Abraham Lincoln.” CHASE Camp, Lincoln Memorial University, May 29, 2024

“Early East Tennesseans Who Shaped American Democracy” Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Summer Teacher Institute, East Tennessee History Center, May 9, 2024

“Lincoln’s Dilemma: Slavery, Morality, and Politics” (joint presentation with Dr. Michael Toomey). Abraham Lincoln Center for Leadership and Public Policy, Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum, April 19, 2024

“Lincoln’s Example of Leadership.” Lincoln Memorial University, November 8, 2023

“Redefining the Purpose of the American Civil War: Abraham Lincoln as Moral Leader.” Kinkaid Lecture Series, Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum, September 22, 2023

“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

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 (last five years)

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)