

CATHERINE MAS

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2019- Florida International University, Miami, FL
Assistant Professor of Modern American History

EDUCATION

2019 Yale University, New Haven, CT
Ph.D., Department of History, Program in the History of Science and Medicine
Dissertation: “The Culture Brokers: Medicine and Anthropology in Global Miami”

2016 Yale University, New Haven, CT
M.A. and M.Phil, Department of History

2012 Columbia University, New York, NY
B.A. in History
Honors: *Cum laude*, Departmental Honors (History)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Book

Culture in the Clinic: Miami and the Making of Modern Medicine. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2022.

- Shortlisted for the Welch Medal (2025), American Association for the History of Medicine

Journal Articles

“‘Falling-out’ in Miami and the History of Culture in American Medicine,” *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 96, no. 1 (2022): 102–134.

“She Wears the Pants: The Reform Dress as Technology in Nineteenth-Century America,” *Technology and Culture* 58, no. 1 (2017): 35–66.

Book Chapter

“Putting Covid-19 in Historical Context,” in *Post-Pandemic Social Studies: How Covid-19 Changed the World and How We Teach*, edited by Wayne Journell. New York City: Teachers College Press, 2021.

Reviews and Short Essays

Review of *Ethics by Committee: A History of Reasoning Together about Medicine, Science, Society, and the State* by Noortje Jacobs (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022), *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 60, no. 1 (2024).

“How Not to Be an Expert,” *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences* 52, no. 1 (2022): 136–139.

Review of *Contraception: A Concise History* by Donna Drucker (MIT Press, 2020), *Technology and Culture* 61, no. 3 (July 2020): 949-951.

Works in Preparation

book chapter “Instruments of Inequality: Measuring Intelligence in an Age of Eugenics and American Empire,” in *Scientific Instruments as Cultural Artifacts* (edited by Paola Bertucci and Alexi Baker; under contract with Yale University Press)

book chapter “Science for the Nation: Yale’s Sheffield Scientific School and U.S. Global Power,” co-authored with Sarah Pickman and Caitlin Kossman, in *Scientific Instruments as Cultural Artifacts* (edited by Paola Bertucci and Alexi Baker; under contract with Yale University Press)

book *Sweet Captivity: A History of Primate Science from Cuba to the United States*

book chapter “What Apes Knew: The Inner Lives of Primates in Early Twentieth-Century Havana,” in *The Apes and Us* (edited by Jessica Riskin and Caroline Winterer)

article “An Ugly Inheritance: The Plantation and the Primate Laboratory,” *Isis* Focus Section on “Trafficking in Primates” (edited by Gregg Mitman and Tara Suri), slated for publication in Summer 2026.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Institute for Advanced Study Membership, 2024-2025

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, awarded in 2024

National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Award, awarded in 2023

Consortium for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine—NEH Fellowship, 2023

Top Scholar Award for Excellence in Teaching, Florida International University, 2022

John Addison Porter Prize, Yale University, 2019

Awarded by Yale University to a “written work of scholarship in any field in which it is possible, through original effort, to gather and relate facts and/or principles and to make the product of general human interest.”

George Washington Egleston Prize, Department of History, Yale University, 2019

Awarded by Yale’s Department of History “for recognition of outstanding work in the field of American History.”

Edwin W. Small Prize, Department of History, Yale University, 2019

Awarded by Yale’s Department of History to a “research student who discovers new facts of importance for American history or reaches important new conclusions from existing data.”

Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Rice University Academy of Fellows (*declined*)

University Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University, 2017-2018

Goizueta Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship at the Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami, 2017

Austin B. Creel Trust Award, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Office for Graduate Student Development and Diversity, Yale University, Fall 2016

Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship from the Department of History, Yale University, 2016

Summer Research Fellowship, The Mary Baker Eddy Library, Summer 2014

Doctoral Fellowship, Department of History, Yale University, 2013-2019

CONFERENCE PAPERS & INVITED TALKS

(upcoming) “Everything, Everywhere, All at Once: A Roundtable on the History of Eugenics,” American Association for the History of Medicine, Boston, May 2025.

