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Dorothea Browder

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# Dorothea Browder

## Faculty Bibliography

Associate Professor, Department of History

### Research Interests

I focus on U.S. women's history and gender history, and am especially interested in the history of working-class women, the intersection of religion and working-class activism, race relations, and the social construction of race. I am currently researching the history of the Young Women's Christian Association's Industrial Program, which ran from 1904 through the 1940s. I explore how YWCA industrial club participants reformed the middle-class women who sought to reform them, and how they forged a nation-wide movement of working women across differences such as race, religion, nation of origin, occupation, and unionized status.

### Teaching Interests

I regularly teach courses on U.S. women's history and the U.S. history survey, as well as the second half of the Western Civ survey. In Spring 2008 I am teaching a Special Topics (490) course that explores changes in the role that work has played in women's lives in the United States. Women have always worked, but the conditions and meanings of labor--and workers' relationship to their work--has changed for both men and women wage-earners, as has the experience and image of unpaid household labor. This course will explore the various changes as they directly affected American women economically, socially, and politically and will open up discussions of the impact of race and class as well as gender.

I may also periodically teach the history of sexuality class, as well as special topics courses in labor history, the social construction of race, and the history of religion and working-class activism.

### Research Works

Browder, Dorothea. [A "Christian Solution of the Labor Situation": How Workingwomen Reshaped the YWCA's Religious Mission and Politics](#), *Journal of Women's History*, Vol. 19, No. 2, 2007.

[Elizabeth Nord's Tennis Lesson: How a Labor Leader Got Her Start in the Pawtucket-Central Falls YWCA Industrial Program](#), *Rhode Island History*, Vol. 71, 2013.

[Working Out Their Economic Problems Together: World War I, Working Women, and Civil Rights in the YWCA](#), *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Vol. 14, No. 2, 2015.