

CURRICULUM VITAE

Gerrit John Dirkmaat, PhD
Associate Professor of Church History and Doctrine, BYU
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Current Position:

Associate Professor of Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University.

Current Professional Appointments:

Volume Editor/Historian for the Brigham Young Papers at the Brigham Young Center Foundation.

Editor of *Latter-day Saint Historical Studies* and trustee of the Ensign Peak Foundation (Formally known as the Mormon Historic Sites Foundation).

Religious Studies Center Review Board.

Host/Producer of weekly Church history podcast, *The Standard of Truth Podcast*

Education:

PhD, 19th Century American History, University of Colorado, Boulder (2010). Dissertation: “Enemies Foreign and Domestic: US Relations with Mormons in the US Empire in North America, 1844-1854.”

Bachelor of the Arts degree in History, Utah State University (2002). Summa Cum Laude.

Publications:

Books:

Brent M. Rogers, **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, Andrew Hedges, *Brigham Young’s Journals: Kirtland to Nauvoo, 1832-1846*, (Provo, Brigham Young University Press and Deseret Book, 2023).

Gerrit Dirkmaat and Michael Hubbard MacKay, *Let’s Talk About the Translation of the Book of Mormon* (Salt Lake, Deseret Book, 2023).

Brent M. Rogers, Mason Allred, **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, and Brett Dowdle, *Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume VIII, February 1841-November 1841* (Salt Lake City: Church Historian’s Press, May 2019).

Matthew J. Grow, Ronald K. Esplin, Mark Ashurst-McGee, **Gerrit J. Dirkmaat**, Jeffrey D. Mahas, *Joseph Smith Papers, Administrative Records, Council of Fifty, Minutes, March 1844-January 1846* (Salt Lake City: Church Historian’s Press, September 2016).

Michael Hubbard MacKay and **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, *From Darkness Unto Light: Joseph Smith's Translation and Publication of the Book of Mormon* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, May 2015).

Gerrit J. Dirkmaat, Brent M. Rogers, Grant Underwood, Robert J. Woodford, William G. Hartley *Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume III, February 1833-March 1834* (Salt Lake City: Church Historian's Press, December 2014).

Michael Hubbard MacKay, **Gerrit J. Dirkmaat**, Grant Underwood, Robert J. Woodford, William G. Hartley, *Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume I, 1827-June 1831* (Salt Lake: Church Historian's Press, September 2013).

Articles:

“The Miraculous Translation of the Book of Mormon,” *Liahona*, March 2024.

“‘Too Long Trampled on to be Celebrated:’ The Latter-day Saint Protest of Independence Day 1845,” in Robert Smith and John Thomas *Latter-day Saints and Religious Liberty: Historical and Global Perspectives* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2023)

“‘The Great Principle of Christianity is Love:’ Joseph Smith’s Teachings on Charity and Kindness” in Eric Smith, et. al., *Know Brother Joseph: New Perspectives on Joseph Smith's Life and Character* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2021).

“Obliterated from the Face of the Earth”: Latter-day Saint Flight and Expulsion in *Latter-day Saints in Washington, DC: History, People, and Places* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2021).

Gerrit J. Dirkmaat and Michael Hubbard MacKay, “Firsthand Witness Accounts of the Translation Process,” in *Raising the Standard of Truth: Exploring the History and Teachings of the Early Restoration* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2020).

Gerrit J. Dirkmaat and Andrew C. Reed, “‘The Kingdom of God and His Laws’: Joseph Smith’s Revelations and Teachings on Christ’s Kingdom and Church in the Council of Fifty,” in *How and What You Worship: Christology and Praxis in the Revelations of Joseph Smith* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2020).

“Lost Scripture and ‘the Interpolations of Men’: Joseph Smith's Revelation on the Apocrypha, in Michael MacKay et al., *Producing Ancient Scripture: Joseph Smith's Translation Projects in the Development of Mormon Christianity* (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2020).

“Safely ‘Beyond the Limits of the United States’: The Mormon Expulsion and US Expansion,” in Jimmy Bryan, ed., *Inventing Destiny: Cultural Explorations of US Expansion* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, September 2019).

“Consecration and Controversy: Ezra Thayer, Leman Copley, and Early Conflicts over Consecrated Properties,” in *Business and Religion: The Intersection of Faith and Finance*, Church History Symposium, (Provo: Religious Studies Center, August 2019).

