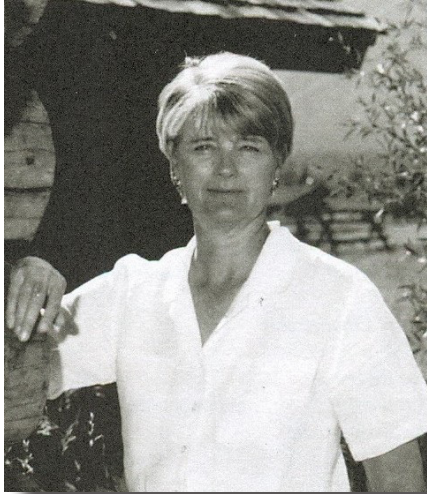


Sherry L. Smith (1951-)



Professor Sherry L. Smith was the 48th President of the Western Historical Association, serving from 2008 to 2009. Her scholarship focuses on the construction of race and ethnicity and their implications for American thought and Indian policy in the American West. She has taught at Southern Methodist University since 1999, and is a University Distinguished Professor and the Associate Director of the Clements Center for Southwest Studies. A popular teacher well-known for a sunny disposition, exacting standards in her seminars, and an infectious enthusiasm in the classroom, she teaches seminars on Native American history and the cultural history of the American West during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Professor Smith received a B.A. in History (1972) and M.A. in American Studies (1974) from Purdue University, and her Ph.D. from the University of Washington (1984). She

taught at the University of Texas, El Paso from 1985 to 1999. Dr. Smith has received numerous awards and recognitions for her work, including a Fulbright Foundation Senior Lectureship in New Zealand (1993), the Frederick W. Beinecke Fellowship in Western Americana from Yale University (1992), a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for College Teachers (1996-97), and a Ray Allen Billington Lectureship (2004) from the Huntington Library where she was also the Los Angeles Times Distinguished Fellow from 2009 to 2010. She has also served on numerous professional committees and editorial boards, including the Western Historical Quarterly.

Dr. Smith has published a number of books including *Sagebrush Solder: Private William Earl Smith's View of the Sioux War of 1876* (1989), *The View From Officers' Row: Army Perceptions of Western Indians* (1990), and most recently *Reimagining Indians: Native Americans Through Anglo Eyes, 1880-1940*. This book was the 2001 winner of the Organization of American Historians' Rawley Prize for best book on race relations in the United States. Her article for the Western Historical Quarterly titled "Reconciliation and Restitution in the American West," which was originally presented as her WHA Presidential Address in 2009, won the Berkshire Prize for Best Article of 2010. She has also edited *The Future of the Southern Plains* (2003) and co-edited with Brian Freher, *Indians and Energy: Exploitation or Opportunity in the American Southwest* (2010), both of which were the result of symposiums she coordinated. Her new book, *Hippies, Indians, and the Fight for Red Power*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2012. An avowed Westerner, she spends every summer in Jackson Hole, Wyoming with her historian husband, Robert W. Righter, who is also on the faculty of Southern Methodist University.

Sources:

<http://smu.edu/history/faculty/smith.shtml>; <http://faculty.smu.edu/sherrys/vita.htm>

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