

Curriculum Vitae

Peter J. Kastor

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Research Interests

- Political history and political culture; American Presidency and American government institutions; early American republic; North American West and North American borderlands; digital history and spatial humanities; public history.

Education

- PhD, Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia.
- MA, Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia.
- AB, Franklin and Marshall College, Departmental Honors in History.

Employment

Tenure Track and Tenured Appointments

- Samuel K. Eddy Professor, Washington University in St. Louis, 2019-Present.
- Professor of History and American Culture Studies, Washington University in St. Louis, 2012-Present.
- Associate Professor of History and American Culture Studies, Washington University in St. Louis, 2007-2012.
- Assistant Professor of History and American Culture Studies, Washington University in St. Louis, 2002-2007.

Administrative and Other Academic Appointments

- Associate Vice Dean of Research, Arts & Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis, 2023-Present.
- Professor of Law (by courtesy), Washington University in St. Louis, 2022-Present.
- TGI Associate, Taylor Geospatial Institute, 2022-Present.
- Chair, Department of History, Washington University in St. Louis, 2014-2021.
- College Lecturer in Arts & Sciences, Assistant Director of American Culture Studies, Postdoctoral Technology Specialist, Washington University in St. Louis, 1998-2002.
- Adjunct Instructor, Graduate Teaching Associate, and Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia, 1993-97.

Publications

Current Projects

- *Creating a Federal Government*. Website that reconstructs the federal workforce from 1789-1829. Additional details available at <https://sites.wustl.edu/creatingafederalgovernment/>.
- “A Distant Reading of Congress, 1870-2010: Coherence, Valence, and Diffusion.” Jo Guldi and Peter J. Kastor, co-authors. Article manuscript currently under review at the *Journal of American History*.
- “Jefferson’s Bag of Words: Computational Analysis for the Early American Republic.” Article manuscript under revision for *The Journal of the Early Republic*.
- “La Vente de la Louisiane.” In *Colonisations: Notre Histoire*. Paris: Le Seuil, 2023 (forthcoming).

Books

- *Washington’s Government: Statebuilding for a New Nation*. Max Edling and Peter J. Kastor, eds. Co-editor and author of “Washington’s Workforce: Reconstructing the Federal Government at the Moment of Its Creation.” Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2021.
- *A French City in Colonial North America*. Jay Gitlin, Peter J. Kastor, and Robert Morrissey, eds. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2021.
- *What So Proudly We Hailed: Essays on the Contemporary Meaning of the War of 1812*. Pietro Nivola and Peter J. Kastor, eds. Washington: Brookings Institution Press, 2012. Co-editor for the volume and author for the essay entitled “The War over Federalism: The Constitutional Battles in the War of 1812,” 122-49.
- *William Clark’s World: Describing America in an Age of Unknowns*. Lamar Series in Western History. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011.
- *America’s Struggle with Empire: A Documentary History*. Peter J. Kastor, ed. Washington: CQ Press, 2010.
- *Empires of the Imagination: Transatlantic Histories of the Louisiana Purchase*. Peter J. Kastor and François Weil, eds. Jeffersonian America Series. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2009. Co-editor for the volume, co-author for the introduction, and author for the essay entitled “They Are All Frenchmen: Background and Nation in an Age of Transformation,” 239-267. *The Nation’s Crucible: The Louisiana Purchase and the Creation of America*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004.
- *The Louisiana Purchase: Emergence of an American Nation*. Washington: CQ Press, 2002. Peter J. Kastor, ed. Author for introduction and essay entitled “Dehahuit and the Question of Change in North America,” 74-89.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- “‘What are the Advantages of the Acquisition?’: Inventing Expansion in the Early American Republic.” *American Quarterly* 60.4 (2008): 1003-35.
- “Sacagawea’s ‘Cold’: Pregnancy and the Written Record of The Lewis and Clark Expedition.” Peter J. Kastor and Conevery Bolton Valencius, authors. *The Bulletin of*

the History of Medicine 82.2 (2008): 276-309.

