

Kathryn D. Lankford, Ph.D.

She/her • kathryn.lankford@asu.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Arizona State University **January 2024 – Present**
School of Applied Sciences and Arts, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts Mesa, Arizona
- Assistant Teaching Professor of Applied Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies

Michigan State University **January - August 2022**
Lyman Briggs College East Lansing, Michigan
- Assistant Professor—Fixed Term

University of Michigan **February 2019 - July 2021**
Newnan Academic Advising, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Pre-Health and Academic Advisor

Michigan State University **August 2013 - December 2018**
Department of History, College of Social Science East Lansing, Michigan
- Graduate Teaching Assistant

EDUCATION

Michigan State University **December 2021**
Ph.D. History East Lansing, Michigan
- Dissertation: “More Than a Way Station: Ground-Level Experiences in the Field Trials of Oral Contraceptives and IUDs in Puerto Rico, 1956-1966”

University of West Georgia **April 2013**
B.S. Biology, *cum laude* Carrollton, Georgia

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Medicine & Science	Science, Technology, & Society (STS)
Women’s & Gender Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies
United States	Social & Cultural History
Latin America & the Caribbean	Humanities & Social Sciences in STEM

PUBLICATIONS

Book

[In Preparation] *Routine and Exceptional: Everyday Agents in Puerto Rico and the Development of the Pill and IUD, 1956-1966.*

Journal Articles

[In Progress; Abstract Accepted] “Maybe, Not Inherently: ‘Participants’ and the Question of Bodily Autonomy in the Field Trials of Oral Contraceptives and Intrauterine Devices (IUDs) in Puerto Rico, 1956-1966.” Special Issue of *Women’s History Review* on Bodily Autonomy, expected July 2026.

[In Preparation] “More Than a Year, But Not Everything: Contextualizing Río Piedras, Puerto Rico and Edris Rice-Wray in the Development of the First Birth Control Pill.”

Kathryn D. Lankford—C.V.

Grovenstein, Phillip B, **Kathryn D Lankford**, Darryel A Wilson, Kelsey A Gaston, Surangi Perera, and Mautusi Mitra, “Identification and Molecular Characterization of the Second *Chlamydomonas* gun4 Mutant, gun4-II,” *F1000Research* (July 29), doi:10.12688/f1000research.2-142.v2. 2013.

Grovenstein, Phillip B, Darryel A Wilson, Cameron G Lennox, Katherine P Smith, Alisha A Contractor, Jonathan L Mincey, **Kathryn D Lankford**, Jacqueline M Smith, Tashana C Haye, and Mautusi Mitra, “Identification and Molecular Characterization of a Novel *Chlamydomonas* Reinhardtii Mutant Defective in Chlorophyll Biosynthesis,” *F1000Research* (July 29), doi:10.12688/f1000research.2-138.v2. 2013.

Book Reviews

Pushing in Silence: Modernizing Puerto Rico and the Medicalization of Childbirth, by Isabel M Córdova. *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, 74, iss. 3 (July 2019): 364-366. doi:10.1093.

Digital Resources

Chronicling the Birth of Contraceptives in Puerto Rico, H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online, July 2025, <https://networks.h-net.org/chronicling-contraceptives-puerto-rico>.

- Open access repository that mobilizes digital tools for mapping, archiving, and visualization of the field trials of contraceptives in Puerto Rico.
- Developed through inaugural H-Net, H-Spaces Cohort Program.
- Next stage includes advanced undergraduates completing applied learning and research projects.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

Emily J. Elliott, Justin Wigard, Aubree Marshall, and **Kathryn D. Lankford**, “Mobilizing Digital Humanities for Independent Research and Pedagogical Innovation: Experiences from the Inaugural H-Net Spaces Cohort,” H-Net Annual Teaching Conference, *Pedagogy in an Age of Uncertainty: AI, Inclusive Teaching, and the Politics of Knowledge*, Virtual, August 20th, 2025.

“Personal, Professional, and Political Motivation in the Puerto Rican Clinical Trials of the First Birth Control Pill,” Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, Los Angeles, California. May 10th-13th, 2018.

“Abject Reproduction, Performed Gender, and the Pill in Puerto Rico, 1952-1967,” National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Annual Conference: *Precarity*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. November 12th-15th, 2015.

“Who Created the Pill? Clinical Trials of Enovid and Other Contraceptives in Humacao, Puerto Rico,” Knowledge from the Margins: Social Justice and Sustainability Conference, East Lansing, Michigan. August 18th-19th, 2015.

Kathryn Lankford and Darryel Wilson, “Characterization of two *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* mutants defective in chlorophyll biosynthesis and photosynthesis under different irradiance conditions,” Annual Meeting of the Southern Section of American Plant Biologist Society, Little Rock, Arkansas. April 7th, 2013.

Invited Research Talks

Kathryn D. Lankford—C.V.

