

Max Felker-Kantor, Ph.D.
(Spring 2020)

Ball State University
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Education

- Ph.D., 2014, History, University of Southern California
- M.A., History, 2010, University of Southern California
 - Fields: U.S. History, Urban History, Social Movements
- A.B., History, 2006, Tufts University
 - *Summa Cum Laude* and Phi Beta Kappa

Academic Appointments

- Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies, Ball State University, 2020-Present
- Visiting Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies, Ball State University, 2018-2020
- Postdoctoral Research Scholar and Assistant Professor of History, DePauw University, 2017-2018
- Assistant Professor of History (term), Marian University, 2016-2017
- Lecturer, Department of History, Marian University, 2014-2016
- Affiliated Postdoctoral Scholar, Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, 2014-2016

Professional Employment

- Program Coordinator, Bard Prison Initiative Women's College Partnership at the Indiana Women's Prison, Spring 2019
- Lecture Series Coordinator, Bard Prison Initiative Women's College Partnership at the Indiana Women's Prison, Fall 2018

Publications

Books

- *DARE to Say No: Education, Race, and the War on Drugs* (book manuscript in progress, under contract with University of North Carolina Press).
- *Policing Los Angeles: Race, Resistance, and the Rise of the LAPD*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, November 2018.

Journal Articles (peer-reviewed)

- “Policing an Internal Border: The Los Angeles Police Department, Immigration Law Enforcement, and the Construction of the Criminal Alien.” *Boom California* (September 11, 2018), <https://boomcalifornia.com/2018/09/11/policing-an-internal-border/>
- “Liberal Law and Order: Tom Bradley, the LAPD, and the Politics of Police Reform in Los Angeles,” Special Issue on Urban America and the Police Since World War II, *Journal of Urban History* (OnlineFirst 2017).
- “‘Kid Thugs Are Spreading Terror Through the Streets’: Youth, Crime, and the Expansion of the Juvenile Justice System in Los Angeles, 1973-1980.” *Journal of Urban History* 44:3 (May 1, 2018): 476–500.
- “The Coalition against Police Abuse: CAPA’s Resistance Struggle in 1970s Los Angeles.” *Journal of Civil and Human Rights* 2:1 (2016): 52–88.
- “‘A Pledge is not Self-enforcing’: Struggles for Equal Employment Opportunity in Los Angeles 1964-1981.” *Pacific Historical Review* 82:1 (February 2013): 63-94.
- “Fighting Many Battles: Max Mont, Labor, and Interracial Civil Rights Activism in Los Angeles, 1950-1970.” *Casden Annual Review*, Vol. 9, 2012 (Los Angeles: University of Southern California): 111-142.

Book Chapter

- “Fighting the Segregation Amendment: Black and Mexican American Responses to Proposition 14 in Los Angeles.” In *Black and Brown Los Angeles: A Contemporary Reader*, eds. Laura Pulido and Josh Kun (Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2013): 143-175.

Book Reviews and Review Essays

- *The Torture Letters: Reckoning with Police Violence*. Laurence Ralph. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020). *The Journal of African American History* (forthcoming).
- “Police Professionalization and the Institutionalization of Racist Repression,” a review of Simon Balto’s *Occupied Territory: Policing Black Chicago from Red Summer to Black Power* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2019). *Black Perspectives/Journal of Civil and Human Rights*, April 8, 2020, <https://www.aaihs.org/police-professionalization-and-the-institutionalization-of-racist-repression/>.
- *Crime & Punishment in the Jim Crow South*. Edited by Amy Louise Wood and Natalie J. Ring. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2019). *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, Vol. 118, No. 3+4 (Summer/Autumn 2020).
- *Exporting British Policing during the Second World War: Policing Soldiers and Civilians*. Clive Emsley. (New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017). *H-War Reviews* (May 2019).
- “Politicizing Youth: Police, Politics, and Gangs in the late-Twentieth-Century City.” Review essay on John M. Hagedorn, *The In\$ane Chicago Way: The Daring Plan by Chicago Gangs to Create a Spanish Mafia* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015), Geoff Harkness. *Chicago Hustle and Flow: Gangs, Gangsta Rap, and Social Class* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2014), Jennifer M. Hazen and Dennis Rodgers, eds. *Global Gangs: Street Violence across the World* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2014), and Darrel Wanzer-Serrano, *The New York Young Lords and the Struggle for Liberation* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2015). *Journal of Urban History* (OnlineFirst, February 2018).
- *Police, Power, and the Production of Racial Boundaries*. Ana Muñiz. (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2015), *Southern California Quarterly*, 98:2 (May 1, 2016): 249–51.

