

Dr Joshua Fitzgerald



ABOUT ME: I am a teacher and researcher in the Early Modern History with a specialism in Colonial Latin America and Mexican Indigenous Studies. I work with a rich variety of primary sources to examine the rich cultural traditions of Mesoamerica and explore how those practices persisted under Spanish-Catholic colonialism. My background includes more than a decade of undergraduate and postgraduate mentoring, guiding the development of my students' analytical and communication skills. Additionally, I work in Museum Studies and Art History, co-leading projects across disciplines with technical experts to make the past come to life in exciting public engagement activities.

EDUCATION

2019 PHD in History, Dept. of History University of Oregon

2024 MA in Art History, Churchill College, University of Cambridge

2018 Museum Studies Certification, University of Oregon

2012 MA in History, Dept. of History, University of Oregon

2010 BA in History, University of Utah
-Cum Laude; Minor Archaeology

TEACHING

Univ. of Cambridge (2020-Present):

HISTORY

-MPhil Supervisions, 2022-25

-Foundation Year, Pre-Degree Supervisor, 2024-25

-Part 1A Paper: North America, Central America, and The Caribbean, Contact to Present, 2023-24

-Part 1A Paper: Introduction to Historical Thinking Book Pack, 2022-24

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Oct. 2024 – Present **Munby Fellow in Bibliography, Cambridge University Library, University of Cambridge:**

- “Recovering the Painted-Over Lessons of Colonial Mexico: Material Histories of the Enigmatic Epistolae... linguam mexicanam at Cambridge (BFBS MS 375)”

Jan. 2021 – Present **Affiliated Fellow, University of Cambridge:**

- Affiliated lecturer, Faculty of History
- Research Fellow, McDonald Institute of Archaeological Research (MIAR)
- Affiliated Lecturer, Centre for Latin American Studies

Sept. 2024 – Present **Visiting Fellow, Classics Faculty, University of Cambridge**

- “Mesoamerican Visual Culture” for Visual Interactions in Early Writing Systems (VIEWS) Project

July 2024 – Oct. 2024 **Short Term Kluge Fellow, US Library of Congress**

- "Knowing Indigenous Architecture"

Sept. 2020 – Aug. 2024 **Junior Research Fellow, Churchill College, University of Cambridge**

- Rubinoff JRF in ‘Art as a Source of Knowledge’ in Mesoamerica/Colonial Mexico

Sept. 2019 – Sept. 2020 **Getty Graduate Fellow, Getty Research Institute (GRI), Director’s Office:**

- Digital Florentine Codex Initiative

SELECT AWARDS & GRANTS

Research England Enhancing Research Culture Fund –
British Academy/ Leverhulme Small Research Grant – UKRI Arts & Humanities Research Council –
UCAM SHAPE Hub Project Development Fund – CRASSH Research Networks and Events –
Cambridge Language Sciences Impact Fund – U.S. Dept. of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies –
Julie & Rocky Dixon Graduate Innovation Award – M. A. Bromsen Memorial Short-Term Fellowship...

[CAMBRIDGE HISTORY CONT...]

-Part 1A Paper: History and
Archives in Practice

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Core Courses, Centre of Latin
American Studies

ARCHAEOLOGY

Arch. A34/G16: Archaeology of
the Americas, Department of
Archaeology, University of
Cambridge

Univ. of Oregon (2010-19):

HISTORY

World History II (Early Modern)
Online Summer Course
Spiritual Conquest, Summer
Course
History of Mexico
World History I, II, & III
Latin America I, II, & III
Western Civ. I, II, & III
Ancient/Medieval Warfare
Cultures of India Past and Present
Foundations of East Asia
Civilizations

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 “Tlaloc’s Cheeky Charms: Colouring in the Ethnobotanical Visions of Amaranth and Chia in Postclassic Aztec Food-Art and Sculpture” in *Archaeological Review from Cambridge: Vol. 40.1 Food, Gods, & Ancestors*, eds. M. Rose Hinks & E. McCafferty Wright (May 2025).
- 2023 “As the Digital Teocalli Burns: Mesoamerica as Gamified Space and the Displacement of Sacred Pixels,” in *Sacred Spaces in the Americas* (Vol. 17, no. 1, Summer 2023), *Review of International American Studies*.
- 2023 “Insect Reds and Cactus Blood” for exhibition catalogue *COLOUR: Art, Science, & Power* (2022-23) Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (MAA), ed. by Anita Herle, MAA, Cambridge.
- 2022 “Visualizing Martial Mothers, Eagle-Women, and Water Warriors in the Florentine Codex,” *Getty Research Journal*, No. 16 (2022), Los Angeles, CA.
- 2020 “Mistaken Places: Mesoamerican Meaning in the Sixteenth-Century Catholic Courtyards of Mexico” for *Dak Kopec and AnnaMarie Bliss (Editors), Place Meaning and Attachment: Authenticity, Heritage and Preservation*, Routledge.

