HUMANITIES TEXAS TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
Witte Museum • 3801 Broadway Street • San Antonio, Texas

7:45–8:30 a.m.  Check-in and breakfast

8:30–8:45 a.m.  Opening remarks
Sarita Rodriguez, Witte Museum
Michael L. Gillette, Humanities Texas

8:45–9:30 a.m.  19th-Century Innovations in Transportation and Communications
John L. Larson, Purdue University

9:35–10:20 a.m.  Manifest Destiny
Daniel Feller, University of Tennessee

10:20–10:40 a.m.  Break and group photo

10:40–11:25 a.m.  The Mexican War
Jennifer L. Weber, University of Kansas

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  Native Americans and Westward Expansion
E. Todd Smith, University of North Texas

12:15–1:00 p.m.  Lunch

1:00–3:15 p.m.  Primary source seminars

3:15–3:30 p.m.  Closing announcements


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FEATURED SCHOLARS

DANIEL FELLER is professor of history, distinguished professor in the humanities, and editor/director of The Papers of Andrew Jackson at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin and taught previously at Northland College and the University of New Mexico. His books include The Jacksonian Promise: America, 1815–1840, The Public Lands in Jacksonian Politics, and three volumes of The Papers of Andrew Jackson covering the presidential years 1829-1831. The 1832 volume is in press. Feller was the lead scholar for the PBS special Andrew Jackson: Good, Evil, and the Presidency, and he has appeared also on History Detectives, Who Do You Think You Are, and Ten Things You Don’t Know About.

JOHN L. LARSON teaches early American history at Purdue University. He grew up in Iowa, received his undergraduate education at Luther College, and did his graduate work at Brown University. Before joining the Purdue faculty he served as director of research at Conner Prairie Pioneer Settlement near Indianapolis, a living history museum dedicated to interpreting life on the antebellum American frontier during the age of Jackson. For ten years, beginning in 1994, he was co-editor with Michael A. Morrison of the Journal of the Early Republic. His publications include Bonds of Enterprise: John Murray Forbes and Western Development in America’s Railway Age (1984), Internal Improvement: National Public Works and the Promise of Popular Government in the Early United States (2001), and The Market Revolution in America: Liberty, Ambition, and the Eclipse of the Public Good (2010). His research and teaching interests lie in early American economic development, economic policy, environmental history, and the American westward movement.

F. TODD SMITH received his PhD in U.S. history from Tulane University in 1989 and has been a professor in the history department at the University of North Texas since 1997. His first three books dealt with the Caddo and Wichita Indians of Texas from 1540 to 1901. In 2005, he published From Dominance to Disappearance: The Indians of Texas and the Near Southwest, 1786-1859, and, in 2014, he published Louisiana and the Gulf South Frontier, 1500-1821. Colonial Natchitoches: A Creole Community on the Louisiana-Texas Frontier, 1714-1803, co-authored with H. Sophie Burton, won the 2008 Kemper Williams Prize in Louisiana History.

JENNIFER L. WEBER is associate professor of history at the University of Kansas. She is the author of two books. Her first, for adults, is Copperheads: The Rise and Fall of Lincoln’s Opponents in the North, about antiwar Democrats in the Civil War North. Her second, Summer’s Bloodiest Days: The Battle of Gettysburg as Told from All Sides, is about the Battle of Gettysburg and its aftermath, and is targeted for nine- to fourteen-year-olds. The National Council for Social Studies in 2011 named Summer’s Bloodiest Days a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People. Weber also has served as the executive editor of the Key Concepts in American History series for Library Binding press—eleven books explaining various aspects of government to middle school students—and edited a supplemented edition of The Red Badge of Courage for Everbind. Her most recent book, which she coedited, is The Struggle for Equality, a collection of essays in honor of her graduate adviser, James M. McPherson. She is currently working on a book about the Union’s conscription effort and its consequences. In addition to her work at KU, she serves on the advisory board of the Abraham Lincoln Institute and the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College.