

# Cameron L. Kline

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**Education:** Doctor of Philosophy in History, Enrolled 2022 ♦ Syracuse University  
Master of Studies in History – U.S. History, 2021 ♦ University of Oxford, St. Cross College  
Master of Sciences, Journalism, 1998 ♦ University of Illinois, Champaign Urbana  
Bachelor of Sciences, Journalism, 1996 ♦ University of Illinois, Champaign Urbana

**Scholastic:** George Washington and Tobias Lear: The First Presidential Operative  
University of Oxford, St. Cross College ♦ 2021

- Authored a 12,000-word dissertation defining the newly created role of the presidential operative to reveal, through two episodes, President George Washington's leadership style and how Tobias Lear, as his operative, served the master of Mount Vernon and the first President of the United States of America. The first example focuses on Thomas Paine's unapproved dedication to Washington in the Rights of Man. And the second examines what transpired when Washington brought enslaved persons with him to the free Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which was governed by the 1780 Act for the General Abolition of Slavery.

Col. Tobias Lear V Journal Annotation  
Historical Society of Pennsylvania ♦ 2017 – 2019

- First historian to create a comprehensive annotation, now part of the HSP collection, of the Lear journal (Dec. 10, 1799 to July 4, 1801). It is the only first-hand account of the death of George Washington and covers Lear's life, Washington's final wishes, funeral preparations, entombment, and Lear's appointment and journey to be Council to St. Domingue.

Adjunct Professor  
Jefferson University ♦ 2017 – 2018

- Crisis Communications (Fall 2017) and Public Relations Writing (Winter 2018)

**Articles and Conferences:** Conference: 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas A&M History Conference  
Exploring the Margins of History  
Texas A&M University ♦ 2022

- George Washington and Tobias Lear: The First Presidential Operative

Published Article: *The Tempestuous Life of Tobias Lear, George Washington's In-Law*  
New England Historical Society ♦ 2020

- An original work on Lear's career, failure, upheaval, political judgment, and suicide.

Symposium: Tis Well – Tobias Lear and the Death of George Washington

Historical Society of Pennsylvania ♦ 2018

- In partnership with Historical Society of Philadelphia's (HSP) and The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington/Mount Vernon Ladies' Association presented original Lear research.

**Professional:** Concluded a more than twenty-plus year communications, political, and public service career at the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office (Feb. 2015 – July 2020) after serving as its Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications Director, Spokesperson, and Communications Adviser. Post-graduation, served in the Illinois Governor's Office as a James H. Dunn Memorial Fellow (Aug. 1998 – July 1999) and subsequently worked in various corporate, governmental, and educational organizations ranging from a Public Information Officer at the Illinois Department of Human Services (June 2000 – Aug. 2002) to Communications Director and Senior Adviser for the Pennsylvania Senate's First Senatorial District (Sept. 2011 – Feb. 2015).

**Achievements, Awards, and Activities:**

- Graduate Joint Consultative Committee, Alternative Delegate, Oxford History Graduate Network
- American Historical Association Member
- Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Member
- University of Oxford, St. Cross College student volunteer
- Liberty City Democratic Club Board Member
- Anti-Defamation League Glass Leadership Institute Fellow
- Center for Progressive Leadership Fellow
- Society for Professional Journalists' National Mark of Excellence Award Winner
- University of Illinois College of Journalism Student Teacher

**References Available Upon Request**