

Lila O’Leary Chambers, PhD

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EDUCATION

- 2021** **Ph.D. (distinction)** in History, New York University.
Dissertation Title: “Liquid Capital: Alcohol and the Rise of Slavery in the British Atlantic, 1623-1736.”
Awarded “Outstanding Dissertation” from NYU Department of History.
Supervised by: Jennifer L. Morgan (co-advisor), Nicole Eustace (co-advisor)
- 2018** **M. Phil. (distinction)** in History, New York University.
Exam Fields: Atlantic History; Race, Slavery, and Commodification in the Atlantic World
- 2013** **B.A. *summa cum laude***, in History and English Literature, State University of New York at Geneseo. Graduated with Honors. Edgar Fellows Scholar.

CURRENT POSITION

2022-Present Research Fellow, Centre for the Legacies of British Slave-Trading, University College London.

PAST POSITIONS

2021-2022 Research Fellow, Atlantic Slavery and its Afterlives, Department of Social and Cultural Analysis, New York University.

PUBLICATIONS

Public Writing

“Alcohol, Armies, and Contested Sovereignty in Early Modern Ireland,” *The Collation: Research and Exploration at the Folger Shakespeare Library*. February 2022.

<https://collation.folger.edu/2022/02/alcohol-armies-contested-sovereignty/>

“Toppling Colston, Centering Black Lives,” Online Publication. *Insurrect! Radical Thinking in Early American Studies*. August 2020. <http://insurrecthistory.org/2020/08/05/toppling-colston-centering-black-lives/>

SELECT COMPETITIVE FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2022 OI-NEH SHARP Fellowship, OIEAHC.
2022 Outstanding Dissertation Award, Department of History, NYU.

2021 “Before Farm to Table” Research Fellowship, Folger Library, December 2021.
 2020/1 Quinn Fellow, Doris G. Quinn Foundation.
 2020/1 Research Associate, McNeil Center for Early American Studies.
 2019-20 Consortium Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies.
 2019 Doctoral Fellowship, Remarque Institute, NYU, Spring 2019.
 2018 Huntington Library Travel Grant for Research in the UK, Summer 2018.
 2018 Center for the Humanities, NYU, Grants-in-Aid Conference Support, April 2018.
 2017 Jean Downey Fellowship for Irish History.
 2017 Provost's Global Research Initiatives Fellowship, NYU London, Fall 2017.
 2014-2019 MacCracken Fellowship, NYU.
 2014-2019 Berger Fellowship for the Study of Europeans in the Atlantic World, NYU.

INVITED TALKS

“Transforming Waste into Wealth: The Political Economy of Alcohol in the Leeward Islands, 1670-1737,” *Colloquia Series*. Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, February 2022.
 “Rum and Politics in the Early Leeward Islands,” *Intoxicating Spaces Project Seminar Series*. October 2020.
 “Alcohol and the Violence of Dispossession in the Early Leeward Islands,” *NYU Atlantic Workshop*, NYU. September 2020.
 “Gendered Protest in the Creation of the Age of Revolutions,” Roundtable, *Foundations of Independence: Protest and Communication in Revolutionary America, 1770 to 2020*, Virtual Conference, September 2020.
 “Liquid Claiming: Alcohol and Authority in Kalinago-English Interaction in the Leeward Islands, 1623-1700,” *Brown Bag Lunch Series*, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, February 2020.
 “‘To drink the Royall Companies health and good prosperity’: Spaces of Alcohol Consumption on the Gold Coast, 1672-1713,” *Intoxicants, Space, and Material Culture Workshop*, Yale University, New Haven, April 2018.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conferences Organized

Organizer, *(En)gendering the Atlantic World*, New York University, April 2018.

Co-organizer, *Experimentation and Expertise: Flows of Knowledge in the Atlantic World*, New York University, May 2016.

Panels Organized

Organizer, “Conceptualizing Indigenous Sovereignty,” *North American Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting*, November 2020.

Organizer, “Race, Commodity Management, and Empire-Building in the Early Modern Caribbean,” *North American Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting*, Vancouver, BC, November 2019.

Co-organizer, “Closing Roundtable: Ungendering the Atlantic World,” *(En)gendering the Atlantic World*, NYU, April 2018.

Co-organizer, “Closing Roundtable: Experimentation and Expertise in the World of Atlantic Slavery,” *Experimentation and Expertise: Flows of Knowledge in the Atlantic World*, New York University, May 2016.

Conference Papers Presented

“Labor Equity and New Forms of Digital Scholarship in Early American Studies,” *The Americas Online: Thinking Digitally About Early America*, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Zoom, November 11-13, 2021.

“A Riotous and Tumultuous Meeting?: Alcohol and the Contested Politics of Space in the early Leeward Islands,” *Intoxicating Spaces: Global and Comparative Perspectives*, Zoom, July 2021.

“Against Timelessness: Alcohol and Power in the Middle Passage, 1670-1713,” *Eighteenth-Century Africa Workshop*, Centre of African Studies, University of Cambridge, June 2021.

“Keywords in African American Studies: Confusion,” Roundtable Participant, *Society of Early Americanists Annual Conference*, Zoom, March 2021.

“Rum, Sugar, and Slavery: The Political Economy of Alcohol in the Early Modern Leeward Islands,” *NACBS*, Vancouver, BC, November 2019.

“Alcohol, Labor, and Trade on the Gold Coast, 1672-173,” *McNeil Center for Early American Studies Dissertation Fellows Workshop*, University of Pennsylvania, September 2019.

“Liquid Crossing: Alcohol, Consumption, and Control on early British Slaving Ships,” *Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture Annual Conference*, University of Pittsburgh, June 2019.

“‘[We] Must Furnish them with Toys and Strong Liquors’: Anglo-Indigenous Alcohol Diplomacy in the Early English Leeward Islands,” *Britain and the World Annual Conference*, University of Exeter, June 2018.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

***Insurrect! Radical Thought in Early American Studies*, Online Magazine**

Managing Editor, Co-founder, 2020 – Present.

New York Botanical Garden

Historical Consultant, “Black Botany: The Nature of Black Experience,” Exhibit, March 2020.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Berkshire Conference of Women Historians
Early Career Fellow, Royal Historical Society
Phi Beta Kappa
Omohundro Institute Associate
McNeil Center for Early American Studies
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora
Society of Early Americanists
Southern Historical Association

LANGUAGES

English (Native); Spanish (Reading); French (Reading).

