

# WILLIAM TANNER ALLREAD

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Assistant Professor of Law, Harvard Law School  
1563 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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### Harvard Law School

*Assistant Professor of Law*, 2026-Present

### University of California, Los Angeles School of Law

*Richard M. Milanovich Fellow in Law*, 2024-2026

## EDUCATION

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**Stanford University**, Ph.D. in History, June 2025

**Stanford Law School**, J.D., June 2022

**Yale University**, B.A. in History with Distinction, Certificate in Education Studies, May 2016

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Published Articles

*Indigenous Constitutionalism*, 139 HARV. L. REV. 1257 (2026).

*“Angry in the House”: The Criminalization of Whooping in the Choctaw Nation*, 16 NATIVE SOUTH 8 (2023) (with Frankie Bauer, George Aaron Broadwell, Edward Green, Dani Katenkamp, Julie Reed, Christina Snyder, Michael Stoop & Jesse Tarbert).

*The Specter of Indian Removal: The Persistence of State Supremacy Arguments in Federal Indian Law*, 123 COLUM. L. REV. 1533 (2023).

- Winner of the 2024 Cromwell Prize for Legal History Article of the Year.

*We the (Native) People?: How Indigenous Peoples Debated the U.S. Constitution*, 123 COLUM. L. REV. 243 (2023) (with Gregory Ablavsky).

- Reviewed by Bethany Berger, *Expanding the Constitutional Lens*, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS), 2023; and Allison Brownell Tirres, *Constitutional History in the Middle Ground and Beyond: Indigenous Perspectives*, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS), 2023.

### Forthcoming Work

*“Rivals of Sovereignty”: Native Nationhood and American Statehood in the Removal Era*, 45 J. EARLY REPUBLIC (forthcoming 2026-27).

*Organizing Indian Country: Tribal Constitution-Making Under the Indian Reorganization Act*, in SARAH IGO & GANESH SITARAMAN, EDS., HOW THE NEW DEAL WAS RUN (forthcoming 2027).

### Works In Progress

*Republics Within a Republic: Tribal Constitutions and Sovereignty Conflicts in the Era of Southern Indian Removal* (book manuscript)

*“This Series of Strong Laws”*: Choctaw Governance and the Rise of Indigenous Constitutionalism, 1826-1830 (history journal article)

### **Other Writings**

*On Brackeen and the Value of Careful History: A Response to Lorianne Updike Toler*, BALKINIZATION (June 28, 2023).

*Originalism Across Legal Traditions: An Interdisciplinary Conversation*, THE DOCKET (Jul. 2021) (digital imprint of the *Law and History Review*).

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**, 2023-2024

*Law Clerk to the Honorable M. Margaret McKeown*

**Yurok Tribe, Office of the Tribal Attorney**, Summer 2020

*Summer Law Clerk*

**Kanji & Katzen, P.L.L.C.**, Summer 2019

*Summer Associate*

**Millwood Public Schools**, 2016-2018

*Teacher/Teach for America Corps Member*

**Oklahoma Indian Legal Services**, Summer 2015

*Liman Public Interest Summer Fellow*

**White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education**, Summer 2014

*Policy Assistant*

### **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS**

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Kathryn T. Preyer Award, American Society for Legal History, 2025

Indian Student Conference Scholarship, Western History Association, 2023

Trennert-Iverson Conference Scholarship, Western History Association, 2023

Herbert A. Johnson Fellow, Student Research Colloquium, American Society for Legal History, 2022

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Fellowship, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, 2022-2023

Presidents’ Travel Fund for Emerging Historians Grant, Organization of American Historians, 2022

Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education Fellowship, Stanford University, 2019-2025

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

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*Restoring the “Indian-Law Bargain”*: Realizing the Potential of Tribal Constitutions in Federal Indian Law

- “Innovative Strategies to Rethink the Federal Indian Law Framework” Panel, Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference, April 2026

*Revisionist Histories of Federalism*

- *The Interbellum Constitution* and New Directions in U.S. Constitutional History Conference, University of Chicago Law School, November 2025

*Territorial Jurisdiction and Tribal Constitutions Post-Castro-Huerta*

- “Territorial Sovereignty” Panel, State Bar of Wisconsin Annual Indian Law CLE, November 2025

*Tribal Courts: Their History, Powers, and Challenges*

- “Tribal Sovereignty & Protection of Indigenous Culture” Panel, State Bar of Wisconsin Annual Meeting & Conference, June 2025

