# Jason L. Newton

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# Appointments

2022-present Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of History/Capitalism Studies affiliate University of North Carolina at Charlotte

2020-2022 Postdoctoral Fellow in the History of Capitalism and Environmental Sustainability, Department of History/Capitalism Studies Program, University of North Carolina Charlotte

2017-2020 Visiting Assistant Professor, Labor History, ILR School, Cornell University, Dept. of Labor Relations, Law, and History

# Education

2017 PhD., History with honors, the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University

Dissertation: "Forging Titans: The Rise of Industrial Capitalism in the Northern Forest, 1850-1950"

2008 B.A., History with honors, Syracuse University

# Research Interests

Nineteenth and twentieth century U.S. history; environmental history; history of capitalism; labor history; race and immigration; gender history

# Books

2024 *Cutover Capitalism: The Industrialization of the Northern Forest October*, (West Virginia University Press, 2024) finalist for the 2025 George Perkins Marsh prize for best book in environmental history presented by the American Society for Environmental History.

# Articles, Chapters, and Reviews

2024 Book Review: “*Profit: An Environmental History*” by Mark Stoll, *Environmental History*, 29, no. 1 (2024).

2023 "Educating the Underworked: Dudley Allen Sargent and the Power of the Rural Working-class Body in the United States, 1875-1919" in Kellie Burns and Helen Proctor eds., *Curriculum of The Body and The School as Clinic: Histories of Public Health and Schooling, 1900-2020*, (Taylor & Francis, 2023)

2023 "Cutover Capitalism: Connecting Labor and Nature in Forest Extraction," *Environmental History*, 28, no. 4 (2023): 656-667

2022 Book Review: “Shredding Paper: The Rise and Fall of Maine’s Mighty Paper Industry,” by Michael G. Hillard.” *ILR Review* 75 no. 1 (2022): 260–261.

2021 Book Review: “What’s Not in Nature’s Metropolis Also Makes It Great” from “Nature’s Metropolis at 30,” *Commonplace: The Journal of Early American Life,* 12/23/2021, http://commonplace.online/article/natures-metropolis-at-30/

2020 "The Winter Workscape: Weather and the Meaning of Industrial Capitalism in the Northern Forest, 1850‐1950," *Technology's Stories*, v. 8, no. 3: "Chill Technologies."

2020 Book Review: *Persistent Callings: Seasons of Work and Identity on the Oregon Coast* by Joseph E. Taylor III, *Environmental History*, 25, no. 3, (2020) 565–567.

2019 Book Review: *From Head Shops to Whole Foods: The Rise and Fall of Activist Entrepreneurs* by Joshua Clark Davis, *ILR Review*, 72 no. 5 (2019) 1279–1281.

2016 "‘These French Canadian of the Woods are Half-Wild Folk’: Wilderness, Whiteness, and Work in North America, 1840–1955." *Labour/Le Travail* 77, no. 1 (2016): 121-150

2014 Review of Curtis, Kent A., *Gambling on Ore: The Nature of Metal Mining in the United States, 1860-1910*. *H-SHGAPE, H-Net Reviews*. June, 2014

# Selected Research Honors, Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

2024-2024 2024-2025 Adirondack Experience Research Fellow, Adirondack Experience, Blue Mountain Lake, NY- $5,000.

2023 Alfred D. Bell, Jr., Travel Grant, the Forest History Society, Durham, NC- $950.

2015 World Wood Day Foundation research grant, sponsored by the International Wood Culture Society, $12,000

2014 Hotchkiss/Ketcham Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, $11,000

2014 Moynihan Challenge Research Grant, Maxwell School, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, $5,000

2014 The Alfred D. Chandler Jr. Travel Fellowship, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA

2013 Alfred D. Bell, Jr., Travel Grant, the Forest History Society, Durham, NC. $950

2013 Nelson Blake Prize, to support research by a highly promising graduate student, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2013 Syracuse University Graduate Student Organization Research Travel Grant, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2012 Weston A. Cate, Jr. Fellowship, Vermont Historical Society, Barre, VT

2012 The Anna K. and Mary E. Cunningham Research Residencies in New York State History and Culture, New York State Library, Albany, NY

2012 New England Regional Fellowship Consortium, managed by the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA, $5,000

2009-2014 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Department of History

2011-2014 Maxwell School Roscoe-Martin Research Fund Award, Maxwell School at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2011-2016 Dean’s Summer Research Grant, Maxwell School at Syracuse University Syracuse, NY

2007 Wortman-Elman Research Fellowship, Department of History, Maxwell School at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

# Non-Peer Reviewed Writing

2025 Commentary: The fear of the ‘other,’ *Albany Times Union* (New York), April 6, 2025 <https://www.timesunion.com/opinion/article/commentary-xenophobia-s-deep-roots->20258906.php

2020 Contributor: "How Will We Write This History?" *DAME*, May 14, 2020, https://www.damemagazine.com/2020/05/14/how-will-we-write-this-history/

2020 "Why do I tell the Franco-American Story?" *French-Canadian Legacy Podcast Blog*, March, 2020, https://fclpodcast.com/blog/

2019 "Logging bill can help correct a long history of injustice in Maine woods." *Bangor Daily News*. May 14th, 2019.

