

CURRICULUM VITAE

WILLIAM DAVID MYERS

History Department

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CURRENT POSITION

Professor of History, Fordham University, September 01, 2012

(Book review editor, *Renaissance Quarterly*, term begins January 1, 2018-2021)

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Interim Chair, Department of History, August 2016-May 2017

Associate Professor of History, Fordham University, 1996-2012

Visiting Associate Professor of History, Mt. Holyoke College, Spring 2010

Assistant Professor of History, Fordham University, 1991-1996

Instructor in History, Fordham University, September, 1990--May, 1991

Adjunct Lecturer in History, Catholic University of
America, Washington, D.C., January-May, 1990

Visiting Instructor in History, University of Maryland,
College Park, Md., September, 1988-May, 1989

Adjunct Lecturer in History, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.,
September, 1987-May, 1988

Teaching Assistant, Yale Divinity School, 1982-1983

Teaching Assistant, Department of Religious Studies,
Yale College, 1979-1982

EDUCATION

Ph. D., Department of Religious Studies, Yale University,
May, 1992

M. Phil., Department of Religious Studies, Yale University,
May, 1987

M. A., Department of Religious Studies, Yale University,
May, 1984

B.A., Theology, University of Notre Dame

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Death and a Maiden: Infanticide and the Tragical History of Grethe Schmidt
(De Kalb, Ill: Northern Illinois University Press, 2011)

Paperback, published 2012

*"Poor, Sinning Folk": Confession and the Making of Consciences in
Counter-Reformation Germany* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1996)

BOOKS IN PROGRESS:

American Torture and the Western Experience (Hill & Wang)

Sin and Penance in the Western Tradition (under contract, New York University Press)

BOOK CHAPTERS:

"Mothers, Midwives, Murderers: the Women of Braunschweig in the
seventeenth Century," in Wade, ed. *Festschrift for Jillian Bepler*
(forthcoming, Harassowitz).

"Luther and Ignatius: The Basis for a Comparison," in *The Brill Companion to
Ignatius Loyola* (Brill, 2014)

"From Confession to Reconciliation and Back: Sacramental Penance,"
From Trent to Vatican II: Historical and Theological Investigations,
R. Bulman & F. Parrella, eds. (Oxford, 2006), pp. 241-266.

"Humanism and Confession in Northern Europe in the Age of Clement VII,"
The Pontificate of Clement VII: History, Politics, Culture, S. Reiss &
K. Gouwens, eds., (Ashgate, 2005), pp. 363-383.

JOURNAL ARTICLES:

"The Place of Torture: Psychological Space and Physical Torment in
Early Modern Germany," *Wolfenbuetteler Barock Nachricht*
(Forthcoming 2017).

"Weibliche Plauderei vor Gericht: Margarethe Schmidt, Justus Oldekop, und
die Frage von der Schwangerschaft," *Wolfenbuettel Barock Nachrichten* 27
(2000), pp. 109-126.

"Ritual, Confession, and Religion in Early Sixteenth Century Germany" (*Archiv
für Reformationsgeschichte* 89 (1998), pp. 125-143.

"Die Jesuiten die Beichte, und die katholische Reformation in Bayern,"
Beiträge zur altbayerischen Kirchengeschichte 42 (1996), pp. 45-58.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES:

"Eternal Hope, Persistent Disappointment: Women and Catholicism,"

Conscience: The Newsjournal of Catholic Opinion 35, #4 (2014)
Published in January 2015, pp. 15-18.

"Rendering to Caesar: Separation of Church and State in European History and Life," Catholics for Choice, *Religion and Politics in the New Europe*, A Catholics for Choice Forum conducted at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, November, 2007 (Washington, DC, 2008), pp. 37-45.

"In Search of Power and Privilege," *Conscience: The Newsjournal of Catholic Opinion* 26, # 1(2005), pp. 14-19.

BOOK REVIEWS:

Academic Journals:

McManamon, John M., S.J., *The Texts and Contexts of Ignatius Loyola's "Autobiography"* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2013), *Journal of Jesuit Studies* (3.1) (2016), 151-153.

Francisca Loetz, *Sexualisierte Gewalt 1500-1850. Plädoyer für eine historische Gewaltforschung* (Frankfurt: Campus, 2012), in *German History* (2) (2014), 304-307.

Jame Estes, *Peace, Order, and the Glory of God: Secular authority and the Church in the Thought of Luther and Melancthon, 1518-1559* (Leiden: Brill, 2005), in *Renaissance Quarterly*, vol. 60, 2 (Summer, 2007), 607-608.

Govind P. Sreenivasan, *The Peasants of Ottobeuren, 1487-1726: A Rural Society in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004), in *Renaissance Quarterly*, vol. 59, 2 (Summer, 2006), 571-573.

Susan C. Karant-Nunn, *The Reformation of Ritual. An Interpretation of Early Modern Germany* (New York: Routledge, 1997), in *German History*, Vol. 18, 4 (2000), 509-510.

Howard Louthan, *The Quest for Compromise: Peacemakers in Counter-Reformation Vienna* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), in *Church History*, Vol. 68, 3 (September, 1999), 695-696.

