

MELISSA B. REYNOLDS

Curriculum Vitae

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Princeton University

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019–Present Perkins-Cotsen Postdoctoral Fellow, Society of Fellows, Princeton University
2019–Present Lecturer, History Department and the Humanities Council, Princeton University

EDUCATION

2019 **PhD, History**, Rutgers University
2011 **MA, History**, The University of Alabama
2005 **BA, English, with Honors**, *summa cum laude*, The University of Alabama

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscript

(In preparation) *How To Make an Information Revolution: Reading Medicine and Science in England, 1400–1600*

Refereed Journal Articles

(Forthcoming) “The ‘Surgica’ of Nicholas Neesbett: Writing Medical Authority in Later Medieval England,” *Social History of Medicine*.

“‘Here is a good booke to lerne’: Practical books, the coming of the press, and the search for knowledge, ca. 1400–1560,” *Journal of British Studies* 58, no. 2 (April 2019): 259–288.

* Honorable Mention, 2020 Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography Essay Prize

Editions and Translations

Member of transcription and translation team for Pamela Smith et al., eds., *Secrets of Craft and Nature in Renaissance France: A Digital Critical Edition and English Translation of Bibliothèque nationale de France MS Fr. 640*, <https://edition640.makingandknowing.org>.

* Winner, Eugene S. Ferguson Prize, Society for the History of Technology

Selected Book Reviews

(Forthcoming) Sara Ritchey and Sharon Strocchia, eds., *Gender, Health, and Healing, 1250–1550* (Amsterdam, 2020), in *Renaissance Quarterly*.

(Forthcoming) Peter Lake and Michael Questier, *All Hail to the Archpriest: Confessional Conflict, Toleration, and the Politics of Publicity in Post-Reformation England* (Oxford, 2019), in *The English Historical Review*.

(Forthcoming) Rachael Scarborough King, *Writing to the World: Letters and the Origins of Modern Print Genres* (Baltimore, 2018), in *The New England Quarterly*.

Public-facing Scholarship

“Communication failures in a pandemic can be catastrophic,” *The Washington Post*, March 18, 2020.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/03/18/communication-failures-pandemic-can-be-catastrophic/>

“The key to lowering America’s high rates of maternal mortality,” *The Washington Post*, May 8, 2019.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2019/05/09/key-lowering-americas-high-rates-maternal-mortality/>

Continuing contributor and editorial team member, *The Recipes Project: Food, Magic, Art, Science, and Medicine*, <https://recipes.hypotheses.org>.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

External

- 2020 Honorable Mention, 2020 Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography Annual Essay Prize, Rare Book School, University of Virginia
- 2018 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
- 2018 Grant-in-aid, Folger Shakespeare Library, Faculty Weekend Seminar
- 2017 Schallek Award, The Medieval Academy of America and the Richard III Society
- 2016 Grant-in-aid, Folger Shakespeare Library, Researching the Archive Seminar
- 2015 Director's Scholarship, Rare Book School, The University of Virginia

Princeton

- 2020 'New Project in the Humanities' grant for 'A History of Words: Technologies of Communication from Cuneiform to Coding,' David A. Gardner '69 Magic Project
- 2020 Research Grant, University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Rutgers

- 2018 Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, School of Arts & Sciences (Declined)
- 2017 Special Study Award for Digital Humanities, Graduate School
- 2016 Mellon Summer Dissertation Research Grant, School of Arts & Sciences
- 2016 Rutgers Teaching Assistant Professional Development Fund Research Grants

The University of Alabama

- 2012 Albert Burton Moore Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Work in History
- 2005 Phi Beta Kappa

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, & TALKS

Invited Talks and Presentations

- 2020 "Prognostications Past and Present: Leonard Digges, Print for Profit, and the Passage of Time in Early Modern England," an invited presentation for New Work in Early Modern Intellectual History: A Virtual Workshop, hosted by the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford, and the University of Cambridge, July 21 and 24

Campus or Departmental Talks

- 2020 "Mimicry in Manuscript: Learning to Write as a Model of Authority in Later Medieval and Early Modern England," an invited talk for the Committee on the Study of Books and Media, Princeton University, March 4
- 2020 "From Devotion to Instruction: Reading the book of 'paynture' in late medieval England," an invited presentation to the Textuality, Materiality, and Reading Practices Working Group, Princeton University, February 6