- “‘Motives of Peculiar Urgency’: Local Diplomacy in Louisiana, 1803-1821.” *The William and Mary Quarterly* 3d. ser., 58 (2001): 819-48.
- “‘Equitable Rights and Privileges’: The Divided Loyalties of Washington County, Virginia, During the Franklin Separatist Crisis.” *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 105 (1997): 193-226.
- “‘Toward ‘The Maritime War Only’: The Question of Naval Mobilization, 1811-1812.” *The Journal of Military History* 61 (1997): 455-80.

Selected Essays, Invited Articles, and Book Sections

- “The Multinational History of Missouri Statehood and the Reimagining of North American Politics.” In *A Firebell in the Past: The Missouri Crisis at 200*, Jeffrey L. Pasley and John Craig Hammond, eds. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2021, Vol. 2.
- “Mapping the Urban Frontier and Losing Frontier Cities.” In *Frontier Cities: Encounters at the Crossroads of Empire*. Adam Arenson, Barbara Berglund, and Jay Gitlin, eds. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013: 165-89.
- “The Many Wests of Thomas Jefferson.” In *Seeing Jefferson Anew: In His Time and Ours*. John M. Boles and Randal L. Hall, eds. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2010: 66-102.
- “‘Adapted to its Present System of Government’: Legal Change, National Reorganization, and the Louisiana Civil Law Digest.” *Tulane European & Civil Law Forum* 24.1 (2009): 137-59.
- “Writing a History for Exploration: What Became of Thomas Freeman and Peter Custis?” In *Freeman and Custis Red River Expedition of 1806: Two Hundred Years Later*. Lawrence M. Hardy, ed. *Bulletin of the Museum of Life Sciences* XIV, Louisiana State University in Shreveport, 2008: 325-44.
- “Guardians and Gatekeepers: Lewis and Clark and the Louisiana Purchase.” In *Finding Lewis & Clark: Old Trails, New Directions*. James Ronda and Nancy Tystad Koupal, eds. Pierre: South Dakota State Historical Society, 2004: 25-44.
- “An Identity by Any Other Name: Attachments in an Age of Expansion.” In *The Louisiana Purchase and its Peoples: Perspectives from the New Orleans Conference*. Paul E. Hoffman, ed. Lafayette: Louisiana Historical Society, 2004: 161-170.
- “‘Young Men and Strangers’: Institutions, Collaborations, and Conflicts in Territorial Louisiana.” *The Journal of the West* 43 (2004): 23-32.
- Introduction. *Lewis and Clark: Journey to Another America*. Alan Taylor, ed. St. Louis: The OASIS Institute, 2003.
- “‘Louisiana is Ours!’: The Louisiana Purchase and the New Problems in American Foreign Policy, 1803-1815.” *Selected Papers from the Consortium on Revolutionary Europe*, Kyle O. Eidahl, Donald H. Howard, and John Severn, eds. Tallahassee: Florida State University Press, 1998: 280-8.

