

Curriculum Vitae for
John M. Cunningham
Department of History
International Baccalaureate Programme
Douglas County High School
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Education

Ph.D. Modern American History (*In Progress, ABD*),
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Global History (Minor)
History of Science and Technology (Minor)

M.A. Early Modern to Modern European History, 2009, *Cum Laude*
University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
American History (Minor)
Sports History and Culture (Minor)

B.S. History, 2004, *Cum Laude*
Shorter University, Rome, GA
Secondary Education (Certification)
Social Science Broad Field Certification

Professional Experience

Administrative and Leadership - District Level

2022 - Present — High School Social Studies Content Specialist (Douglas County School System)

Administrative and Leadership - School Level

2017 - 2020 — Teacher Advisory Group Member and Chair (Douglas County High School)

2018 - 2019 — History and Social Studies Department Co-Chair / Instructional Lead (Douglas County High School)

2015 - 2017 — Mentor Teacher (Douglas County High School)

Professional Development and Workshop Leader

2023 - Clayton County School System - Use of AI and the future of education, Workshop designer and leader.

2019 - 2023 - Las Palmas Christian School, Consultant, Academic Standards and Teacher Development.

Teaching - Secondary Education

2009 - Present — Douglas County High School

Social Studies Dept., International Baccalaureate Programme

2004 - 2007 — Bartow Crossroads Academy

Social Studies, Physical Education

Teaching - Post-Secondary Education

2014 - 2019 — West Georgia Technical College

Adjunct - Dept. of History

2007 - 2009 — University of West Georgia

GRA/GTA - Dept. of History

Courses Taught

IB History of Europe (12th Grade), Douglas County High School
IB World History (11th Grade), Douglas County High School
IB 20th Century History (12th Grade), Douglas County High School
IB Economics HL (12th Grade), Douglas County High School
IB Economics SL (11th Grade), Douglas County High School
IB Theory of Knowledge (11th - 12th Grade), Douglas County High School
Honors Economics (12th Grade) Douglas County High School
Pre-IB World History (10th Grade), Douglas County High School
Pre-IB Government (9th Grade) Douglas County High School
World History (11th Grade) Douglas County High School, Bartow Academy
American History (10th Grade) Bartow Academy
World Geography (8th Grade) Bartow Academy
History 1111 - Survey of World History to 1500 (Collegiate), West Georgia Technical College
History 1112 - Survey of World History since 1500 (Collegiate), West Georgia Technical College

Academic and Professional Conference Presentations

- “ChatGPT: What is it? Should we be afraid?”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2023, Athens, Georgia*
- “On the 20s: The Anniversary of... — A look through the centuries of select events from around the world.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2020, Athens, Georgia*
- “All Systems Go For Launch: The Space Race and the Cold War at the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2019, Athens, Georgia*
- “Did the Gulf War Really Happen?: Jean Baudrillard, Hyperreality, CNN, Post-Modernism, and What It All Means.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2019, Athens, Georgia*
- “Pop Culture as Primary Source: How Entertainment becomes Historical Time-capsules.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2019, Athens, Georgia*
- “Empowering the Medieval History Standards through National History Day” Panel Discussion
— *93rd Annual Medieval Academy of America, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia*
- “Reimagining Reagan: Competition and the Conflicting Changes to Regonomics.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2018, Athens, Georgia*
- “718 - 768 - 818: A Century of Conflict and Change in the Medieval World.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2018, Athens, Georgia*
- “Questioning ‘His Excellency’ - Martin Luther after 500 years of Reformation”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2017, Athens, Georgia*
- “Student, Sailor, Soldier, Fight! - War and the Gridiron: How World War II Interrupted the Collegiate Experience of Student Athletes, and Football became a Training Ground for Soldiers.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2017, Athens, Georgia*
- “Don’t Overlook or Oversimplify the History of Science: How Scientific Inquiries, Pursuits, and Answers, can be Used to Learn the History of a Society.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2016, Athens, Georgia*
- “Cold War Nostalgia and Teaching History: How ‘Pop Culture’ can be Used as a Mirror and Window into Cultural History.”
— *Georgia Council for Social Studies Conference, October 2016, Athens, Georgia*

Invited Talks & Commissioned Works

“Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom: Navigating Opportunities and Challenges for Tomorrow’s Leaders” Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc, Douglas-Carroll-Paulding Chapter - Community Forum - Panelist, April 2024

“Using ChatGPT in Social Studies: An Introductory Workshop on AI and the Implications of AI on Teachers and Students”
— Professional Development Workshop Developer and Leader for Clayton County School System, November 2023, Charles Drew High School, Riverdale, GA.