Other Publications

- “Liberal Reform Threatens to Expand the Police Power—Just as it did in the Past.” *History News Network*, June 28, 2020. <https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/176193>
- “Police Have Long History of Responding to Black Movements by Playing the Victim.” *Truthout*, June 13, 2020. <https://truthout.org/articles/police-have-long-history-of-responding-to-black-movements-by-playing-the-victim/>
- “Trump’s response to Minneapolis threatens to repeat the mistakes of the 1960s.” *The Washington Post: Made by History*, May 30, 2020. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/05/30/trumps-response-minneapolis-threatens-repeat-mistakes-1960s/>
- “What the LAPD recruitment ad on Breitbart says about the department’s history.” *The Washington Post: Made by History*, October 9, 2019. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2019/10/09/what-lapd-recruitment-ad-breitbart-says-about-departments-history/>
- “Stop Killer Cops: Police Brutality, Mass Incarceration, and the Liberal Establishment.” *Black Perspectives: Blog of the African American Intellectual History Society*, September 4, 2019. <https://www.aaihs.org/stop-killer-cops-police-brutality-mass-incarceration-and-the-liberal-establishment/>
- “Contesting Police Power: A Conversation between Simon Balto and Max Felker-Kantor.” *Radical History Review: The Abusable Past*, July 11, 2019. <https://www.radicalhistoryreview.org/abusablepast/?p=3117>
- “BAR Book Forum: Max Felker-Kantor’s *Policing Los Angeles*.” *Black Agenda Report*, June 19, 2019. <https://www.blackagendareport.com/bar-book-forum-max-felker-kantors-policing-los-angeles>
- “What Jeff Sessions’s final act in office means for policing in America.” *The Washington Post: Made by History*, November 30, 2018. https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2018/11/30/what-jeff-sessionss-final-act-office-means-policing-america/?utm_term=.f31d08c40fbd
- “All Power to the People: Rethinking *Black Panther* through Historical Struggles for Community Empowerment and Anti-Police Abuse Coalition Building.” *Southern California Library Black Panther Reader*, 2018. www.socallib.org/reading-wakanda/empowerment
- “Police departments should no longer be allowed to police themselves.” *The Washington Post: Made by History*, March 19, 2018. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/made-by-history/wp/2018/03/19/police-departments-should-no-longer-be-allowed-to-police-themselves/?utm_term=.5cc60a8b27db
- “‘Raceriotland’: The Meaning of Watts.” In *The Skid Row Reader*, edited by Dan Johnson (Los Angeles: Vera Cambell Foundation and the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, 2017): 24-25.
- “The 1984 Olympics fueled L.A.’s war on crime. Will the 2028 Games do the same? How the Olympics accelerated mass incarceration in Los Angeles.” *The Washington Post: Made by History*, August 6, 2017. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/made-by-history/wp/2017/08/06/the-1984-olympics-fueled-l-a-s-war-on-crime-will-the-2028-games-do-the-same/>
- “No Justice, No Peace: The 1992 Los Angeles Rebellion.” *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspectives*, May 2017. <https://origins.osu.edu/milestones/may-2017-1992-los-angeles-rebellion-no-justice-no-peace>

- Felker-Kantor, Max, Jay Colbert, and Sharon Kandris. “Trends in Crime: Does Perception Match Reality?” SAVI Community Information System at IUPUI, September 2015. www.savi.org/report/trends-in-crime-does-perception-match-reality/

Fellowships and Grants

- American Studies Association, Solidarity Fund Grant, 2019
- Organization of American Historians, Travel Grant, 2019
- Pacific Coast Branch-American Historical Association, Presidents’ Travel Grant, 2013
- Shoah Institute Research Grant, University of Southern California, 2012
- Robert L. Platzman Memorial Scholarship, University of Chicago (declined), 2011
- Hearst Foundation Graduate Support Funds for Research in the American West, University of Southern California, 2011
- USC Institute for California and the West, Travel Grant, University of Southern California, 2011

