

**KARA L. McCORMACK, PhD**

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**EDUCATION**

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- Ph.D.                    **University of New Mexico**, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
American Studies, 2013  
Dissertation: “Imagining ‘the Town too Tough to Die’: Tourism, Preservation,  
and History in Tombstone, Arizona”  
Graduated with distinction
- M.A.                    **University of Massachusetts Boston**, Boston, Massachusetts  
American Studies, 2004  
Thesis: “Patriot Games: Patriotism, National Identity, and the American Rodeo”
- B.A.                    **New York University**, New York, New York  
Journalism, Women’s Studies, 1989

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

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- 2013–2016            **Stanford University**  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Thinking Matters Program

**PUBLICATIONS**

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**Monograph**

- 2016                    *Imagining Tombstone: The Town Too Tough to Die*, University Press of Kansas,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

**Journal Article**

- 2013                    “Safeguarding Its Past, Securing Its Future: Preservation and Performance in  
Tombstone, Arizona,” *Journal of Arizona History* 54 No. 2: 175–200.

**Solicited Book Reviews**

- 2017                    *Branding the American West: Paintings and Films, 1900–1950*, Marian Wardle and  
Sarah E. Boehme, eds. *New Mexico Historical Review* (Forthcoming)

- 2016 *American Mythmaker: Walter Noble Burns and the Legends of Billy the Kid, Wyatt Earp, and Joaquín Murrieta*, by Mark J. Dworkin. *New Mexico Historical Review* 91 No. 1: 101-102.
- 2006 *Cowboys as Cold Warriors: The Western and U.S. History*, by Stanley Corkin. *The Journal of Popular Culture* 39, No. 2: 333-335.

### **In Preparation**

*Invasion: Tourism and Public Image-Making in Roswell, New Mexico*, Book Manuscript. Target Press: University of Oklahoma Press

### **Web-Based Publications**

- 2016 “Call of the Wild: HBO’s *Westworld* Serves Up Violence and Redemption,” Bill Lane Center for the American West, Stanford University
- 2015 “Engaging Freshmen and Sophomores in the Humanities: Creative Ideas that Work,” *Stanford Teaching Commons*, Stanford University
- 2014 “How to Assign and Grade a Multimedia Project,” *Stanford Teaching Commons*, Stanford University

### **RESEARCH GRANTS AND HONORS**

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- 2012 Research Grant, Department of American Studies, University of New Mexico
- 2011 Research Grant, Graduate Professional Student Association, University of New Mexico
- 2005 Book Award for academic excellence and outstanding final project, UMass Boston

### **ACADEMIC EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

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- 2008-2013 Associate Editor, *New Mexico Historical Review*, University of New Mexico

### **GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS**

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- 2017 “‘Equal Parts Deadwood and Disney’: Tourism, Authenticity, and Popular Culture in Tombstone, Arizona,” University of Massachusetts, Boston, 27 March

- 2016 “Equal Parts Deadwood and Disney’: Tourism, Authenticity, and Popular Culture in Tombstone, Arizona,” Merkle Family Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series of the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West, University of Oklahoma, 17 November

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

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### Organized Panel

- 2017 Dystopian West: Contamination, Survival, and Redemption  
Paper: “Apocalypse, Frontier Nostalgia, and Salvation in *The Book of Eli* and *The Road*,” Western History Association, San Diego, California, 1-4 November

### Papers Presented

- 2014 “Global Round-Up: Circulation and Consumption of the Mythic West Around the World,” Western History Association, Newport Beach, California, 15-18 October
- 2012 “Hollywood, History, and Hyperreality in Tombstone, Arizona,” National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations, Boston, Massachusetts, 11-14 April
- 2011 “Ensuring Its Future by Celebrating Its Past: Historicity and Preservation at Tombstone’s Courthouse Museum,” National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations, San Antonio, Texas, 20-23 April
- 2009 “On to Florida!: Tourism and the Urban Working Class,” National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations, New Orleans, Louisiana, 8-11 April
- 2008 “The Eastern Bloc Meets the Mythic West: East Germany, Hollywood, and the Western,” American Studies Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 16-19 October
- 2005 “Patriot Games: Performing Gender and Sexuality in the American Rodeo,” Northeast Popular Culture Association, Fairfield, Connecticut, 28-29 October

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Tufts University, Visiting Lecturer

The Human Project: Science Fiction, Society, and Identity (fall 2017)

## **Stanford University, Lecturer in the Humanities**

Dystopian California: Imagining the Golden State in Science Fiction and Disaster Films (spring 2016)  
Race and American Memory (fall 2015, fall 2016)  
Reading the Body: Medicine, Culture, and the Self (spring 2015, spring 2016)  
Technological Visions of Utopia (fall 2013, fall 2014)  
Media and Message (spring 2014)

## **University of New Mexico, Instructor of Record**

Science Fiction in American Culture (spring 2012, summer 2012, fall 2012, spring 2013)  
Urban Legends (fall 2010, spring 2010, fall 2011, spring 2011)  
Introduction to Southwest Studies (fall 2009)  
Introduction to Popular Culture (fall 2007, spring 2008, spring 2009)

## **MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER**

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University of Oklahoma Press, 2017

University Press of Kansas, 2016

## **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

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### **Stanford University**

Co-planner, All-Fellows Orientation, Thinking Matters Program, 2016

Course Coordinator, Race and American Memory, Thinking Matters Program, 2016, 2015

Course Evaluator, Small Group Feedback Sessions for Thinking Matters fellows, 2016

Course Coordinator, Technological Visions of Utopia, Thinking Matters Program, 2014, 2013

Multimedia Rubric Development, Thinking Matters Program, 2014

## OTHER EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

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1999–2006      Freelance writer, editor, marketing consultant  
Conceptualized, wrote, and edited marketing communications for a variety of clients, including Harvard University, Fidelity Investments, State Street Bank, Redwood Investments, ISM Travel and Leisure Marketing, and Coldwell Banker

## TEACHING AREAS

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American studies  
Cultural studies  
Popular culture  
American West/Mythic West  
U.S. history  
Public history  
Tourism/Heritage/Critical regionalism  
Cultural memory  
Science fiction/Disaster  
Utopian/Dystopian studies

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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American Studies Association  
American History Association  
Western History Association  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies  
Popular Culture/American Culture Association  
Association of Critical Heritage Studies  
Science Fiction Research Association