

Timothy E. Nelson, Ph.D. Historian
Blackdom, New Mexico; The Afro-Frontier

Historian Timothy E. Nelson, Ph.D. addresses and unpacks foundational issues in African American history, the history of the U.S. West, borderlands history and the history of African diasporas. Dr. Nelson was born in South Central Los Angeles, raised in Compton, California during the early 1990s and went to Santa Monica Community College in the wake of race and class-based conflict with the Los Angeles Police Department. Dr. Nelson worked his way from Compton and Santa Monica Junior Colleges to New Mexico State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in U.S. History. Continuing to maintain ties with Compton, Dr. Nelson set up an admissions program to bring high schoolers from Compton to New Mexico State University. During his time completing a master's degree in Black History at the University of Northern Iowa, Dr. Nelson also earned a commission as an Officer in the U.S. Army. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at El Paso. Dr. Nelson was also the Racial Justice Director at the YWCA El Paso del Norte Region—the largest YWCA in the United States. He is a proud charter member of his chapter of Phi Beta Sigma, whose motto is “Culture for Service and Service for Humanity.” Dr. Nelson has not only provided the most in-depth research to date on the only all-black incorporated town in Blackdom, New Mexico, he has also challenged how the history has been framed. Dr. Nelson is focusing on the economic and social ambitions of Afro-Frontierists (Black pioneers). Through his 2015 dissertation as well as his current outreach, Dr. Nelson's goal is uncovering and advocating for untold stories. Dr. Nelson lives in Norther New Mexico [<https://blackdomthesis.com>]

Texas Tech University Press will be publishing Dr. Nelson's first Academic book set to publish Spring or Summer 2023.

Education:

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