



MEDIEVALIA FORDHAMENSIA

The Center for Medieval Studies
at Fordham University



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A Note from the Director

We here at the Center for Medieval Studies are pleased to send you these updates, which demonstrate that our medieval community at Fordham is thriving. And as the notes below make clear, we are thriving thanks to your support and the engagement of our undergraduate and graduate students, our faculty and staff, and our former students, faculty, and staff — many of whom were kind enough to send word.

This May we sent off four Medieval Studies undergraduate majors and four Medieval Studies minors. Since May 2024, we graduated seven Masters students, whose theses show the breadth and depth of our program, including work on Catalanian drapers [Terrasi]; saints and relics in the Crusader states [Hausman]; medieval Icelandic labor and economics [DeLeon Mendiola]; bequests to mendicant and monastic orders by late medieval Londoners [Geraci]; production and use of privileges in Madrid [McLaughlin]; medieval English navigation [Duchovni]; and spatial concepts in the Old French fabliaux [Holmquist].

We had an event-packed year. It started with our annual Digital Day, highlighting the unique Digital work of our Center and its some two dozen digital projects. Throughout the year we hosted two further workshops in the Digital Humanities, as well as a workshop on grant writing and a series of conference workshops. In the Fall, we hosted the Fiftieth Annual Conference of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA). This Spring there were more graduate seminars in Medieval Studies across the disciplines than at any time in the past decade. Over the academic year, we sponsored an astonishing **nine** lectures by invited speakers. Two medieval movie nights were held, because medieval studies is our work *and* play.

Our relationship with the University of York is being rejuvenated, recognizing that the complementarity of our programs can be better harnessed to serve our students. Two graduate students have been put into mentoring relationships with York medievalists, and we hope this will be the continuation of a beautiful friendship. Similar relationships elsewhere in the world are in the works, so stay tuned.

The Fordham Series in Medieval Studies ended the year strong as well, with not one but two volumes in the Fordham University Press Spring catalog: a monograph titled *Pure Conscience: Christian Liberty before the Reformation* by Ian Levy, a Professor of Theology at Providence College; and a collection of essays titled *Law, Justice, and Society in the Medieval World: An Introduction through Film* edited by Fordham alumna Esther Cuenca, Anthony Perron, and our own Associate Director Christina Bruno.

That is the news from within the Center proper, in condensed form. The news and updates below will give you a richer idea of what truly wonderful things are being done by the members of this community. I thank all of you who have done such great work and let us know about it. I am eager to turn this page and read on!