“Contraceptive Trials in Puerto Rico, 1948-1970s: An Overview,” Graduate Student Speaker Series, MSU Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, East Lansing, Michigan. March 29th, 2017.

“Choosing to Test: Dr. A. P. Satterthwaite and the First Birth Control Pill Clinical Trials in Humacao, Puerto Rico,” Bioethics Brown Bag and Webinar Series, MSU Center for Bioethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences, East Lansing, Michigan. October 19th, 2016.

Invited Public Talks

“The Tale of the Photographed Uterus,” interview with Heather Brothers, *Tales from the Archives*, produced by H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online, podcast, June 2024, <https://creators.spotify.com/pod/profile/h-net-podcasts/episodes/The-Tale-of-the-Photographed-Uterus-e2kvuhd>.

Donna J. Drucker, **Kathryn D. Lankford**, Inmaculada de Melo-Martín, and Alia Tejeda, “Talkback Discussion of Nelson Diaz-Marcano’s *Las Borinquenas*,” April 27, 2024, Ensemble Studio Theatre, New York, New York.

- Audience-engaged panel on the historical and scientific context of Alfred P. Sloan Foundation funded play, [*Las Borinquenas*](#).

Guest Lectures

“Changing Meanings of the Intrauterine Device (IUD), 1960s – Present,” STS 101: Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society, ASU, Mesa, Arizona. Fall 2024.

“What Choice?: Reproductive Rights and Critiques of 1960s & 1970s Social Movements,” ISS 210: Society and the Individual—Social Movements and Memory, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Fall 2023.

“Federal Oversight vs. Medicine on the Ground: Assessing Multi-Layered Scandals in the Development of Oral Contraceptives,” ISS 210: Society and the Individual—Scandals, Power, and Publicity, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Spring 2023.

“La Malinche and the Conquest of the Aztec Empire in the 16th century CE,” HST 420: History of Sexuality, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Fall 2016.

“Creating and Negotiating Birth Control: Puerto Rican Women’s Experiences with Contraception, 1948-1970,” CLS 201: Intro to Chicano/Latino Studies, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Spring 2016.

“More than Heredity: Continuance of Eugenics in U.S. Social Thought during the 1930s,” IAH 201: U.S. and the World, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Fall 2015.

“Images from the ‘Yellow Press’: How to Use Primary Sources to Make an Argument,” IAH 201: U.S. and the World, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Spring 2015.

“Creating the 1st FDA-Approved Birth Control Pill: An Overview of What’s Known,” IAH 201: U.S. and the World, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Spring 2014.

“Clinical Trials of the First FDA-Approved Oral Contraceptive: Enovid” LB 492: Senior Seminar-Health, Sex, and Feminism in the Trans-Pacific World, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. Spring 2014.

Kathryn D. Lankford—C.V.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

^ Honors Option Provided * Online Section Also Offered + Graduate Teaching Assistant

Arizona State University

HST 103: Early Modern Europe
HST 280: History of Science, Technology,
and Innovation *
HST 318: History of Engineering ^*
HST 345: Environmental History *

IDS 311: Integrative Sustainability *
IDS 313: Sex and Sexuality Across Time and
Place *
IDS 401: Interdisciplinary Research Fellows

Michigan State University

HST 201: Historical Methods and Skills—
Contraception in the 20th Century US
HST 202: US History to 1876 +
HST 313: Women in the US to 1869 +
HST 420: History of Sexuality +
IAH 201: U.S. and the World, 1880-Present +
IAH 203: Latin America and the World +
IAH 206: Self, Society, and Technology +
ISS 335: Sex Research and Social Science *+

LB 321A: Science and the Public ^
LB 326A: Medicine and Health—
Contraceptives and Prophylactics in the 20th
Century ^
LB 324B: Science & Sex, Gender, and
Sexuality *
LB 332: Technology and Culture—Honors
Section +
WS 201: Introduction to Women's Studies *

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Dissertation Completion Fellowship 2018

College of Social Science, Michigan State University

Graduate Student Research Grant 2017

College of Social Science, Michigan State University

- Research conducted at Archivo General de Puerto Rico and Biblioteca Conrado F. Asenjo of Universidad de Puerto Rico—Recinto Ciencias Médicas.

Graduate Student Research Grant 2017

Program in Chicano/Latino Studies, Michigan State University

- Supplemented research conducted with grant from College of Social Science (2017).

Graduate Research Scholarship 2016

Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Michigan State University

- Research conducted in at Archivo General de Puerto Rico and Archivo Histórico of La Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín.

Harry Brown Graduate Fellowship in American History 2016

Department of History, Michigan State University

Seed Research Grant 2014 & 2015

Department of History and College of Social Science, Michigan State University

- (2014) Research conducted at Sophia Smith Collection of Women's History, Smith College.
- (2015) Research conducted at Ryder Hospital, Biblioteca y Hemeroteca Puertorriqueña of Universidad de Puerto Rico, and Asociación Puertorriqueña Pro Bienestar de las Familias.

