

Joseph Hutchison

Curriculum Vitae

211 Allen Hall
Department of History
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State, MS 39762
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Employment

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of History, Mississippi State University (Starkville, MS), 2025-Present

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of Missouri (Columbia, MO), 2023-2025

Substitute Teacher, Cave City School District (Cave City, AR), 2023

Education

PhD. History. Mississippi State University (Starkville, MS): Degree Expected May 2029.

M.A. History. University of Missouri (Columbia, MO): May 2025. Thesis: “Modernizing the Mountain South: The Creation and Early Years of the Ozarks Regional Commission.”

B.A. History. Minor: Political Science. *Summa cum laude*. Williams Baptist University (Walnut Ridge, AR): May 2023. Coe Honors Scholar.

Publications

Review of *Mildred, Quit Hollering! And Other Ozark Folktales*, by Vance Randolph (with commentary by Curtis Copeland and Augustus Finch). *Journal of Ozark Studies* (October 2024). <https://www.ozarks-studies-assoc.com/services-5>.

“Vigilante Justice in Northern Arkansas: The Murder of Thurzia Baker, the Rape of Eliza Morgan, and the Trial of Robert Inness.” *Lawrence County Historical Journal*, no. 2 (September 2023): 6-25.

Online Article

“The Murder of Thurzia Baker and the Rape of Eliza Morgan: A Revealing Case in the Arkansas Ozarks.” *Missouri History Lab* (December 2023).
<https://mohistorylab.com/2023/12/11/the-murder-of-thurzia-baker-and-the-rape-of-eliza-morgan-a-revealing-case-in-the-arkansas-ozarks/>.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Maroon and White Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Department of History, Mississippi State University, (Fall 2025-Present)

Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives Award for Exemplary Archival Research, Arkansas Historical Association (Spring 2024)

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Department of History, University of Missouri (Fall 2023-Spring 2025)

Research Grant, Coe Honors Society, Williams Baptist University (Fall 2022)

Conference Presentations

“The Ozarks Regional Commission and the Economic Development of the Hills.” The Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. June 2026.

“Modernizing the Hills: The Creation and Early Years of the Ozarks Regional Commission.” Missouri Conference on History. Blue Springs, MO. March 2024.

“From Mountaineers to Hillbillies: Crafting the Image of the Mountain South.” Ozarks Studies Symposium. West Plains, MO. September 2024.

“Jealousy Gangs, and Contract Killing: A Revealing Case in the Arkansas Ozarks.” Ozarks Studies Association Conference. Tahlequah, OK. May 2024.

“Jealousy, Gangs, and Contract Killing: The Trial of Robert Inness.” Missouri Conference on History. Columbia, MO. March 2024.

“Vigilante Justice in Northern Arkansas.” Ozarks Studies Symposium. West Plains, MO. September 2022.

Invited Presentations

“Modernizing the Hills: The Creation and Early Years of the Ozarks Regional Commission.” Ozarks Heritage Research Center. West Plains, MO. July 2025.

“Jealousy, Gangs, and Contract Killing: A Complicated Case in the Arkansas Ozarks.” Hardy History Association. Hardy, AR. July 2025.

“Modernizing the Mountain South: The Creation and Early Years of the Ozarks Regional Commission.” Oregon County Historical Society. Thayer, MO. June 2025.

“Jealousy, Gangs, and Contract Killing.” Spring River Gem & Mineral Club. Cherokee Village, AR. August 2024.

“The Trial of Robert Inness, the Murder of Thurzia Baker, and the Rape of Eliza Morgan.” Sharp County Historical Society. Ash Flat, AR. May 2023. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

“How to Read History.” Cave City Middle School. Cave City, AR. March 2023.

“Vigilante Justice through Local Crime.” Bancroft Society. Walnut Ridge, AR. November 2022.

“Mapping the Arkansas Territory.” Butler Center Seminar for Teachers. Little Rock, AR. June 2018.

Teaching Experience

“Early Western World.” Mississippi State University (Starkville, MS). Fall 2025.

“Survey of American History Since 1865.” University of Missouri (Columbia, MO). Spring 2025.

“Survey of American History Since 1865.” University of Missouri (Columbia, MO). Fall 2024.

“Survey of American History Since 1865.” University of Missouri (Columbia, MO). Spring 2024.

“Survey of American History Since 1865.” University of Missouri (Columbia, MO). Fall 2023.

Research Interests

Twentieth Century History, American History, Political History, Rural History, Economic History, Southern History, Arkansas History, Ozarks History, Appalachian History, Colonial American History, Russian History, Baptist History, Music History, Education History

Service

Board Member, Hardy History Association (Spring 2026-Present)

Student Board Member, Ozarks Studies Association (Spring 2024-Present)

Departmental Delegate, Graduate Professional Council, University of Missouri (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)

Vice President, History Graduate Student Association, University of Missouri (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)

Research Intern, State Historical Society of Missouri, Springfield Office (Fall 2022)

Research Intern, Wings of Honor Museum (Fall 2022)

Director of Philanthropy, Student Government Association, Williams Baptist University (Fall 2022)

Memberships

Hardy History Association (Summer 2025-Present)

Ozarks Studies Association (Spring 2024-Present)

Graduate Professional Council, University of Missouri (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)

History Graduate Student Association, University of Missouri (Fall 2023-Spring 2025)

Arkansas Historical Association (Fall 2022-Present)

Phi Alpha Theta (Fall 2021-Present)

Sharp County Historical Society (Spring 2021-Present)

Bancroft Society, Williams Baptist University (Fall 2020-Fall 2022)

Coe Honors Society, Williams Baptist University (Fall 2020-Fall 2022)

Pre-Law Society, Williams Baptist University (Fall 2020-Fall 2022)