Brian J. Reilly, Director

Faculty

***Brian J. Reilly, Director**
French

***Christina Bruno,**
Associate Director
Medieval Studies

Andrew Albin
English & Medieval Studies

Susanna Barsella
Italian & Medieval Studies

Eric Bianchi
Music

Scott G. Bruce
History

****Martin Chase**
English & Medieval
Studies

Elizabeth Comuzzi
History

***Christopher Cullen, SJ**
Philosophy

Brian E. Davies, OP
Philosophy

Robert Davis
Theology

George E. Demacopoulos
Theology

****Mary C. Erler**
English & Medieval Studies

****Thelma S. Fenster**
French & Medieval Studies

***Emanuel Fiano**
Theology

****Richard Gyug**
History & Medieval Studies

Susanne Hafner
German & Medieval Studies

****Joel Herschman**
Art History

Javier Jiménez Belmonte
Spanish

John Kezel
Campion Institute

Gyula Klima
Philosophy

****Maryanne Kowaleski**
History & Medieval Studies

Kathryn Kueny
Theology

****Joseph Lienhard, SJ**
Theology

Matthew McGowan
Classics

Wolfgang Müller
History

****Joseph O'Callaghan**
History

***Thomas O'Donnell**
English & Medieval Studies

****Elizabeth Parker**
Art History

Nicholas Paul
History

Giorgio Pini
Philosophy

Nina Rowe
Art History

Cristiana Sogno
English

***Bligh Somma**
Philosophy

Magda Teter
History

Richard Teverson
Art History

****Jocelyn Wogan-Browne**
English & Medieval Studies

Suzanne Yeager
English & Medieval Studies

Faculty Notes

Susanna Barsella (Italian & MVST) edited two books this year: *Figure e istituzioni della spiritualità e della cultura alle origini della Certosa del Galluzzo*, eds. A. Andreini, S. U. Baldassarri, S. Barsella, E. Filosa, J. Houston (Florence, Le Lettere, 2025), and *Boccaccio and Philosophy*, Special Issue of *Il Giornale Italiano di Filosofia*, eds. S. Barsella, O. Holmes, M. Papio. She published two articles: "Esposizione 3. Scienza e teologia nell' Ante inferno: Interpretazione e riscrittura" in *Lectura Dantis Boccaccii. Lettura delle Esposizioni sopra la Comedia*, eds. S. Ferrara and F. Maier (Quod Manet, 2025), *Lectura Boccaccii Series*, vol. 2; and "Boccaccio, Monachesimo e Spiritualità Mendicante: per un'alternativa all'insegnamento della Virtù. Decameron I 4 e I 2" in *Boccaccio Internazionale: Selected Papers of the Fifth Triennial Conference of the American Boccaccio Association* (Olschki 2025). She gave a number of presentations: "Lo specchio di Ameto: Boccaccio lettore di Dante nella Comedia delle ninfe fiorentine" at the international conference *Boccaccio Dantista e Umanista*, organized by the Società Dantesca, Ente nazionale Giovanni Boccaccio and the American Boccaccio Association for the 650th anniversary of Giovanni Boccaccio's death (invited); "Falling from Heaven. Dante's Comedy and the Origin of Evil," RSA, Boston; "Dante's Poetics of "Ben Far": Politics and Economy in *Inferno* XV-XVII," Georgetown University, Washington DC (invited); "Dante and "Ben Far": Biology and Economy in *Inferno* XV-XVII," Medieval Seminar, Columbia University (invited); and a Master Class on Dante's *Divine Comedy: Inferno* 32 for Dr. Patrizio Ceccagnoli, University of Kansas. With Angela O'Donnell (the Curran Center of American Catholic Studies), she co-organized the *Fordham Reads Dante* opening event "Ric Burns' Dante: Inferno to Paradise. A Conference in dialogue with the Director Ric Burns, actors Alan Cox, Antonio Fazzini, Dikran Tulane, and Riccardo Bruscelli (Università di Firenze)" and six *Fordham Reads Dante* lectures. She also taught a new course on Dante and Medieval Philosophy

(MVST 5064), with Prof. Giorgio Pini.

Scott G. Bruce (History) delivered the Gorman Lecture in Ancient History at the University of New Mexico in March 2024 on the topic of the reception of Cleopatra VII in the Middle Ages. He also concluded his three-year appointment as Professeur invité at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales by giving a series of lectures in Paris in June 2024. In addition, he published an article entitled "Verba risum moventia: Silence, rire et comportement dans le premier monachisme médiéval," in the inaugural issue of *Silence(s): Revue interdisciplinaire*. He also edited an historical anthology entitled *The Penguin Book of Demons* (Penguin Classics), which appeared in October 2024, and a collection of essays on the returning dead in premodern thought called *Vigor Mortis: The Vitality of the Dead in Medieval Cultures* (Taylor and Francis), which appeared in December 2024. He spent AY 2024/25 as a member of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, writing his current book project, *The Lost Patriarchs: A Survey of the Greek Fathers in the Medieval Latin Tradition*.

M. Christina Bruno (MVST) continued co-directing the Medieval New York Project, working with New Rochelle High School student interns for the third year running to develop aspects of our video game. You will be able to read about the project in an article co-authored with Katherina Fostano in the forthcoming edited volume *The Immersive Global Middle Ages: Digital Humanities and Medieval Studies* for Palgrave's New Middle Ages Series, eds. Courtney Luckhardt and Ted Holt. She was thrilled to lead the Camino course again this spring with her colleague David Myers (History). With Esther Cuenca and Tony Perron, Christina co-edited the volume *Law, Justice, and Medieval Society: An Introduction Through Film* (Fordham UP, May 2025) which includes classroom-ready essays on 20 "medieval" movies paired with primary sources. And

she started a Substack newsletter in which she is valiantly attempting to review every medieval movie made during the 1980s -- you can subscribe for free at medievalish.substack.com.