“Rosalia Abreu y los simios cubanos: un estudio de primatología entre Cuba y los Estados Unidos,” IV Congreso Nacional de la Sociedad Cubana de Historia de la Ciencia y la Tecnología, Havana, Cuba, November 14-16, 2024.

“Caging as Scientific Practice,” Princeton History of Science Colloquium, Princeton University, October 24, 2024.

“Medicine’s Culture Brokers: The History of Miami and the Challenge of Diversity in Health Care,” Milton Meyer Michaels Lecture, C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society, Pittsburgh, September 2024.

(contributing author) “Abreu’s Apes: Historical, Cultural, and Scientific Structures Surrounding an Orangutan (*Pongo* spp.) Collection at the Yale Peabody Museum,” with Gary P. Aronsen, Katharine Walls, and Gregory J. Watkins-Colwell, Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections Meeting, Okinawa, September 2024.

“Cuban Apes, American Empire, and Ethical Frontiers of Medical Research,” American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Kansas City, 2024.

“Simians and Souls: Observing the Inner Ape in Early Twentieth-Century Cuba,” Frederick L. Holmes Lecture in the History of Medicine and Science, Yale University, New Haven, 2024.

“A Meeting of Minds: Cuban Primates and Converging Psychologies,” The Apes and Us: Workshop at Stanford University, Palo Alto, 2024.

“From Boundary Work to Brokerage: Professionalizing Medical Anthropology in Cold War America,” The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, 2023.

“Science, Immigration, and the Ethnic Body: Case Studies from the U.S.-Caribbean Context,” Princeton University Center for Migration and Development, Princeton, 2023.

“Miami and the Making of Modern Medicine,” Miami Studies Workshop Series, Wolfsonian Public Humanities Lab at Florida International University, Miami, 2023.

“Medicine’s Culture Brokers: The Historical Challenge of Diversity in Health Care,” Dialogues in Research Ethics, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, 2023.

“Externalizing the Mind: Instruments, Apes, and an American Quest for Intelligence,” Thinking with Scientific Instruments: Explorations in the Material History of Science and Technology (Part II), Workshop at Yale University, New Haven, 2022.

“Approaching the Intersections of Medicine and Anthropology: Insights from the Americas in the Twentieth Century,” The American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Saratoga Springs, 2022.

“Cuban Refugee Physicians and the Americanization of Global Health,” OAH Conference on American History, Boston, 2022.

“Of Apes and Apparatus: Yerkes’s Cuban Expedition and the Science of the Mind,” Thinking with Scientific Instruments: Explorations in the Material History of Science and Technology, Workshop at Yale University, New Haven, 2021.

“Healing at the Crossroads: Global Miami and the History of Medical Anthropology,” Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University, 2019.

“Cuban Apes and the Making of Medical Primatology in the Early Twentieth Century,” Department of Anthropology, Yale University, 2019.

“The Culture Brokers: Gender and Healing in Global Miami,” Departments of History and Women’s Studies, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, 2019.

“Mapping Shadows: Anthropology and Biomedical Formations of Ethnicity in Cold War Miami,” Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational History of the Americas Conference, Tepoztlán, Mexico, 2018.

“‘Falling-Out’ in Miami: Race, Religion, and Biomedicine in the 1970s,” Society for the Social History of Medicine Biennial Meeting, Liverpool, 2018.

“‘In a Family Way’: Love and Primatology at Quinta Palatino, 1900-1940,” Symposium for Graduate Student Research on Cuba, Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies at Yale, New Haven, 2018.

“Histories of Global Health,” Global Health Equity Symposium, Miami, 2018.

“The Culture Brokers: Medicine and Anthropology in Global Miami,” Department of the History of Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, 2017.

“Passing ‘the Foreign’: Cuban Physicians and American Medicine,” Cuban Heritage Collection Research Colloquium, University of Miami, Coral Gables, 2017.

“Culture Bound: Anthropology and Health Care in Cold War Miami,” The American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Nashville, 2017.

