Cody Carlson

Cody Carlson earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in history (2005) and his Master of Arts degree in Modern European and American History (2009) from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Cody is currently pursuing his PhD in Military History at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. He is also currently a Teaching Assistant for the University's History Department.

Cody's undergraduate work focused equally on American and European history, primarily in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries. Cody continued to look at American and European History for his graduate work at the University of Utah, although his primary research and interests focused on Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union, and the Second World War in Europe. As an undergraduate and again as a graduate student in 2005 and 2009 respectively, Cody studied at the Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany. While in Berlin he studied the European Union, the Cold War, and Nazi Germany.

Cody's Master's thesis is titled "Hitler & Stalin: Military Command Relationships and the Course of World War II on the Eastern Front." The thesis examined the relationships between the dictators and their generals, the armies as political institutions, and how events on the battlefield effected these processes. Dr. Ronald Smelser and Dr. Edward J. Davies II served on Cody's Master's committee. Cody also taught as an adjunct professor of history at Salt Lake Community College for six years, and was nominated for a Teaching Excellence Award in 2011 and again in 2013. Cody is currently researching the American army and generalship in the Second World War. Specifically, he is examining the circumstances surrounding American military disasters in the war, and the decisions to relieve or not to relieve the responsible generals. This work will consider events at the Kasserine Pass in 1943, the Falaise Pocket in 1944, and more. Cody's doctoral advisor is Dr. Geoffrey Wawro. Dr. Michael V. Leggiere, Dr. Graham Cox, and Dr. Randolph B. Campbell also serve on Cody's committee, and he hopes to graduate with his PhD in 2020.

Cody is originally from Midvale, Utah. He was a member of Salt Lake City's *Laughing Stock* improvisational comedy troupe at the Off Broadway Theater for over twenty years, and performed in over 70 productions on many other stages as well, including Hale Centre Theatre in West Valley City, Utah. He recently founded the improvisational comedy troupe *The Implazables* in Cleburne, Texas. Cody is also quite passionate about board gaming, and it was playing the board game Axis & Allies that first piqued his interest in history and the Second World War as a teenager. He has reviewed board games on Youtube as *The Discriminating Gamer* since 2014.