2019 " Hey Snow! It’s Not You, It’s Us." *Edge Effects*, January, 2019, http://edgeeffects.net/hey-snow-its-not-you-its-us/

# Invited Presentations

2025 Society of American Foresters, plenary speaker (forthcoming)

2025 New Directions in Forest History, panelist, roundtable, American Society for Environmental History annual conference.

2024 “Cutover Capitalism: The Industrialization of the Northern Forest,” Conversations in Forest History presented by the Forest History Society, Durham, NC.

2023 “Reexamining the Turner Thesis: Labor and the Limits of Timber Colonialism in North America, 1628-1955, “At the Vanguard of Colonialism: Global Perspectives on Timber Colonialism during the Age of Industrialization,” Swedish Collegium for Advanced Studies in Uppsala, Sweden.

2022 “Roots of Change: The Historical Agency of Trees,” History Department, Ohio Wesleyan University

2018 "'Don't Drink the Vanilla!' Class Formation and Consumption in the Hinterland, 1870-1950,​" Utica College History Department, Utica, NY

2017 "Teddy Roosevelt among the Lumberjacks: Elite Views of the Working-Class Body in the Gilded and Progressive Eras," 2017 Discussion Series: Women and Gender, Oneida Community Mansion House, Oneida, NY

2017 "The Winter Workscape: Weather and the Meaning of Industrial Capitalism in the Northern Forest, 1850-1950" Boston Environmental History Seminar, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA

2016 "Industrial Capitalism and the Wooden World of the Northern Forest", World Wood Day Symposium, Nepal Academy, Kathmandu, Nepal

2015 Labor Camp Workshop: A Special Event Organized by the Geography Department at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2013 "'Send Immediately Something for Us to Eat...': Hunger and Work in Northern Maine in the Mid-nineteenth Century," Maine Historians Forum, Maine Historical Society, Portland Maine

# Journal Referee

*Food and Foodways*

# Media Engagements

2025 “Logging the Maine Woods With Jason Newton.” *Mainely History,* podcast, hosted by Ian Saxine and Tiffany Link.

2025 “Jason Newton *Cutover Capitalism: The Industrialization of the Northern Forest*” in *New Books in Environmental Studies* produced by *New Books Network*, podcast, hosted by Miranda Melcher, https://newbooksnetwork.com/cutover-capitalism

2021 Sarah R. Champagne, “Les Canadiens français, ces migrants ‘pas tout à fait blancs’” *Le Devoir*, October 20, 2021 https://www.ledevoir.com/societe/641430/pas-tout-a-fait-blancs

2020 Jesse Martineau, " Episode 56: Louis Cyr The World’s Strongest Man with Jason Newton," March 23, 2021, in *French-Canadian Legacy Podcast*, produced by Jesse Martineau and Mike Campbell, podcast, https://fclpodcast.com/2021/03/23/episode-56-louis-cyr-the-worlds-strongest-man-with-jason-newton/

2019 Jesse Martineau, "Episode 18: Jason Newton Interview," November 5th, 2019, in *French-Canadian Legacy Podcast*, produced by Jesse Martineau and Mike Campbell, podcast, <https://fclpodcast.com/2019/11/05/episode-18-jason-newton-interview/>

# Selected Presentations

2025 “*Cutover Capitalism: The Industrialization of the Northern Forest*” in the panel, Book Talk: New Books on Modern Histories of Forests and Society Across the Globe, American Society for Environmental History annual conference.

2024 “Lumberjack or Technocrat?: Masculinity as Trade Secret and the Genesis of American Forestry” in the panel Extracting Forest Knowledge: Race, Class, and Gender in Early American Forestry. American Society for Environmental History annual conference.

2023 “Naturalized and Denaturalized: Teaching Capitalism and the Environment,” roundtable. American Society for Environmental History annual conference.

2022 “Reexamining Turner's Frontier Thesis: Connecting Labor and Nature” in the panel: Connecting Work and Nature: New Approaches, Methods, and Archives for the American Society for Environmental History annual conference

2021 "'I will be a farmer until I take a job:' Agrarian Independence and Contract Labor the Rural Northeast, 1850-1930" in the panel: Gig Work in the Woods: The Long History of Contingent Logging Work in the Northeast, 1850-2020 for the Labor and Working-Class History Association annual meeting

2020 "The Winter Workscape: Weather and the Meaning of Industrial Capitalism in the Northern Forest, 1850‐1950" in the panel Chill Technologies: Environmental Infrastructures of Cold at the Society for the History of Technology Virtual Forum

2019 "The Organic Network: Information Flows on American Rivers in the Long Nineteenth Century" in the panel Markets & The Environment II: Markets in The Land, American Society for Environmental History annual conference

2018 "Finding New Frontiers of Value in the Logging Labor Process, 1900-1950" in the panel Re-examining the Lumbermen’s Frontier, American Society for Environmental History annual conference

2016 "The Winter Workscape: Weather and the Meaning of Industrial Capitalism in the Northern Forest, 1900-1950," Histories of Capitalism v2.0, Cornell University

2014 "Common Labor, Common Lands: Farmers, Lumberjacks, and the Rise of Industrial Wage Work in the Northern Forest, 1850-1900," Histories of American Capitalism, Cornell University

# Public History Work

2019-2021 Host of *New Book in Environmental Studies* podcast distributed by the *New Books Network*.