Awards

- Ninfa Sanchez Memorial Graduate Prize for best graduate paper in American Studies, University of Southern California, 2009

Invited Talks

- “Police Power, State Violence, and Resistance in the Age of Mass Incarceration,” Big Questions Big Ideas Lecture Series, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Ball State University in conjunction with Muncie Public Library, February 7, 2020
- “Race and Police: Historical and Contemporary Issues of Policing Brown and Black Communities,” Ball State University, February 6, 2020
- “Policing Los Angeles: The Police Power, Race, and Resistance,” Tufts Center for the Study of Race and Democracy, October 28, 2019
- “Archives and State Power: Carceral History and the Fight against U.S. Police Power,” History Department, Harvard University, October 25, 2019
- “Stop Killer Cops: Police Brutality, Mass Incarceration, and the Liberal Establishment,” Conversations in Black Freedom Studies, Schomburg Center, September 5, 2019
- “Policing Los Angeles,” Skylight Books, July 21, 2019
- “Policing Los Angeles: Race, Resistance, and the Rise of the LAPD,” Clark Davis Memorial Lecture, Los Angeles History and Metro Studies Group, May 3, 2019
- “Policing Los Angeles: Police Power and Resistance,” UCLA History Department, May 2, 2019
- “Policing, Race, and Reform,” League of Women Voters – Muncie, Indiana, April 20, 2019
- “Policing Los Angeles: Race and Resistance from Watts to Rodney King,” Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, April 15, 2019
- “Police Power and Anti-Police Abuse Activism in Los Angeles from Watts to Rodney King,” Middletown Studies Center, Ball State University, March 13, 2019

- “Kid Thugs are Spreading Terror Through the Streets”: Policing, Schools, and the Criminalization of Black Youth in Los Angeles,” University of Utah, Department of Education, Culture, and Society, March 5, 2019
- “Policing Los Angeles: Race and Resistance from Watts to Rodney King,” Indiana University, February 27, 2019
- “Policing Los Angeles,” Indy Reads Books, January 12, 2019
- “Policing, Race, and Resistance,” DePauw University, October 29, 2018
- “Policing Los Angeles and Race in Contemporary America,” Rend Lake College, September 26, 2018
- “Policing the Internal Border: Enforcing Order and the Criminalization of Immigrants in Los Angeles,” Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino/a Studies, October 20, 2017
- “The Nimble Surveillance State,” The Ohio State University History Workshop, June 14, 2017
- “Battle for the Streets: Police and Power in Los Angeles,” IUPUI American Studies Department, March, 30, 2017
- “Policing and Justice in Los Angeles,” IUPUI American Studies Department, November 8, 2016

Conference Presentations

Upcoming

- Comment. “Protest, Rebellion, and Memory in the Black West.” Western History Association Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM, October 14-17, 2020

Presented

- Book Session. “‘Policing Los Angeles: Race, Resistance, and the Rise of the LAPD’ by Max Felker-Kantor,” Social Science History Association, Chicago, November 21-24, 2019
- Roundtable. “Policing the City: Rethinking the Past and Future of American Policing,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, November 7-10, 2019
- Roundtable. “Rethinking Police Power and African American Resistance through the lens of *Policing Los Angeles*,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, October 2-6, 2019
- Roundtable. “Comments on Simon Balto’s *Occupied Territory*,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, October 2-6, 2019
- Panelist. “The Politics of Sex, Drugs, and Guns since the 1960s: Rethinking the Political History of the Carceral State,” Remaking American Political History Conference, Purdue University, June 6-7, 2019
- Roundtable. “Historicizing Policing in Postwar America: The Perils, the Possibilities, and the Politics,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, April 3-5, 2019
- Panelist. “DARE to Say No: Policing, Schools, and Anti-Drug Education in Crack Era Los Angeles,” Society for U.S. Intellectual History Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 8-11, 2018
- Roundtable. “New Directions in the History of Police and Cities,” Urban History Association Biennial Meeting, Columbia, SC, October 20, 2018

