

Kelsey M. Wight

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Education

University of California, Santa Barbara September 2020–Present

- M.A/PhD program in History M.A requirements completed by March 2025
- Interest Overview: Archival Preservation, Archival Studies, Early Modern Europe, Italian Studies, History of Science, Gender and Sexuality, *apothecarium*.

Brigham Young University Degree Earned August 2019

- Bachelor of Arts in History
- Minor in Global Women’s Studies
- Emphasis in European History
- Brigham Young University Honors and Global Women’s Studies Honor Society

Brigham Young University-Idaho Degree Earned July 2017

- Associate of Science in General Studies

Honors, Awards, and Leadership Positions

UCSB History Graduate Student Association President September 2024- Present

- President of HGSA: 2024/2025 Tenure
- Serving the needs, welfare, and interests of present and future history graduate students through organizing open body meetings, events, fundraisers, community building exercises, and platforms for graduate students to share their intellectual and emotional concerns.
- Responsible for direct communication with the department chair as well as time-intensive, collaborative workshop and event planning with HGSA cabinet members.

UCSB History Graduate Studies Committee Representative March 2024- Present

- Elected student government representative for the History Graduate Studies Committee
- Working with faculty and graduate students to propose and structure a terminal M.A in public history at UCSB

UCSB History Dept. Internship in Information Technology Ongoing

- Paid internship, assisting with the publication of the department e-newsletter
- Attending meetings and compiling content for the newsletter
- Coordinating with DEVCOMM — the university’s development communication office — to prepare the e-newsletter and reviewing newsletter drafts for errors prior to publication

UCSB History Dept. Internship in Community Relations & Development Ongoing

- Paid internship, assisting with the department website, calendar, and social media accounts

- Keeping website information up-to-date; creating posts for events and department-related content to share
- Working with IT to create a Department Instagram, Threads, & BlueSky.
- Ensuring that Mastodon linked across all platforms and providing additional administrative assistance as needed.

Lemmermann Foundation Research Fellowship **August 2024**

- Prestigious, interdisciplinary summer research fellowship through the Lemmermann Foundation for a month-long historical research trip to Rome, requiring an extensive research proposal and Italian fluency.
- Used to access archival collections related to my UCSB graduate project on nun apothecaries held at L'Archivio di Stato di Roma
- One of eight winners selected from a pool of five hundred applicants.

UCSB History Associates Darcy Ruth Ritzau Graduate Student Award **June 2024**

- Competitive financial award for history graduate students (\$1000)

UCSB History Department Summer Travel Grant **Summer 2023/2024**

- 2024: History department travel grant used for archival research at L'Archivio di Stato di Roma (\$4500)
- 2023: History department travel grant used for archival research at L'Archivio di Stato di Firenze and L'Archivio Generale Arcivescovile di Bologna (\$1200)

Teach for America IGNITE Fellowship **February 2022-August 2023**

- Competitive, paid fellowship through Teach for America based on reading comprehension tutoring for third grade students in Alabama
- Filling educational gaps for struggling students and those in disadvantaged circumstances, further expounded by the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Five, one-hour Zoom sessions each week with lesson development, including SEL, phonics, sight words, and interactive games.

Brigham Young University Honors Research Grant **November 2018**

- Awarded by the Honors Program for research concerning the religious persecution of nuns in Reformation England in preparation for the History Capstone project (\$1000).
- Grant used for research at the British National Archives and for visiting English monasteries in Oxford and Kent.

Global Women's Studies Experiential Learning Grant **December 2018**

- Awarded by the Global Women's Studies program as additional funding for research at the British National Archives (\$1600).

Research Interests

- Archival preservation and management of early modern documents.
- Digital archives and public accessibility projects
- Botanical archives

- Early modern women as practicing apothecaries and their engagement in the larger world of natural philosophy.
- Italian convent pharmacies and the production of medicine.

