

# Zoe LeBlanc

zgleblanc@gmail.com - www.zoeleblanc.com - @Zoe\_LeBlanc

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## *Current Position*

Sept. 2017 - **Digital Humanities Developer** (Charlottesville, VA)  
Working in the Scholars' Lab at the University of Virginia. Responsibilities include web app development, statistical modeling, data mining, consultations, and teaching.

## *Education*

Sept. 2011 - **Vanderbilt University** (Nashville, TN)  
PhD and MA in History, Vanderbilt University, projected for 2016. Supervisors: Dr. Thomas A. Schwartz, Dr. Paul Kramer, and Dr. Leor Halevi. Projected defense winter 2018

2006-2010 **University of Toronto** (Toronto, Canada)  
Honours BA with High Distinction, Specialist in History

## *Selected Awards and Honors*

2014-2017 Awarded the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Award to support three years of doctoral work

June 2017 Awarded SHAFR Conference Divine Travel Grant

2016-2017 Awarded Graduate Fellowship at Vanderbilt Center for Digital Humanities

June 2016 Awarded the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Conference Global Scholars and Diversity Grant

May 2016 Selected Participant in the Mellon Institute in Digital and Public Humanities for Early-Career Scholars

Dec. 2015 Awarded the SHAFR Michael J. Hogan Foreign Language Fellowship

Dec. 2015 Recipient of the William Campbell Binkley Graduate Education Fund

2015-2016 Visiting Research Associate at the American Research Center in Egypt (declined)

July 2015 Participant in the National History Center's Tenth International Seminar on Decolonization, Washington DC

June 2015 Awarded SHAFR Conference Divine Travel Grant

April 2015 Awarded Vanderbilt University Summer Research Award

Nov. 2014 Awarded the SHAFR Samuel Flagg Bemis Dissertation Research Grant

Oct. 2014 Awarded Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Scholarship

2014-2015 Recipient of Vanderbilt Institute of Digital Learning Graduate Student Fellowship

Fall 2014 Awarded Visiting PhD Fellowship at the Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University

August 2014 Awarded Vanderbilt University Summer Research Award

August 2014 Awarded the Sponsored Student Scholarship at Humanities Intensive Learning and Teaching, University of Maryland

Summer 2014 Awarded The Herbert and Blanche Henry Weaver Summer Research Award

2013-2014 Awarded the Rodney G. Dennis Short-Term Visiting Fellowship in the Study of Manuscripts at the Houghton Library, Harvard University

Fall 2013 Awarded the full Ibn Battuta Merit Scholarship for Peace and Diplomacy from Qalam wa Lawh Language Center, Rabat, Morocco to cover three months of intensive Arabic language study

May 2013 Selected Participant "Summer Institute for Conducting Archival Research," George Washington University

2012-2013 Recipient of HASTAC Scholar award from the Vanderbilt Center for Teaching

Summer 2012 Recipient of Vanderbilt History Department Summer Funding for language training in Morocco

March 2012 Recipient of the William Campbell Binkley Graduate Education Fund

2011-2014 Recipient of Vanderbilt University Fellowship and Tuition Scholarship

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## Conference Presentations

- January 2019 Panelist, "The Future is Now: Lessons Learned from 3 Digital Dissertations in History", *American Historical Association*, Chicago, IL
- August 2017 "Archivlo: Digitizing the Archival Research Workflow" Poster, and Panelist on "Visualizing Futures of Networks in Digital Humanities Research" *Digital Humanities Conference*, Montreal, Canada
- July 2017 "Depictions of Decolonization: Anti-colonialism, Print Media, and Digital Image Analysis" *Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference*, Washington, DC
- July 2016 "They are all Lumumbas": Anti-colonial Solidarities and Media Representations in the United Arab Republic During the Congo Crisis 1960-1" *International Decolonization Capstone Conference*, Washington, DC
- June 2016 "Dispatches from Cairo: The Digital History of the British and American Embassies in Cairo 1955-1965" co-organized panel "Bridging the Two DHs: Digital History and Diplomatic History", *Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference*, San Diego, CA
- January 2016 "Egypt is Africa: David and Shirley Graham Du Bois in the United Arab Republic during the 1960s" co-organized panel "Blurring the Color-Line: Black Diplomacy in the Middle East and North Africa During the Early Cold War", *American Historical Association*, Atlanta, GA
- Sep. 2015 "Cairo's Congo Crisis" *The European Summer School on Cold War History*, Rome, Italy
- June 2015 "The Essence of Tragedy: American Protestant Missionaries, American Foreign Relations, and the Arab/Israeli Conflict during the early Cold War" *Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference*, Washington, DC
- Feb. 2015 "The Cairo Conference: The Role of Movement, Ideas, and Place in the United Arab Republic's Anti-Colonial Project" *Vanderbilt Graduate History Assoc. Conference*, Nashville, TN
- Nov. 2014 "Lawmaking and Prohibiting in International Islam: A History of Supranational Islamic Fiqh Academies and Islamic Legal Authority in the late Twentieth Century and early Twenty-First Century" *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Washington, DC
- Oct. 2014 "Towards the African Revolution: The United Arab Republic's Role in Pan-Africanism" *Association for the Study of Middle East and Africa Annual Conference*, Washington, DC
- June 2014 "Run Off the Map: The Life of Alford Carleton and the History of American Protestant Missionaries in the Third World during the Cold War" *Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference*, Lexington, KY
- April 2014 "Lawmaking and Prohibiting in International Islam: A History of the International Fiqh" Academy and Islamic Legal Authority in the Late 20<sup>th</sup> and Early 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries" *American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies Annual Conference*, Augusta, GA
- April 2013 "Visualizing A Forgotten American Vision: Mapping American Protestant Missionaries in the Middle East post-1945 with Neatline and Geographic Information Systems" *Humanities, Arts, Sciences, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory Conference*, York University, Toronto, ON