“The Brigham Young Papers,” in *BYU Religious Education Review*, Fall 2018 (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2018).

“Joseph Smith,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Restoration of the Priesthood,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Historical Background of the First Vision,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Joseph Smith History,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Martin Harris,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Translation of the Book of Mormon,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Harmony, Pennsylvania,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Canonization of the Pearl of Great Price,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Gold Plates,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Introductory Note to the Pearl of Great Price,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Truth,” in *Pearl of Great Price Reference Companion*, Dennis Largey, ed., (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, December 2017).

“Lost Teachings of Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and Other Church Leaders,” in Matthew Grow and R. Eric Smith, ed., *The Council of Fifty: What the Records Reveal about Mormon History* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, September 2017)

Anthony Sweat, Michael Hubbard MacKay, and **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, “Doctrine: Models to Evaluate Types and Sources of Latter-day Saint Teachings,” *Religious Educator*, Volume 17, No. 3, 2016 (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2016).

Anthony Sweat, Michael Hubbard MacKay, and **Gerrit Dirkmaat** “Evaluating Latter-day Saint Doctrine,” in *Foundations of the Restoration: 45th Annual Brigham Young University Sidney B. Sperry Symposium* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2016).

“Searching for ‘Happiness’: Joseph Smith’s Alleged Authorship of the 1842 Letter to Nancy Rigdon,” *Journal of Mormon History* (Champaign: University of Illinois Press, July 2016).

Andrew H. Hedges, Rachel Cope, **Gerrit J. Dirkmaat**, and Thomas A. Wayment, “Discussing Difficult Topics: Plural Marriage,” *Religious Educator*, Vol. 17, No. 1, 2016.

Gerrit Dirkmaat and LaJean Purcell Carruth, “The Prophets Have Spoken, But What Did They Say?: Examining the Differences Between George D. Watt’s Original Shorthand Notes and the Sermons Published in the *Journal of Discourses*,” *BYU Studies* (Provo: January 2016).

Gerrit Dirkmaat and Michael Hubbard MacKay, “Joseph Smith’s Negotiations to Publish the Book of Mormon,” in *The Coming Forth of the Book of Mormon: 44th Annual Brigham Young University Sidney B. Sperry Symposium* (Provo: Religious Studies Center, 2015).

Michael Hubbard MacKay and **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, “Firsthand Witness Accounts of the Translation Process,” in *The Coming Forth of the Book of Mormon: 44th Annual Brigham Young University Sidney B. Sperry Symposium* (Provo, Religious Studies Center, 2015).

“The 1838 Mormon-Missouri War: Historical Setting to the Hawn’s Mill Tragedy”, in *Tragedy and Truth: What Happened at Hawn’s Mill* (American Fork: Covenant Communications, October 2014).

Kenneth Alford and **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, “Teaching with the 2013 Edition of the Doctrine and Covenants,” *Religious Educator* (Provo, Religious Studies Center, Winter 2014).

Michael Hubbard MacKay, **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, and Robin S. Jensen, “The ‘Caractors’ Document: New Light on an Early Transcription of the Book of Mormon Characters,” *Mormon Historical Studies*, Spring 2013, Vol. 14, No. 1 (Salt Lake City, Mormon Historic Sites Foundation, 2013).

“Great and Marvelous are the Revelations of God,” *Ensign*, January 2013 (Salt Lake City: Intellectual Reserve Inc., 2013).

“Mormonism Since 1945,” *World History Encyclopedia* Vol. 20: *Era 9: Promises and Paradoxes, 1945-Present* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“British Exploration in the Pacific,” *World History Encyclopedia*, Vol. 13: *Era 6: The First Global Age, 1450-1770* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“American Football,” *World History Encyclopedia*, Vol. 14: *Era 7: The Age of Revolutions, 1750-1914* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“European Imperialism in the Pacific,” *World History Encyclopedia*, Vol. 15: *Era 7: The Age of Revolutions, 1750-1914* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“Railroads,” *World History Encyclopedia*, Vol. 17: *Era 8: Crisis and Achievement, 1900-1945* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“Caudillos,” *World History Encyclopedia*, Vol. 15: *Era 7: The Age of Revolutions, 1750-1914* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“Immigration to the U.S., 1820-1880,” *World History Encyclopedia, Vol. 15: Era 7: The Age of Revolutions, 1750-1914* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“The Mexican Revolution, 1910-1920, *Vol. 18: Era 8: Crisis and Achievement, 1900-1945* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“Jehovah’s Witnesses,” *World History Encyclopedia Vol. 20: Era 9: Promises and Paradoxes, 1945-Present* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“The U.S. as an Imperial Power,” *World History Encyclopedia Vol. 15: Era 7: The Age of Revolutions, 1750-1914* (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011).