Research Experience:

Italian Archival Research

August 2024

- Degree-specific research at L'Archivio di Stato di Roma
- Collection Accessed: Corporazioni Religiose Femminile, specifically Benedettine (Benedictine nuns) at S. Cecilia (the Convent of Saint Cecilia)
- Part of an ongoing public digitization project on apothecary spaces and material holdings of early modern Roman convents

Italian Archival Research

September 2023

- Supplemental research relating to my first graduate research paper.
- Collections Accessed: Corporazioni Religiose Soppresse Dal Governo Francese (ASF), Ospedale Santa Maria Nuova: Arte dei Medici e Speciali (ASF), Rubriche degli Statuti dell'Arte (ASF), Monache in Citta (AAB), Orsoline (AAB), Santuario del Corpo Domini (AAB).

Graduate Research Paper

Completed June 2023

- Two-quarter graduate research seminar, culminating in a 25-page paper.
- Title: "Violets and Roses, Betony, and Borage: Italian Women as Apothecaries"
- Topic: Italian women and apothecarial practice in sixteenth and seventeenth century Florence and Padua.

Undergraduate History Capstone Thesis

Completed April 2019

- A 20+ page thesis, required for completion of the BYU History Program.
- Analyzed the adaptation strategies of hundreds of nuns who were part of England's centuries-old tradition of Catholicism following the Dissolution of the Monasteries under King Henry VIII.

Professional History

Teaching Assistant for World History, 1000-1700

Upcoming

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Instructor: Dr. Debra Blumenthal

Teaching Assistant for History of the Present

September 2024- Present

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Instructor: Dr. Giuliana Perrone

Teaching Assistant for Ancient Mediterranean History

June 2024- August 2024

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Instructor: Misa Nyugen

Teaching Assistant for History of Technology

March 2024- June 2024

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Instructor: Dr. W. Patrick McCray

- Teaching Assistant for History of Science** January 2024- March 2024
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. W. Patrick McCray
- Teaching Assistant for History of the Present** September 2023- December 2023
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. Giuliana Perrone
- Teaching Assistant for Modern European History** March 2023-June 2023
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. Manuel Covo
- Teaching Assistant for Medieval/Early Modern Europe** January 2023-March 2023
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. Carol Lansing
- Teaching Assistant for History of the Present** September 2022- January 2023
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. Giuliana Perrone
- Teaching Assistant for World History 1700-Present** September 2021- June 2022
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. Jarett Henderson
- Teaching Assistant for Medieval & Early Modern Europe** January 2022- April 2022
University of California, Santa Barbara
- Instructor: Dr. Hilary Bernstein
- Editor for “The Thetean”** November 2018–June 2019
BYU History Department Student Journal
- Selected by faculty to edit historical research, which was published in the History Department's bi-yearly student journal, *The Thetean*.
 - Gained experience in the practicalities of research publication through working with a team of editors to meet deadlines and put the department’s best student work forward.
- Teaching Assistant for “World Civilizations to 1500”** November 2018–June 2019
Brigham Young University
- Instructors: Dr. Jennifer Bussio and Dr. Sarah Loose-Guerrero
- Teaching Assistant for “Early 20th Century Europe”** August 2018–December 2018
Brigham Young University
- Instructor: Dr. Evan Ward
- Research Assistant on the Nixon Tapes Project** June 2018–September 2018
Brigham Young University J. Rueben Clark Law School
- Conducted research pertaining to Richard Nixon’s environmental policies for Dr. Brigham Daniels, professor of environmental law.

- Accessed digital archives and transcribed hours of Nixon White House tapes, cataloging pertinent information for Professor Daniels' research, as well as serving as project editor.

University Involvement

Peer Reviewer for The Undergraduate Journal of History **Ongoing**

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Reviewer and topic specialist for UCSB's Undergraduate Journal of History

UCSB 2023 Gender & Sexualities Graduate Student Colloquium **June 2023**

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Colloquium Presenter
- Hour-long presentation and Q&A session on my most recent research paper: "Violets & Roses, Betony, & Borage: Italian Women as Apothecaries".

