

## **Rachel F. Seidman**

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### **Education:**

#### **Yale University, Ph.D. in History, 1995**

Fields of specialization: 19th-century American Social History  
U.S. Women's History from the Revolution to World War II  
British Women's History in the Victorian Era  
Dissertation: "Beyond Sacrifice: Women and Politics on the Pennsylvania Homefront during the Civil War." Advisors: Nancy Cott (Director); David Montgomery; John Demos

#### **Oberlin College, B.A. with Highest Honors, 1988**

Double major: History and Classics (Greek)

### **Professional Experience:**

**Director, Southern Oral History Program and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, American Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, July 2017 to Present.** Set and implement strategic direction and research agenda for premier oral history program. Supervise staff, graduate and undergraduate students. Oversee implementation of research projects, curricular programs, and outreach initiatives. Fundraise and steward donations for benefit of the program. Liaison with university and external partners. Teach one-two courses per year. Oversee annual budget of approximately \$150,000.

#### **Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Lecturer, University of Turku, Finland, January-May 2019.**

Taught course on the U.S. Women's Movement and undertook research on use of oral history for the medical humanities in the Finnish context.

**Associate Director, Southern Oral History Program and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill 2011-June 2017.** Coordinated with faculty director; implemented research, teaching, and engagement initiatives; contributed to development efforts; oversaw work of graduate student field scholars; designed and coordinated undergraduate internship program; taught workshops and courses in oral history; built connections and collaborations across UNC campus, communities, other networks; publicized SOHP and increased visibility for variety of audiences; wrote & designed monthly newsletter; founded and co-directed the Moxie Project UNC: Women and Leadership for Social Change in collaboration with UNC Women's Center.

**Visiting Assistant Professor, Duke University, Program in Women's Studies 2011-2017.** Taught courses in Women's Studies and Baldwin Scholars Program (women's leadership development program at Duke University.)

**Associate Director, Center for History, Public Policy and Social Change, and Visiting Assistant Professor, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University** 2007 to 2011. Oversaw development and administration of new academic program; coordinated research, teaching, and outreach efforts; oversaw budget and grant writing. Founded and Co-Directed The Moxie Project: Women and Leadership for Social Change/Duke Engage NYC. Taught courses; mentored students, performed research and writing. Collaborated with other centers, programs and individuals to develop new programs. Directed the Poverty, Ethics and Policy Lab and co-convened and served as administrative director of The Moral Challenges of Poverty and Inequality Project. Developed and coordinated Documenting & Engaging Movements of Social Change (DukeEngage South Africa).

**Research and Policy Associate, Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke University** 2010.

Taught courses; developed and implemented new signature program, The Moral Challenges of Poverty and Inequality; planned and developed other faculty research and outreach programs.

**Research Scholar, Hart Leadership Program, Duke University** 2006-07. Researched and wrote; led faculty discussions on HLP mission and goals; helped plan HLP 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; organized large, national conference for Labor and Working Class History Association.

**Executive Director, Melpomene Institute for Women's Health Research, Saint Paul, MN.** 2004-2006. Provided strategic and day-to-day organizational direction including strategic planning, budget, fundraising, communications and PR, public speaking, marketing, event planning, and administrative duties. Oversaw all programs, internships, fundraising and community relationships; supervised staff, interns, volunteers and consultants.

**Freelance Writer and Editor, 2002-2004.** Projects included award-winning book on the Civil War, articles for newspapers, magazines, and the internet; writing and editing newsletters, books and essays; PR for online history journal. Clients included Oxford University Press, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, *Minnesota Parent*, [www.common-place.org](http://www.common-place.org), *The Concord Monitor*, *The History Channel* magazine.

**Visiting Assistant Professor, Carleton College; 1997-2001.** Taught courses in American History, Women's Studies and American Studies. Taught in Carleton College Summer Writing Program, an intensive college level writing program for high school students, and the Carleton College Teacher's Institute for AP American History teachers.

