The humanities allow us to learn to read carefully, with appreciation and a critical eye; to find ourselves, unexpectedly, in the middle of the ancient texts we read, but also to find ways of living, thinking, acting, and reflecting that belong to times and spaces we have never known. The humanities give us a chance to read across languages and cultural differences in order to understand the vast range of perspectives in and on this world. How else can we imagine living together without this ability to see beyond where we are, to find ourselves linked with others we have never directly known, and to understand that, in some abiding and urgent sense, we share a world?

JUDITH BUTLER

Saturday, April 30, 2016
The Barnett on Washington | St. Louis
Dr. Daniel Mandell

Professor of History, Truman State University

Kirksville

Daniel R. Mandell has taught at Truman State University since 1999. He has written six books and two dozen articles on Native Americans in New England, 1600-1900, focusing on their adaptations, persistence, and shifting relationships with others in the region.

Mandell’s first book was Behind the Frontier: Indians in Eighteenth Century Eastern Massachusetts (1996); one reviewer called it “a most important contribution to a reassessment of Indian survival in the Northeast.” His next major work, Tribe, Race, History: Native Americans in Southern New England, 1780-1880 (2008), received the Lawrence Levine Award for the best book on American cultural history. One reviewer called it “a rich account of the complex interactions of race, ethnicity, class, and gender in the survival of native peoples,” and another wrote that it “should affect the way . . . this era of American history is written.” His most recent book, King Philip’s War (2010) was awarded “Outstanding Academic Title” of the year by the American Library Association, which called it “the best concise account” of the war.

Before coming to Missouri, Prof. Mandell followed a winding road that included California, where he earned his BA (1979); Virginia, where he earned a history MA and married Barbara; Massachusetts, where he worked as a secretary, policy analyst, and cabbie, earned a MA in Urban and Environmental Policy at Tufts University (1989), finished the history PhD at the University of Virginia (1992), and had two sons, David and Joshua. He also taught in Indiana, Georgia, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois. Dr. Mandell has received research fellowships from Truman State, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Antiquarian Society and Massachusetts Historical Society—both of which have elected him to membership. He volunteers with the Kirksville Food Pantry and the advisory board of the state Anti-Defamation League.