

Donna Doan Anderson

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Mellon Research Assistant Professor

2024-Present

History Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
U.S. Law and Race Initiative Faculty

EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara

PhD in United States History with an emphasis in Asian American studies
Dissertation Title: "America is in the Heartland: Land policy, Immigration, and Rural Asian America, 1860-1950"

Nebraska Wesleyan University

Master of Arts (MA) in Historical Studies
Capstone Project: Teaching China in High School World History

University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Bachelors of Education & Human Sciences (BEHS)
Major: Secondary Education – Social Sciences

PUBLICATIONS

Anderson, Donna Doan, "Acceptance for Admission: Administrations of Japanese American Relocation and the Midwestern University," *American Studies* Special Issue "Unsettling Global Midwests" Vol. 62, Issue 3 (Fall 2023).

Anderson, Donna Doan. "'More Than We Imagined': The Journal of Asian American Studies Through the Years, 1997-Present," *Journal of Asian American Studies*, Vol. 26, No.1 (2023), March 2023.

Vo, Hung and **Donna Doan Anderson**. "Building the City from Abroad: Viet Kieu and the Rights to Saigon." In *Governing Cities in the 21st Century: Asian Perspectives*. Routledge, March 2020.

BOOK REVIEWS

Anderson, Donna Doan. "Power to Assume: Midwestern Pluralism and the Process of Forgetting". Review of *Horace Kallen in the Heartland: The Midwestern Roots of American Pluralism* by Michael Steiner and *Forgetting the Forgotten: A Thousand years of Contested Histories in the Heartland* by Michael C. Batinski. *Middle West Review*. Forthcoming 2025.

Anderson, Donna Doan. Review Essay of the Japanese Hall and History Project. *The Public Historian*, 47:1 (Forthcoming February 2025).

Anderson, Donna Doan. Review: Imagining the Heartland: White Supremacy and the American Midwest, by Britt E. Halvorson and Joshua O. Reno. *Ethnic Studies Review* 1 October 2023; 46 (3): 175–176. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1525/esr.2023.46.3.175>.

Anderson, Donna Doan. Review of *Chinese Americans in the Heartland: Migration, Work, and Community*, by Huping Ling. *Indiana Magazine of History* 119, no. 3 (2023): 294-295. <https://doi.org/10.2979/imh.2023.a905293>.

Anderson, Donna Doan. Review of *Theft is property! Dispossession and critical theory* by Robert Nichols, *The Journal*

of Peasant Studies, 49:5 (2022), 1133-1137, DOI: [10.1080/03066150.2022.2054761](https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2022.2054761).

AWARDS

Dorothy Schwieder Award for Best Article on Midwestern History	May 2024
Midwestern History Association (MHA) for the article "Acceptance for Admission: Administrations of Japanese American Relocation and the Midwestern University"	
Excellence in Teaching Award	June 2023
Graduate Student Association (GSA), University of California, Santa Barbara	
J. Bruce Anderson Memorial Fellowship	June 2021
History Department, University of California, Santa Barbara	
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award	May 2021
Academic Senate, University of California, Santa Barbara	
Dixon-Levy Service Award	May 2019
Graduate Student Association (GSA), University of California, Santa Barbara	

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Alternate	Guarani Dean's Pre-to-Post Doctoral Fellowship in Asian American Studies	June 2023
	Dartmouth College	
\$1,500	History Associates Graduate Fellowship	May 2023
	University of California, Santa Barbara History Associates	
\$8,000	Department Dissertation Fellowship	May 2023
	University of California, Santa Barbara History Department	
\$1,500	Research Award for Upper Division and Graduate Students	May 2023
	Charles Redd Center for Western American Studies, Brigham Young University	
\$1,000	Graduate Student Dissertation Support Award	April 2023
	University of California Humanities Research Initiative (UCHRI)	
\$2,000	Immigration History Research Center Archives Grant-in-Aid Award	October 2022
	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	
\$275	Charles Redd Center Travel Award for PCB-AHA	June 2022
	Charles Redd Center of Western American Studies	
\$2,636	Humanities & Social Sciences Research Grant	May 2022
	University of California, Santa Barbara Graduate Division	
\$7,000	The Cheng Fellowship in History of Asian American Experience in the US	April 2022
	The Huntington Library	
\$7,500	Departmental Dissertation Fellowship	April 2022
	University of California, Santa Barbara History Department	
\$1,500	Charles Redd Fellowship in Western American Studies	April 2022
	Charles Redd Center in Western American Studies, Brigham Young University	
\$900	Research Travel Grant	March 2022
	University of California, Santa Barbara, History Department	
\$2,000	Engaging Humanities Predoctoral Fellowship	2021-2022
	University of California, Santa Barbara, Center for Engaging Humanities	
\$3,500	New Storytellers Digital Ethnic Studies Research Institute	Summer 2021
	Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	