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## *Invited Presentations*

- Oct. 2018 Introduction to Computers and Programming, Washington and Lee University
- May 2018 Networks and Digital History Workshop, Carnegie Mellon University
- Dec. 2017 Introduction to Javascript, Presentation to Scholars' Lab Praxis Fellows
- Summer 2016 Interviewed by Derek Bruff on Vanderbilt Digital Pedagogy Podcast
- Jan. 2015 Presenter in Vanderbilt History Seminar, "Rituals of Belonging Workshop",
- May 2014 "HASTAC" *Mellon Institute in Digital and Public Humanities for Early-Career Scholars*, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University
- Jan. 2014 "Visualizing A Forgotten American Vision: Mapping American Protestant Missionaries in the Middle East post-1945 with Neatline and Geographic Information Systems" Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University
- April 2013 "HASTAC" *Digital Humanities Working Group Seminar*, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University
- Jan. 2013 "Adding Spatial Dimensions to Teaching" *GradSTEP Workshop*, Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University
- Jan. 2013 "American Missionaries in the Middle East in the Nineteenth Century," Guest Lecture in *JS256: Power and Diplomacy in the Middle East*
- Oct. 2012 "The Cold War Comes to the Middle East," Guest Lecture in *HIS173: The United States and the Cold War*

## *Teaching Experience*

- Spring 2015 Teaching Assistant, *HIST287E: The Federalist Papers*, Vanderbilt University  
Assisted the Chancellor with leading a senior seminar, and was lead instructor for three of the seminars. Responsible for grading and meeting with students.
- Spring 2014 Discussion Section Leader, *HIST120: The Arab Spring and Its Contexts*, Vanderbilt University. Facilitated discussion section and was responsible for grading exams and papers. Built a course website, [arabspringanditscontexts.wordpress.com](http://arabspringanditscontexts.wordpress.com), and designed integrated digital activities for the course.
- Spring 2013 Discussion Section Leader, *JS256: Power and Diplomacy in the Middle East*, Vanderbilt University. Facilitated discussion section and was responsible for grading exams and papers. Built a course website, available at [my.vanderbilt.edu/js256](http://my.vanderbilt.edu/js256). Designed class assignments including: an online field trip to the "King – Crane Commission Archive" at Oberlin College and a twitter response assignment.
- Fall 2012 Discussion Section Leader, *HIS173: The United States and the Cold War*, Vanderbilt University. Facilitated discussion and responsible for grading.

## *Industry Experience*

- 2017 Data Developer, Aspire Health, Nashville, TN. Responsible for building and maintaining web application to increase patient enrollment and suggest new patients for service. Also designed and built a mapping application to ingest historic data, visualize market trends and let analysts predict future growth. Worked primarily in React, Redux, Elixir, and Postgres.

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## *Membership and Service*

Spring 2017 - Pres. SHAFR Graduate Student Committee Member  
Summer 2016 - Pres. SHAFR Web Committee Member  
Fall 2015 -Fall 2017 H-Decolonization Co-List Editor  
Winter 2016 Co-organizer, "Vanderbilt History Seminar: Digital History Workshop"  
Spring 2015 Co-organizer, "Conversations on Digital Pedagogy", Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and the Vanderbilt Institute of Digital Learning  
2013-2014 Webmaster, Graduate Student Council, Vanderbilt University  
2013-2014 Co-coordinator, "Geographic Imaginations and Spatial Humanities," Robert Penn Warren Center for Humanities Graduate Seminar  
2013-2014 Graduate History Department Representative to the Graduate Student Council, Vanderbilt University  
2012-2013 Co-President, Graduate History Association, Department of History, Vanderbilt University  
Member, Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations  
Member, Middle East Studies Association  
Member, American Historical Association

## *Training*

Summer 2016 *Nashville Software School*  
Intensive full stack software bootcamp for nine months  
Summer 2015 *Digital Humanities Summer Institute* (Victoria, BC, Canada)  
Week long workshop on relational databases  
Summer 2014 *Humanities Intensive Learning and Training* (College Park, MD)  
Week long workshop on humanities programming focusing on Ruby on Rails  
Fall 2013 *Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center* (Rabat, Morocco)  
Intensive advanced Arabic for five months  
Summer 2012 *Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center* (Rabat, Morocco)  
Intensive intermediate Arabic for three months  
Summer 2010 *Qasid Arabic Institute* (Amman, Jordan)  
Intensive intermediate Arabic for three months

## *Languages*

Spoken languages:

Awarded Honours Bilingual Certificate in French from the Ontario Government.  
Fluent in French and advanced knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic.

Programming languages:

Python, R, Elixir, Ruby, Javascript, CSS, HTML

Frameworks:

Angular, React, Redux, JQuery, D3, SQL, Postgres, Neo4j, Leaflet, Jekyll, Sass

Methods:

Word embeddings, topic modeling, NER, feature extraction, bayesian modeling, paragraph segmentation and object detection