Elizabeth Comuzzi (History) presented a paper called "Women's Presence and Absence in Late-Medieval Catalan Notarial Records" at the annual meeting of the American Historical Society in New York in January, and gave an invited talk called "The

Crisis of the Fourteenth Century in the Catalan Pyrenees" online for the Faculty Medieval History Seminar of King's College, Cambridge University that same month. She also participated in a roundtable on economic history at Harvard University in February. She is working on a monograph on the crisis of the fourteenth century in the Catalan Pyrenees and, with Christina Bruno, a primary-source reader on wealth, poverty and inequality in medieval Europe.

Digital Humanities Update: Medieval Londoners

In the last year, team members have added 3518 new records to the [Medieval Londoners Database](#) (MLD). About half of these are from a dataset on male clergy, and another half are individuals who served in such middling civic offices as bridgewardens, auditors, wine searcher, toll and rent collectors for London Bridge, meter, bailiff, and gatekeeper, as well as in such legal positions as common clerk, serjeant, city attorney, and various clerk positions. To help users keep track of the sometimes confusing array of London municipal positions, we have constructed a searchable [List of Civic Offices](#). Analytics tell us that this and other searchable lists for MLD, such as the [Churches and Parishes in London](#) and the [List of Occupations and Crafts](#), each with links and explanatory material, are among the most consulted items on the website.

Another 255 records continue our work adding royal clerks in the Chancery and Privy Seal office to MLD. More about these literate civil servants can be gleaned from "[The Royal Chancery and Chancery Clerks in the Middle Ages](#)," written for MLD by Malcolm Richardson. He is now in the process of adding a section on the Privy Seal clerks, who counted among their number the famous author, Thomas Hoccleve.

In other news, Dr. Kowaleski was commissioned by the *Journal of British Studies* to write a short piece on the Medieval Londoners project for the journal's One British Archive series; it will appear as an open-access article in August 2025. The Zooniverse project, "[Get To Know Medieval Londoners](#)," run by Grace Campagna (MVST MA 2022), is now completed, so we are working towards integrating the cataloguing work done by some 2000 volunteers on property records for the Cheapside neighborhood into full MLD records.

The Medieval Londoners project welcomes new cataloguers who want to learn more about the people of medieval London by creating their own datasets. You will also learn how to structure data using Google Sheets and have the option of going further to learn how to work with the OmekaS dashboard at some point. Our current and past cataloguers and contributing editors include students at Fordham and elsewhere, post-doctoral scholars from Europe, Fordham alumni, and retired professors, among others. For more information, contact Maryanne Kowaleski at kowaleski@fordham.edu.

Faculty Notes

Christopher Cullen, SJ (Philosophy)

presented a few papers this past academic year. The first was entitled “The Trinity in Medieval Franciscan Theology,” for a workshop on *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Franciscan Thought*, Oxford University, in August 2024. The second was entitled “Bonaventure: Metaphysics and Trinitarian Theology,” for the School of Philosophy’s Annual Lecture Series at The Catholic University of America, in Washington, DC in October 2024. The third was “Dignitas Infinita and Catholic Thought,” at the American Maritain Association’s annual conference, this year held in Naples, Florida, in April 2025. Cullen is working on three book chapters in the coming year: “The World as Sign: The Transcendentals in the Thought of Bonaventure” for a book on medieval Franciscan thought; “I saw Eternity the Other Night’: Truth and the Intellectual Life according to St. Bonaventure,” in a volume on *Truth and the Intellectual Life*; and finally, “Bonaventure on Learning: Its Curriculum and its End” for a *Festschrift* in preparation. Cullen is also working on two encyclopedia articles: “The Philosophy of St. Bonaventure,” for the new *Encyclopedia of Catholic Theology*, as well as an entry on Bonaventure for the *Palgrave Handbook of Medieval Philosophy*. Cullen taught the graduate course “Philosophy of St. Augustine” in the fall 2024. In the fall 2025 he will be teaching a graduate seminar on “Neoplatonism in the Middle Ages.”