\$509

Conference Travel Grant

April 2020

University of California, Santa Barbara, History Department

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS*Curriculum & Program Consultant, UCSB ÉXITO* 2024-Present*Graduate Student Researcher, 2023-2024*

- Collect and build curriculum for educators teaching California's Ethnic Studies high school requirement
- Redesign website and create digital library of Ethnic Studies materials for secondary educators
- Contribute to policy reports and publications

Assistant Editor, Journal of Asian American Studies 2021-2023

- Field submissions for consideration and maintain communication between authors, reviewers, and the journal's editors
- Manage works for acceptance and rejection, update status of submitted works using ScholarOne
- Generate an annual report of the journal for presentation at the Association of Asian American Studies conference
- Publicize calls for papers and other related information through social media

Mentor, **Graduate Scholars Program** 2021- 2022

Graduate Division, University of California, Santa Barbara

- Mentor first and second-year graduate students of diverse backgrounds to orient them towards campus resources, professional development, and networking events across campus with visiting scholars

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Dorothy Schwieder Prize Committee, Midwestern History Association (MHA) 2024-2025

Graduate Student Representative, Association for Asian American Studies History Section 2022-2024

Member, AAPI Southern California History Working Group 2021-2024

Member, The Asian/American Studies Collective Research Focus Group 2020-2024

Previous Roles: Co-Founder, Co-Convener (May 2020-June 2022)

The Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, University of California, Santa Barbara

Member, Asian-Pacific Islander Graduate Student Alliance (APIGSA) 2017-2024

Previous Roles: President (2019-2020), Vice President (2018-2019), Treasurer (2020-2021)

University of California, Santa Barbara

Graduate Student Representative, UCSB History Department Colloquium Committee 2022-2023

Graduate Student Mentor, UCSB History Department 2019-2022

Graduate Student Representative, API Task Force, UCSB 2018-2020

Outercore Board Member, Pan Asian Network, UCSB 2019-2020

CONFERENCES

(Scheduled) "New Directions Yet Long Legacies: A Roundtable on BIPOC Histories of the Midwest," Roundtable participant, Midwestern History Association Conference, May 2025.

(Scheduled) "Mapping Asiatown Cleveland: Race and Redevelopment in the Rust Belt," Roundtable participant, Association of Asian American Studies, April 2025.

(Scheduled) "What Comes Next?: Emerging Scholars and the Future of Midwestern History," Roundtable participant, Organization of American Historians, April 2025.

"Understanding the Midwest through the Asian American Critique," Paper presentation for the Beyond East of the West and North of the South: Roundtable on New Directions in Midwestern History panel, Western Historical Association, October 26, 2024.

"Reframing the Middle: New Perspectives in Asian American Midwest Studies," Roundtable organizer and presenter, Association for Asian American Studies, April 26, 2024.

- "Making Sense and Finding Self: New Questions, Approaches, and Asian American Communities of the Midwest," Paper presentation and panel organizer, Organization of American Historians, April 12, 2024. Endorsed by *OAH-JAAS Collaborative Committee*, *OAH Committee on the Status of ALANA Historians and ALANA Histories*, *IEHS*, and the *Midwestern History Association*. Selected by OAH Program Committee for the virtual program.
- "Operative Provincialism: Navigating and Negotiating Invisibility in the Asian American Midwest," Paper presentation, APIDA/A Crossroads: 180 Years of Inclusion, Exclusion, and (In)visibility: Asian Pacific American Studies Program Symposium, Michigan State University, March 23, 2024.
- "Addressing the Japanese 'Problem': Liberalism, 'Good Middlewestern Colleges,' and Japanese American Student Resettlement, 1942–45," Paper presentation and panel organizer, *Histories of the 'Other' Midwest: Considering Race and Space in the 19th and 20th Century*, American Historical Association, January 6, 2024.
- "Unsettling Global Midwesterns," Roundtable Participant, American Studies Association, November 4, 2023.
- "Attached but Not Owned: The Nikkei Tenant Farmer on the High Plains," Paper presentation for the *Regional Influences on Land and Labor: From the Midwest to the West in the 19th century* panel, Western Historical Association, October 27, 2023.
- "Acceptance for Admission: Administrations of Japanese American Relocation and the Midwestern University," Paper presentation, Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association, August 10, 2023.
- "JAAS Plenary: Journal of Asian American Studies at 25: Critical Reflections on Past, Present, and Future, Association for Asian American Studies," Chair and discussant, April 8, 2023.
- "'Leaders, Pioneers, and Fellowmen': Engaging History & Community through the work of Reverend Hiram Kano," Paper Presentation for the *Cultivating Community: The Making and Sustaining of Japanese America Across Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska*, Association for Asian American Studies, March 31, 2023.
- "Asian American Studies in Praxis: Advocacy, Activism, and Establishing Student-Centric Academic Spaces," Panel presentation for *Engaging Teaching Symposium*, University of California, Santa Barbara, October 7, 2022.
- "From Migrant to Settler: Asian Homesteading in the Midwest from 1890-1924," Paper Presentation for *Shifting Orientations of Land and Space* Panel, Pacific Coast Branch – American Historical Association, August 11, 2022.
- "The Great Third Coast: How Teaching in the Midwest and South Challenges Asian American Studies," Chair and discussant, Association for Asian American Studies, April 16, 2022.
- "Invisibilities of the Otherworldly: Celestial Capitalists and the Making of the Midwest," Paper presentation for *Troubling Politics of Asian American In/Visibility* panel, Association for Asian American Studies, April 11, 2021.