**Lecturer, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, 1995-96.** Taught American and European History.

### **Selected Publications:**

#### **Books:**

*Speaking of Feminism: Today's Activists on the Past, Present and Future of the U.S. Women's Movement.* Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2019.

*The Civil War: A History in Documents.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Selected by the National Social Studies Association as one of the best books in the Social Studies.

*Our Documents: 100 Milestone Documents from the National Archives*, co-editor.  
New York: Oxford University Press, 2003

### **Articles, Reviews and Essays and Op-Eds:**

Book Review, *Tales from Kentucky Nurses*. Reprint edition. By William Lynwood Montell, *The Oral History Review*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ohr/ohy036>

"Who Needs Feminism? Lessons from a Digital World," *Feminist Studies*, Vol 39, No 2, 2013.

"The Civil War in the Memories of John W. Snipes, Ralph W. Strickland, Edith Mitchell Dabbs, and Reginald Hildebrand," *Southern Cultures*, Volume 19: Number 3 Fall 2013

"After Todd Akin, Why Women—And Men—Still Need Feminism," *Christian Science Monitor*, August 23 2012.

"This Little House of Mine: Grown-Up Thoughts on Laura Ingalls Wilder."  
Online history journal *Common-place*, [www.common-place.org](http://www.common-place.org), April 2003.

"'A Monstrous Doctrine'? Women on Dependency During the Civil War Era," in *The North's Civil War: The Yankee Homefront and the Union War Effort*, Paul Cimbala, ed., Fordham University Press, 2002.

"'We Were Enlisted for the War': Ladies' Aid Societies and Women's Political Participation during the Civil War," in *Making and Remaking Pennsylvania's Civil War*, William Pencak and William Blair, eds., University Park: Penn State University Press, 2001.

Book review, *Bazaars and Fair Ladies: The History of the American Fundraising Fair*, by Beverly Gordon, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, vol 123, no. 4 (October 1999), p. 387-389.

"Women and the Abolitionist Movement," Review Essay,  
*National Women's Studies Association Journal*, 5:2 (Summer 93): 253-261.

"Truly Daughters of the Old Flag: Women's Letters to President Lincoln and the Secretary of War during the American Civil War,"  
*Retrospection*, 5:1 (1992): 27-36

### **Selected Public Presentations, Conferences, Lectures, and Keynote Addresses**

"Stories to Save Lives: Oral Histories of Health, Illness and Medical Care in the U.S. South,"

presented at the University of Turku, University of Oulu, and the Finnish Literature Society in Helsinki, Finland; University College Cork, Ireland; Bergen, Norway; January-May, 2019.

“Speaking of Feminism: Reflecting on the Past, Present and Future of the U.S. Women’s Movement,” presented at the Amerika Haus and at the Renner Institute, Vienna, and at the Pedagogical University, Linz, Austria, April, 2019.

“Stories to Save Lives: Health, Illness and Medical Care in the South” presenter; “Oral History and Health Care” panel organizer and chair, Oral History Association Conference, Montreal, Canada, October 2018.

“U.S. Feminism on the Eve of the 2016 Election: Narratives of the Women’s Movement 2014-2016,” International Oral History Association conference, Jyväskylä, Finland, June, 2018

“Listening for a Change: Empowering K12 Teachers to Use Oral History in their Classrooms,” Panel organizer and presenter, National Council for Public History, Las Vegas, NV, April 2018

“Reflecting Together on Minnesota Feminism and Oral History,” paper presented at Oral History Association, Minneapolis, MN, October 2017 (session chair and presenter)

“Mapping Voices of North Carolina’s Past,” presentation to North Carolina Association for the Social Studies, March, 2017

Oral History Workshops for Theater Professionals, Piraeus, Greece, invited by U.S. State Department, December 2016

“Mapping Voices of North Carolina’s Past,” paper presented at Oral History Association Conference, October 2016

“#Feminism: Speaking Up in the Digital Age,” paper presented at Oral History Association Conference, October 2016

“Listen Up: Podcasts for Pedagogy and Public History,” organizer and roundtable participant, National Council on Public History conference, Baltimore, upcoming April 2016.