*Indigenous Constitutionalism*

- Legal History Workshop, UCLA School of Law, March 2025

*“Rivals of Sovereignty”: Native Nationhood and American Statehood in the Removal Era*

- “Sovereignty & Federalism” Panel, The New History of Federalism Conference, University of Missouri, September 2024

*American Colonialism and Continental Expansion*

- “The Constitution of Empire: Native Peoples and the Legal Infrastructure of U.S. Imperialism,” NYU-Yale American Indian Sovereignty Project, Yale University, April 2024

*Native Citizenship Before the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924*

- “100 Years Back, 100 Years Forward: Sovereignty, Community and Indigenous Futures,” Center for Native American & Indigenous Research, Northwestern University, January 2024

*The Muscogee Crisis: The Treaty of Indian Springs and Tribal Politics in the Native South, 1825-1827*

- BOCA LONGA U.S. History Conference, Stanford University, April 2023
- McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, March 2023

*The Specter of Indian Removal: The Persistence of State Supremacy Tropes in Federal Indian Law*

- Discussion Group on Constitutionalism, University of Maryland Carey School of Law, March 2023

*The Anti-Removal Constitution: Native Legal Theories and the Origins of Federal Indian Law*

- Teach In: Native Americans and the Constitutional Order, University of Oklahoma, March 2023

*“This Series of Strong Laws”: Choctaw Governance and the Rise of Indigenous Constitutionalism, 1826-1830*

- Race, Law & History Seminar, Michigan Law School, February 2023
- Stanford Center for Law and History Workshop, Stanford Law School, January 2023
- Student Research Colloquium, American Society for Legal History, November 2022
- United States History Workshop, Stanford University, January 2022
- Marta Sutton Weeks Research Workshop on the History of Political Thought, Stanford University, October 2021

*We the (Native) People?: How Indigenous Peoples Debated the U.S. Constitution*

- Faculty Workshop, Stanford Law School, October 2022
- American Founding Group Workshop, University of Georgia, October 2022
- Faculty Workshop, Fordham Law School, April 2022

*The Origins of Indigenous Constitutionalism: Choctaw and Cherokee Governance in the Removal Era*

- Rising Scholars Lecture, Reed College, September 2022

## CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

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*“This Series of Strong Laws”*: Choctaw Governance and the Rise of Indigenous Constitutionalism, 1826-1830

- Panelist, Kathryn T. Preyer Scholars Panel, American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, November 2025

*Roundtable Discussion—New Directions in Early American Constitutional History*

- Participant, Society for the Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, July 2025

*Codes and Courts: Customary and Common-Law Practices in the Pre-Removal Cherokee Nation*

- Panelist, “The Empire’s Common Law Methods,” Legal Histories of Empire Conference, July 2025

*Native Legal Histories: Methods, Sovereignties, and Identities*

- Chair & Commenter, “Federalism, Sovereignty, and Status” Panel, Stanford Center for Law & History Conference, April 2025

*The Rise of the Native Nation-State: Law, Territoriality, and the State Apparatus in the Removal-Era South*

- Panelist, “Law in Unexpected Places, Legalities in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Native North America,” American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, October 2024

*Reform, Removal, and Reconstitution: Constitutional Culture in the Nineteenth-Century Choctaw Nation*

- Panelist, “Political Rupture & Cultural Repair in the Nineteenth-Century West,” Western History Association Annual Conference, October 2023

*“No Relation or Connection to a State”*: Cherokee Theories on Sovereignty and States’ Rights

- Panelist, “States’ Rights Ideology, Cherokee Nationalism, and Federalism in the 1820s and ‘30s,” Society for the Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, July 2023

*Roundtable Discussion—Exceptional Imperialism: Native Nations, Indigenous Peoples & the U.S. Constitution*

- Participant, Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, June 2023

*“Collisions of Rival Sovereignty”*: Southern State Law Extension Acts and Indian Affairs in the Removal Era

- Panelist, “Federal Sovereignty and State Policy: Authority, Law, and Governance in the Early Republic,” Society for the Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, July 2022

*Institute for Constitutional Studies Seminar: “Native Peoples, American Colonialism, and the U.S. Constitution”*

- Participant, Yale University, June 2022

*Roundtable Discussion—The New Native Reconstruction*

- Participant, Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, April 2022

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & SERVICE

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American Society for Legal History

California Indian Law Association (Treasurer, 2021-2022; Board Member, 2021)

Law and Society Association

National Native American Bar Association

Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture (2026 Annual Conference Program Committee)

Western History Association