INVITED TALKS & LECTURES

- "Legal Constructions of Asian America: Whiteness, Citizenship, and Ozawa & Thind," Guest Lecture, HIST115: And Justice for All, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, November 19, 2024
- "Proving Up: Land Politics and Asian American Insularity in the American Interior," Invited Lecture, Colorado State University, January 26, 2024
- "Am I Doing Enough? And Other Frequently Asked Questions," Invited Talk (co-presented with Kevynh Truong), Vietnamese Outreach Initiative for College Education (VOICE), University of California, Santa Barbara, Vietnamese Student Association, April 22, 2023.

- "Moving Forward," Keynote Speech, VGrad – Graduation Celebration, University of California, Santa Barbara Vietnamese Student Association, June 5, 2022.
- "Viet Kieu and the Rights to Saigon," Guest Lecture with Hung Vo, University of California, Santa Barbara, ASAM100EE: Vietnamese Americans, December 2, 2020.
- "China and Southeast Asia in the World Economy," Guest Lecture with Lei Dou, University of California, Santa Barbara, HIST2B: World History, 1000-1800, February 19, 2019.
- "The History and Migration of Phở," Guest Lecture, University of California, Santa Barbara, HIST194: Food in World History, April 19, 2018.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Asian Americans Confront U.S. Law and Policy Post-1965: The Vietnamese Impact on Defining the 'Refugee'," U.S. Law and Race Initiative Webinar Series, Host and Moderator, November 21, 2024. <https://mediahub.unl.edu/media/23689>.
- "EdScares: Protecting POC Experiences in the Academy," University of California, Santa Barbara Multicultural Center, Invited panelist, November 8, 2023.
- "Departures: An Introduction to Critical Refugee Studies," Asian/American Studies Collective Symposium Keynote, Moderator, May 20, 2023
- Vietnamese Student Association x SASE Graduate Student Panel, Panelist, May 22, 2022.
- "Post-film discussion of *Nailed It!*," University of California, Santa Barbara Multicultural Center, Moderator, October 16, 2019.
- "AAPI Students in Conversation with Thi Bui," UCSB Reads, Moderator, April 25, 2019
- "Vietnamese Food in America: A Conversation About (and a Taste of) Immigrant Cuisine with Diep Tran," UCSB Reads, Moderator, April 10, 2019
- "Introduction to Grad School," UCSB ONDAS Student Center, Panelist, May 10, 2018.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Anderson, Donna Doan and Isidro Gonzalez. "Interview with Cindy Ermus on *The Great Plague Scare of 1720: Disaster and Diplomacy in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World*." New Books Network in Early Modern History. December 3, 2024. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-great-plague-scare-of-1720>.
- Anderson, Donna Doan. "Interview with William Gow on *Performing Chinatown: Hollywood, Tourism, and the Making of a Chinese American Community*." New Books Network in Asian American Studies. July 10, 2024. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/performing-chinatown>.
- Anderson, Donna Doan. "Interview with Catherine Ceniza Choy on *Asian American Histories of the United States*." New Books Network in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, May 1, 2024. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/asian-american-histories-of-the-united-states>.
- Wang, Tandee and Donna Doan Anderson. "Interview with Wendy Cheng on *Island X: Taiwanese Student Migrants, Campus Spies, and Cold War Activism*." New Books Network in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, February 8, 2024. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/island-x>.
- Anderson, Donna Doan and Michael Nishimura. "Interview with Diane C. Fujino on *Nisei Radicals: The Feminist Poetics and Transformative Ministry of Mitsuye Yamada and Michael Yasutake*." New Books Network in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, November 25, 2023. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/nisei-radicals>.
- Anderson, Donna Doan. "Interview with Huping Ling on *Asian American History and Chinese Americans in*

the Heartland." New Books in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, November 16, 2023. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/chinese-americans-in-the-heartland>.