Global Women's Studies Honor Society **September 2018–Present**

Brigham Young University

(Current Member)

- GPA-based membership: Participated in lectures, discussion panels, workshops, and service activities related to women's lives and progressive interests at a traditionally-minded university.
- Presented research before an audience at the Women's Studies Capstone Conference in April 2019, successfully completing a minor in Global Women's Studies.

USGA (Understanding Sexuality, Gender, Allyship) **September 2018–August 2019**

Brigham Young University

- Member of the historical preservation committee in an unofficial club for LGBTQ+ and allied BYU students, providing a safe environment for open conversation about LGBTQ+ topics.
- Worked towards the approval of an official, on-campus club and a more tolerant campus community, despite ongoing setbacks.

Peer Mentor **April 2016–July 2017**

Heber J. Grant Mentor Program

- Mentored three women from non-traditional backgrounds, working with them one-on-one each week to set goals for the semester.
- Tutored students in a variety of subjects, including English and psychology, connecting mentees with campus resources that greatly improved their self-sufficiency and GPAs.
- Selected as a mentor due to my ability to overcome similar circumstances as a nontraditional student.

Community Service

United Way Volunteer **March 2020-July 2020**

United Way of California

- Food deliveries via personal vehicle to immuno-compromised and at-risk families during the height of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

March 2018–July 2019

Utah Division of Child and Family Services

- Volunteered for a Guardian ad Litem, representing the interests of a 13-year-old client who was placed in the Utah Division of Child and Family Services system.
- Made weekly home visits and attended seminars (in addition to 50 hours of core training) regarding forms of abuse, drug addiction, LGBTQ+ topics, access to family support services etc.
- Wrote detailed monthly reports to the Guardian ad Litem and CASA coordinator, as well as attended court hearings with my client to represent her interests in court and provide emotional support.

Skills

Languages:

Advanced Italian- Reading/writing/speaking (4 years of study). (Summer 2019 classroom instruction in Italy and Summer 2021 immersion with Middlebury Language Schools). Passed qualifying graduate-level language exam at UCSB.

Beginning French- Reading/writing/speaking (2 years of study in high school).

Beginning Mandarin- Reading/writing/speaking (2 years of study in China and the U.S)

Computer: Digitized archival research, Zotero, transcription, Excel, Canvas.

Additional Employment

Substitute Teacher (Special Education)

August 2022-Present

Santa Barbara County Education Office

- Substitute teaching in special education settings in Santa Barbara County.
- One-on-one and full classroom support for elementary school students with special needs and learning accommodations.

Security Aide

August 2019–September 2020

City of Santa Barbara–Airport

- Full-time security guard for the City of Santa Barbara.
- Secured the airport terminal through employee screenings and delivery inspections.
- Interacted with the public at all hours, problem-solving to ensure that their needs were met

Legal Intern

September 2018–January 2019

Provo City Justice Court

- Interned for Judge Vernon Romney in Provo City's municipal court system, processing 50-75 defendants through the court each day by distributing necessary legal documents and providing assistance.
- Connected defendants with their attorneys and shadowed these interactions to learn the inner workings of the legal profession.
- Filed citations and other legal documents into an online database that were used during proceedings.

Custodial Student Lead

September 2017– July 2018

Brigham Young University

- Early-morning custodial shift beginning at 3:50 a.m., 5 days a week, which permitted a busy class schedule- Promoted to a student lead position for showing strong leadership skills, timeliness, and consistency.
- Versed in all general custodial tasks, including operating industrial machinery, buffing and waxing floors, and handling chemicals.

Kindergarten Teacher

August 2016- January 2017

Emerald Pre-School House

- Employed full-time in Zhangjiagang, China for five months as part of an international studies internship.
- Taught English to students ages 3-6, creating original lesson plans for three separate age groups, navigating language barriers to facilitate learning.