J. Ross Dancy, DPhil (Oxon)

Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor
John B. Hattendorf Center for Maritime Historical Research
U.S. Naval War College
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2018–Pres.	Assistant Professor, U.S. Naval War College, John B. Hattendorf Center for Maritime Historical Research
2017–2018	Director of Graduate Studies, Sam Houston State University, Department of History
2014–2018	Assistant Professor, Sam Houston State University, Department of History
2013–2014	Visiting Assistant Professor, Sam Houston State University, Department of History

EDUCATION

2012 DPhil (PhD) in History, University of Oxford
2008 MA in Naval History with Distinction, University of Exeter
2006 BA in History, Honors in History, *summa cum laude*, Appalachian State University
2005 AA in Core Studies with Honors, Wilkes Community College

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2016 Proxime Accessit Award, Anderson Medal, by the Society for Nautical Research, for *The Myth of the Press Gang*.
2016 *The Myth of the Press Gang* nominated for the Mountbatten Maritime Award for Best Literary Contribution by the Maritime Foundation.
2010 Warr-Goodman Scholar, Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford (Two Years).

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

2016 *Strategy and the Sea: Essays in Honour of John B. Hattendorf.* (ed. with N.A.M. Rodger, B. Darnell, and E. Wilson) Woodbridge: The Boydell Press.
2015 *The Myth of the Press Gang: Volunteers, Impressment and the Naval Manpower Problem in the Late Eighteenth Century*. Woodbridge: The Boydell Press.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

2020 (with Evan Wilson), "Sir John Orde and the Trafalgar Campaign: A Failure of Information Sharing," Naval War College Review (forthcoming).
2018 "Sources and Methods in the British Impressment Debate." In *International Journal of Maritime History, 30*, no. 4: 733–746.
2018 (with S. Cavell and Evan Wilson), "British Naval Administration and the Manpower Problem in the Georgian Navy." In New Interpretations in Naval History: Selected

Papers from the Eighteenth McMullen Naval History Symposium Held at the United States Naval Academy 19–20 September 2013, edited by L. Bogle and J. Rentfrow, 41–52. Newport, RI: Naval War College Press.

2016 "Introduction" and "British Naval Administration and the Lower Deck Manpower Problem in the Eighteenth Century," in N.A.M. Rodger, et al., eds., *Strategy and the Sea: Essays in Honour of John B. Hattendorf*. 5–8 and 49–63. Woodbridge: The Boydell Press.

BOOK REVIEWS

2018 *Order and Disorder in the British Navy, 1793-1815: Control, Resistance, Flogging and Hanging*, by Thomas Malcomson, *H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (online).

2017 *Hornblower's Historical Shipmates: The Young Gentlemen of Pellew's Indefatigable*, by Heather Noel-Smith and Lorna M. Cambell, *H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (online).

2017 *Poseidon's Curse: British Naval Impressment and Atlantic Origins of the American Revolution*, by Christopher P. Magra, *The Mariners Mirror*.

2017 *British Expeditionary Warfare and the Defeat of Napoleon: 1793-1815*, by Robert K. Sutcliffe, *Journal of Military History*.

2017 *Letters of Seamen in the Wars with France, 1793-1815*, by Helen Watt with Anne Hawkins, *International Journal of Maritime History*.

2017 *In Nelson's Wake: The Navy and the Napoleonic Wars*, by J. Davey, *H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (online).

2016 *Modern Naval History: Debates and Prospects*, by R. Harding, *Journal for Maritime Research*.

2015 *In the Hour of Victory: The Royal Navy at War in the Age of Nelson*, by S. Willis, *Journal for Maritime Research*.

PEER REVIEWS

2018 *The Historical Journal*

2018 The Boydell Press

2014 University of Cambridge Press

SERIES EDITOR

2017–Pres. Series Co-Founder and Co-Editor, *Veterans*, University of Massachusetts Press

2018–Pres. Series Co-Editor, *Hattendorf Historical Series*, Naval War College Press

PRESENTATIONS & INTERVIEWS

INTERVIEWS FOR TV OR RADIO

2019 Film interview by Insignia Films for *American Veterans*, a four-part PBS documentary set to air in November 2020.

2016 Audio interview for *Living History Podcast*, Episode #2, hosted by Jeffrey Littlejohn and Wesley Phelps.

2014 Audio interview, "Solving The Myth of the Press Gang," for *What's The Word*, hosted by John Cheval on Blog Talk Radio.