Martin Ohst, *Pflichtbeichte: Untersuchungen zum Busswesen im hohen und späten Mittelalter* (Tübingen: Mohr, 1996)
(Theological Studies, 1997)

Newspapers and Magazines:

Garry Wills, *What the Gospels Meant* (Viking, 2008), *Chicago Tribune Book Review* (May 31, 2008).

John Marks, *Reasons to Believe* (Ecco, 2008), *Chicago Tribune Book Review* (March 22, 2008).

- Hanna Rosin, *God's Harvard: A Christian College on a Mission to Save America* (Harcourt, 2007), *Chicago Tribune Book Review* (October 6, 2007).
- Joseph Margulies, *Guantánamo and the Abuse of Presidential Power* (Simon & Schuster, 2006), *Chicago Tribune Book Review* (December 17, 2006)
- Fritz Stern, *Five Germany's I have Known* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006)
Chicago Tribune Book Review (September, 2006)
- Michael Burleigh, *Earthly Powers: The Clash of Religion and Politics in Europe From the French Revolution to the Great War* (Harper Collins, 2006)
Conscience: The Newsjournal of Catholic Opinion vol. XXVII, # 3 (Autumn, 2006), pp. 48-49
- Peter d. Agostino, *Rome in America: Transnational Catholic Ideology from the Risorgimento to Fascism* (North Carolina, 2004), *Commonweal* (2004)
- Peter Steinfels. *A People Adrift. The Crisis of the Roman Catholic Church in America* (Simon & Schuster, 2003) *Chicago Tribune* (September, 2003)
- Philip Jenkins, *The New Anti-Catholicism: the Last Acceptable Prejudice* (Oxford, 2003) *Chicago Tribune* (May, 2003)
- Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century* (New York: Knopf, 1999) *Chicago Tribune Book Review* (February, 1999)
- James Risen and Judy L. Thomas, *Wrath of Angels: The American Abortion War* (New York: Basic books, 1998), for *Chicago Tribune Book Review* (April, 1998)
- Jay Parini, *Benjamin's Crossing* (New York: Henry Holt, 1997), for *Chicago Tribune Book Review*, August 31, 1997.
- A. N. Wilson, *Paul: Mind of an Apostle* (New York: Norton, 1997), for *Chicago Tribune Book Review*, June 8, 1997.
- Michael F. Brown, *The Channeling Zone: American Spirituality in an Anxious Age* (Harvard: Harvard University Press, 1997), for *Chicago Tribune Book Review*, May 11, 1997.
- Michael Lind, *The Alamo: An Epic* (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1997), for *Chicago Tribune Book Review*, April 27, 1997.
- Jaroslav Pelikan, *Mary Through the Centuries* (New Haven: Yale, 1996), for *Chicago Tribune Book Review*, December 8, 1996.
- Peter Stanford, *The Devil: A Biography* (New York: Henry Holt, 1996). for *Chicago Tribune Book Review*, December 8, 1996.

INVITED LECTURES:

("Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God?" Luther on Sin and Repentance,"

The Early Modern Cultural Importance of the Lutheran Reformation,
CUNY Graduate Center, October 13, 2017)

"Catholic Women Throughout History," *Forum on Women in the Catholic Church: What Francis Needs to Know*, Chicago, July 25 2015

"Folter und Bekenntnis in der Geshichte Europas"

The Herzog August Bibliothek Research Colloquium,
Wolfenbuettel, Germany 23 June 2014

"Church and State in Europe: A Historical Perspective"

Religion and Politics in the New Europe, Parliamentary Working
Group for Church and State, European Parliament, Brussels,
27 November 2007

PAPERS:

"The Quality of Mercy Strained—Regret and Repentance in Early Modern Law,"
Early Modern Workshop, New York (August 24, 2016)

"Torture & the Body," Wolfenbütteler Barockkongress, Wolfenbuettel (July 2016)

"Pastors, Penance, and Punishment in sixteenth century Germany,"

Renaissance Society of America Conference, Boston, Ma (March 2016)

"Theatrum Poenarum: Performing Torture in Early Modern Germany,"

Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Vancouver, B.C., October 2015

"The Choreography of Torture in Early Modern Germany," Renaissance Society
Of America Conference, Berlin, March 2015

"Troubled Confessions in Early Modern Europe," Sixteenth Century Studies
Conference, New Orleans, La., October 2014

"The Crowded Confessional: Discerning Spirits in 16th Century Jesuit Spritual
Practice," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico,
October, 2013

"Ignatius, Luther, and the Fate of Medieval Religion," Renaissance Society of
America annual Conference, April, 2013

"Policing the Early Modern Hood," Renaissance Society of America Annual
Conference, Montreal, March, 2011

"The Better Angels of our Nature," Renaissance Society of America Annual
Conference, Los Angeles, March, 2009

"The Significance of Guilt or Innocence in the History of Crime," Sixteenth
Century Studies Conference, Minneapolis, October 27, 2007

"'Woe unto us if We do not help Germany:' Nadal in the Lands of the German
Tongue,' Renaissance Society of America annual Conference,
Miami, March 24, 2007

