DANIEL HUTCHINSON

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

History of Artificial Intelligence; Digital History & Digital Humanities; Public History; Twentieth-Century United States; War and Society; American South; History of Southern Religion

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND LEADERSHIP

2011-present	Assistant/Associate/Professor, Department of History, Belmont Abbey College (Belmont, NC)
2024-present; 2017-2021	Chair, Department of History, Belmont Abbey College
2018-present	Program Director, Digital Humanities, Belmont Abbey College
2024-present	Interim Program Director, Public History, Belmont Abbey College

EDUCATION

2011	**Ph.D., U.S. History**, Florida State University
2005	**M.A., U.S. History**, University of Alabama-Birmingham
2002	**B.A., History**, Belmont Abbey College

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DIGITAL HISTORY, AND COMPUTATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Book Project

The Machine-Readable Past: Artificial Intelligence and the Making of Historical Knowledge. In progress; book proposal anticipated 2027.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

"Benchmarking as Source Criticism: From Recognition to Reasoning in LLM Assessment." *Journal of Open Humanities Data* 12: 43, 1-15 (March 2026).

"Mapping the Latent Past: Assessing Large Language Models as Digital Tools through Source Criticism." *Journal of Digital History* 3, no 1. (October 2025).

Article Under Peer Review

"*Nicolay*: Exploring Historic Text Collections with Large Language Models and Retrieval Augmented Generation." *Digital Humanities Quarterly*, special issue on generative AI. Under peer review. (submitted March 2026)

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters and Digital Publications

Erin Jensen and Daniel Hutchinson. "Using Explainpaper to Help Students Better Understand Journal Articles." Teaching and Generative AI: Pedagogical Possibilities and Productive Tensions, eds. Beth Buyserie and Travis N. Thurston (Utah State University Press, 2024): 261-273.

Daniel Hutchinson and Erin Jensen. "Writing Imagery: Multimodal AIs in History and Digital Art." TextGenEd: Continuing Experiments, eds. Tim Laquintano, Carly Schnitzler, and Annette Vee (Writing Across the Curriculum Clearing House, 2024).

"Exploring Speculative Landscapes with Multimodal AI: Visualizing the Plan of St. Gall." MLA-CCC Joint Task Force on AI and Writing, *Exploring AI Pedagogy: A Community Collection of Teaching Reflections* (December 2023).

Daniel Hutchinson and Erin Jensen. "Transforming Writing Assignments with AI: Approaches for Using Artificial Intelligence for Fostering Student Engagement and Comprehension." TextGenEd: Teaching with Text Generation Technologies, eds. Tim Laquintano, Carly Schnitzler, and Annette Vee (Writing Across the Curriculum Clearing House, 2023).

Conference Proceedings

Rotem Dror, Daniel Hutchinson, Mason A. Jones, Tsvi Kuflik, and Victoria Van Hyning. "The Curator's Helper." Adjunct Proceedings of the 32nd ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization. Cagliari, Italy (July 2024).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS ON AI, DIGITAL HISTORY, AND COMPUTATIONAL CULTURE

November 2025: "Old Methods, New Models: Applying Source Criticism to AI Training Data." Past Meets Future: Human-AI Interaction, Digital Humanities, and Cultural Heritage, Association for Information Science and Technology Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

May 2024: "*Nicolay*: Exploring Historic Text Collections with Large Language Models and Retrieval Augmented Generation." Artificial Intelligence for Libraries, Archives, and Museums Community Call.

March 2024: "*Nicolay*: Exploring Historic Text Collections with Large Language Models and Retrieval Augmented Generation." Past Meets Future: Workshop on Human-AI Interaction for Digital History and Cultural Heritage, 29th ACM Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces, Greenville, SC.

September 2023: "Simulating Historical Memory: How Generative AI Represents the Past." Bridging AI Scholarship and Memory Studies Workshop, Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg.

May 2022: "Summoning the Past or Distorting It? Cultures of Machine Learning and the Case for Generative AI." Digital History of Science Working Group, Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine.

April 2022: "Summoning AI Art: Using Machine Learning to Foster Creativity in the Classroom." Digital Humanities Collaborative of North Carolina Institute, UNC Charlotte.