Anderson, Donna Doan and Mika Thornburg. "Interview with Chrissy Yee Lau on *New Women of Empire: Gendered Politics and Racial Uplift in Interwar Japanese America*." New Books Network in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, October 8, 2023. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/new-women-of-empire>.

Anderson, Donna Doan. "Interview with Michael Jin on *Citizens, Immigrants, and the Stateless: A Japanese American Diaspora in the Pacific*." New Books in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, August 19, 2023. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/citizens-immigrants-and-the-stateless>.

Anderson, Donna Doan. "Interview with James Zarsadiaz on *Resisting Change in Suburbia: Asian Immigrants and Frontier Nostalgia in L.A.*" New Books in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, June 27, 2023. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/james-zarsadiaz-resisting-change-in-suburbia-asian-immigrants-and-frontier-nostalgia-in-l-a-u-california-press-2022>.

Anderson, Donna Doan. "Interview with Ma Vang on *History on the Run: Secrecy, Fugitivity, and Hmong Refugee Epistemologies*." New Books in Asian American Studies. New Books Network, March 14, 2023. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/history-on-the-run>.

Wang, Tandee and Donna Doan Anderson. "Reckoning with the Interdiscipline with Paul Spickard and Lily Anne Welty-Tamai." Journal of Asian American Studies Podcast. New Books Network, October 19, 2022. Podcast. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/reckoning-with-the-interdiscipline-journal-of-asian-american-studies-252-june-2022>.

"Journal of Asian American Studies 25th Anniversary Special Issue "Reckoning with the Interdiscipline," Interview with Donna Doan Anderson, Paul Spickard, and Lily Anne Welty-Tamai, *No Alibis Radio Show*, KCSB-FM, August 10, 2022.

"Asian/American Studies Collection First Graduate Student Symposium," Interview with Donna Doan Anderson, Tandee Wang, and Maile Young. *No Alibis Radio Show*, KCSB-FM, May 25, 2022.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2024-Present
<i>Department of History</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses: HIST245: Modern America Since 1900 (Spring 2025), HIST115: And Justice for All (Fall 2025) 	
University of California, Santa Barbara	
<i>Teaching Associate, Asian American Studies Department</i>	Summer 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Taught: ASAM1 (Asian American History) 	
<i>Teaching Assistant, History & Asian American Studies Departments</i>	2017-2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses: ASAM1 (Asian American History), ASAM4 (Asian American Popular Culture), ASAM5 (Asian American Literature), HIST2A (Ancient World History), HIST2B (World History 1000-1800), HIST2C (Modern World History), HIST4B (Early Modern European History), HIST5 (History of the Present), HIST17A (Early U.S. History to 1800), HIST17C (Modern U.S. History), HIST87 (Japanese History through Art and Literature) 	
<i>Co-Designed Course and Teaching Assistant, Engaging Humanities Program</i>	Spring 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Taught: INT137RS (Recovering Untold Stories) 	
<i>Lead Teaching Assistant, History Department</i>	2020-2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-organized week-long training for new History Department teaching assistants (TA) Lead two teaching sessions per quarter for all department TAs 	
Lincoln High School	2010-2017
<i>Social Studies Instructor</i>	

- Taught courses for students between 10th and 12th grades in the following: International Baccalaureate 20th Century World History (2011-2017), World History (2010-2017), Sociology (2016), U.S. History (2010-2011)
- Wrote World History curriculum for Lincoln Public Schools implementing the Stanford Historical Education Group's Historical Habits of Mind process
- Coached all-boys dance team called Ground Zero

TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

Asian American History
Asian American Studies
Critical Midwestern Studies
U.S. History Since 1865
World History

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Historical Association · American Studies Association · Association for Asian American Studies · Organization of American Historians · Western Historical Association

LANGUAGES

English (Native)	Vietnamese (Intermediate)	French (Reading)
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