

**Simon Cordery**  
Department of History  
Western Illinois University  
Macomb, IL 61455  
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## **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin May 1995  
Major Field: Modern European History  
Minor Fields: United States History, Labor History
- M.A. University of York (U.K.) September 1984  
Field: Modern British History
- B.A. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois December 1982  
Major: History (Cum Laude)  
Minor: International Relations

## **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

*Department of History, Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois* July 2012-present  
Professor and Chair

### Principal Administrative Responsibilities

- Long-range planning, Humanities Division, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Manage curriculum review processes and new course creation.
- Manage Appropriated and Foundation budgets.
- Initiate hiring requests and supervise hiring process.
- Formulate and administer faculty travel policy.
- Manage assessment of student learning.
- Appoint and oversee Department committees.
- Supervise Director of History Graduate Program.
- Formulate and implement Department recruitment plan.
- Formulate Department goals in cooperation with faculty.
- Set agenda for and chair Department meetings.
- Manage Department scholarships and awards.
- Manage summer-school and graduate-teaching rotations.
- Supervise office staff.
- Evaluate and mentor faculty.
- Liaise with offices of the Dean of the College of Arts and Science, Provost, Admissions, Centennial Honors College, and Study Abroad.
- Liaise with WIU Quad Cities faculty and administrators.

*Department of History, Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois*  
Lecturer to Full Professor

*August 1994-May 2012*

Principal Administrative Responsibilities

Chair, Department of History, 2008-2012.  
Chair, Department of History Curriculum Review Task Force, 2007-2102.  
Acting Chair, Department of History, 2004-2006.  
Advising Day Coordinator, Department of History, 2001, 2002, 2008, 2009, 2010.  
History Department Search Committees, 2000-2001, 2004-2005 (Chair),  
2008-2010 (Chair), 2009-2010, 2010-2011 (Chair).  
Co-Coordinator, Midwest Initiative, 2009-2012.  
Faculty Advisor, *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research*, 2009-2012.  
College Personnel Committee, 2008-2010.  
Assessment Coordinator, Human Societies Rubric, 2004-2006.  
Curriculum Review Task Force, Human Societies Requirement, 2003-2007.  
Student Affairs Committee, 2003-2005 (Chair, 2004-2005).  
College Assessment Committee, 2003-2005.  
Chair, Curriculum Review Task Force, 2002-2004.  
Sociology and Anthropology Department Search Committee, 2000-2001.

*ACM Central European Studies Program, Olomouc, Czech Republic*  
Director

*July-December 2006*

Principal Administrative Responsibilities

Coordinate Olomouc arrangements with Palacky University.  
Supervise course offerings.  
Prepare itineraries for study trips around the Czech Republic and to  
Austria, Hungary, and Poland.  
Lead students on study trips.  
Liaise with Palacky University administration.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois*

*August 2012-present*

Courses Taught, History Department  
World History, 1500 to the Present:  
Western Civilization 1648 to the present  
Modern Africa 1800 to the present  
Sports and Modern Society  
Course Taught, Centennial Honors College:  
The Railroad Industry in the United States

*Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois*

*August 1994-May 2012*

Courses Taught, History Department:  
Modern British History, 1707-1945  
Scotland in the Modern Era, 1707-Present  
Western Civilization, 1848 to the Present  
History of Sub-Saharan Africa  
History of India and South Asia, 1500 to the Present  
History of Sports in the Modern World  
Contemporary World History

United States History, 1750-1901  
 History of the Transatlantic World (team taught)  
 Courses Taught, Interdisciplinary Studies:  
 Global Perspectives: Food  
 Citizenship: Consumerism and Civic Duty  
 Theory and Practice in Cultural Studies (team taught)  
 Course Taught, Political Economy and Commerce:  
 Industry Analysis: Railroads

*Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois* *Spring Term, 2001*  
 Course Taught, Department of History:  
 Modern Sub-Sahara Africa, 1800 to the Present

*Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg, Illinois* *Spring Semester, 1998*  
 Courses Taught, Division of Social Sciences:  
 Introduction to Anthropology  
 Introduction to Sociology

*Louisburg College, Louisburg, North Carolina* *August 1993-July 1994*  
 Courses Taught, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences:  
 Western Civilization, 1750 to the Present  
 United States History to 1865

*East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina* *Spring Semester 1994*  
 Course Taught, Department of History:  
 United States History to 1865

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

John H. White Jr. Research Fellowship 2015-2016  
 Railway & Locomotive Historical Society

Mother Jones Festival Travel Award 2013  
 Mother Jones Festival Organizing Committee, Cork, Ireland

Mellon Faculty Grant 2005  
 Mellon Foundation/Associated Colleges of the Midwest

Newberry Library Research Grants 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006  
 Associated Colleges of the Midwest

NEH Summer Stipend 1998  
 National Endowment for the Humanities

Faculty Development Grants 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000  
 Monmouth College 2004, 2008

Fellow 1997  
 Midwest Faculty Seminar, University of Chicago

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Advisory Board Member<br>Mother Jones Museum, Mt. Olive, Illinois                           | 2014-present |
| ROAD Scholar<br>Illinois Humanities Council, Chicago, Illinois                              | 2005-2012    |
| Chair, Nominations Committee<br>National Railroad Hall of Fame Project, Galesburg, Illinois | 2000-present |

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*The Iron Road in the Prairie State: The Story of Illinois Railroading* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2016)

*Mother Jones: Raising Cain and Consciousness* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2010)

*British Friendly Societies, 1750-1914* (Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2003)

### Current Book Project

*Revisiting Pullman: Town and Factory Before the Strike*

### Articles

“Theodore Roosevelt and the Railroads,” *Journal of the Theodore Roosevelt Association* (Winter-Spring-Summer 2012), 67-79.

