## FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

## RACE IN THE PRAIRIE STATE: BLACK LAWS AND AFRICAN AMERICAN ACTIVISM IN NINETEENTH CENTURY ILLINOIS

## By

## WILLIAM CLIFT

A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy William Clift defended this dissertation on October 5, 2020.

The members of the supervisory committee were:

**Edward Gray** 

Professor Directing Dissertation

Robert Crew

University Representative

Katherine Mooney

Committee Member

Maxine Jones

Committee Member

The Graduate School has verified and approved the above-named committee members, and certifies that the dissertation has been approved in accordance with university requirements.