George Demacopoulos (Theology) has a new book, *Sacralizing Violence in Byzantium: Hymns, Empire, and the Narrowing of Christian Identity* (Dumbarton Oaks), as well as a new volume edited with Aristotle Papanikolaou: *Nicaea and the Future of Christianity* (Fordham University Press). He was re-elected as President of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America.



Christina Bruno does her best to explain Ridley Scott’s *Legend* (1986) at Medieval Movie Night, fall 2024

Medieval Fellow 2025-2026

Teaching with Money: Financial Literacy in Tuscan Abacus Manuals and Merchants’ Notebooks, 1202–1478, known by the more succinct acronym *EduMoney*, is the title of a three-year Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship led by **Dr. Stefano Locatelli**, in collaboration with Fordham University and the University of Milan. A historian of late medieval Europe and the Mediterranean, Dr. Locatelli specializes in the monetary history of the Italian peninsula between 1200 and 1500. His new project investigates the development of financial education in the late Middle Ages through a systematic, comparative, and digital analysis of a selected corpus of abacus books and merchant manuals – key pedagogical tools of the time – produced in late medieval Tuscany during a time of profound economic and financial transformation. At Fordham’s Center for Medieval Studies, Dr. Locatelli will collaborate with Professors Maryanne Kowaleski and Brian Reilly to create a digital manuscript database and to transcribe, translate, and analyze selected texts. The project aims to reconstruct the educational content of these historical sources and to explore how money was used as a pedagogical tool in medieval learning contexts.

Faculty Notes

Mary Erler (English & MVST) published an essay earlier this spring in *Viator* (UCLA) on a late-fifteenth-century sermon for a nun's profession perhaps spoken at Syon Abbey. In June she gave a paper at the NYU meeting of the Early Book Society. Titled "Prioresses and Printers," it examines a chancery lawsuit brought by printer John Rastell against prioress of Stamford (Lincs.) Alice Andrew in 1523, an unusual appearance of a religious woman as defendant in a lawsuit. Rastell accused the prioress of colluding with her nephew over a debt for printing stuff owed him and, probably as a result of this financial threat, she was removed by her bishop, though pensioned and allowed to remain at the priory.

Susanne Hafner (German & MVST) has been working on her work-in-progress "Orientalizing Victuals: Foodstuffs from 'elsewhere'," an online culinary glossary which combines historical linguistics and cultural studies and serves as the foundation of her CEL course "Food For Thought: an interdisciplinary course about food insecurity and food culture." She was invited to teach workshops on this subject in English and German (and a smidgen of Italian) at the conference Saponi locali e reti globali at the Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia. A follow-up article (co-authored with Ulrike Kaunzner), "Faraona – aus Ägypten? Turkey – aus der Türkei? Chinakohl – aus China? Über die Herkunft kulinarischer Begriffe," will appear in *Rhesis* in 2026. Her second Modena-related project, an ecocritical reading of the local cathedral's Porta della Pescheria, known to Arthurian scholars as "the Arthurian Portal," was supported by the 2024/25 Bonnie Wheeler Mentorship Award as well as a 2024 Fordham Faculty Research Abroad Program (FRAP) Grant. Dr. Hafner taught a workshop on codicology at the New York Classical Club Winter Conference 2025 and offered "The Clerkenwell Tales" again this summer, a site-specific interdisciplinary course anchored around Fordham's London campus, with readings

and activities all relating to the Center's location in Clerkenwell.