“#Feminism: Difficult Conversations in the Digital Age,” invited presentation at Oberlin College, Mary Church Terrell Symposium, February 2016

“Share the Wealth: Bringing Oral History to the Public,” Oral History Association Annual Meeting, October, 2015.

“Giving Voice: Feminist Oral History Approaches to Reproductive Justice,” Chair and Comment, Oral History Association Annual Meeting, October, 2015.

“Inspiring Women: Voices from the Southern Oral History Program,” Presented to Women of Ferrington Village and Person Country Library, April, 2015

“Transitioning from a Moment to a Movement: How Academic & Co-curricular Programs are Engaging Students in Feminism and Social Justice,” Roundtable participant, NWSA Conference, November 2014

“It's Not ‘Just Academic’: Feminist Scholarship and Activism,” Roundtable organizer and participant, NWSA conference, November 2014.

“Academics as Activists,” Plenary Session, Oral History Association Conference, October, 2014

Connecting Communities, Creating Change: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual North Carolina Women’s Summit, Conference organizer and presenter, September 2014

“Ms. Public Intellectual: Feminist Engaged Scholarship in Theory and Practice,” Working Group in Feminism and History, UNC Chapel Hill, March 2014.

Ms. Behaving: How NC Women Make History: NC Women’s Summit. A joint symposium of Women Advance and the Southern Oral History Program at UNC Chapel Hill, organizer and speaker, October 2013

“Igniting Change, Sparking Leadership” Invited Graduation Speaker, Women’s and Gender Studies Department UNC April 2013

“Who Needs Feminism? Lessons from a Digital World,” Panel Chair and Participant, Southeast Women’s Studies Association Conference, Greensboro, NC, April 2013

“Who Needs Feminism? Feminist Pedagogy and Public Engagement in a Digital World.” Women’s History and Activism Conference, Sarah Lawrence University, March 2013

“Why Women’s History is Still Important.” Invited Panelist for “First Ladies of Chapel Hill,” Preservation Chapel Hill fundraiser event, March 2013

“What Young Women Can Teach Us about Feminist Activism,” UNC Law School Conference, Body as Battleground: Why the Law Continues to Fail Women, February 2013

“Who Needs Feminism? Learning from Young Women Who Want to Change the World,” Invited Keynote Address, Orange County Women’s Agenda Assembly, November 2012

“Who Needs Feminism? Learning from Young Women Who Want to Change the World,” Invited Keynote Address, Durham County Women’s Agenda Assembly, September 2012

“Who Needs Feminism? Learning from Young Women Who Want to Change the World,” Invited Talk to Association of Women Faculty and Professionals, UNC, November, 2012

“Legitimate Rape? Current Scholarship and the Debate over Consent and Choice,” roundtable discussant, Sexuality Studies Program, UNC, October, 2012

“Connecting the Past, Present, and Future of the Women’s Movement: The Southern Oral History Program’s ‘Long Women’s Movement in the American South’ Project in the Classroom, Community, and Archive,” Oral History Association national conference, October, 2012.

“Who Needs Feminism? Reflecting and Continuing,” Duke University Women’s Studies Program, September 2012

“Poverty Pedagogy Roundtable: Enlisting the History of Poverty to Change the Public Conversation,” Organization of American History, April 2012.

“Connecting the Past, Present, and Future of the Women’s Movement: The Southern Oral History Program’s ‘Long Women’s Movement in the American South’ in the Classroom, Community and Archives,” UNC Women’s Studies Colloquium, February 2012.

“My Path to Engaged Scholarship,” Invited talk to UNC History Department, February 2012

“From Oberlin to Chapel Hill: My Path to Engaged Scholarship,” Invited Panelist, Historians at Work, February 2012

“She’s Got Moxie: Women’s History, Civic Engagement, and Sustaining Feminist Social Change,” Imagining America Conference, September 2011.

“Moxie In and Out of the Classroom: Connecting Women’s History to Activism Today,” National Women’s Studies Association Conference, November 2011.