Kathryn D. Lankford—C.V.

AWARDS

Madison Kuhn Award for Best Pre-Dissertation Research Project in US History	2015
Department of History, Michigan State University	
Somers Excellence in Teaching Award for Teaching Assistants	2015
Center for Integrative Studies in Arts and Humanities, Michigan State University	
First Place in Aubrey Naylor Undergraduate Student Poster Competition	2013
The American Society of Plant Biologists-Southern Section	

SERVICE and OUTREACH

Spaces Review Committee	July 2025 – Present
H-Net Spaces, H-Net: Humanities & Social Sciences Online	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Evaluation of proposals to Spaces Cohort Program to fund digital teaching and research projects.	
H-Sci-Med-Tech Book Reviews	March 2025 - Present
H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Reviews Co-Editor with P. Hardy to solicit, edit, and publish open-access, scholarly reviews of works related to science, medicine, and technology.- Responsible for titles related to health, healthcare, medicine, and human sciences.	
Career Track Faculty Personnel Committee	2025 - Present
School of Applied Sciences and Arts, Arizona State University	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sub-committee for Humanities and Communications annual review and evaluation- Elected position for two-year term.	
Tenure-Track Animal Studies Search Committee	2025
College of Integrative Sciences and Arts, Arizona State University	
Science, Technology, and Society Working Group	2024 - Present
School of Applied Sciences and Arts, Arizona State University	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Revitalization of Science, Technology, and Society (STS) major and curriculum redesign.- Proposed new, interdisciplinary bioethics course with M. Gifford.	
CISA's Applied Humanities Pop-Up Museum	2024 - Present
Co-Supervising Professor	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Semi-annual showcase of students' projects rendered as interactive exhibits.- HST 318: History of Engineering students partner with ASU Chandler Innovation Center to compose exhibits on successes and disasters in engineering.	
Nelson Diaz-Marcano's <i>Las Borinqueñas</i>	January – March 2024
History Consultant	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Play on the clinical trials of the first birth control pill in Puerto Rico.- Solicited to advise on the historical accuracy of play's script before production.- Honorarium funded research at Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library, Harvard University.	

Kathryn D. Lankford—C.V.

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Experience Project 2022

Burgess Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Michigan State University

- Supervised student's culminating project.

Major and Minor Exposition 2019 & 2021

College of Literature, Sciences, and Arts, University of Michigan

- Volunteer pre-health advisor for undecided majors.

Michigan Medical Education Day 2019

Collaboration of All Medical Schools in Michigan

- Day-long event on admissions' process to in-state medical schools; coordination volunteer.

Testing of Admission Interview Questions and Process 2019

College of Osteopathic Medicine, Michigan State University

- Simulation of multiple mini-interviews (MMI); volunteer for evaluation of efficacy of questions and flow of process.

UMich Day of Service—Student Academic Affairs 2019

Food Gatherers, Ann Arbor, MI

- Site coordinator for volunteer opportunity at local food bank and redistribution center.

MSU Students for Choice 2016-2018

Michigan State University

- Advisor to undergraduate organization.

History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science Reading Group 2015-2016

Michigan State University

- Co-organizer and convener of group during listed years; active participant through 2018.

Graduate Employees Union, AFT, AFL-CIO #6196 2014-2017

Michigan State University

- History Department Steward.

Migration Without Boundaries: Interdisciplinary Grad. Student Conference 2014 & 2017

College of Social Science and College of Letters and Arts, Michigan State University

- Panel Chair.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CISA AI Upskilling Program 2025

College of Integrative Sciences and Arts, Arizona State University

Humans Still Matter: Students and Faculty are Improving Humanities Content on Wikipedia 2025

2025 H-Net Teaching Conference, Pedagogy in an Age of Uncertainty

Integrating Liberal Arts and Engineering Webinar 2025

Humanities Network Alliance

Kathryn D. Lankford—C.V.

H-Spaces Inaugural Cohort H-Net: Humanities & Social Sciences Online	2024-2025
Masterclass for Teaching Online ASU Online, EdPlus, Arizona State University	2024
Admissions Committee Application Review and Deliberation Observation Executive Board of the Admissions Committee, University of Michigan Medical School	2020
ACUM: Advising Council Annual Symposium Advising Council of University of Michigan	2019
NACADA, Division V Annual Conference National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)	2019
Pre-Health Advisor Conference Colleges of Human Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, & Veterinary Medicine, Michigan State University	2019 & 2020
Feminist Research Methodology Graduate Community Michigan State University	2016-2017
National Library of Medicine Images and Texts in Medical History Workshop National Institutes of Health (NIH)	2016

LANGUAGE

Spanish: Graduate proficiency and comprehension