

# Christian Murray

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## Education

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### The University of Michigan- Ann Arbor, Michigan

2022 - Current

- PhD Student in History.
- Rackham Merit Fellowship
- Early Modern Atlantic, Intellectual, and Book History, and Digital Humanities.

### The University of Mississippi- Oxford, Mississippi

2022 - 2024

- M.A. in History.
- Thesis Title: “Montesquieu The Nature of *L'Esprit des lois*.”
- Reading Comprehension:
  - French.
  - Spanish.

### Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, Illinois

2020 - 2021

- B.S. in Communication Studies, cum laude.
- Sponsored project with the American Institute of Philosophical and Cultural Thought and School of Communication Studies.
- Became a student fellow at the American Institute of Philosophical and Cultural Thought.
- Member of the Speech and Debate team directed by Dr. Todd Graham.
- Earned the Southern Illinois Transfer Scholarship for academic excellence and my personal projects.

### Independent Studies and Workshops

- “The Digital Afterlife of Ephemeral Print: Research and Pedagogy with French Pamphlets” workshop at the Newberry Library by Dr. Elisa J. Jones and Dr. Sara K. Barker. (2024)
- “Geospatial Humanities Research Methods” independent study directed by Adam Clemons at the J.D. Williams Library. (2023)
- “Digital Humanities and Premodern Studies: An Introduction” independent study directed by Dr. Christopher Fletcher at the Newberry Library. (2022)
- “Video Series: Tracing the roots of American political thought” independent study directed by Dr. Randall Auxier. (2021)

## Research Projects

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### Thesis Project

2023 - 2024

#### Master's Student

- Thesis Title: “The Nature of *L'Esprit des lois*.”
- Summary: This thesis argues that the particular organization, composition, and errors of *L'Esprit des lois* made the text extremely ambiguous and useful to eighteenth century theorists and politicians, despite its intimidating length. It conformed quite well to the reading culture of the age, where its readers could read their present circumstances into the author's publication and make the text theirs, allowing *L'Esprit des lois* to be used across the ideological spectrum, cultures, and various schools of thought. Thus, what was constructed was something ambiguous where its readers continued to ask and answer what the author “really” meant, helping its popularity.
- Number of Chapters: 5.
- Estimated Length: 15, 908 words.

### Penny University Library & Maps

2023 - Current

#### Administrator and Creator

- Researches historical writers, their publications, and contexts within the 17th and 18th centuries.
- Digitizes/audiifies publications from the 17th and 18th centuries to create resources for undergraduates and the public.
- Maps out the booktrade using decentralized databases such as Internet Archive and World Cat.
- Films and edits social media videos and content for public history.
- Programs Used:

- Eleven Labs: Generating the author's unique voices.
- Mid-Journey: Generating digital art.
- ArcGIS: Creating the spatial data used in the maps.
- Mapbox: Designing the maps using the spatial data.
- Tableau: Manipulating the data sets within the maps.

## **Mississippi Department of Archives and History - Jackson, Mississippi**

**2023**

### Historic Preservation Paid Intern

- Worked under Federal Programs Specialist Hayley E. Smith.
- Researched, mapped, and compiled legal easements for over 400 historic properties for their protection.
- Compiled Programming agreements between MDAH, Native Tribes, and other organizations.
- Presented on my research and of the National Register.

## **Founders Club**

**2020 - 2022**

### Writer and Director

- Coordinated projects and organized work boards for educational content.
- Researched historical events, literature, and philosophies from the 17th and 18th centuries.
- Composed scripts and articles for historical, philosophical, and promotional online content.
- Filmed and edited 25 historical video essays with 1,200 Subscribers and 90,000 views altogether.
- Partnered with the American Institute of Philosophical and Cultural Thought for public education.

## **Illinois State Senate**

**2019, 2020- 2021**

### Manager/Paid Intern

- Supervised 6 interns on an economic development research project.
- Compiled lists covering 13 counties concerning local governments, hospitals, businesses, and organizations in order to map them out for economic development within the 59th District of Illinois.
- Assisted local constituents with legislative issues.

## **Professional Experience**

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### **J.D. Williams Library - Oxford, Mississippi**

**2022 - 2024**

#### Graduate Assistant in Metadata and Digital Initiatives

- Worked with content within the Institutional Repository (eGrove).
- Scanned and cleaned documents (books, pamphlets, journals, etc.) with OCR (optical character recognition) software.
- Organized and compiled metadata in relation to content in eGrove using spreadsheets.
- Packaged and mailed materials for scholarly use.

### **Eldorado High School- Eldorado, Illinois**

**2022**

#### Full-Time Substitute

- Taught 6 classes (U.S. History, U.S. Government, and Civics) to High School freshmen, juniors, and seniors.
- Researched and packaged historical content for students to easily understand government and history.
- Planned and executed lesson plans in the classroom and on google classroom for students during COVID.
- Studied how students learn and adopted the teaching mechanisms to better help the students learn.

### **Illinois State Senate- Harrisburg, Illinois**

**2020- 2021**

#### Project Manager

- Led a social media promotional campaign to promote local businesses and the chambers of commerce that they belonged to.
- Filmed and edited promotional videos (over 60) for State Senator Dale Fowler and local businesses in the community.
- Scheduled and coordinated video shoots and content creation between State Senator Dale Fowler, chambers of commerce, and local businesses.
- Crafted scripts for economic development and tourism within Southern Illinois.

## **Leadership Institute - Washington D.C.**

**2019**

- Researched the University climate within the state of Ohio.
- Identified and connected with 1,700 students from 16 universities.
- Established 15 student organizations at 6 universities to bring students together with similar interests.
- Promoted and facilitated different speaker events at 2 universities.
- Attended leadership, speech, and debate training in order to develop applicable skills.

## **Po-NiNja Productions - Harrisburg, Illinois**

**2016-2019**

Director and Creator

- Learned how to markup, script, and program in HTML, CSS, Lua, Python, and C#.
- Developed 7 servers within the online/gaming community.
- Developed 3 websites for the studio and professors.
- Established an active community with over 170 members.
- Awarded the Connie Joe Miller Engineering Scholarship to Southeastern Illinois College. **(2018)**