Debra Law (updated January 2026)

Texas State University—San Marcos
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Taylor-Murphy Hall

EDUCATION

The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- Ph.D., History, 2015
- M.A., History, 2007
- Dissertation: "The Legacy of Brazil's Pedro I: Memory and Politics during the Empire and Republic"
- Dissertation Committee: Franklin W. Knight (advisor), Maria Portuondo (chair), Gabriel Paquette, John Marshall, Sara Castro-Klaren

Texas State University-San Marcos, History, TX
- M.A., History, 2005
- B.A., History, *summa cum laude*, 1999

EMPLOYMENT

Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
- Associate Professor of Instruction, Department of History (fall 2024-present)
- Senior Lecturer and Lecturer, Department of History (summer 2014-fall 2024)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Distinctions in Oral (one mark of distinction) and Written Components (two marks of distinction), Comprehensive Examinations, Department of History, Johns Hopkins University (2007)

FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) Summer Fellowship, Brazil (2006)

Program in Latin American Studies Summer Research Grant, Johns Hopkins University (2006)

B. R. Brunson Award (Best M.A. Thesis), Department of History, Texas State (2006)

Outstanding Liberal Arts Graduate Student Award, Texas State (2004-2005)

Recognition on The National Chancellor's List (2005)

Texas State History Department Graduate Faculty Award—Best Graduate Paper (2003)

Texas State Celebrity Classic Fellowship (2005)

Texas State Graduate Scholars Fellowship (2002-2004)

Texas State College of Liberal Arts Graduate Fellowship (2003-2005)

Fitzpatrick/Clayton/Kissler Scholarship Recipient (2003-2004)

Texas State Undergraduate Academic Award for Excellence in Liberal Arts (1998)

Bay City High School Valedictorian, Bay City, Texas (1992)

SCHOLARLY PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

"An Executed Republican and an Exiled Emperor: The Contest over Memorial Space and Place in Brazil," The Phi Alpha Theta Annual Banquet, Texas State University History Department, 2014.

"Remembering an Exiled Emperor: The Flesh and Stone of Brazil's Pedro I," The XIII Annual Hispanic and Lusophone Studies Symposium at Ohio State, 2010.

"A Prince of the People? The Rhetorical Crafting of Pedro I's 'Brazilian Representative Monarchy': 1820-1822," First Year Paper Presentation, Department of History, Johns Hopkins University, 2006.

"Symbols of Affection, not Affliction: The Relationship between the Bragança and Brazil," Masters' Thesis, Texas State University-San Marcos, 2005.

"Two Colonies, Two Empires. The Transcendental Exceptionalism of the Americas at the Time of Independence," World History Association of Texas Annual Meeting, 2004.

"Symbols of Affliction or Affection? The Popular Perceptions of the King in the Independence of the United States and Brazil," Southwestern Social Sciences Association Annual Conference, 2004.

"Continuity amidst Revolution: The Monarchy in Brazil, 1808-1889," World History Association of Texas Annual Meeting, 2003.

TEACHING--HIGHER EDUCATION

Texas State University, San Marcos

Associate Professor of Instruction, Department of History, 2014-Current
History of the United States to 1877
History of the United States, 1877 to Date
History of World Civilization to the 17th Century
History of World Civilizations from the 17th Century
Western Civilization to 1715
Western Civilization, 1715 to Date
Gender in Latin American History
Colonial History of Latin America to 1828
Latin America from Independence to Present
Militarism in Latin America
Modern Revolutions in Latin American History

The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Teaching Assistant, Program in Latin American Studies, 2007
Introduction to Latin American Studies, taught by Dr. Emma Cervone, fall 2007

The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Teaching Assistant, Department of History, spring 2006 – spring 2007
Shipwreck and Empire, taught by Dr. A.J.R. Russell-Wood, spring, 2007
The History of East Asia, taught by Dr. William Rowe, fall, 2006
The History of Africa to 1880, taught by Dr. Bruce Hall, spring 2006

Texas State University, San Marcos
Instructional Assistant, Department of History, 2003- 2004
United States History from 1877, taught by Dr. Paul Hart

CERTIFICATION--SECONDARY EDUCATION

Certification from the State Board of Education, The State of Texas:
History (EXCET score of 96)
English Language Arts (EXCET score of 95)
Social Studies Composite—Geography, Government, Economics, and History
English as a Second Language Supplemental

TEACHING--SECONDARY EDUCATION

Austin Independent School District, Austin, Texas, 2010-2013
Teacher, Department of Social Studies, New Tech Network model school
interdisciplinary teaching team, participant in Austin Secondary ESL Collaborative
Courses taught:
World History and *United States History after 1877*

Hays Consolidated Independent School District, Buda, Texas, 200-2002
Teacher, Department of Social Studies, Department of English
Named to district technology committee; member of interdisciplinary teaching team;
teacher partner in the INTEL Teach to the Future Program
Courses taught:
English II, *Honors World Geography*, *Honors World History*.

The Central Texas Writing Project
Teacher Consultant, 2000 – Present
Participant in the Summer Institute; presenter at CTWP Fall Conference, presenter at Eanes ISD and Hays ISD professional development conferences

Manor Independent School District, Manor, Texas, 1999-2000
Teacher and Assistant Basketball / Track Coach
Courses taught:
English IV

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Texas State Writing Center Essay Contest Judge, 2018 and 2020

Department of History Program Review Committee: Graduate Student Representative,
Texas State University, 2004