SELECTED AI AND DIGITAL-HISTORY PROJECTS

***Nicolay*: Exploring the Speeches of Abraham Lincoln with AI** (2023-2026). Generative-AI web application developed for the University of Texas-San Antonio as part of a grant-funded U.S. Department of Education Digital Literacy Accelerator initiative. Project: https://nicolay-honestabes-info.streamlit.app/. GitHub: https://github.com/Dr-Hutchinson/nicolay.

Visualizing the St. Gall Plan (2023). Digital application emerging from a collaborative teaching experiment in which students used multimodal large language models to create interpretive text and illustrations for the Plan of St. Gall, a ninth-century Benedictine monastery. Project: https://stgallvisualization.streamlit.app/. GitHub: https://github.com/Dr-Hutchinson/st.gall_visualization.

What Do AIs Know About History? (2022). Interactive digital-history project exploring how large language models perform on a standard AI benchmark for historical knowledge. Project: https://bit.ly/gpt3_history. GitHub: https://github.com/Dr-Hutchinson/What-Do-AIs-Know-About-History .

BAC_HistoryBot & Belmont Abbey College Digital Archive (2019). Community-based digital-history project in which students used digitized yearbooks to build an Omeka archive; images and metadata then supplied content for an automated social-media account. Archive: https://bit.ly/bac_digital_archive. [Currently down for maintenance]

Publishing Captivity: Exploring the Axis Prisoner of War Experience through Camp Newspapers (In development). Digital history project publishing digitized and transcribed POW camp newspapers to support research on wartime captivity, social history, and American political re-education efforts. Preview: https://danielhutchinson.org/publishing_captivity/.

Digital Atlas of the American Homefront (In development): Digital history project visualizing the military-industrial complex in the United States during World War II, and the social impacts of wartime mobilization. Will feature maps, visualizations, and thematic essays for a database of over 2,000 distinct sites in all 50 states.

APPLIED AI RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL COLLABORATION

Scale AI / Remotasks (2023): Evaluated large language model outputs for historical accuracy for Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback (RLHF) training of large language models.

Teaching Tools (2023): Responsible for prompt design for the Brainstorming Tool, a generative-AI application for a higher-education startup.

University of Texas-San Antonio (2023): Developed *Nicolay*, a generative-AI web application for a grant-funded digital-history project.

The Collaboratory (2023): Constructed frameworks for prompt engineering and large language model programming for retrieval and summarization tasks for a natural language programming startup.

OTHER HISTORICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Working Papers

William Van Lear and Daniel Hutchinson. "'A Concentration of Private Power without Equal in History': Economic Concentration and the Investigations of the Temporary National Economic Committee (1938-41)." Working Paper No. 1078, Levy Economics Institute of Bard College (April 1, 2025).

"Thirty Years of Mercy: The Sisters of Mercy and Catholic Responses to the AIDS Crisis in Charlotte, North Carolina, 1991-2021." *U.S. Catholic Historian* 42, no. 1 (Winter 2024): 95-121.

"'We are the most fortunate of prisoners': The Axis POW Experience at Camp Opelika, Alabama, During World War II." *Alabama Review* 64 (October 2011): 285-320.

"Catholics and Jim Crow: Recent Scholarship on Southern Catholicism during the Civil Rights Movement." *Journal of Southern Religion* 12 (2010).

Chapters in Edited Collections

"Roman Catholics." Religious Traditions of North Carolina: Histories, Tenets, and Leaders, eds. James Clark, Glenn Jonas, and Willis Whichard (McFarland & Company, 2018): 266-286.

"Defending the Lands of Their Ancestors: The African American Military Experience in Africa During World War II." Africa and World War II, eds. Judith Byfield and Carolyn Brown (Cambridge University Press, 2015): 401-419.

Conference Proceedings

"Transatlantic Relations in a Globalized World: Creating Cooperation or Conflicts?" 35th Young Leaders Conference, American Council on Germany. Munich and Berlin, Germany (2013).