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS:

Book: *An Unholy Pedagogy: Visions of Learning from Mesoamerica, 1300-1700* (Cambridge University Press, TBD)

Article 1: “An Innovative Inkwell: Posada’s Games, Nuevo Coyote’s Pozos, and the Art of Play in Nineteenth-Century Mexico,” *Journal of Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture* (In production).

Article 2: “Aztec Paste Makers and Breakers: Ritual Tools for Crafting Food-Art, Empowering Water and Killing Mountains in Early-Modern Mexico,” in *Food Culture, Food History before 1900*, eds. M. Calaresu & M. Manzanares Mileo, Amsterdam University Press (TBD 2025/26).

Article 3: “Cage of Empires: Conquistador and Aztec Affordances and the Trappings of Spanish Invasion Play in AoE II” *Indigenous Peoples in/and Video Games*, De Gruyter Oldenbourg (TBD 2025/26).

LANGUAGES

English: Native
Spanish: Fluent
Nahuatl, Classical: Proficient
Nahuatl, Modern: Intermediate
Latin: Reading knowledge

MEMBERSHIPS

Royal Historical Society, Associate Fellow –
American Historical Association – Museum Ethnographers Group –
Association of Nahuatl Scholars – American Society for Ethnohistory –
European Association of Archaeologists

SERVICE & ADVOCACY

2024-25 ECR Representative, School of the Humanities and Social Sciences University of Cambridge

2021-25 Co-convenor, Americas Archaeology Group, Cambridge

2022-24 Co-Convenor, Multidimensional Dialogues of the Americas CRASSH Research Network;

2023 Co-Lead, Public Engagement Workshop: "Multicoloured and Melodious Dimensions of the Americas"

2022-24 Secretary/Chair, ECR Committee, Faculty of History, Cambridge

2022-23 Co-Convenor, UK Latin American History Conference

2022 Co-Convenor, Garrod Research Seminar Series, MIAR: "The North Atlantic Highway"

MUSEUMS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2023-24 Cambridge Creative Encounters, Univ. of Cambridge:

- Words: Collections Research Poetry with David Cain
- Partnerships: Augmented Reality Exhibit with Julian Escott and Adrian Gamboa

2023 Being Human Festival, School of Advanced Study at the University of London:

- Aztec food-arts activity with MAA, Cambridge

2021-22 Guest Curator / Content Specialists, MAA, Cambridge:

- Exhibition: COLOUR: Art, Science, & Power (2022) Senior Curator: Anita Herle

2019-20 Graduate Fellow, Getty Research Institute, Director's Office, Los Angeles:

- Text-encoding / Content Specialist, Digital Florentine Codex Initiative, Supervisor: Kim Richter
- Co-convenor / Instructor, Getty Research Institute & UCLA Latin America Institute Summer K-12 Educator's Summer Workshop

2017-18 Student Co-Curator, Lane County Historical Museum:

- Exhibition: *Their Hearts Are in This Land* (2017), Supervisor: Deana Dartt

2017-18 Guest Curator / Digital Specialist, UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History, University of Oregon:

- Exhibition: "Mesoamerican Maps": Navigating Knowledge (2018), Supervisor: Ann Craig
- "Mesoamerican Mapas", Supervisor: Stephanie Wood

2016-17 Collection Historian, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art & UO Knight Libraries, University of Oregon:

- Gertrude Bass Warner Collections

SELECT ONLINE PUBLICATIONS:

2025 "Broken Hearts Club: To Show Love, Joy and Hardship in the Nahua-Mixteca Writing System" The VIEWS Project: <https://viewsproject.wordpress.com/2025/02/14/broken-hearts-nahua-mixteca/>

2024 "La historia de los juegos en México, el arte y los diseños artísticos en realidad aumentada para Cambridge Encuentros Creativos/ Mexico's History of Gaming, Art, and AR-tful Designs for Cambridge Creative Encounters," with Adrian Gamboa and Julian Escott; MAA Digital Labs: <https://www.maadigitallab.org/blog/2024/03/21/mexicos-history-of-gaming-art-and-ar-tful-designs-for-cambridge-creative-encounters/>

2020 "Aztec Art and Feasts for the Dead," Smarthistory: <https://smarthistory.org/aztec-art-feasts-dead/>