“John Tidd Pratt: The Making of the First Friendly Societies Registrar,” *Friendly Societies Research Group Newsletter*, no. 10 (May 2003), 3-4.

“Mutualism, Friendly Societies, and The Genesis of Railway Trade Unions,” *Labour History Review*, vol. 67 no. 3 (December 2002), 263-279.

“Friendly Societies and the British Labour Movement Before 1914,” *Journal of the Association of Historians in North Carolina*, vol. 3 (Fall 1995), 38-51.

“Friendly Societies and the Discourse of Respectability in Britain, 1825-1875,” *Journal of British Studies*, vol. 34 no. 1 (January 1995), 35-58.

“Joshua Hobson and the Business of Radicalism,” *Biography: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly*, vol. 11 no. 2 (Spring 1988), 108-123.

## Book Chapters

“Mutual Benefit Societies in the United States: A Quest for Protection and Identity,” in *Social Security Mutualism: The Comparative History of Mutual Benefit Societies*, Marcel van der Linden, editor (Bern: Peter Lang, 1996), 83-109.

“La Mutualité aux Etats-Unis, Bref Historique des Loges Fraternelles,” in *Mutualité de Tous Les Pays: Un Passe Riche d'Avenir*, Michel Dreyfus and Bernard Gibaud, editors (Paris: Mutualités Français, 1995), 153-164.

## Book Reviews

*American Railroads: Decline and Renaissance in the Twentieth Century*, by Robert E. Gallamore and John R. Meyer (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2014), in *Journal of Transport History* (forthcoming, 2017).

*Chicago: America's Railroad Capital: The Illustrated History, 1836 to Today*, by Michael Blaszak et al. (Minneapolis: Voyageur Press, 2014), in *Journal of Illinois History* (forthcoming, 2016).

*Rock Island Requiem: The Collapse of a Mighty Fine Line*, by Gregory L. Schneider (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2013), in *Enterprise & Society* (March 2016).

*The Iowa Route: A History of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids, & Northern Railway*, by Don L. Hofsommer (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2015), in *The Annals of Iowa* (Fall 2015).

*Pioneers of the Street Railway in the USA, Street Tramways in the UK...and Elsewhere*, by John R. Stevens and Alan W. Brotchie (Catrine, Ayrshire, UK: Stenlake Publishing, 2014), in *Railroad History* (Spring-Summer 2015).

*Farewell To Trains. A Lifetime's Journey Along Britain's Changing Railways*, by David St John Thomas (London: Frances Lincoln, 2013), in *Railroad History* (Fall-Winter 2014).

*Claiming the Streets: Processions and Urban Culture in South Wales, c.1830-1880*, by Paul O'Leary, (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2012), in *Victorian Studies* (Summer 2014).

*The First Great Train Robbery*, by David C. Hanrahan (London: Robert Hale, 2012), in *Railroad History* (Spring-Summer 2013).

*The Pennsylvania Railroad. Volume I: Building An Empire, 1846-1917*, by Albert J. Churella (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013), in *Journal of Illinois History* (Summer 2012).

- The Keelmen of Tyneside: Labour Organisation and Conflict in the North-East Coal Industry, 1600-1830*, by Joseph M. Fewster (Rochester, NY: Boydell Press, 2011), in *American Historical Review* (June 2012).
- Regulated Lives: Life Insurance and British Society 1800-1914* by Timothy Alborn (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009), in *Canadian Journal of History/Annales Canadiennes D'Histoire* (Winter 2011).
- American Railroad Labor and the Genesis of the New Deal, 1919-1935* by Jon R. Huibregtse (Gainesville: University Press of Florida), in *NRHS Bulletin* (Winter 2011)
- The Oddfellows 1810-2010: Two Hundred Years of Making Friends and Helping People*, by Daniel Weinbren (Lancaster, UK: Carnegie Publishing, 2010), in *Journal for Research into Freemasonry and Fraternalism* (Autumn 2010).
- Good, Reliable, White Men: Railroad Brotherhoods, 1877-1917*, by Paul Michel Taillon (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2009), in *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* (Summer 2009).
- Engines of Change: The Railroads that Made India*, by Ian J. Kerr (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007), in *History: Reviews of Books* (January 2008).
- The Iron Horse and the Windy City: How Railroads Shaped Chicago*, by David M. Young (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), in *Journal of Illinois History* (Winter 2005).
- The Politics of the Poor: The East End of London 1885-1914*, by Marc Brodie (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004), in *History: Reviews of Books* (January 2005).
- The Working Class in Britain 1850-1939*, by John Benson (London: I. B. Tauris, 2003), in *American Communist History* (2005).
- Pullman Porters and the Rise of Protest Politics in Black America, 1925-1945*, by Beth Tompkins Bates (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000), in *Railroad History* (Spring 2002).
- Strikes and Solidarity: Coalfield Conflict in Britain, 1889-1966*, by Quentin Outram and Roy Church (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998), in *Journal of Social History* (Spring 2000).
- Power at Odds: The 1922 National Railroad Shopmen's Strike*, by Colin J. Davis (University of Illinois Press, 1997), in *Railroad History* (Autumn 1998).
- The Railway Empire*, by Anthony Burton (Edinburgh: John Murray, 1994) in *Railroad History* (Spring 1997).
- The Duty of Discontent: Essays for Dorothy Thompson*, Owen Ashton et al., eds. (Mansell, 1995) on *H-Albion* (September 1996); accessible at <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=11810862319232>