Maryanne Kowaleski (History & MVST) organized four sessions for the 2024 North American Conference on British Studies in Denver and has recently submitted four panels for the November 2025 NACBS, which will take place in Montreal. In April 2025 she gave a talk in the Fordham Practical DH series on "Designing a Desktop or Online Database." Those who are interested in receiving a video of the presentation and its accompanying materials should contact her by email. She continues to work on digital projects, particularly [Medieval Londoners](#) (and its accompanying [blog](#)), the [Medieval England Maritime Project](#), and [OMSB](#) (95 cataloguers, mostly MVST MA students, have now worked on OMSB). This summer she is making an archival trip to the UK to continue work on her edition of accounts for the London Record Society, *Maritime London: Working on the Medieval Waterfront*.

Kathryn Kueny (Theology) is currently the Associate Director for Graduate Study in Theology and involved with Fordham's Islamic Studies minor and Religious Studies program. Professionally she is engaged with the Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics, the Middle East Studies Association, and the American Academy of Religion, where she recently gave a paper titled "Skin-to-Skin Violence and Intimacy: Animal skins and human/animal relations in premodern Islamic law, medicine, and practice." She is almost to the finish line with the drafting of her third monograph, titled (tentatively) *Ecologies of Health and Disease: Tracing an Ethics of Care in Premodern Muslim Life*.

In June 2024, **Thomas O'Donnell (English & MVST)** published a collection of essays, co-edited with Brian J. Reilly and Jane Gilbert, called *Medieval French Interlocutions: Shifting Perspectives on a Language in Contact*, with York Medieval Press. The volume was developed out of the Fordham Medieval

Faculty Notes

Studies Conference, *Medieval French without Borders*, held in 2021.

Nicholas Paul (History) looks back on 24-25 as a whirlwind year, which began with chairing the History department for a semester while teaching two graduate seminars for medievalists in the Fall before a semester of furious research and writing in the Spring. This summer for the first time in several years he returned to the archives of the Loire valley where, thanks to several kind archivists, he had the opportunity to look at many fascinating documents and visit sites that had so far eluded him. This year also saw the appearance of two publications. The first, "Remembering the Angevins: Introduction and Commentary", prefaces a collection of essays edited by Fordham's own Esther Liberman Cuenca and which features, among others, brilliant essays by Dr. Cuenca and by another luminary Fordham alum, Dr. Lucy Barnhouse. The second, "The Theater of War: European Nobility, Cultural Capital, and Crusading to the Eastern Mediterranean," appeared in the journal *Traditio* edited by Fordham's own Scott Bruce. The latter article was called by one reviewer "a manifesto" - a title Paul is quite proud of. Next year, Dr. Paul looks forward to teaching the Proseminar/Seminar sequence "Medieval Political Cultures," his ICC seminar "The Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem," and, after a long hiatus, a seminar for the FCRH Honors program!

In the fall of 2024, **Giorgio Pini (Philosophy)** taught an undergraduate course at Lincoln Center on Medieval Philosophy. That gave him the opportunity to expand the readings beyond the "usual suspects." The students seem to have particularly appreciated discussing Hildegard of Bingen and Marguerite Porete. In the spring of 2025, he co-taught with Dr. Susanna Barsella a graduate course on Dante and Medieval Philosophy. A small but passionate group of students was taken to

Hell and Purgatory, and finally to Paradise, in the company of Augustine, Boethius, and Thomas Aquinas. He also published two papers, "Duns Scotus and Unexplained Intentionality," in *Rethinking Intentionality, Person, and the Essence: Aquinas, Scotus, Stein*, edited by Anna Tropia and Daniele De Santis (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2024), 33-49; and "From Fixture to Proxy: Thomas Aquinas and Giles of Rome on the Beatific Vision and the Intelligible Species," *Studia graeco-arabica* 14 (2024): 825-836.

