

# Joanna Neilson, PhD

Associate Professor of History  
Chair, Department of Humanities



## Biography

Joanna Neilson is an Associate Professor of History and the Humanities Department Chair. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Centre College with BA degrees in History and Dramatic Arts. She earned her MA in History from the Florida State University with a major field in Britain and a minor field in India. She then completed her PhD in British History with minor fields in the Middle Ages, the Middle East, and India.

## Teaching and Research Interests

Dr. Neilson's teaching interests include the world history survey, the two-course British History sequence, Modern Middle East and North Africa, Modern South Asia, and modern imperialism. She teaches the History Program's first methods class, HIST 300 Introduction to Historical Studies. As part of the secondary education curriculum, she teaches HUMN 380 Secondary Methods for Teaching Humanities for Art, English, and History majors.

Dr. Neilson's research interests include comparative world history, early modern joint-stock companies and British foreign policy, nineteenth-century British colonial citizenship, and secondary education preparation and methods.

## Publications, Grants, and Presentations

### Publications

“Nineteenth-Century Constitutions: A Teaching Guide.” *World History Connected*. 16.1 (February 2019). <http://worldhistoryconnected.press.uillinois.edu/16.1/neilson.html>. Last accessed 20 January 2025.

## Faculty and Professional Service

Currently, Neilson serves on the General Education Committee. In previous years, she has served on the Teaching and Learning with Technology Roundtable and the QEP Steering Committee that built, implemented, and currently helps monitor the University's Transparent Instruction initiative, and the Faculty Senate. At different points during her twenty years at the university, she has been History Program Director, Humanities Department Chair, and the Assistant Dean for the Paul V. Hamilton School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.