Selected General Audience Publications

- “Hunter Biden is the latest presidential child to stain a White House reputation – but others have shined it up.” *The Conversation*. September 15, 2023. <https://theconversation.com/hunter-biden-is-the-latest-presidential-child-to-stain-a-white-house-reputation-but-others-have-shined-it-up-212233>
- “Marriage in the White House: Do we understand a presidency through its policies or through the state of the president’s marriage?” *The Common Reader*. November 19, 2021 (*The Marriage and Divorce Issue*). <https://commonreader.wustl.edu/c/marriage-in-the-white-house>
- “Presidential Transitions, New Traditions.” Co-Author with Joey Vettiakal. Washington University Center for Humanities, 14 October 2020. <https://humanities.wustl.edu/features/kastor-vettiakal-presidential-transitions>
- “Barack Obama Is Changing What It Means to Be a Former President,” *Fortune.com*, 12 September 2017, <http://fortune.com/2017/09/12/barack-obama-daca-statement-former-president>.
- “How Trump’s Children Are Tarnishing His Presidency,” *Fortune.com*, 24 July 2017, <http://fortune.com/2017/07/24/donald-trump-presidency-donald-trump-jr-jared-kushner>.
- “Fear and Loathing in St. Louis,” *Huffington Post*, 13 October 2016, www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-kastor/fear-and-loathing-in-st-louis_b_12475862.html
- “Neither Clinton Nor Trump Ideal for Town-Hall Format,” *Huffington Post*, 9 October 2016, www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-kastor/neither-clinton-nor-trump-ideal-for-town-hall-format_b_12380818.html
- “Trump vs. Clinton: Three key Moments from the Second Debate,” with Jeffrey McCune and Rebecca Wanzo, *The Conversation*, 9 October 2016, theconversation.com/trump-vs-clinton-three-key-moments-from-the-second-debate-66727
- “The Lewis and Clark Expedition.” In *Encyclopedia Virginia*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2013. https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Lewis_and_Clark_Expedition_The.
- “What Makes an American?” Op-ed piece in Riverside (CA) *Press-Enterprise*, August 6, 2006.
- “Cabinet and Executive Department,” “Louisiana Purchase,” “Mississippi,” “The West.” Entries in Paul Finkelman, ed., *Encyclopedia of the New American Nation*. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2005.
- *The Great Acquisition: An Introduction to the Louisiana Purchase*. Great Falls: Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association, 2003.
- “Making Missouri American: A Crowded Frontier in the Age of Lewis and Clark.” Introductory essay to *Official Manual of the State of Missouri*. Rob Davis, ed. Jefferson City: Secretary of State’s Office, 2003: 12-35.
- “Arthur Campbell.” In *The Dictionary of Virginia Biography*. Richmond: Library of Virginia, 2001, 2: 554-6.

Selected Grants and Fellowships

- “Remapping the Founding,” Taylor Geospatial Institute seed grant, 2023-2024.
- Faculty Fellow, Washington University Center for the Humanities, 2006 and 2021.
- Classroom Innovation Grant, Washington University, 2014 and 2018.
- Summer Faculty Research Grant, Washington University, 2015.
- Digital Innovation Fellow, American Council of Learned Societies, 2013-2014.
- Academic Venture Fund Grant (with Pietro Nivola), joint collaboration between Washington University and the Brookings Institution, 2011-2012.
- Center for Programs Grant (with Gayle Fritz), Washington University in St. Louis, 2007-2008.
- Faculty Research Grant, Washington University in St. Louis, 2007.
- Archibald Hanna, Jr., Fellow, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, 2005-2006.
- Fellowship in the History of Cartography, The Newberry Library, 2005-2006.
- Society of the Cincinnati Research Fellowship, 1993.
- DuPont Foundation Fellowship, 1992-93.

Honors and Awards

- David Haddas Teaching Award, Washington University in St. Louis, 2023.
- Margaret W. Rossiter History of Women in Science Prize (co-recipient with Conevery Bolton Valencius), Awarded by the History of Science Society for the article “Sacagawea’s ‘Cold’: Pregnancy and the Written Record of The Lewis and Clark Expedition,” 2012.
- Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award, 2011.
- Honorable Mention, Single Volume Reference/Humanities & Social Sciences, Association of American Publishers, for *America’s Struggle with Empire: A Documentary History*, 2011.
- Kemper and Leila Williams Book Prize, Louisiana Historical Association/Historic New Orleans Collection, for *The Nation’s Crucible*, 2005.
- Caroline Bancroft Western History Prize honor book, sponsored by the Denver Public Library recognizing outstanding contributions to Western history, for *The Nation’s Crucible*, 2005.
- ArtSci Council Faculty Award, Washington University in St. Louis, 2002 and 2004.
- *Choice* Outstanding Academic Book Selection for *The Louisiana Purchase: Emergence of an American Nation*, 2003.
- Arts & Sciences Freshman Advisor of the Year, Washington University in St. Louis, 2002.