INVITED TALKS

2019 "Volunteers, Impressment, and British Naval Manpower in the 18th Century," Eight Bells Lecture Series, U.S. Naval War College.
2017 "The Myth of the Press Gang," Glasscock Center Lecture Series, Texas A&M University.
2017 "Veterans Day and Veterans," University Veterans Day Ceremony Keynote Speaker, Sam Houston State University.
2015 "The Myth of the Press Gang," The History Lecture Series, Houston Maritime Museum
2015 "Success and Academia," Scholarship Awards Presentation Keynote Speaker, Sam Houston State University
2013 "'The Life of your Fleet': Volunteers and the Royal Navy during the Great War with France, 1793–1815," Royal Navy Seminar Series, The National Museum of the Royal Navy.
2011 "The Men behind the Wooden Walls: Examining British Naval Manpower, 1793-1815," The Second Annual Alan Villiers Memorial Lectures, University of Oxford.

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2019 "Manning Nelson's Navy," Hattendorf Historical Center Working Group, U.S. Naval War College.
2019 "Sir John Orde and the Trafalgar Campaign," Hattendorf Historical Center Working Group, U.S. Naval War College.
2018 "Impressment: Sources and Methods," Hattendorf Historical Center Working Group, U.S. Naval War College.
2015 "The Myth of the Press Gang," Faculty Research Colloquium, Sam Houston State University.
2012 "'The Wealth, Strength, Security and Glory of Britain': Volunteers and the Royal Navy in the Age of Revolution," The Graduate Seminar in History: 1680–1850, University of Oxford.
2010 "Manning the British Fleet: Statistics and Naval Manpower in the Eighteenth Century," Lady Margaret Hall Graduate Seminar Series, University of Oxford.
2010 "The Quota Acts: The Politics of Naval Service in the Age of Revolution," The Graduate Seminar in History: 1680–1850, University of Oxford.
2010 "Redefining Naval Manning: Dispelling the Myths of Royal Navy Manpower, 1793–1801," The British Maritime History Seminars, The Institute of Historical Research.
2010 "Statistical Data and Naval History: A New look at Royal Navy Manpower, 1793-1801," History of War Graduate Seminar, University of Oxford.
2009 "Manning the British Fleet: The Myths and Reality of Naval Manpower," The Maritime and Oceanographic History Workshop, University of Cambridge.
2009 "The Right Men for the Jog: Manning the Royal Navy during the Great War with France," History of War Graduate Seminar, University of Oxford.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2019 "British Naval Manpower after Two Decades of War," The North American Society of Oceanic History 2019 Annual Conference, New Bedford Whaling Museum.
2019 "British Naval Manpower at the Point of Greatest Strain," The Consortium of the Revolutionary Era: 1750-1850, Georgia State University.

2018 "Veterans of the American Revolutionary War: A Preliminary Examination," The Consortium of the Revolutionary Era: 1750-1850, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
2017 "On Site and On Celluloid: History, Hollywood, and Civil War Memory," American Studies Association of Texas Conference, Sam Houston State University.
2017 "The Quota Acts: The Politics of Naval Service and the Threat of French Invasion," The McMullen Naval History Symposium, United States Naval Academy.
2017 "British Naval Mobilization after the Piece of Amiens, 1801–1803," The Consortium of the Revolutionary Era: 1750–1850, College of Charleston.
2016 "Demobilization and Mobilization in the Royal Navy, 1801-1803," Waging Peace Conference, Dale Center for the Study of War and Society.
2015 "The Tipping Point? British Royal Naval Manpower during the Napoleonic Wars," War, Society and Culture c. 1688–1850 Conference, University of Leeds.
2014 "British Naval Administration and the Lower Deck Manpower Problem," Strategy and the Sea: An International Conference in Honour of Professor John B. Hattendorf, All Souls College, University of Oxford.
2013 "Volunteers, Impressment and the Naval Manpower Problem, 1793-1801," McMullen Naval History Symposium, United States Naval Academy.
2013 "The Myth of the Press Gang: Volunteers Impressment and the Naval Manpower Problem in the Late Eighteenth Century," Press Gangs, Conscripts, and Professionals: Recruiting the Royal Navy from the Age of Sail to the Present Day Conference, National Museum of the Royal Navy.
2013 "'None Need Apply but Seamen or Stout Hands': The Impress Service and Manning the British Navy during the age of Revolution," Naval Expertise and the Making of the Modern World Conference, Wolfson College, University of Oxford.
2010 "Naval Manpower and Britain: Examining the Complex Relationship between Royal Navy Manning and the British Empire, 1793-1802," New Horzions in Maritime History Conference, University of Cambridge.
2010 "Manning the Wooden Walls: Procurement of Naval Manpower and the British Empire, 1793-1801," British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Post-graduate and Early-Career Conference, University of Warwick.
2010 "A New Look at Naval Impressment: The Myths and Realty of Royal Navy Manpower, 1793-1801," The Hudson Trust Conference in Naval History, University of Oxford.
2010 "A New look at Naval Manning: Challenging the Historiography of British naval Manpower," New Researchers in Maritime History Conference, University of Exeter.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