Selected Reviews:

Marilyn G. Miller, Port of No Return: Enemy Alien Internment in World War II New Orleans, *Journal of Southern History* 88 (November 2022): 801-802

Patrick Hoehne and Jackie Klausner, "Riot Acts: A Digital History of Extralegal Violence (1783-1865)", *Journal of American History* 108 (March 2022): 887-888

Matthias Reiss, Controlling Sex in Captivity: POWs and Sexual Desire in the United States during the Second World War, *Michigan War Studies Review* (November 2020)

Colin F. Baxter, The Secret History of RDX: The Super-Explosive that Helped Win World War II, *Journal of Southern History* 85 (August 2019): 739-740;

Peer Reviewer:

Conference reviewer, International Digital Humanities Conference, Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations

Digital Humanities Quarterly

Journal of Digital History

Taylor & Francis Press

Routledge Press

Selected Reference Works:

"Military Bases in the United States," Encyclopedia of Military Science (Sage, 2013);

"Alabama's World War II POW Camps," Encyclopedia of Alabama (2008);

"Military-Industrial Complex," "Missile Gap," "MX Missiles," "Neutron Bomb," "Strategic Air Command," and "U.S.-Soviet Hotline," Postwar America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic History (M.E. Sharpe, 2007);

"Prisoners of War (Axis)," Encyclopedia of the Home Front: World Wars I and II (ABC-Clio, 2006).

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

Awards and Fellowships

2015: Adrian Award for Excellence in Teaching, Belmont Abbey College

2012: Milo B. Howard Award for Best Journal Article, Alabama Historical Association

2007: J. Leitch Wright, Jr. Award for Excellence in Research, Florida State University

2006-2011: Dan and Sylvia Walbolt Doctoral Fellowship, Florida State University

2006: Dean's Research Award, University of Alabama-Birmingham

2005: Kele Award, European History Section of the Southern Historical Association

2004: David Hart White Outstanding Graduate Student Award, University of Alabama-Birmingham

Honors

2023: Induction into the National Council of Phi Alpha Theta

2013: Selection to the Young Leaders Program, American Council on Germany

External Grants

2020: Community Research Grant, North Carolina Humanities Council

2010: Graduate Student Travel Grant, Agricultural History Society

2009: Friends of the Archives Fellowship, Alabama Department of Archives and History

2009: Formby Library Research Fellowship, Texas Tech University

2009: General and Mrs. Matthew B. Ridgeway Research Grant, U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

2008: ABC-CLIO Research Grant, Society of Military History

2007: Social Science History Association-Rockefeller Travel Award

2003: Prisoner of War Research Grant, Andersonville National Historic Site

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Invited, Institute, and Workshop Presentations

November 2025: "The Gastons of New Bern: A Family's Experience in Revolution and Building a New Nation." Free and Open Societies Project Lecture Series, North Carolina State University.

April 2024: "Allies or Adversaries? Italian POWs through the Lens of U.S. and German POW Newspapers." Preserving Memories of War Captivity and Their Legacy: Museums and Repositories, Center for Italian Modern Art, New York City.

February 2023: "Observing Alabama From Behind Barbed Wire: German POWs, Camp Newspapers, and Perceptions of the American South during World War II." 15th Southeast German Studies Workshop, University of Alabama.

June 2021: "Mapping Racial Violence and Civil Rights Activism during World War II." Institute for Digital Methods for Military History, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media & National Endowment for the Humanities.

Conference Papers

February 2026: "Defending the Land of Their Ancestors: The African American Military Experience in Africa during World War II." Africa and the African Diaspora in the World Wars, Society for Black Military Studies and World War II Institute on the Human Experience, Florida State University.

April 2024: "Thirty Years of Mercy: The Sisters of Mercy and Catholic Reactions to the AIDS Crisis in Charlotte, North Carolina." North Carolina Association of Historians, UNC Pembroke.

January 2022: "Publishing Captivity: Exploring the Axis POW Experience through Camp Newspapers." Modern Language Association, Washington, DC.

July 2021: "German POWs, Camp Newspapers, and Wartime Perceptions of the United States during World War II." Strange Meetings: Enemy Encounters 1800-2020, Imperial War Museum & Cardiff University, United Kingdom.

October 2020: "Visualizing Political Re-Education: Exploring German POW Newspapers during World War II via the Digital Humanities." German Studies Association, Washington, DC.

