William L. Potter, Curriculum Vitae

## Education

Ph.D. *(anticipated)*, Christianity in Antiquity, Theological Studies, Saint Louis University

M.T.S., Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies, 2019, Vanderbilt Divinity School

B.S., *magna cum laude*, Audio Engineering Technology, 2017, Belmont University

### Certifications and Professional Development Workshops

{>>FreeCodeCamp certs (as list)<<}

[*An Introduction to Arabic Manuscripts*](https://www.international.ucla.edu/cnes/event/14962), *held virtually*, Co-organized by Princeton and UCLA, 23 - 27 August 2021

*North American Patristics Society Digital Humanities Workshop Series*, *held virtually*, May 2021

* [Extracting Text with Optical Character Recognition](https://msaxton.github.io/naps-dh-workshops-2021/ocr/)
* [Basics of Natural Language Processing](https://msaxton.github.io/naps-dh-workshops-2021/nlp/)

## Digital Humanities and Related Experience

### Project Manager, [*A Digital Catalogue of Syriac Manuscripts in the British Library*](https://github.com/srophe/wright-catalogue). 2019 -present

* Manage development of a digital database based on William Wright’s [*Catalogue of Syriac manuscripts in the British museum acquired since the year 1838* (1870-1872)](https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/1041798596) encoded in TEI XML
* Supervise a team of student researchers in creating, editing, and proofreading TEI XML catalogue records
* Design, implement, and iterate the data pipeline for manuscript catalogue record development

### Co-Editor, [*The Syriac Gazetteer*](http://syriaca.org/geo). 2020 – present

* Maintain data quality and conformance for [*The Syriac Gazetteer*](http://syriaca.org/geo)
* Ingest new data into Syriaca.org’s customized TEI XML Schema for the revised and expanded second edition of [*The Syriac Gazetteer*](http://syriaca.org/geo) (*forthcoming*, fall 2021)
* Collaborate with Syriaca.org’s editorial team to set project priorities and development roadmap

### Research Assistant for Digital Cultural Heritage,[*Vanderbilt Univeristy Center for Digital Humanities*](https://www.vanderbilt.edu/digitalhumanities/). August 2019 – July 2020

{>>PUT THESE AS FORTHCOMING STILL??<<} - Served as Technical Editor for [*The Beth Qaṭraye Gazetteer*](https://bqgazetteer.bethmardutho.org) and [*Caesarea-Maritima.org: A Digital Archive*](https://caesarea-maritima.org) - Developed methods to automate and streamline data gathering and processing - Collaboarted with project editors and front-end developer to design data model and visualizations for [*Caesarea Maritima: A Collection of Testimonia*](https://caesarea-maritima.org/testimonia) - Encoded and maintained the back-end Zotero library for [*Caesarea Maritima: A Comprehensive Bibliography*](https://caesarea-maritima.org/bibl) - Maintained [editorial and technical documentation](https://github.com/srophe/caesarea-data/wiki) to aid in project longevity

{>>LRDA??<<}

## Skills

[XML (TEI)](https://www.tei-c.org/release/doc/tei-p5-doc/en/html/index.html); [XQuery](https://www.w3.org/XML/Query/); [Python](https://www.python.org/); [HTML](https://html.spec.whatwg.org/), [CSS](https://www.w3.org/TR/CSS/){>>, [JavaScript](https://www.ecma-international.org/publications-and-standards/standards/ecma-262/) *pending*<<}; [Markdown](https://daringfireball.net/projects/markdown/)

[Zotero](https://www.zotero.org/); [oXygen XML Editor](https://www.oxygenxml.com/); [Basex](https://basex.org/); [GitHub](https://github.com/wlpotter); [Atom Text Editor](https://atom.io/)

Paleography (Syriac, Greek, Arabic)

### Research Languages

#### Ancient

Syriac; Hebrew (Biblical, Mishnaic); Greek (Classical, Patristic); Arabic (Quranic and Classical); Latin