“Challenges, Choices and Change: Connecting Women’s History and Public Policy,” Provost’s Working Group on Women and Academic Leadership at UNCC Feb 2010.

“Women and Leadership in History and Today,” BN Duke Scholars Program 2009.

“Documenting and Engaging Movements of Social Change,” Imagining America Conference, Los Angeles, CA, Oct 2008.

“Women’s History Retrospection,” panel discussion, Minnesota Historical Society, March, 2001.

“Thomas Jefferson and his Attitudes toward Women,” Minnesota Humanities Commission, November 1998.

“Tell Papa Not to Laugh at His Farmer Wife’: White and Black Families, True Womanhood, and the ‘Private Sphere’ in Civil War Pennsylvania,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, June 1993.

"Truly Daughters of the Old Flag: Northern Women's Letters to President Lincoln and the Secretary of War during the American Civil War," American Studies Graduate Conference, October 1991.

**Awards, Grants and Honors:**

Fulbright Scholar Award, 2018-19, Finland  
Integrated Curriculum Course Award, University of North Carolina, 2018-19  
Humanities for the Public Good Critical Issues Grant, 2018  
North Carolina Humanities Council, "Carolina Oral History Teaching Fellows" 2017  
FIRE Grant, UNC, "Stories to Save Lives: Using Oral History to Understand the Social Context for Sudden Death," Project member, 2017  
Selected for University Leadership Education and Development Program, 2014  
Schlesinger Library Oral History Research Grant, 2015  
Interdisciplinary Initiatives Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, 2014  
Provost Office Grant in Support of The Moxie Project, 2012  
Ueltschli Family/Apples Service-Learning Course Planning Grant, 2012  
UNC Diversity Initiative Fund Award, 2012  
Travel Grant, Duke University Service Learning Program, 2011  
Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, 1988  
John F. Enders Research Assistance Grant, 1992  
U.S. Army Military History Institute Advanced Research Grant, 1992  
Mellon Foundation Research Grant, 1992  
Blanchard Scholarship Prize in History, 1988  
Life Scholarship Prize in History, 1988  
Leah Deborah Freed Memorial Prize in Women's History, 1988

**Service:**

UNC Internal:

Graduate Student Dissertation Committees:  
Charlotte Fryar, UNC American Studies

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees:

Margaret Foster

Carolina Public Humanities, Faculty Advisory Board, 2017-present  
Black Communities: A Conference for Collaboration, planning committee, 2017-present  
UNC NEH Re-Envisioning the Ph.D. Planning Committee member, 2017  
UNC Revising the General Education Curriculum Committee member, 2017  
UNC History Council, 2014-Present  
UNC Faculty Working Group on Data Studies, 2014  
Scholars and the Public Committee, UNC History Department, 2013

External:

Nominating Committee, Oral History Association, Oct 2018-Present

Program Co-Chair, Oral History Association Annual Meeting, 2017  
Scholars for North Carolina's Future, Co-Founder and Board Member, 2011-2016  
Manuscript Reviewer, *Southern Cultures*, *Journal of Feminist Scholarship*, *Feminist Studies*,  
*Routledge Press*  
Oral History Association, Program Committee and Education Committee, 2013-14  
Pauli Murray Project Steering Committee Member, 2008-10

Duke University:

Faculty Library Council, Fall, 2010-11  
Undergraduate Gender Committee, 2010  
Faculty advisor to Women's Housing Option House, Duke, 2010  
Hart Leadership Program SOL Student advisor, 2006-08  
DukeReads Best of Enemies Committee, 2006

Carleton College:

American Studies Committee,  
Women's Studies Committee  
Distinguished Women Visitors Committees  
Carleton Writing Program Instructor

Oberlin College:

Oberlin College, elected Class Trustee (1988-91 term);  
Regional Oberlin Alumni Council representative 2006-2010

Volunteer Work:

Carrboro High School School Improvement Committee, 2014-16; Chair, 2015-16  
Kol Haskalah, Board, 2007-2010