

# Lauri Umansky

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## Education:

Ph.D., Brown University, American Civilization, 1994  
M.A., Brown University, American Civilization, 1986  
B.A., University of Massachusetts-Boston, Women's Studies, 1983,  
Summa Cum Laude  
Pequod Training Program in Counseling; Certificate in Gestalt Counseling, 1979

## University Employment:

2015- Director, Heritage Studies Ph.D. Program and Professor of History,  
Arkansas State University

2012-2015 Dean and Professor of History, College of Humanities and Social Sciences,  
Arkansas State University

2009-2010 Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs (Interim), Suffolk  
University

2004 - 2009 Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Suffolk University

2004-2012 Professor, Department of History, Suffolk University; Department Chair, 2004

1999-2004 Associate Professor, Department of History, Suffolk University; tenured 2001

1994-1999 Assistant Professor, Department of History, Suffolk University

1990-1994 Instructor, Department of History, Suffolk University

1991-1992 Instructor, Elder Hostel; taught courses on the "History of Boston."

1989-1990 Adjunct Lecturer, Department of History, Northeastern University

1989-1990 Teaching Assistant, Department of African American Studies, Brown  
University

1987-1989 Teaching Fellow, Department of American Civilization, Brown University.

1986-1987 Teaching Assistant, Department of American Civilization, Brown University

1982-1983 Tutor and Writing Workshop Leader, English Department, University of Massachusetts-Boston

## **Publications:**

### Books:

*Arkansisters* [tentative title]. (University of Arkansas Press, in progress).

*Suffolk University: A Centennial History, 1905-2010* by David L. Robbins and Lauri Umansky (IIS Press, 2011)

*Gaby*, English translation by Trudy Balch of 1979 Spanish text by Gabriela Brimmer and Elena Poniatowska; new edition edited and with a critical introduction by Lauri Umansky (University Press of New England, 2009)

*Impossible to Hold: Women and Culture in the 1960s* (New York University Press, 2005), edited with Avital Bloch

*The New Disability History: American Perspectives* (New York University Press, 2001), edited with Paul Longmore

*Making Sense of Women's Lives: An Introduction to Women's Studies*, with Michele Plott (San Diego: Collegiate Press, 2000)

*"Bad" Mothers: The Politics of Blame in Twentieth-Century America* (New York University Press, 1998), edited with Molly Ladd-Taylor

*Motherhood Reconceived: Feminism and the Legacies of the Sixties* (New York University Press, 1996)

*Naked Is the Best Disguise: My Life As A Stripper* [pseudonym Lauri Lewin] (New York: Morrow, 1984; Pandora/Routledge 1985)

### Selected Articles and Essays:

Humanities Diary, Occasional Column in *The Jonesboro Sun*, 2013-2020

"Why A Monument Marking the 100-Year Anniversary of a Race Massacre Injures Rather Than Heals," "Want to Truly Memorialize A 100-Year Race Massacre? Let the People See the Truth," and "Princeton Seminary's Gift of Reparations? Let's Talk Instead About Cultural Competency," with Wendell Griffen, *Baptist News Global*, 2019.

“ ‘The Sisters Reply’: Black Nationalist Pronatalism, Black Feminism, and the Quest for a Multiracial Women’s Movement, 1965-1974,” *Critical Matrix* Special Issue (1995)

“The Ear,” *Journal of the American Medical Association*, February 17, 1993 (reprinted in

Carol C. Donley and Sheryl Buckley, eds., *The Tyranny of the Normal: An Anthology* (Kent State University Press, 1996)

Entry on “Disability” in *Poverty and Social Welfare in America: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Gwendolyn Mink and Alice O’Connor (ABC-CLIO, 2004)

Entries on “Tom Thumb” and “Lavinia Warren” in *Encyclopedia of Disability History* (Facts On File, 2008)

“Secret Chihuahua,” *Arkansas Review: A Journal of Delta Studies*, v. 50, issue 3 (December 2019).

Entries on “Maria Christina Moroles” and “Arco Iris Earth Care Project” in *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*, 2020.

Book, Film, and Website Reviews in: *Journal of American History*, *Women’s Review of Books*, *Sojourner*, *Bulletin on the History of Medicine*, *Reviews in American History*, *Arkansas Review*, *Journal of Arizona History*, *The Jonesboro Sun*, and H-Net.

### **Selected Presentations:**

Panelist, “The Longmore View of Telethons,” Society for Disability Studies, Atlanta, June 2015.

“Pitches & Poems: Humanities Across the University,” Arkansas State University, April 2014.

“The Feminine Mystique: Fifty Years Later,” Arkansas State University, April, 2013.

Panelist, “Gabriela Brimmer,” Disability Studies Seminar, Columbia University, April, 2010.

Panelist, “Reading and Discussion of *Gaby: An Autobiography in Three Voices*,” Americas Society, New York, April, 2010.