#### Modern

German; French; Spanish

## Research Experience

### Graduate Assistant, *Vanderbilt University Excavations at Caesarea-Maritima*. May – June 2019

* Managed undergraduate student excavators during the 2019 excavation season.
* Excavated, processed, and document archaeological finds.
* Digitized and archived documentary materials from the excavation season

#### Research Assistant to Professor David A. Michelson,

*Vanderbilt Divinity School*. August 2018 - May 2019

* Assisted in the development, preparation, and editing of the following titles for publication:
  + Michelson, *Library of Paradise*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, *forthcoming*.
  + *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean. In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, ed. P. Guran and D. Michelson, in the series Études Byzantines et Post-Byzantines Nouvelle série Tome I (VIII). Bucharest: Académie Roumaine, 2019.

#### Research Assistant to Professor Choon-Leong Seow Vanderbilt Divinity School. October 2017 - July 2018

* Provided background research and editorial assistance for several articles and book chapters addressing the reception history of the book of Job.

## Teaching Experience

* **Teaching Assistant**, Saint Louis University, *THEO2710 Religions of the World*, Fall 2020
* **Lecturer**, Belmont University, *REL1010 Understanding the Bible*, Fall 2019
* **Teaching Assistant**, Belmont University, *AET3190 Audio Engineering II*, Spring 2016

## Leadership and Service

Member, **2021 Organizing Committee**, Dorushe Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies

Student Director, **2016 New Student Orientation Council**, Belmont University

## Honors and Awards

Graduate Student Paper Prize, North American Patristics Society Annual Conference, 2021

First Place Paper Prize, Seventh Dorushe Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies, 2021

Vanderbilt Divinity School Academic Achievement Award, Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2019

Elliot F. Shephard Prize for Excellence in Church History, Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2019

W. Kendrick Grobel Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biblical Studies, Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2019

Vivian M. Bell Clergy Award for Promise in Christian Ministry, Belmont University, 2017

## Presentations and Posters

* “‘Dung in the Grave, Dust in the Streets of Sheol’: Scent, Wealth, and Grief in a Homily on the Departed Attributed to Isaac of Antioch,” North American Patristics Society Annual Conference. *Held virtually*. 25 May 2021.
* “Diverging Strategies of Comfort: Isaac of Antioch and Jacob of Serugh on the Death of Children,” Seventh Dorushe Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies. Saint Louis University. 19 May 2021. https://sites.google.com/view/dorushe/paper-abstracts/session-1-jacob-of-serugh/william-potter
* “Life Cycle of Digital Texts,” *Graduate Student Lightning Talk Series. Session 1 – In Time & Space: Mapping, Visual, & Textual DH Tools*. Organized by The Walter J. Ong Center for Digital Humanities, Saint Louis University. 3 March 2021. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vK3Q6khF46A
* “TEI for Critical Editions,” 2019 Digital Humanities Bootcamp. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. 13 August, 2019.
* “Syriaca.org: Digital Tools for a Culture Facing Genocide,” Lightning Talk, 2019 Digital Humanities Bootcamp. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. 12 August, 2019.
* “Eclectic Digital Editions and Translations in TEI: Narsai’s Homily, *On Job*,” Poster, Cultural Heritage at Scale 2019. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. 2 May 2019.
* “Roundtable on TEI XML and Student Research,” Cultural Heritage at Scale 2019 Conference. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. 2 May 2019.
* “Poetry and Preaching in Medieval Mesopotamia,” Poetic Traditions in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean and Near East, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. 26 March, 2019.

## Publications

* “Mar Narsai’s Homily, *On Job*: Edition, Translation, and Commentary.” Master of Theological Studies thesis. Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2019. http://hdl.handle.net/1803/9601. Committee: David Michelson (advisor) and Annalisa Azzoni.
* (Prepared with David A. Michelson.) “Index of Maps.” In *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, 824-834. London: Routledge, 2018.