2019–Pres. U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
Graduate Seminar: War at Sea in the Age of Steam
Mentor and Supervisor for Research Projects as part of the Graduate Certificate in Maritime History

2013–2018 SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Classes Taught
Freshman Survey: American History, 1492 – 1877
Undergraduate Seminar: Modern European Military History
Undergraduate Seminar: The Second World War

Undergraduate Seminar: French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars
Undergraduate Seminar: The History of Seapower
Undergraduate Seminar: The Civil War and Film
Graduate Seminar: The British Navy in the Age of Revolution
Graduate Seminar: Naval Battles in the Eighteenth Century
Graduate Seminar: Naval Warfare, 1850-1950
Graduate Seminar: Texas and the First World War
Graduate Seminar: Film and War in America
Graduate Seminar: Sources, Methods and Research (Capstone Seminar)

Master's Theses Directed

Obringer, Christopher S. "The Global Impact of British Naval Leadership, 1757–1805." Master's thesis, 2018.
Jackson, Daniel, Maj. USAF. "Fallen Tiger: The Fate of America's Missing Airmen in China during World War II." Master's thesis, 2017.
Hutzell, Eric C. "Down the Lines: U.S. Army Communications in Europe, 1942-1945." Master's thesis, 2017.
Mohr, Gerald David. "Echoes of Honor: Reflections on the Life of Bill Halbert and the Greatest Generation." Master's thesis, 2016.
Sierleja, Paul B., Cdr. USN. "United States Navy Maritime Patrol Aviation Support to Operation Market Time, 1965-1968." Master's thesis, 2014.

Comprehensive Exam Committees

Prepared and administered thirty-one Comprehensive Examinations from 2014-2018: Each consisted of written and oral examinations to test the mastery of student knowledge in field of Military History.

2009–2012 UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT,
Further Subject: Politics, Reform and Imperial Crisis: Britain 1774–1784

OTHER EXPERIENCE

2011–2012 Consultant, The National Maritime Museum, Greenwich
Provided research for the permanent exhibit, "Nelson, Navy, Nation: The Story of the Royal Navy and the British People, 1688 – 1815."

2000–2004 Infantry Assaultman, United States Marine Corps.
Completed tours in Afghanistan and Iraq, and served two years as an Assault Squad Leader. Received a Letter of Commendation and a Meritorious Mast for service in Afghanistan, and an Honorable Discharge in 2004.

SERVICE

2019–Pres. Faculty Awards Committee, U.S. Naval War College.
2019–Pres. Historian, Newport Commandery, Naval Order of the United States.
2018–Pres. Editorial Board, International Journal of Maritime History
2018–Pres. Judging Committee, CNO Naval History Essay Contest, U.S. Naval Institute.
2017–Pres. Historian General's Committee, Naval Order of the United Sates.
2016–Pres. Advisory Committee, 'No Man's Land: East Texas African American Veterans of WWI' Project, East Texas Historical Association.

2017–2018 Graduate Directors Committee, College of Humanities & Social Sciences, SHSU.
2016–2018 University Student Disciplinary Hearing Committee, SHSU.
2016–2018 Campus Security Authority, SHSU.
2015–2018 Faculty Representative for the University Veterans Alliance Network, SHSU.
2014–2018 Graduate Studies Committee Member, Department of History, SHSU.
2014–2018 Faculty Advisor for the Bearkat History Club, Department of History, SHSU.
2014–2018 Montgomery County Historic Commission Committee Member.
2016–2017 Faculty Needs and Planning Committee, Department of History, SHSU.
2015–2016 Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of History, SHSU.

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

2019 "Veterans: Enduring, Surviving, and Remembering War," U.S. Naval War College.
2014 "Strategy and the Sea: An International Conference in Honour of Professor John B. Hattendorf," All Souls College, University of Oxford.
2010 "The Hudson Trust Conference in Naval History," All Souls College, University of Oxford.

PUBLIC LECTURES ORGANIZED

2018 "Future War," with Sir Lawrence Freedman, U.S. Naval War College, 23 October.
2016 "Was the Napoleonic War 'Total' War?" with Roger Knight, Twelfth Annual Coffey Symposium, Sam Houston State University, 26 January.
2015 "Pearl Harbor & Franklin Delano Roosevelt," with Thomas Gillette, Department of History, Sam Houston State University, 2 December.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Naval Order of the United States
Navy Records Society
North American Society for Oceanic History
Society for Nautical Research
Society for Military History
International Maritime History Association

REFEREES

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