

## WESTENLEY ALCENAT

Curriculum Vitae  
Department of History, 630 Deal Hall  
Fordham University  
Rose Hill Campus  
441 E. Fordham Road  
Bronx, NY 10458

### EDUCATION

**Columbia University** New York, NY  
Ph.D., Candidate in History (Expected 2017)  
Dissertation: “Revolutionary Transnationalism: Prince Saunders, Haitian Emigration, and the Problem of Citizenship in the Age of Atlantic Slavery, 1815-1865”  
Adviser: Prof. Eric Foner, PhD

**Columbia University** New York, NY  
M.Phil., American History (2013)  
M.A., American History (2012)

**Macalester College** St. Paul, MN  
B.A., Political Science & History (2010)

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Nineteenth-Century U.S History, Anti-slavery and Emancipation, American Civil War and Reconstruction Era, Transatlantic Abolitionism, Nineteenth Century Transnational U.S and Caribbean Histories, Black Atlantic and African Diaspora, Black Radicalism and Political Thought

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**Fordham University**  
Instructor of History (2017-present)  
**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**  
Visiting Scholar in History (2015-2016)  
**Columbia University**  
Academic Adviser, American Studies Program (2015-present)  
**Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for Int'l Affairs**  
Associate in The Global History Initiative (2015-present)  
Summer Research Program Instructor and Graduate Mentor (June-July, 2015)  
**Great Books Summer Program, Amherst College** (July 2015)  
Associate Academic Director

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Book Reviews:

- Wes Alcenat. (2015). “The Fight for Interracial Marriage Rights in Antebellum Massachusetts.” *Politics, Religion & Ideology*, 16(4), 460-463.
- “The Resurgence and Reintegration of Haitian History in the Historiography of the Atlantic World,” in *Journal of Haitian Studies* (forthcoming)

#### Reviewed Articles:

- Alcenat, Westenley and Binnur, Özkececi-Taner. (2010) "Potential Roles for Turkey as Rising Regional Actor in Eurasia." *Insight Turkey*, Vol. 12, No.3. pp. 237-253
- Alcenat, Westenley. (2010) "Revamping the Welfare State: Obama and the Class Challenge of American Politics," *Macalester Civic Forum*: Vol. 4: Iss. 1, Article 5. <http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/maccivicf/vol4/iss1/5>

#### Public History:

- Westenley Alcenat, "The Racial Fault Lines of American History in Trump's America," *Black Perspectives* (February 10, 2017) <http://www.aaihs.org/the-racial-fault-lines-of-american-history-in-trumps-america/>
- Westenley Alcenat, "The Case for Haitian Reparations," *The Jacobin Magazine*. (January 2017)
- Wes Alcenat, "Shall it be a Woman?" Black Lives Matter and Leadership in the Face of Black Patriarchy," in *The Immanent Frame: Secularism, Religion and the Public Sphere*. (September 2016)
- Westenley Alcenat, "100 Years of Perpetual Occupation: Woodrow Wilson's Legacy in Haiti." *TheRoot.com*

#### CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- "Law and Violence in the American Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934" Workshop: *Methods in Legal History Panel: Law and Violence*, Columbia University (February 25, 2017)
- The American Occupation of Haiti and the Cultures of U.S Imperialism, 1915-2015, American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, (October 27-30, 2016)
- Black Citizenship and Post-Revolutionary Haiti: Migration, Nation, and Citizenship in the Black Atlantic" *Graduate Center History Department Annual Conference: Crossing Borders: Negotiating Spaces, Identities, and Sources Across the Historical Disciplines* (March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
- "Between Slaves and Citizens: The Limits of Black Citizenship in the Age of Revolution, 1789-1816" (April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016)  
Workshop: *Penn Program on Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism*
- "Liberation Historiography and the Gift of Black Souls: Why Black Lives Matter for Writing and Understanding American History"  
Conference: *University of Michigan's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Conference in U.S History: "Power, Politics, and Social Change: The Turbulent History of America's Present"* (May 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
- "Searching for Zion: Black Emigration to Haiti and the Ever-Elusive Quest for American Citizenship, 1816-1865," (2014)  
Conference: *Reworking Freedom Conference: Workshop on Re-Centering the Enslaved in Histories of the Americas*.
- Becoming American on Foreign Soil: Prince Saunders and African-American Emigration to Haiti, 1816-1824 (2011)  
Conference: *Sixth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)*

#### INVITED TALKS/MEDIA

- "Haiti, African-Americans and the U.S: A Brief History from Revolution to Emigration and Perpetual Occupations," 1804-1934, at the St. Paul/Minneapolis East Side Freedom Library (November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
- "Revolutionary Transnationalism: Prince Saunders, Haitian Emigration, and the Problem of Citizenship in the Age of Atlantic Slavery," at Brown University Center for the Study of Slavery & Justice (CSSJ) (November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016)

- “Haiti & African-Americans at the Epicenter of History: From Revolution to Emigration and Occupations, 1804-1934,” Yale University, The *Gilder Lehrman Center* for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition (October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
- “Prince Saunders and African-American Emigration to Haiti,” New York Public Library Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery (October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
- "Between Slaves and Citizens: African American Emigrants in the Archives" Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS) (April 6, 2015)
- Commentator at the Joint Seminar on “Reparatory Justice for Global Black Enslavement: The Greatest Political Movement of the 21st Century”  
**Speaker:** Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-chancellor of the University of the West Indies; Chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Commission on Reparation and Social Justice.  
Presented by: Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History; Weatherhead Initiative on Global History and the Program on the Study of Capitalism  
**Paper:**  
“Reparations as a Problem of Freedom in the Pursuit of Black Citizenship” by Wes Alcenat
- Commentator, on Jim Downs. (2015) “The Geography of Containment: Colonialism, Slavery, the American Civil War, and the Making of Epidemiology” in *Harvard Seminar: Approaches to Global History* (November 30, 2015)
- “A Historical Question: Why is Haiti Poor?” *MIT Seminar: Theories and Methods in the Study of History*, (October 7, 2015)
- “Archival Research at the Gilder Lehrman Institute:” <https://vimeo.com/146012676>
- “Haiti, African-American History and Social Justice” *Black History Month Panel*: Columbia Secondary School; Manhattan: New York (February 2015)
- “History, Equality, Equity and Diversity in Education,” *Riverdale Country School Service Learning Seminar*, Bronx: Riverdale, New York (October, 2014)

### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

American Historical Association (AHA)  
Organization of American Historians (OAH)  
African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS)  
Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR)  
Association for the Study of African American Life & History (ASALH)  
Association of Caribbean Historians (ACH)  
Caribbean Studies Association (CSA)  
American Society for Legal History (ASLH)  
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)  
Advisory Board Member, *Black Gotham Experience*