March 2013: "The Bus As Battleground: African American Soldiers and Public Transportation during World War II." Society of Military History, New Orleans, LA.

October 2012: "Between Scylla and Charybdis: The Repatriation of Soviet POWs in the United States During World War II." German Studies Association, Milwaukee, WI.

June 2011: "Southern (In)Hospitality: Military Bases and Civil-Military Relations in the American South During World War II." Society of Military History, Lisle, IL.

November 2010: "Caught Between Sickle and Swastika: The Odyssey and Repatriation of Soviet POWs Held in the United States During the Second World War." Southern Historical Association, Charlotte, NC.

June 2010: "Hamlets into Boomtowns: Military Installations and the Transformation of the Rural South During World War II." Agricultural History Society, Orlando, FL.

April 2009: "I am ready for death now any minute": Resistance, Motivation, and Repatriation of Soviet POWs Held in America During the Second World War." Coming Home? Conflict and Return Migration in Twentieth-Century Europe, University of Southampton, United Kingdom.

January 2008: "Preparing For The Teaching Job: The Florida State Way." American Historical Association, Washington, DC.

November 2007: "Sites of Contention: Southern Military Bases and the Dynamics of Race During World War II." Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL.

November 2006: "Friend or Foe? The Social Dynamic Between German POWs and Americans in Alabama During World War II." Southern Historical Association, Birmingham, AL.

PUBLIC HISTORY AND COMMUNITY-BASED SCHOLARSHIP

Thirty Years of Mercy Oral History Project (2019-2024). Collaborative oral history and digital-retrospective project documenting residents, caregivers, and staff at the House of Mercy, a Charlotte-area medical residence for people living with HIV/AIDS. Collaborators: Mary Ellen Weir and Latoya Gardner. Supported by a North Carolina Humanities Council Community Research Grant (2020). Project: https://thirtyyearsofmercy.com/site/.

Spencer Mountain Interpretative Plan, Carolina Thread Trail (2025-present). Member of a county-wide task force researching and writing interpretive panels documenting the history of Spencer Mountain in Gaston County, North Carolina.

***USS Thresher* Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Foundation** (2012-2019). Composed the legislatively mandated independent study supporting establishment of an Arlington National Cemetery memorial for the *USS Thresher*. The memorial was approved by the Secretary of the Army and installed in 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Belmont Abbey College (2011-present), Instructor of Record

History:

HI101-102: History of Western Civilization I-II
HI201-202: U.S. History to 1877/since 1877
HI300: Introduction to Digital Humanities
HI306: Socrates vs. Confucius: Comparative Political Cultures in World History
HI313: Old South
HI314: New South
HI321: Leaders and Leadership in Modern History
HI333: World War II
HI334: Religion and Revolution in Early America
HI364: History at Play: The History of Games, and Games as History
HI385: Cold War
HI401: Senior Thesis
HI403: Catholicism in America
HI412: Civil Rights Movement
HI413: Nation of Nations: Immigration in American History

Digital Humanities:

DH300: Introduction to Digital Humanities
DH400: Methods in the Digital Humanities
DH415: Digital Humanities Practicum
DH453: Digital Humanities Internship
DH499: Digital Humanities Independent Study

Co-curricular teaching:

FS101: First Year Symposium
HO205: Honors College - Greek Histories

HO455: Honors College - Senior Seminar
TM101: More Leadership Program Freshman Seminar

Study abroad teaching and supervision:
History and Culture of Rome Study Abroad Course
History and Literature of Ireland Study Abroad Course

Florida State University (2007-2011), Instructor of Record, History Department:
AMH2020: U.S. History since 1865
AMH2097: Race, Ethnicity, and Nationality in American History

SELECTED PEDAGOGICAL AND DIGITAL-METHODS TRAINING

2022: "Introduction to Machine Learning" and "Introduction to spaCy," Text Analysis Pedagogy Institute, JSTOR Labs
2021: Institute for Digital Methods for Military History, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (George Mason University) & National Endowment for the Humanities.
2020: Oral History Institute Training Workshop, University of Utah / Science History Institute.
2019: THATCamp for the Digital Humanities, UNC Charlotte
2012-2018: Reacting to the Past curriculum workshops: "Red Clay, 1835" (University of Georgia, 2018); "Chicago, 1968" (Tallahassee Community College, 2016); "Frederick Douglass, Slavery, Abolition, and Constitution: 1845" (Duke University, 2013); "Patriots, Loyalists, and Revolution in New York City, 1775-1776" (Georgia State College, 2012).
2006-2011: Preparing Future Faculty Program, Florida State University
2006: Teaching College History course, Florida State University
2002-2006: Director of Admissions, St. Bernard Preparatory School, Cullman, Alabama.