“The Mormon Colonies in Mexico,” *The Borderlands: An Encyclopedia of Culture and Politics on the U.S.-Mexico Divide* (Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood Press, 2008).

Book Reviews:

Review of Mark Staker’s, *Hearken O Ye People: The Historical Setting of Joseph Smith’s Ohio Revelations*, *Journal of Mormon History*, Winter 2013 (Champaign: University of Press, 2013).

Review of David Bigler’s and Will Bagley’s *The Mormon Rebellion: America’s First Civil War, 1857-1858*, *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, Spring 2012 (Helena: The Montana Historical Society, 2012).

Review of John Gary Maxwell’s *Gettysburg to Great Salt Lake: George R. Maxwell, Civil War Hero and Federal Marshal among the Mormons*, *Michigan Historical Review*, Spring 2011 (Mount Pleasant, Central Michigan University Press, 2011).

“A Core Meltdown,” review of William Walker’s *National Security and Core Values in American History*, *H-Diplo*, Vol. XI, No. 39 (2010).

Awards:

Best Documentary Editing Volume, Mormon History Association, 2020 Brent M. Rogers, Mason Allred, **Gerrit Dirkmaat**, and Brett Dowdle, *Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume VIII, February 1841-November 1841* (Salt Lake City: Church Historian’s Press, May 2019).

Article of Excellence Award, Mormon History Association, 2016 for “The Prophets Have Spoken, But What Did They Say?: Examining the Differences Between George D. Watt’s Original Shorthand Notes and the Sermons Published in the *Journal of Discourses*,” *BYU Studies*, January 2016.

Best Book Award, John Whitmer Historical Society, 2015 for *Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume III, February 1833-March 1834*.

Best Documentary Editing Volume, Mormon History Association, 2014 for *Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume I, 1827-June 1831*.

Teaching Experience:

BYU Courses taught:

RELC 324
RELC 325
RELC 225
RELC 341
RELC 342
HIST 220
HIST 221
HIST 364

Adjunct Instructor at Brigham Young University (August 2010-present), teaching Utah History, U.S. History to 1877, U.S. History 1877 to present, and Doctrine and Covenants (HIS 220, 221, 364 and RELC 324)

Adjunct Instructor at Weber State University (August 2012-present), teaching American History, colonial to the present.

Adjunct Instructor GPTI (Graduate Part Time Instructor) at the University of Colorado, Boulder, teaching the American History survey courses, U.S. Politics and Diplomacy, and Christianity in American History. (August 2007- May 2010).

Adjunct Instructor at Johnson and Wales University, Denver, 2009-2010, teaching World History, American Government, and Foundations of Leadership. (January 2009-May 2010).

Adjunct Instructor at Front Range Community College teaching both American History surveys, Western Civilization, World History, and American Diplomatic History. (January 2009-May 2010).

Teaching Assistant, University of Colorado, Boulder. (August 2003- 2009).

Other Professional Experience:

Board Member of the Brigham Young Center Foundation 2017-present.

Church Historian/Writer for the Joseph Smith Papers Project for the Church History Department 2010-2014, volunteer editor to the present.

Editor of *Latter-day Saint Historical Studies* (formerly *Mormon Historical Studies*) 2015-present.

Trustee of the Ensign Peak Foundation 2015-present.

Editorial Board of *BYU Studies* 2014-2020.

Senior Assistant Editor of *Diplomatic History*, August 2003-September 2009.

Co-chair Local Arrangement Committee, Mormon History Association, 2012-2013.

Conference Presentations:

“Gotcha! Understanding the Changing Nature of Antagonistic Attacks on Latter-day Saint Belief, Latter-day Saints Educators Conference, June 2019.

“The Politics of Latter-day Saint Flight and Expulsion from the United States,” Church History and Doctrine, Regional Studies Conference, Washington DC, June 2019.

