

Christopher Menking

Christopher Menking earned his Bachelor of Arts in History (2010) from Texas A&M University and his Master of Arts in History (2013) from the University of North Texas. Christopher successfully defended his dissertation: "Catalyst for Change in the Borderlands: U.S. Army Logistics during the U.S.-Mexican War and the Post-War Period, 1846-1860," written under the supervision of Dr. Richard McCaslin, in Fall 2019.

While at College Station, Chris's undergraduate interest was primarily in American military history and Russian revolutionary history. Chris studied abroad in France, Germany, and Russia as part of his education in these fields.

Chris's interest in Military History began at an early age. Both of his grandfathers served in the Second World War, one in the European theater and one in the Pacific theater. This interest, combined with growing up in South Texas, helped focus his later academic work on the U.S.-Mexico War. His Master's Thesis, titled Remembering the Forgotten D-Day: The Amphibious Landing at Collado Beach during the Mexican War, examined both the logistical feat that managed to put ashore 10,000 U.S. soldiers in five hours as well as the joint-operational doctrine that was used during the landing itself.

Chris's main field of study is logistics during the U.S.-Mexican War and the influence of the U.S. Army in the interwar period, 1846-1860. He focuses primarily on South Texas, investigating the influence of the supply depots, trade networks, and the Quartermaster Department on the region during and after the war. By integrating the two fields of military history and the newer borderlands history, he seeks to analyze the conflict and its results in a way that will illuminate how events during this period left lasting influences on this border region today. Chris's doctoral advisor is Dr. Richard McCaslin. He also works closely with Dr. Andrew Torget, Dr. Alexander Mendoza, and Dr. Mendiola-Garcia.

Chris is originally from Alice, Texas and is married to Erin. When he is not teaching or researching, he enjoys trying new restaurants around Dallas/Fort Worth and woodworking.