International Baccalaureate History Paper 2 Curriculum proposal - 2023, IBO History Curriculum Manager, the Hague, Netherlands.

International Baccalaureate History DP Core Curriculum Review Team - External Review Meeting 3, October 2021, Virtual

Position paper for the International Baccalaureate Organization on the essential skills and concepts of a History curriculum - 2021, IBO Group 3 Coordinator, The Hague, Netherlands.

Position paper for the International Baccalaureate Organization on streamlining current curriculum and developing a future curriculum that is attractive internationally - 2021, IBO Group 3 Coordinator, The Hague, Netherlands,

“The need for a skills-based IB curriculum that incorporates depth of knowledge.”
— *International Baccalaureate Organization History Curriculum External Review Meeting, October 2019, The Hague, Netherlands*

International Baccalaureate History DP Core Curriculum Review Team - External Review Meeting 1, October 2019, The Hague, Netherlands

International Baccalaureate History DP Curriculum Online Review Team - 2019, Online

Academic Papers and Research Interests

My interests in history extends from the Medieval and Early Modern Eras into the 20th century. My research into Medieval and the Early Modern period has primarily been historiographical in nature, while my original research has been in the fields of the History of Technology and the History of Sport and Culture. Both of the latter fields are primarily modern U.S. History and are crucial parts of my Ph.D. major field but are connected to my minor fields of Global History and the History of Science, while my Medieval and Early Modern work is focused on European History. A list of selected papers follows:

“Fields of Battle: How World War II Interrupted the Collegiate Experience of Student-Athletes, and Football Became a Training Ground for Soldiers.”

“Multiple Conflicts in the World of Galileo Galilei: A Reexamination of Maurice Finocchiaro’s Classification of the Historiography of the Galileo Affair.”

“Science on Stage: An Experiment of Theatricality: 19th Century Science and the Public Stage”

“I Am the Villain of the Story: Lex Luthor as a Representation of the Transitioning Fears of American Society in the 20th and Early 21st Centuries.”

“Shall We Watch a Film: The Overt and the Unconscious Portrayal of the Soviet Union and the United States in Films of the 1980s.”

“Computers on Campus: The Early History of Computer Technology at Georgia State University”

“Computers on Campus: How Georgia Tech used NSF Funding and Computer Technology to Elevate from a Regional Shop School to a Nationally Recognized Institute of Technology.”

Awards and Recognition

Douglas County High School STAR Teacher - 2023
Douglas County School System STAR Teacher - 2019
Douglas County High School STAR Teacher - 2019
Region 3-AAAAAA Coach of the Year - 2014 - Varsity Soccer
Douglas County Coach of the Year - 2014 - Varsity Soccer, *Douglas County Sentinel*
Teacher of the Year - 2007 - Bartow Crossroads Academy, Bartow County Schools
Chrystal Apple Award for outstanding work in first year teaching - 2005 - Bartow Crossroads Academy
Student Teacher of the Year in a Secondary School - 2004 - Shorter College

Additional Positions and Responsibilities

Coaching

Scholar Bowl - 2024 - Present (Douglas County High School)
Ethics Bowl / Debate Team - 2023 (Douglas County High School)
Head Girls' Golf - 2018 (Douglas County High School)
Assistant Varsity and Head JV Girl's Softball - 2015 - 2017 (Douglas County High School)
Head Boys' Varsity Baseball - 2014 - 2016 (Douglas County High School)
Head Boys' Varsity Soccer - 2009 - 2014 (Douglas County High School)
Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball - 2006-2007 (Excel Christian High School)
Assistant Varsity Baseball - 2007 (Excel Christian High School)
Assistant Middle School Baseball - 2004 - 2007 (Cass Middle School)
9th Grade Boys' Basketball - 2005-2006 (Cass High School)