“Meerza Giraummee Khan: The Beginnings of the Localization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Asia,” Decentered Mormonism Conference, University of Bordeaux-Montaigne, 2019.

“The Mormon Decision to Abandon the United States,” Hawaii Interdisciplinary Conference on Arts and the Humanities, January 2019.

“Safely ‘Beyond the Limits of the United States’: The Mormon Expulsion and US Expansion,” Western History Association, San Antonio, October 2018.

“Consecration and Controversy: Ezra Thayer, Leman Copley, and Early Conflicts over Consecrated Properties,” Church History Symposium, 2018.

“The Lost Teachings of Joseph Smith and Others from the Council of Fifty Minutes,” FAIR Mormon Conference, August 2017.

“The Proper Use of Historical Sources,” Book of Mormon Conference, January 2017.

“‘Both Good and Evil Spoken of’: Early Anti-Mormon Publications on Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon,” Mormon Media Studies Symposium, Hawaii, November 2016.

“Evaluating Latter-day Saint Doctrine,” Sperry Symposium, 2016.

“Lost Teachings of Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith, Brigham Young, and Others From the Council of Fifty Record,” John Whitmer Historical Association, September 2016.

“Agriculture, Adversaries, and Apostasy: Joseph Smith’s Unpublished Revelation and the Conflict over Frederick G. Williams’ Consecrated Farm,” Mormon History Association, June 2016.

“Joseph Smith’s Negotiations to Publish the Book of Mormon,” Sperry Symposium, 2015.

“Will the Real Abner Cole Please Stand Up?,” John Whitmer Historical Society Conference 2015.

“Early Mormon Polygamy,” World Congress of the International Association of the History of Religions conference, Erfurt, Germany, August 2015.

“Early Mormonism in New York State,” New York State History Conference, June 2014.

“Authors/Editors Meet Critic,” Joseph Smith Papers, Documents Volume 1, Mormon History Association, June 2014

“New Discoveries from Pitman Shorthand,” BYU Studies Academy Meeting, 2014.

“‘The Work Is Soon to Be Put to Press in This Village’: Joseph Smith’s Negotiations with New York Printers to Publish the Book of Mormon Manuscript.” Presented at the Researching New York Conference, sponsored by the New York State Archives, 2013.

“The Palmyra Freeman and Early Attempts to Find a Publisher for the Book of Mormon.” Presented at the Mormon History Association Conference, 2013.

“Searching for ‘Happiness’: Joseph Smith’s Alleged Authorship of the 1842 Letter to Nancy Rigdon.” Presented at the Mormon History Association Conference, 2012.

“Citizen Enemies: Negotiating Mormon Involvement in the Mexican War and Cession.” Presented at the Mid America Conference on History, October 2009.

‘A Matter of Domestic Policy’: The Tacit Acceptance of Manifest Destiny in American Foreign Relations History” *Roundtable: From Colony to Superpower: A Discussion of the History of U.S. Foreign Relations through the Work of George Herring*. Presented at the PCB-AHA (Pacific Coast Branch-American Historical Association), August 2009.

“‘Prevent Them from Taking Part Against Us’: James K. Polk, the Fear of Foreign Intervention in the Mexican War, and the Raising of the Mormon Battalion.” Presented at the SHAFR Conference (Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations), June 2009.

“‘Prevent Them from Taking Part Against Us’: James K. Polk, the Fear of Foreign Intervention in the Mexican War, and the Raising of the Mormon Battalion. Presented at Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference (Sept. 2008). Awarded Best Paper 2008.

“Examining the Holocaust.” Presented at Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference, September 2007.

“In Defense of Immigration: The Historic Perspective.” *Immigration Roundtable*, Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference, September 2007.

“Traitors to a Christian Nation: Mormons in the American Empire of the West.” Presented at Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, June 2005.

“Traitors to a Christian Nation: Mormons in the American Empire of the West.” Presented at Hawaii International Conference On Arts and Humanities, January 2005.

“American Empire in the 19th Century West.” Presented at Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference, September 2004.

Research Interests:

Latter-day Saint history, especially during the Joseph Smith and Brigham Young eras; Translation of the Book of Mormon; The Council of Fifty Record and Latter-day Saint expulsion from the United States; Utah history; Textual history of Latter-day Saint documents, especially related to sermons. History of Latter-day Saint/American Relations with in the 19th Century and the American West.