Conference Presentations

- 2020 "Defining the Present: Constructing the 'Medieval' in Popular Print," *Renaissance Society of America*, Philadelphia, PA, April 2–4 [Cancelled due to Covid-19]
- 2019 "Probatum est: Reader marks and the development of scribal practice," *International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 9–12
- 2019 "Making, Writing, Healing: Craft techniques and cures in Renaissance recipe books," *Renaissance Society of America*, Toronto, Canada, March 17–19

- 2017 “Consuming the Word: Late Medieval Medical Charms and the Curative Power of Writing,” *Bibliography Among the Disciplines Conference*, Rare Book School; Philadelphia, October 12–15
- 2017 “From Script to Print: Receipt Books and Proprietary Expertise in Early Modern England,” *Revisions*, the Annual Harvard-Yale Book History Conference; Harvard University, April 28
- 2016 “Threads of Time and Strands of Silk: Popular Magic, Astrological Expertise, and Women’s Textile Work in Early Modern England,” *History of Science Society*; Atlanta, November 3–6
- 2015 “Icons and Almanacs: Visual Practice and Non-Elite Book Culture in Late Medieval and Early Modern England,” *Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies*; Johns Hopkins University, March 27–28
- 2014 “Icons and Almanacs: Visual Practice and Book Culture in Fifteenth-Century England,” *Capturing the Un-Representable, Graduate Conference for the Center for Ancient Studies*; The University of Pennsylvania, December 5–7

Conference Sessions Organized

- 2021 Co-organizer, *The State of the Margins: Thirty Years After “Gabriel Harvey and His Livy,”* Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, PA, April 2–4 [Originally scheduled for RSA 2020 but rolled over to RSA 2021 due to Covid-19]
- 2016 Co-organizer and Chair, *Vernacular Knowledge and Learned Tradition in Early Modern England: Movement, Practice, Reception*, History of Science Society; Atlanta, GA, November 3–6

Seminars

- 2018 Translation and Encoding Workshop, *Making and Knowing Project*, Université de Toulouse II—Jean Jaurès, July 2–13
- 2018 *Image and Knowledge in Early Modern Books*, Faculty Weekend Seminar taught by Daniela Bleichmar (USC); Folger Shakespeare Library, March 9–10
- 2017 Translation and Markup Workshop, *Making and Knowing Project*, Université de Toulouse II—Jean Jaurès, June 16–30
- 2016–17 *Researching the Archive*, Year-long dissertation research and writing seminar, taught by Keith Wrightson (Yale) and James Siemon (Boston University); Folger Shakespeare Library, September 2016–April 2017
- 2015 *Book Production and Social Practice in Early Modern Europe and America*, Rare Book School, taught by Ann Blair and David Hall (Harvard); Harvard University, December 6–11
- 2015 Middle French Paleography Workshop, *Making and Knowing Project*, taught by Marc Smith (École Nationale des Chartes), Columbia University; New York, June 1–19
- 2012 Minnesota Manuscript Research Laboratory, University of Minnesota Center for Medieval Studies and the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library; St. John’s University, June 3–8

COURSES TAUGHT

Princeton University (as Instructor of Record)

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| A History of Words: Technologies of Communication from Cuneiform to Coding | SPR21 |
| Fertile Bodies: Reproduction from Antiquity to the Enlightenment | SPR20 |
| Interdisciplinary Approaches to Western Culture I | FA19, FA20 |

Rutgers University (as Teaching Fellow)

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| The Crusades | SPR15 |
| European Development I | FA14 |

The University of Alabama (as Teaching Assistant)

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| Western Civilization since 1648 | FA11 |
| American Civilization to 1865 | SPR11 |
| Western Civilization to 1648 | FA10 |
| American Civilization since 1865 | FA09 |

SERVICE

To the profession

2018–present Editorial team, *The Recipes Project: Food, Magic, Art, Science, and Medicine*
2015–16 Editorial Assistant, *Speculum*, Journal of the Medieval Academy of America

Campus or departmental

2019–22 Faculty Fellow, First College, Princeton University
2015–17 Planning Committee, Annual Warren Susman Graduate Conference, Rutgers University
2014 Co-chair, Graduate Student Recruitment Committee, History Department, Rutgers University

LANGUAGES

Native: English

Reading and conversational speaking: French

Reading: Latin, Middle French, Middle English, German (with dictionary)

Medieval and Early Modern Latin, French, and English paleography

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Renaissance Society of America

The Medieval Academy of America

Society for the Study of Early Modern Women

History of Science Society

American Historical Association