Extracurricular Student Activity/Club Sponsor

To encourage student involvement, growth, and community

Rho Kappa - National Social Science Honor Society - 2018-2023 - Founding Sponsor (Douglas County High School)
Chess Club - 2022 - Present (Douglas County High School)
Photography Club - 2018 - 2021 (Douglas County High School)
Table Tennis Club - 2015 - 2016 (Douglas County High School)
Bowling Team - 2012 - 2014 (Douglas County High School)

National History Day Project Coordinator, Mentor, and Judge

I believe that historical analysis, thesis development, and written and visual articulation are key elements for well-rounded students. I believe that these skills transcend the history class and create rational decision makers who develop the skill of analysis and the ability to deal with a range of sources and perspectives. As such, over the course of two years teaching 10th grade Pre-IB history, I required students to develop a project for the National History (NHD) competition. I also served as a judge for middle grades NHD projects. Several of my students qualified for the regional, state, and national competition. Their projects are as follows:

2nd Place / National Qualifier - Georgia NHD 2014 - Group Exhibit - Influence of Confucianism on Women in Tokugawa Japan
2nd Place / National Qualifier - Georgia NHD 2015 - Group Website - The Leadership and Legacy of Pancho Villa
2nd Place / National Qualifier - Georgia NHD 2015 - Group Documentary - Broker Barriers: The First African-American Female Firefighters of Atlanta
2nd Place / National Qualifier - Georgia NHD 2015 - Research Paper - Cotton Mather and the Smallpox Inoculation Controversy
National History Day State Competition Judge (Georgia) - 2016 - 2018 - Documentary

IB Extended Essay Mentor

Throughout the years teaching IB, I have worked with several students on History, Economics, and Literature Extended Essays. I have also worked with Extended Essay coordinators to develop timelines and have aided in the process of developing strategies to create better research practices for our students.

Miscellaneous Professional Experience and Service

Professional Development Workshop Design and Leader: Clayton County School System, Social Studies (Oct. 2023)
Douglas County School System Social Studies Content Specialist - 2022 - present — Douglas County School System
Administrative Assistant - 2019 - 2020 — Douglas County High School
Social Studies Department Co-Chair - 2018-2019 — Douglas County High School
Chairman of the Teacher Advisory Group, 2018 -2019, 2021 — Douglas County High School.
Consultant for Las Palmas Christian Academy on their mission and vision statements, website design, and educational marketing, 2018
Elected by faculty peers as a Teacher Advisory Group Member, 2017 - 2019 — Douglas County High School.
Mentor Teacher, 2015 - 2017, Douglas County High School.
District Curriculum Pacing and Guidelines Development Team, - Economics - 2016, Douglas County School System
District Common Assessment Development Team - History - 2014 — Douglas County School System
District Curriculum Pacing and Guidelines Development Team - History - 2013 — Douglas County School System
Member of the Academic Honesty Committee for Douglas County High School International Baccalaureate Program, 2010 - present.

Professional and Academic Organizations

North American Society for Sports History (NASSH) - 2022
Rho Kappa - Social Studies National Honor Society - Faculty Sponsor - Douglas County High School - 2018
Georgia Council of Social Studies (GCSS) - 2014
Phi Alpha Theta - History Honor Society - 2009 - University of West Georgia
Pi Gamma Mu - International Honor Society for Social Studies - 2004 - Shorter College

Language Abilities

English - Native Speaker
French - Basic Reading and Translation

Additional Skills and Interests

I am more than proficient at the use of presentation tools, especially Apple iWorks Keynote, but also Microsoft Powerpoint, and Google Slides. I am quite proficient in spreadsheet development using MS Excel, Apple's iWork Numbers, and Google Sheets. I am also capable of utilizing video editing software such as iMovie, and web design applications.

Though I specialize in History and Economics, I am highly interested in a variety of academic disciplines and particularly enjoy studying the philosophy of maths and science, as well as epistemology.

I think that travel and exposure to other cultures is beneficial and a key element in developing greater perspective. For that reason, my wife and I have taken student groups on trips to Western Europe, Central Europe, and China during the Summer months since 2015.