"Art and Penance in Renaissance Europe," Renaissance Society of America
Annual Conference, Cambridge, England (April 7, 2005)

- "Reputation and Gossip in Early Modern Germany," Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, New York, New York (March, 2004)
- "Kindschmord in Braunschweig," Forschungsseminar at the Freie Universität Berlin (June 25, 2002)
- "Condemned Souls and the Souls of the Condemned in Renaissance Art," Renaissance Society of America annual conference
Scottsdale, Arizona (April 11, 2002)
- "Interrogating Infanticide in Early Modern Germany," Cambridge Seminar on German History, Cambridge University, Cambridge, England (March 1, 2001)
- "Pain and Truth in Early Modern Europe," Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL (March 2001)
- "Torture and Truth in Early Modern Europe," Frühneuzeit Interdisziplinär, Pittsburgh, PA April 20, 2001
- "Sin City: Sin and Penance in Early Reformation Europe: 1517-1534" Renaissance Society of America Conference, Florence (March 2000)
- "Justus Oldekop, Margarethe Schmidt, und die Frage von der Schwangerschaft," Kolloquium fuer neuere Geschichte, Historische Fakultät, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Germany (April 12, 2000)
- "Weibliche Plauderei vor Gericht: oder wie eine Frau zu schwängern sei" Stipendium Colloquium, Herzog August Bibliothek (January, 2000)
- "The Interrogation of M. Schmidt, Infanticide," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Toronto (October, 1998)
- "Sin and Crime in Early Modern Germany: the Grounds for a Comparison," American Historical Association, New York (January, 1997)
- "Engendering Conscience in Early Modern Europe," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, St. Louis (October, 1996)
- "Die Jesuiten, die Beichte, und die katholische Reformation in Bayern," Universität Erlangen (December, 1995)
- "Die Jesuiten bei der katholische Reformation in Franken," Bamberg Institut für Geschichte (December, 1995)
- "Flesh, Spirit, and Sin in Catholic-Reformation Germany," Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference, San Francisco (October, 1995)
- "The Well-Groomed Conscience," Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference, San Francisco (October, 1995)
- "Living in Sin," Wesleyan Renaissance Seminar (October, 1995)
- "Sin and the People," Central Regional Renaissance Conference St. Louis (April, 1995)

- "The Shape of the Right': The Transformation of Lay
& Clerical Relations in Sixteenth-Century Germany," Sixteenth-
Century Studies Conference, Philadelphia (October, 1991)
- "A Clockwork Orange? The Counter-Reformation and the
Discipline of the Laity," Delaware Valley Medieval Studies
Conference, University of Pennsylvania (March, 1990)
- "Sacramental Confession in Sixteenth-Century Germany," Mid-Atlantic
Renaissance and Reformation Seminar, University of Virginia
(March, 1990)
- "Ars Artium: The Cure of Souls and the Discipline of the Laity," American
Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco (December,
1989)

OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Chair and Organizer, "Pastors at Play in the Fields of the Lord," Renaissance
Society of America Conference, Boston, Massachusetts (March,
2016)
- Chair, "Hohenzollerns and Brandenburg, Prussia, Renaissance Society of
America Conference, Boston, Massachusetts (March, 2016)
- Roundtable Participant, "The First Jesuits after 20 Years,"
Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, San Juan, Puerto
Rico, October 2013
- Chair, "Art and Power in Renaissance Rome," Renaissance Society
of America Annual Conference, Miami (March, 2007)
- Chair, "Jesuits in Early Modern Europe," Sixteenth Century Studies
Conference (October, 2002)
- Comment, "Love's Labors Lost: Failed Love in Eighteenth Century Germany,"
German Studies Association Conference, Houston (October, 2000)
- Comment, "Fama and the Law in late medieval Italy," conference on Fama
in Europe, Fordham University, New York (September 2000)
- Comment, "Penance and Confession in Early Modern Europe," Sixteenth
Century Studies Conference, Atlanta (October, 1997)
- Comment, "Discipline in Early Modern Europe," Sixteenth- Century Studies
Society, San Francisco (October, 1995)
- Comment, "Reformation and Counter-Reformation," American
Historical Association, New York (December, 1990)
- "That Gentle Strength," History of Women's Spirituality, University of Virginia
(April, 1987)

ACADEMIC HONORS AND GRANTS

Herzog August Bibliothek Senior Fellowship, 2018

Herzog August Bibliothek Fellowship, Germany, 2014

Fordham Faculty Fellowship, 2013

Fordham Faculty Fellowship, 2009

Fordham Faculty Fellowship, 2004-2005

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship
for University Teachers (2001-2002)

Herzog August Bibliothek Research Fellowship (1999-2000)

Faculty Fellowship, Fordham University, Fall 1997

Fordham University Research Council Grant, Summers, 1996 1994, & 1992

Faculty Fellowship, Fordham University, Summer, 1993

Folger Shakespeare Library Summer Fellowship, 1986

Yale University Council on West European Studies Fellowship, 1986

Charlotte W. Newcombe Fellowship, 1984-1985

German Academic Exchange Service (D.A.A.D.) Fellowship, 1985

Yale University Graduate Fellowship, 1978-1983