- Roundtable. "Genealogies of Black Lives Matter," Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, October 3-7, 2018
- Roundtable. "Law, Resistance, and the Forms of Prison History: Roundtable on Rethinking the American Prison Movement," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Sacramento, California, April 12, 2018
- Panelist. "Preventing Future Misconduct: The Public Disorder Intelligence Division, Surveillance, and the Containment of Anti-Police Abuse Movements in 1970s Los Angeles," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 4-7, 2018
- Panelist. "Policing the Internal Border: Social Control and the Criminalization of Immigrants in Los Angeles," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 9-12, 2017
- Panelist. "The City in Crisis: The LAPD, Mass Criminalization, and the Response to the 1992 Los Angeles Rebellion," The Nineties in Historical Perspective Conference, Purdue University, Lafayette, IN, March 2-3, 2017
- Panelist. "A Free-Fire Attitude: Guns and Police Violence in Late-Twentieth Century Los Angeles," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, January 5-8, 2017
- Panelist. "Law and Order in the City of Angels: The LAPD and the Politics of Police Reform in Los Angeles after Watts," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 17-20, 2016
- Roundtable and Panelist. "Post-Industrial Violence in the City of Angels," Eighth Biennial Conference of the Urban History Association, Chicago, October 13-16, 2016
- Panelist. "Liberal Law and Order: Tom Bradley, the LAPD, and the Politics of Police Reform in Los Angeles," Eighth Biennial Conference of the Urban History Association, Chicago, October 13-16, 2016
- Panelist. "Taking Back the Streets: Mayor Bradley, the Los Angeles Police Department, and the War on Drugs during the 1980s," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, January 9, 2016
- Panelist. "Preventing Crime with Surveillance: The Public Disorder Intelligence Division, Subversive Behavior, and the Struggle Over Police Spying in Los Angeles during the 1970s," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 15, 2015
- Panelist. "You can't put them all in jail': Criminalizing Behavior by Waging the War on Drugs as a War on Gangs in Crack Era Los Angeles," U.S. Intellectual History Conference, Washington, D.C., October 18, 2015
- Panelist. "Police Discipline, Is it JUSTICE?: Excessive Force, the Coalition Against Police Abuse, and the Battleground of the Crime War in Los Angeles during the 1970s," Fourth Biennial Interdisciplinary Conference on Race, Monmouth University, April 16-18, 2015
- Panelist. "'Kid thugs are spreading terror through the streets': Juvenile Delinquency and the War on Crime in Los Angeles, 1968-1975," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, November 6, 2014
- Panelist. "Reasserting Authority in the Streets: Law and Order and the Militarization of the Los Angeles Police Department," Urban History Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 11, 2014

- Panelist. “The Sacredness of Alameda Street: Reflections on the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education Project,” Society of California Archivists Palm Springs, CA, May 9, 2014
- Panelist. “The Score on the Killing Ground: Law and Order, the Militarization of the LAPD, and the Punitive Side of Urban Liberalism in Los Angeles, 1965-1975,” LA History & Metro Studies Group, Dual Paper Session, February 28, 2014
- Panelist. “Race, Control, and Resistance: Community Empowerment and the Struggle Against Police Repression in late-Twentieth Century Los Angeles,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 3, 2014
- Panelist. “Policing the Inner City: The Los Angeles Police Department, the War on Drugs, and the Criminalization of Urban Space during the 1980s,” Social Science History Association Conference, Chicago, IL, November 21-24, 2013
- Panelist. “‘A Pledge Is Not Self-Enforcing’: Struggles for Equal Employment Opportunity in Multiracial Los Angeles, 1964–1982,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, August 8-10, 2013
- Panelist. “Race, Riots, and Community Empowerment in Los Angeles: State and Social Movement Responses to Urban Unrest from Watts to Rodney King,” The American Racial State in the Long Twentieth Century Conference, University of Michigan, May 10-11, 2013
- Panelist. “Challenging Containment: Social Movements and the Surveillance State in Los Angeles, 1970-1990,” Crossing Borders: Politics, Cultural Contest and the Urgency of Space Conference, University of Southern California, March 29-30, 2013
- Panelist. “Race, Control, and Resistance: Community Empowerment and the Struggle Against Police Repression in late-Twentieth Century Los Angeles,” The 4th World Conference on Remedies to Racial & Ethnic Economic Inequality, Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice, University of Minnesota, October 11, 2012
- Panelist. “Fighting the Segregation Amendment: Black and Mexican American Responses to Proposition 14 in Los Angeles,” New Perspectives on African American History and Culture, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, February 27-28, 2009