"Michael Hillard, *Shredding Paper: The Rise and Fall of Maine's Mighty Paper Industry*, produced by *New Books Network*," podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/shredding-paper>, (July 27, 2021)

"Daniel Macfarlane, *Fixing Niagara Falls: Environment, Energy, and Engineers at the World’s Most Famous Waterfall*, produced by *New Books Network*," podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/daniel-macfarlane-fixing-niagara-falls-environment-energy-and-engineers-at-the-worlds-most-famous-waterfall-ubc-press-2020> (October 7, 2020)

"Andrew M. Barton & William S. Keeton, *Ecology and Recovery of Eastern old-Growth Forests* *New Books in Environmental Studies* produced by *New Books Network*," podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/a-m-barton-and-w-s-keeton-ecology-and-recovery-of-eastern-old-growth-forests-island-press-2018/> (May, 14 2020)

"Joseph E. Taylor III *Persistent Callings: Seasons of Work and Identity on the Oregon Coast*, in *New Books in Environmental Studies* produced by *New Books Network*," podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/joseph-e-taylor-iii-persistent-callings-seasons-of-work-and-identity-on-the-oregon-coast-oregon-state-up-2019/> (March 26, 2020)

"Raj Patel *A History of the World in Seven Cheap Things: A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet*, in *New Books in Environmental Studies* produced by *New Books Network*," podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/category/science-technology/environmental-studies/> (January 7, 2020)

"Timothy LeCain *The Matter of History: How Things Create the Past*," in *New Books in Environmental Studies* produced by *New Books Network*, podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/category/science-technology/environmental-studies/> (September 30, 2019)

# Accreditations/Professional Workshops

2025 Student Experience Project participant, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

2024 Workshop: Infusing Sustainability into Your Curriculum, Office of Sustainability, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

2019 Let's Get Real: Shame, Power, & Privilege in the Classroom, workshop presented by the Center for Teaching Innovation, Cornell University.

2015 Certification in University Teaching. Jointly awarded by the History Department and the Graduate School's Future Professoriate Program at Syracuse University. Awarded for excellence and experience in teaching at the university level

# Teaching

2022-2024 US History since 1865. UNC Charlotte

2022-2024 Labor vs. Capital: Class Conflict in American History. UNC Charlotte

2020-2023 Capitalism in the USA and Beyond. UNC Charlotte

2020-2023 Nature and American Capitalism. UNC Charlotte

2017-2020 Introduction to U.S. Labor History. Cornell University

2019 Writing Seminar in History: Work in Nature in American History. Cornell University

2018 Independent Study: Lasting Implications of The New Deal

2014 Slaves, Lumberjacks, and Hobos: Work in 19th Century America. Syracuse University

# Services to the Department, Profession, and Community

2023-2025 At large board member of the UNC Charlotte American Association of University Professors

2023-2024 Non-paid historical consulting for the NoDa Neighborhood and Business Association. Charlotte, NC.

2024 Steering committee, Department of History. UNC Charlotte

2024 Reader for Senior Thesis, Jacob Majure. UNC Charlotte

2023-2024 Academic advisor for History majors at UNC Charlotte

2023-204 Coordinator of the UNC Charlotte history department internal research symposium titled “The brown bag”

2023-2024 Member of the Ad-hoc committee on AI/ChatGTP. Working to set departmental standards for the use of LLM AI in the classroom and in research.

2023-2024 Coordinator of History Learning Community. UNC Charlotte. This program guides freshmen through their first year at Charlotte. I will provide academic support as well as plan history and culture related programming for the students.

2022 Reader for Senior Thesis, Julio Campos. UNC Charlotte

2022 Judge for National History Day in North Carolina

2022 Organizer for the symposium Comprehending Charlotte: Urban Complexities and the History of Economic Growth in the New South. The event was co-sponsored by the university’s interdisciplinary Capitalism Studies program, the College of Arts and Architecture, and the Urban Institute

2020 Organizer for the ongoing digital speaker series in capitalism studies at the university of North Carolina at Charlotte

2018 Reader for Senior Thesis, Hunter Moskowitz, Cornell University

2014 Conference Organizer for Should I Stay or Should I Go? Journeys of Belonging and Exclusions, Syracuse University Graduate Student Conference (March)

2012 Graduate Student Representative on Faculty Tenure Committee, Syracuse, University

2011-2016 Future Professoriate Program, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2011-2013 History Department Representative to the Maxwell School, Syracuse, NY

# Professional Affiliations

American Association of University Professors, Member

American Historical Association, Member

American Society for Environmental History, Member

The Labor and Working-Class History Association, Member

# References

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2/28/2024