

Amy M. Hay

Amy M. Hay grew up outside Omaha, Nebraska. She received her B.S. in Pharmacy from Creighton University. After practicing pharmacy for a few years she decided to return to school and study something completely different. She attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha and wrote a thesis focusing on the professionalization of Nebraska pharmacists. She was awarded a Master's in History and granted admission into the Ph.D. program at Michigan State University. Her dissertation research examined grassroots women's health and environmental activism at the 1978 Love Canal chemical disaster. She successfully defended her dissertation and received a Ph.D. in History in 2005.

Upon completion of her degree, Hay taught for a year at Texas Christian University as a visiting assistant professor. She joined the University of Texas – Pan American's Department of History and Philosophy in 2006. Her areas of research and teaching specialization include 20th-century American history, American women's and gender history, and medical and environmental history. She spent a summer in Philadelphia on a Chemical Heritage Foundation fellowship, and a year in Germany as a Carson Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich. She has published on Love Canal in the *Journal of Women's History* and *Environmental History*. Her current book manuscript uses Agent Orange as a lens to investigate the use of herbicides as a means of international and domestic Cold War environmental containment.

Beyond her passion for teaching, researching, and writing, Hay enjoys reading science fiction and fantasy novels, watching all genres of television and movies (except horror!), traveling, and spending time with family and friends. Watching students analyze the past, gain critical thinking and writing skills, and understand themselves and the world around them provide her with great joy. That decision to do something completely different worked out pretty well.