

Christine B. Damrow

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Education

- Ph.D. University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of History 2005
Dissertation: “‘Every Child in a Garden’: Radishes, Avocado Pits, and the Education of American Children.”
My dissertation uses the children’s garden, evolving in ideal and design, as a lens to reveal and explain broader changes in the twentieth-century United States: in educational philosophies, science and technology, understandings of nature, standards of living, and ideas of the good life.
Director: Dr. William Cronon.
- M.A. University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of History 1994
Thesis: Romantic Ideals and Scientific Progress: Nature and Children in American Culture, 1880-1920. Minor field: Geography.
- B.A. Drake University 1989
Majors: History and Political Science. Minor: German.
Graduated summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin–Madison

History 102: American History from the Civil War to the Present

History 412: History of American Education

History 460: American Environmental History

Teaching Interests

Environmental History, Social History, History of American Education, the Progressive Era, History of the American West, Women’s History, Urban History, Rural History

Professional Activities

Presenter, Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education Fall Conference 2005

Plan Commissioner for the City of Columbus 2000-2004
Designed and circulated a survey to gather local input for the city's Smart Growth Plan.
Planned and promoted a community meeting on the city's dam, with representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the River Alliance in attendance.

Research Assistant to Professor William Cronon 1993-2000
I completed extensive archival and field research for a book on the environmental and social history of Portage, Wisconsin. Building a network of contacts, I conducted over 100 oral history interviews with area residents of diverse occupations and family backgrounds. Compiling and analyzing these interviews, I identified significant historical changes and issues in the community's agriculture, infrastructure, economy, schools, and social life. This position afforded much room for initiative and creativity.

Participant, with a stipend from the Mellon Foundation, in a summer seminar led by Professors John Cooper and Thomas Archdeacon of the University of Wisconsin. 1997

Memberships: American Society for Environmental History
Forest History Society
History of Education Society

Languages

German and reading knowledge of French

References

Dr. William Cronon wcronon@wisc.edu	History, Geography, and Environmental Studies University of Wisconsin–Madison
Dr. William Reese wjreese@wisc.edu	History and Educational Policy Studies University of Wisconsin–Madison
Dr. Stanley Schultz skschult@wisc.edu	History University of Wisconsin–Madison