*Law and English Railway Capitalism, 1825-1875*, by R. W. Kostal (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1994), in *Railroad History* (Autumn 1996).

## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

- “Researching Railroad History: The Case of Illinois,” Lexington Group in Transportation History, St. Louis, MO (October 2014).
- “Mother Jones: Sinner AND Saint,” Keynote Address, Second Annual Mother Jones Festival, Cork, Ireland (August 2013).
- “Taming the Railroads, Taking the Train: Theodore Roosevelt’s Ambivalent Attitude Toward the Iron Road,” Theodore Roosevelt Symposium, Dickinson State University, Dickinson, ND (October 2011).
- “Treading The Quiet Surface of Routine: Critics of Conflict in the Progressive Era,” Monmouth College Faculty Colloquium Series, Monmouth, IL (November 2010).
- “Mother Jones, Labor’s Advocate and the Workers’ Champion,” Third Annual Labor Day Lecture, Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL (August 2010).
- “Organizing Labor: Mother Jones and the Creation of a Workers’ Movement in the United States,” May Day Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, IL (May 2010).
- “Will the Real Mother Jones Please Stand Up? What Historians Do When Documents Lie,” Monmouth College Faculty Colloquium, Monmouth, IL (April 2009).
- “Transcending the Parish: Friendly Society Patrons and the Ironic Effects of Resisting Centralization,” American Historical Association, Washington, DC (January 2008).
- “Forming Habits: Friendly Society Patrons and the Bureaucratization of Welfare,” Midwest Conference on British Studies, Dayton, OH (September 2007).
- “Mutual Labour Relations in the British and American Railroad Industries, 1860-1890,” Newberry Library Labor History Seminar, Chicago, IL (March 2006).
- “Ways of Seeing/Ways of Knowing: Fraternalism and British Workers in the Victorian Era,” Dukakis Lecture, American College of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece (March 2005).
- “Containing Conflict: The Politics of Freemasons and Friendly Societies,” The ‘We Band of Brothers’: Freemasonry in Radical and Social Movements 1700-2000 Conference, Centre for the Study of Freemasonry, University of Sheffield, UK (November 2004).
- “Global Media and Sports,” The Sociology of Globalization, Bradley University, Peoria, IL (February 2003).

- “Nineteenth-Century Railway Workers’ Friendly Societies in Britain and the United States,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (November 2001).
- “The Emergence of Mutualism and the End of Paternalism,” Mutuality, Survival Strategies and the Friendly Society Conference, Friendly Societies Research Group, Milton Keynes, UK (November 2000).
- “Rethinking Railway Labour Relations: Paternalism, Mutualism and the Railway Friendly Societies, 1838-1870,” Institute of Railway Studies, York, UK (November 1999).
- “Dividing Loyalties: The Struggle for National Insurance in the British Railway Industry,” Economic History Society Annual Conference, Leeds, UK (April 1998).
- “Mutual Relations: Republicanism at Work?” The Republic in Britain Conference, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK (May 1997).
- “Railway Friendly Societies,” British History Association, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL (November 1996).
- “Freedom From Free Trade: Workers’ Control of Insurance in the British Coal and Railway Industries,” Southern Labor Studies Conference, Austin, TX (October 1995).
- “Mutual Benefit Societies in the United States: A Quest for Protection and Identity,” International Colloquium on the History of Mutual Benefit Societies, Paris, France (December 1992).
- “Urban Friendly Societies and the Problem of Respectability in Britain, 1825-1875,” Urban History Seminar, Urban Studies Centre, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK (June 1991).

In addition to these scholarly presentations, I have given more than sixty public lectures across the state of Illinois, primarily on the topic of railroad history in the state, and been interviewed by three radio stations (WBEZ, Chicago; WIUM, Macomb; and KALW, San Francisco), for the syndicated radio show “Let’s Talk Trains,” and appeared on two WIU television programs.