Discussant/Commentator

- Comment. “Hope and Struggle for the Inner City: Race, Crime, and Urban Revitalization in the Metropolis,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., April 2-5, 2020
- Comment. “Protective Custody”: Lived Experiences of Mass Incarceration in the United States, 1950-1990,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2019
- Comment. Author Meets Critic: “Dan Berger’s *Captive Nation: Black Prison Organizing in the Civil Rights Era*,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 12, 2015

Conference Panels Organized

- “Just Say No: Intellectualism and Anti-Intellectualism in America’s War on Drugs,” Society for U.S. Intellectual History Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 8-11, 2018
- “New Directions in the History of Police and Cities,” Urban History Association Biennial Meeting, Columbia, SC, October 20, 2018

- “Police, Guns, and Crime: Violence in American Cities from the 1960s to the 1990s,” Urban History Association Conference, Chicago, October 13-16, 2016
- Chris Agee's “The Streets of San Francisco” (Book session), Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 12-15, 2015
- Dan Berger's "Captive Nation" (Book session), Social Science History Association, Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 12-15, 2015
- “Getting Tough: Police Power after World War II,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, November 12-15, 2015
- “Drugs, Jails, and Juvenile Justice: Communities and the State at the Dawn of Mass Incarceration,” Social Science History Association, Toronto, November 6-9, 2014
- “From Riots to Reagan: ‘Get-Tough’ and Community Policing in the City,” Urban History Association Conference, Philadelphia, October 9-12, 2014
- “Policy Innovation and Conflict in Metropolitan Los Angeles Since the 1970s,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 21-24, 2013

Classes Taught

Ball State University

- “From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter,” Ball State University History Department (Spring 2020)
- “Introduction to African American Studies,” Ball State University African American Studies Program (Spring 2020)
- “Introduction to Black History,” Ball State University History Department (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)
- “Police, Prisons, and Punishment in U.S. History,” Ball State University History Department (Spring 2019)
- “Post-World War II America,” Ball State University History Department (Fall 2019)
- “U.S. History since 1877,” Ball State University History Department (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020)

DePauw University

- “African American History,” DePauw University History Department (Fall 2017)
- “Policing and Prisons in U.S. History,” DePauw University History Department (Fall 2017)
- “The Civil Rights Movement,” DePauw University History Department (Spring 2018)
- “Nineteenth-Century United States History,” DePauw University History Department (Spring 2018)

Marian University

- “History of the Modern World,” Marian University, Department of History and Social Science (Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)
- “History of Modern America,” Marian University, Department of History and Social Science, (Fall 2015)

- “United States History,” Marian University, Department of History and Social Science (Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016)
- “Historiography,” Marian University, Department of History and Social Science (Spring 2017)
- “Power of Place: People, Space, and Environment in the City,” Marian University, Department of History and Social Science (Spring 2017)

University of Indianapolis

- “History of the United States since 1865,” University of Indianapolis, Department of History & Political Science, (Spring 2015)
- “Brief History of the United States since 1865,” University of Indianapolis, Department of History & Political Science, (Spring 2015)
- “Brief History of the United States to 1865,” University of Indianapolis, Department of History & Political Science, (Fall 2014)

Other Professional Experience

- Advisory Board, Spirit & Place IUPUI, “Powerful Conversations on Race,” 2017
- City of Inmates Working Group, UCLA Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, 2015-2016
- Consulting Researcher, SAVI, The Polis Center, Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis, 2015

Service

- Network Representative, “Crime, Justice, and the Law” Network, Social Science History Association, 2014-2016

Language and Technical Proficiency

- Spanish: Write and read with moderate proficiency
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS): moderate proficiency

Professional Affiliations

- American Historical Association, 2008 – present
- American Studies Association, 2017 – present
- Association for the Study of African American Life and History, 2018 – present
- Organization of American Historians, 2004 – present
- Social Science History Association, 2013 – present
- Urban History Association, 2014 – present