- Phi Alpha Theta Advisor Award, Washington University in St. Louis, 2001.
- C. Coleman McGehee Prize, Virginia Historical Society, 1998.

Selected Conferences and Lectures

- “The Barack Obama Presidency: Hope and Change,” Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency, Hofstra University, April 2023.
- Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, virtual meeting, July 2021.
- “A Firebell in the Past: The Missouri Crisis at 200,” University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 2019.
- “What so Proudly we Hailed: The Contemporary Meaning of the War of 1812,” co-sponsored by the Brookings Institution and the Center for the Constitution at James Madison’s Montpelier, Orange, VA, April 2012.
- Business History Conference, St. Louis, MO, March 2011.
- Civil Digest Bicentennial Colloquium, Tulane University Law School, New Orleans, LA, November 2008.
- Policy History Conference, St. Louis, MO, May 2008.
- Thomas Jefferson in His Time and Our Time, Rice University, Houston, TX, February 2007.
- Freeman and Custis Bicentennial Symposium, Shreveport, LA, June 2006.
- Early American Cartographies Conference, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, March 2006.
- Napoleon’s Legacies, 1804-2004, Yale University, New Haven, CT, December 2004.
- Health and Medicine in the Age of Lewis and Clark, Philadelphia, PA, November 2004.
- American Association for State and Local History, St. Louis, MO, September 2004.
- Policy History Conference, St. Louis, MO, May 2004.
- National Council for History Education, St. Louis, MO, April 2004.
- The Louisiana Purchase in French-American Perspective, Paris, June 2003, Charlottesville, VA, October 2003.
- Commenter, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Berkeley, CA, July 2002.
- Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Lexington, KY, July 1999.
- Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, State College, PA, July 1997.
- Consortium on Revolutionary Europe, Baton Rouge, LA, February 1997.
- Southern Historical Association, Little Rock, AR, November 1996.
- Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, Boulder, CO, June 1996.

Selected Invited Talks and Public Addresses

- Keynote Address, Society for the History of Discoveries, St. Louis, MO, October 2022.
- “Rethinking Monuments & Memorials,” Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, MO, April 2022.
- Keynote Address, Annual Meeting, National Council for History Education, Virtual, March 2022.
- American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA, September 2021.
- Keynote Address, “Statehood Day Program,” Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, MO, August 2021.
- Keynote Speaker, Mercantile Library Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO, July 2009.
- Historic New Orleans Symposium, New Orleans, LA, February 2008.
- Yeatman Lecture, Mercantile Library, St. Louis, MO, November 2007.
- Keynote Speaker, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting, Charlottesville, VA, August 2007.
- Bill Lane Center for the Study of the North American West, Stanford University, November 2006.
- Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, MO, December 2005.
- English Speaking Union, St. Louis, MO, February 2005.
- Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders, Yale University, New Haven, CT, December 2004.
- Missouri Library Association, St. Louis, MO, October 2004.
- Lewis and Clark Rediscovery Project, St. Louis, MO, July 2004.
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Leadership Retreats, Grafton, IL, May 2004-2008.
- National Park Service Lewis and Clark Symposium, St. Louis, MO, March 2004.
- Martin Luther King Day Program, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, MO, January 2004.
- University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, November 2003.
- Keynote Speaker, Gulf South Historical Association, Pensacola, FL, October 2003.
- John Burroughs School, St. Louis, MO, September 2003.
- The Jefferson Symposium, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, June 2003.
- Lewis and Clark Summer Institute for Teachers, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, MO, June 2003.
- Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association, Great Falls, MT, May 2003.
- South Dakota State Historical Society Lewis and Clark Symposium, Pierre, SD, April

2003.