Moderator and Commentator, Sessions on “Theory and Method: Comprehensive Disability History,” and “Race and Disability,” Disability History: Theory and Practice Conference, San Francisco State University, August, 2008.

Panelist, “The Sixties: *Hair* and the Counterculture,” Suffolk University, April, 2008.

“Deaf History: Signs of the Times,” Guest Lecture, Fitchburg State College, June, 2005.

Moderator and Commentator, Panel on “Reconceiving Women: Feminism, Sexuality, and Utopian Writing,” Organization of American Historians, Boston, March, 2004.

Commentator, Panel on “Regulating ‘Problem’ Mothers in 20th-Century Britain, Canada, and USA,” 12th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Storrs, CT, June, 2002.

“Feminism and Motherhood: A Historical Note,” on panel, “Narratives of Mothering,”

Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center, May, 2002.

"Gabriela Brimmer: Her True Story," Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center, April, 2002.

Chair and Commentator, Panel on "Medical Repair and Social Redemption: Disabled Children in 20th-Century America" Organization of American Historians National Conference, Los Angeles, April, 2001.

Chair, Panel on "Activist Women in 20th Century America," New England Historical Association, Fall Conference, October, 1999. Commentator, Panel on "Reproductive Freedoms North and South," Fourth Southern Conference on Women's History, College of Charleston, June, 1997.

Chair and Commentator, Panel on "The Body," New England American Studies Association Annual Conference, April, 1996.

Panelist, "The Academic Job Search: Perspectives from the Front," Graduate Students' Career Conference, Brown University, November, 1995.

Commentator, Panel on "Reproductive Policies," New England Historical Association Fall Conference, October, 1994.

" 'The Sisters Reply': Black Nationalist Pronatalism, the Birth of a Modern Black Feminism, and the Quest for a Multiracial Women's Movement," American Studies Association National Conference, November, 1993.

"A 'Bad' Mother for the 1990s: The Denise Perrigo Case and the Politics of Maternal Sexuality," National Social Science History Conference, November, 1992.

### **Selected Honors, Awards, Fellowships:**

Student Affairs "Hero," 2014, Arkansas State University

Diversity Excellence Award Nominee, 2014, Arkansas State University

National Endowment for the Arts, Arkansas Folklife Program Grant, 2012-2014

Gold Award Winner, FOLIO, 2009 Eddie Awards in the category of Supplemental/Annual/One-Shot, Single Article for "Teaching and Mentoring, the 1-2 Punch," by Lauri Umansky, in *Suffolk Arts + Sciences* magazine, No. 2

Bronze Award Winner, Society of National Association Publications (SNAP) 2009 awards in the category of Best Feature Article for "Teaching and Mentoring, the 1-2 Punch," by Lauri Umansky, in *Suffolk Arts + Sciences* magazine, No. 2

Susan G. Vogt Fellow, Boston Consortium, 2006-2007.

Visiting Scholar, History of Science Department, Harvard University, 2001-2002.

Visiting Scholar, Women's Studies Scholars Program, Brandeis University, 2001-2002.

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2001-2002 (Grant co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality)

Faculty Member of the Year Award, Women's Center, Suffolk University, 1997.

Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Women's Studies Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates, 1990.

President's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Brown University, 1989.

University Fellowship, Brown University, 1985-1986.

Dean's List, University of Massachusetts at Boston, 1979-1983.

**Selected Professional Service:**

Editorial Board Member, *Arkansas Review: A Journal of the Delta*, 2020-

International Advisory Board Member, *International Journal of Heritage, Tourism, and Hospitality*, Fayoum University, Egypt, 2019-

Co-organizer, Delta Blues Symposium, Arkansas State University, 2013-

Judge, Professor of the Year Awards Program, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching/Council for Advancement and Support of Education, May, 2010; May, 2011.

Book Series Editor, New York University Press, for "History of Disability Series," 2000-2010.

Board Member, Disability History Museum, [www.disabilitymuseum.org](http://www.disabilitymuseum.org) 2010-2012.

Co-organizer, Disability History: Theory and Practice Conference, San Francisco State University, August, 2008.

Advisor on Film, "The League: A Documentary about Motherhood, Feminism, and the Politics of the Breast," produced, directed, and written by Marcia Jarmel, Center for Independent Documentary, 2003-2005

Book Review Editor, H-Women (the Women's History list for H-Net), 1999-2002.

Council Member, New England American Studies Association, 1995-1999

Secretary/Newsletter Editor, New England American Studies Association, 1997-1999

Manuscript Reviewer for Bedford Books, Gallaudet University Press, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Women's History*, New York University Press, University Press of Florida, Colima University Press, Association for Research in Mothering, *Mosaic: An Interdisciplinary Critical Journal*, *Journal of Hate Studies*.

***References available upon request***