

María Esther Hammack, M.A., PhD
Assistant Professor of African American History
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Professional Appointments

2023- Present Assistant Professor of African American History.
The Ohio State University.

Education

2015-21 Ph.D. United States History. The University of Texas at Austin
2013-15 M.A. Atlantic World. East Carolina University

Languages

Spanish: Native Language English: Fluent French: Basic Reading

Select Publications

Book Manuscript

Hammack, María Esther. *Channels of Liberation: Freedom Fighters in The Age of Abolitions*.
Manuscript. Under consideration by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

Select Peer-Reviewed Work

Hammack, María E. "Borderlands Emancipations: Freedom and the Vexing Imperatives of the State." A Roundtable. *Journal of the Civil War Era Roundtable* 15, no. 4 (December 2025). Forthcoming, December 2025.

Hammack, María E. "Unruly and Refusing to Submit: Black Women, Fugitive Assistance Networks, and Freedom Fighting in the Texas Borderlands." *Bonds of Rebellion: Rebels, Insurgents, and Revolutionaries in the Gulf South Borderlands*. Edited by Paul Barba. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, March 2025.

Hammack, María E. "Entitled to her Freedom": Isabella, a Black Woman's Pursuit of Liberty Across the Upper Gulf Regions. *The Journal of The Texas Gulf Historical and Biographical Record*, 58. (December, 2022): 37-63.

Select Book Reviews

Hammack, María E. Review of *West of Slavery: The Southern Dream of a Transcontinental Empire*, by Kevin Waite. *The Journal of African American History* 109, no 1 (Winter 2024): 134-36.

Hammack, María E. (2021). Review of *African Americans in Central Texas History: From Slavery to Civil Rights*. Edited by Bruce Glasrud and Deborah M. Liles. *The New Mexico Historical Review* 97. no. 1. (Winter 2023): 105-7.

Hammack, María E. Review of *South to Freedom: Runaway Slaves to Mexico and the Road to Civil War*, by Alice Baumgartner. *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 125, no. 3 (Autumn 2022): 312-13.

Select Fellowships & Awards

2025-2027 Accelerator & Amplifier Large Grant. Ohio State University. \$15,000 USD
2025 The Rodica C. Botoman Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching & Mentoring.
2024-26 Humanities in Place Grant. Mellon Foundation. [Co-PI] \$150,000 USD.
2020-21 Mellon ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship

2019-20 Fulbright Research Fellowship (Canada)

Select Public History Work

- 2025 Curator. "Risking Everything for Freedom: Women Who Crafted the Underground Railroad to Mexico." The Plano African American Museum. Plano, Texas. March 1, 2025-June 30, 2025.
- 2022 Curator. "Black Women Who Fought for Freedom, North and South of US Slavery" The Amherstburg Freedom Museum. Ontario, Canada. May 15th, 2022-August 30, 2022.
- 2025 Podcast. "[Freedom Fighters in Mexico and Texas.](#)" *Hungry for History*. Hosted by Evan Longoria and Maite Gomez-Rejón. January 23, 2025.
- 2024 Podcast. "[Black Mexican Independence Revolutionaries.](#)" November 30, 2024.
- 2022 Podcast. "[Luchadores de Libertad en el Siglo XIX.](#)" *Yo Soy Negra Podcast* con Jumko Ogata Aguilar. Podcast. Ep. 16. Temporada 2. August 23, 2022.

Select Academic Conferences & Symposia

- Roundtable Presentation. "*Bonds of Rebellion: Rebels, Insurgents, and Revolutionaries in the Gulf South Borderlands.*" Organization of American Historians (OAH). April 4, 2025.
- Organizer. Symposium. "[Forging Freedom: AfroLatin American Independence Movements.](#)" Organized in collaboration with the Center for Latin American Studies. The Ohio State University. October 1, 2024.
- Paper Presentation. "Negro, Feroz y Valiente": Black Mexican Revolutionaries Who Anchored Freedom for Black Americans in 19th Century Mexico." Association of African American Life & History (ASALH) Conference. September 27, 2024.
- Roundtable Presentation. "Archives of Revolution, Slavery, and Enslaved Revolutionaries." Archives of Revolution. Brown University. June 20-22, 2024. Providence, Rhode Island.
- Keywords Panel (Organizer): Paper Presentation "Keyword: Freedom Fighters." Facing East Conference (in honor of Daniel Richter). McNeil Center for Early American Studies. July 2023

Select Service

- 2025-27 Co-Chair. Center for Historical Research. The Ohio State University
- 2024-26 Committee Member. Advisory Council. History Department. The Ohio State University
- 2024-26 Elected Committee Member. Nominations Committee. SHEAR.
- 2023-24 Conference Program Committee. Western History Association.
- 2022-23 Conference Program Committee. Texas State Historical Association.
- 2021-22 Conference Program Committee. Western History Association.
- 2021-24 Graduate and Early Career Committee. American Historical Association.
- 2020-2025 Mentor. Fulbright Latinx.