- National Park Service Lewis and Clark Symposium, St. Louis, MO, March 2003.
- National Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Conference, New Orleans, LA, January 2003.
- U.S. Department of Education Summer Program for Teachers, Cooperating School Districts, St. Louis, MO, July 2002.
- National Park Service Louisiana Purchase Symposium, St. Louis, MO, March 2002.
- Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting, Great Falls, MT, July 1998.
- Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting, Charlottesville, VA, July 1995.

Selected Media Appearances

- *St. Louis on the Air*, KWMU St. Louis Public Radio, 16 February 2015, 15 April 2016, 22 July 2015, 14 April 2016, 27 September 2016, 13 April 2017, 3 July 2020, October 6 2020.
- *Midmorning*. Minnesota Public Radio, 2 October 2008, 12 February 2009, and 14 October 2010.
- *To the Point*, KCRW Radio, 28 May 2009.
- *William Clark: The Further Journey*. Documentary produced and directed by James Scott and John Knoll, 2008.
- *The Charlie Brennan Show*. Interviewed by Michael Dixon. KMOX Radio, 4 August 2008 and 14 February 2014.
- *You Are There: Fort Belle Fontaine*. The Higher Education Channel, 2008. Available online at <http://www.hectv.org/epvideos.aspx?action=frompgms&ProgramID=88&EpisodeID=1138&VideoGrpID=49>
- *The States: Missouri*. The History Channel, 2007.
- *America's Louisiana Purchase: Noble Bargain, Difficult Journey*. Louisiana Public Broadcasting, 2007.
- *The Gateway Arch: A Reflection of America*. Civil Pictures, 2006.
- *The Lewis and Clark Rediscovery Project*. Available online at <http://www.l3-lewisandclark.com>.

Teaching

Selected Teaching at Washington University in St. Louis

- “Americans and Their Presidents,” American Culture Studies Graduate Program, Washington University in St. Louis.
- “Proseminar: Introduction to Graduate Study of American History to 1865,” Department of History, Washington University in St. Louis.

- “Freedom, Citizenship, and the Making of American Life,” Department of History, Washington University in St. Louis.
- “American Culture: Traditions, Methods, Visions,” American Culture Studies Program, Washington University in St. Louis.
- “The American Frontier, 1776-1848,” Department of History, Washington University in St. Louis.
- “Lewis and Clark and the American Challenge,” American Culture Studies Program, Washington University in St. Louis.

Teaching and Educational Programming Outside Washington University

- “The American Presidency,” The Oasis Institute, 2020.
- Brookings Executive Education Program, 2015-2020.
- “With Liberty and Justice For All,” St. Louis Public Schools Professional Development Programming, 2004-2010. Funded through Teaching American History grant, U.S. Department of Education.

Service and Professional Activities

University Service at Washington University in St. Louis

- University Service
 - Committee to Examine Remembrance and Commemoration, 2022-Present.
 - Civic Engagement and Dialogue Committee, 2022-Present.
 - Student Sunrise Faculty Advisory Committee, 2022-Present.
 - Instructional Planning Task Force (COVID-19 related service), 2020-2021.
 - Humanities/Social Science Research Reopening Committee (COVID-19 related service), 2020.
 - University Librarian Search Committee, 2016-2017.
 - Race/Social Justice Institute Task Force, 2016-2017.
 - Faculty Library Committee, 2015-2017 (Committee chair, 2016-2017).
 - Board of Directors, Washington University Student Media, Inc., 2008-2012.
- Arts & Sciences Service
 - Search Committee, Dean of Arts & Sciences, 2019-2020.
 - Academic Planning Committee, 2016-2020.
 - Latinx Studies Steering Committee, 2018-2019.
 - Professor of the Practice Committee, 2011-2012.
 - Advisory Board, Washington University Center for the Humanities, 2011-2012.
 - Advisory Committee, American Culture Studies Program, 2009-2012.