“The Health Ecology Project: Transcultural Health Care in 1970s Miami,” Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine, New York City, 2016.

“The Reform Dress as Technology and Cosmology,” Dressing Global Bodies Conference, Edmonton, 2016.

“‘Science is Radical’: Christian Science Healing in Nineteenth-Century America,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, 2015.

“Metaphysicians and Matter-physicians: Christian Science Healing in Late Nineteenth-Century Boston,” Frederic L. Holmes Workshop, Program in the History of Science and Medicine, Yale University, New Haven, 2015.

“‘The Wise Woman Buildeth Her House’: Feminine Expertise in Catharine Beecher’s Domestic Reforms,” Urban History Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, 2014.

Panel Commentator/Discussant

“Advice on Publishing for First-Time Authors (Sponsored by the AAHM/Diversity & Inclusion Committee),” American Association for the History of Medicine, Kansas City, 2024

“COVID in Time, Sound, and Image,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, 2023

“David Fairchild, the USDA, and the Building of a Caribbean Botanic Network: Insights from the Cienfuegos Botanical Garden, Cuba,” The Cuban Research Institute and the Kimberly Green Latin American & Caribbean Center, Miami, FL, February 2021

“Theory Session: Yesterday’s and Tomorrow’s Struggles,” Tepoztlán Institute for the Transnational History of the Americas Conference, Tepoztlán, Mexico, July 2018

TEACHING

Courses Taught at Florida International University

Undergraduate courses

American History Introductory Survey since 1877

Global Health in Historical Perspective

Public Health & Medicine in U.S. History

Senior Seminar: Science in Historical Context

Graduate courses

History of the Body

Historical Methods

Other Teaching Experience

Facilitator, session on history and ethics in Human Anatomy and Development, Yale School of Medicine, 2018-2019

Facilitator, “Situating Global Health,” Summer Medical and Dental Education Program at Yale: Medicine’s Social Mission, New Haven, July 2016

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisory Editor, *Isis: A Journal of the History of Science Society*, December 2024-present.

Chair, Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, American Association for the History of Medicine, 2022-2025.

Panel organizer, “Advice on Publishing for First-Time Authors (Sponsored by the AAHM Diversity & Inclusion Committee),” American Association for the History of Medicine, Kansas City, 2024

Manuscript Reviewer for Rutgers University Press, *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine, Medical Anthropology, and Technology and Culture*

Panel organizer, “Culture and the Making of Modern Medicine: History and Medical Anthropology,” American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, 2023.

Member, Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, American Association for the History of Medicine, 2021-2022.

Panel co-organizer, “Where is Religion in the History of Biomedicine?” American Association for the History of Medicine, Annual Meeting, 2020. [*Canceled due to Covid-19*]

Chair, Committee on Student Affairs of the American Association for the History of Medicine, 2017-2018

POPULAR PRESS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Catherine Mas, “Miami-Dade County has lurched rightward — but it loves ‘Obamacare,’” *The Washington Post*, January 23, 2023. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/made-by-history/2023/01/23/florida-miami-obamacare-medicare-healthcare/>

Catherine Mas, “Miami once provided a model for diversity. Now DeSantis won it big,” *The Washington Post*, November 10, 2022. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/made-by-history/2022/11/10/desantis-woke-miami-dade/>

Nicholas St. Fleur, “A ‘City on Fire’: How Miami Shaped a Disputed Diagnosis Used to Justify Deaths in Police Custody,” *STAT News*, May 16, 2022 (podcast, quoted)

Will Stone and Carrie Feibel, “The U.S. ‘Battles’ Coronavirus, but Is It Fair to Compare Pandemic to a War?” *NPR News*, February 3, 2021. (web story, quoted)

Will Stone, “Covid-19 Deaths Draw Comparisons to Other Tragic Death Tolls,” *NPR News*, January 26, 2021. (radio segment, quoted)

“Pandemics and Public Policy—Past and Present,” invited lecture at Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High School, January 15, 2021

“6 questions for the medical historian,” *FIU Magazine*, May 5, 2020.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

Spanish: reading, speaking (heritage speaker)

French: reading