SELECTED MEDIA AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

AI and digital-history:
If, Then: Technology & Poetics interview on TextGenEd and teaching with AI (September 2023)
Liquid Margins podcast interview on social annotation (August 2023)
Teaching History Her Way podcast on AI as an educational tool (February 2023).

History:
Interviewed for *Belmont Juneteenth Celebration* documentary (July 2022);
Interviewed for *Gaston Gazette* on African American History Month (May 2019);
Interviewed on *Alabama History Podcast* (Alabama Historical Association) on the Axis POW Experience (August 2012);
Interviewed on *Florida Frontiers Podcast* (Florida Historical Association) on World War II military mobilization in Florida (August 2010);
Interviewed for *Anniston Star* on historical preservation of German POW arts and heritage (June and May 2009);
Interviewed for *History News Network* on German POWs during World War II (September 2006);
Interviewed for FOX-6 News (Birmingham, AL) on German POW experience (June 2004).

Selected Public Lectures
August 2026: "Charting *Terra Incognita* with the *Imago Dei*: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition and Pedagogies of Generative AI." *Belmont Abbey College AI Conference*.
August 2025: "Peering into the Black Box: Information Literacy and Debating the Role of AI in the Classroom." *Belmont Abbey College AI Conference*.

March 2025: With Farrell O'Gorman, "Martin Luther King Jr. and Letter from a Birmingham Jail." *America250 Lecture Series*, Belmont Abbey College, sponsored by the Jack Miller Center.

March 2025: "Abraham Lincoln and the Declaration of Independence." *America250 Lecture Series*, Belmont Abbey College, sponsored by the Jack Miller Center.

January 2025: "The Gastons of New Bern: A Family's Experience in Revolution and Building a New Nation." *Lifelong Learning and Enrichment Series*, Covenant Village Retirement Community.

June 2025: "Erin's Children in the Queen City: Three Centuries of the Irish in Charlotte." Charlotte Irish Connections Annual Meeting.

January 2025: "Piedmont Homefront: Remembering Gaston County in World War II." Gaston County Museum Fireside Chat series.

EVENT ORGANIZATION

2027: Organizer, Carolinas Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference, Belmont Abbey College

2025-2026: Co-organizer, "Ireland and the American Revolution: The Carolinas and Beyond," in partnership with the Irish Consulate (Atlanta), Charlotte Irish Connection, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and Belmont Abbey College for semi-quincentennial commemorations of the Declaration of Independence.

2024: Co-organizer, Abbot Leo Haid Symposium on Southern Catholicism, Belmont Abbey College.

2022: Organizer, Carolinas Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference, Belmont Abbey College.

2019-2027: Chair, Cuthbert Allen Lecture Series Committee, Belmont Abbey College.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Service to the Profession

2027-2030: Phi Alpha Theta Executive Committee;

2025-2026: Phi Alpha Theta Advisory Board;

2023-2025: Phi Alpha Theta National Council;

2023-2025: Nash Journal Prize Committee and Best Chapter Award Prize Committees, Phi Alpha Theta

Belmont Abbey College

Leadership:

Chair, Department of History (2017-2021; 2024-present);

Director, Digital Humanities program (2018-present);

Interim Director, Public History program (2024-present);

Phi Alpha Theta Faculty Advisor (2017-present).

Elected and appointed service:

AI Pedagogy Committee (2026-present)

Faculty Welfare Committee (2025-present);

AI Policy Group (2023-present);

Tenure and Promotion Committee (2019-2024);

COVID-19 Technology Advisory Group (2020);

Vice Chair, Faculty Assembly (2014-2016);