- Advisory Board, Arts & Sciences Technology Initiative, 2000-2001.
- Intellectual Community in the Undergraduate Experience Committee, 2000-2001.
- Co-Chair, Digital Cultural Resources Group, Fall 1999-2000.
- History Department Service
 - Graduate Studies Committee, 2021-Present.
 - Chair's Advisory Committee, 2021-2022
 - Third-Year Review Ad-Hoc Committee, 2021-2022.
 - Department Chair, 2014-2021.
 - Director of Undergraduate Studies, History Department, 2008-2009, 2011-2012.
 - Supervisor, Honors Thesis Program, History Department, 2007-2010.
 - Co-Chair, Slavery in the Americas Search Committee, 2007-2008.
- Other
 - Digital Implementation Group, 2007-2010.
 - Interfaculty Initiative for American Indian Affairs, 2006-2011.
 - Digital Projects Steering Committee, 2006-2009.
 - Academic Liaison, Annika Rodriguez Scholarship Program, 2002-2003.
 - Assistant Director, American Culture Studies Program, 2000-2007.

Professional Service

- Grant Reviewer, National Historic Records Publication Commission, National Archives, 2021.
- Member, Richard W. Leopold Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians, 2016-2017.
- Member, Program Committee, 2018 meeting of the Society of Early Americanists, St. Louis, Missouri, 2016-Present.
- Co-Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, 2015 meeting of the Organization of American Historians, 2013-2015.
- Local Arrangements Committee, 2013 meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, 2011-2013.
- Local Arrangements Committee, 2006 meeting of the Western Historical Association, 2006.
- Co-Chair, Legacies Symposium Planning Committee, National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, 2005-2006.
- American Coordinator, The Louisiana Purchase in French American Perspective, a conference sponsored by the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociale, 2003.
- Consulting Scholar, Mark Twain's America Project, Northern Illinois University, 2002-

2005.

- Advisory Board, National Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Commission, 2001-2003.
- Advisory Board, St. Louis Circuit Court Historical Records Project, Missouri State Archives, 2001-present

Community Service

- Board of Trustees, Missouri Historical Society, 2016-Present.
 - Vice-Chair, Board of Trustees, 2023-Present.
 - Joint Executive Compensation Committee, 2023-Present
 - Executive Committee, 2020-Present.
 - Education and Visitor Experience Committee, 2016-Present (Committee Chair, 2020-Present).
- Board of Direction, St. Louis Mercantile Library, 2008-2014 (Board Vice-President, 2011-2014).
- Member, Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) Review Committee, History Department, John Burroughs School, 2012.
- Co-Project Director (with David Thomas Konig), “Lewis and Clark: A Journey Across American Space and Time,” NEH-funded Educational Program, the OASIS Institute, St. Louis Missouri, 1999-2004.

Selected Consulting, Research Supervision, and Other Experience

- Consultant, Plum Pictures, 2011-2012.
- Consultant, Northwest History Consortium, 2005-2009.
- Consultant, Classroom for the Future, Wheeling Jesuit University, 2001-2002.
- Project Director, The Project for Technology in History Education, Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia, 1996-1998.
- Consultant, Multimedia Resource Center, University of Virginia, 1995-96.
- Design Coordinator, “The Augusta Archive,” an initial display version of *The Valley of the Shadow Project*, Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities, University of Virginia, 1995.
- Research Consultant, Corra Films, Inc., 1994-95.
- Graduate Assistant, Electronic Text Center, University of Virginia, 1992-93.
- Graduate Assistant, *The Papers of James Madison*, University of Virginia, 1992-93.
- Research Assistant, Washington, DC, 1990-91. Gathered background information for *Taking to the Air: The Rise of Michael Jordan* (New York, 1992), by James Naughton, *Washington Post* Staff Writer.
- Equal Opportunity Specialist, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Justice Department, Washington, DC, 1989-90.