Nina Rowe (Art History) taught a 3-session online workshop for Classes at 92NY called "Coexistence and Conflict: Judaism in Medieval European Art" (September-October 2024). At the International Congress on Medieval Studies (2025) her book *The Illuminated World Chronicle: Tales of the Late Medieval City* (Yale UP, 2020) was featured in a panel on "Notable Books in Medieval Germanic Studies." In Fall 2025 her article "Not Dancing is Not an Option: Parties and Performers in the Late Middle Ages" will be published in the *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes*. She is excited to be co-curating an exhibition with Cynthia Hahn (Hunter and CUNY Graduate Center) called Know-How for a New Era: Learning and Living at the Dawn of the Renaissance (Spring 2027), and in Spring 2026 will teach a course on Medieval Art and the Museum related to the show. She is honored to have been named John Marion Professor of Art History (2025-2029).

Magda Teter (History/ Jewish Studies) published a new book, *Blood Libels, Hostile Archives: Reclaiming Interrupted Jewish Lives* (Central European University Press, 2025). She published the essays "[Jewish Middlemen, Archival Myopia](#)," The New York Review of Books, December 3, 2024; "[Jews and Race in Early Modernity](#)" in Routledge Resources Online - The Renaissance World (April 2025); and "Past and Present: Modern Jewish Historiography, Premodern History, and the Politics Of History" in *A Jew in the Street: New*

Perspectives on European Jewish History eds. Nancy Sinkoff, Jonathan Karp, James Loeffler, and Howard Lupovitch (Wayne State University Press, 2024). She also co-curated several exhibits: "COVID-19 Pandemic Five Years On: A Historical Perspective" (March-August 2025, with Miriam Krakowski FCRH '27 and Patricia Scully FCRH '25); "Fordham's Babel: An Exploration of World Languages in the Special Collections" (with Miriam Krakowski and Gabriella DiMeglio); and "Yearning To Breathe: The Art of Siona Benjamin" (September-December, 2024, with Amy Levine-Kennedy).

Richard Teverson (Art History) had a book, *Visions of the Future in Roman Frontier Kingdoms 100 BCE–100 CE* published by Routledge in the fall. It was recently well reviewed in the [BMCR](#). This year he experimented with asking his students to make text-adventure video games instead of write final papers for his new class on Cleopatra, and was thrilled with the results. He'd like to thank Katherina Fostano for her guidance. Less formally, he appeared on a podcast(!) this spring (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENTTCtSX8eQ>) and still hasn't had the courage to listen to it.

From January to March 2025 **Jocelyn Wogan-Browne (English & MVST)** gave the James Ford Lectures for the History Department at the University of Oxford, on "[The French of Medieval Britain: Cultural Politics and Social History](#)." In April 2025 she spoke at the Università Roma Tre convegno, "Vie Dorate", on "Women and Cultural Enterprise in Eleventh and Twelfth-Century England," and published "'Ænglelande': An African King's Gift to the Saxons" in ἁγλαὰ δῶρα: *Studi Miscellanei in Onore di Dora Faraci*, eds. Susan Irvine, Carla Riviella, Paolo Vaciago, Ruggiero Bianchin (Roma: Roma Tre Press, 2025). In May 2025 she spoke at "Ab Uno Disce Omnes: A Conference in Honor of Christopher Baswell," Columbia University, New York.

During her Spring 2025 semester sabbatical, **Suzanne Yeager (English & MVST)** was awarded Fordham's Bene Merenti medal for 20 years of service to the University. She also completed a study of female crusade participants who are made visible within gendered premodern preaching and missionizing roles. The study, which focuses on the Middle English romance, *The King of Tars*, also addresses manuscript paleographical issues related to the poem's patrons and audiences. The article will be published in the journal *Early Middle English* in Fall 2025 as part of a collection edited by Susanna Fein and Thomas Goodman. This journal special issue features the work of former students of the late Professor Carter Revard, medieval scholar and Osage poet, to whom the issue is dedicated. In addition to completing the article, and beginning related new research, Dr. Yeager was delighted to return in person to the University of Western Michigan conference at Kalamazoo this Spring, where she presented on gender performance and crusading in *The King of Tars* romance. She is currently at work on a chapter promised to a forthcoming Cambridge University Press collection on medieval women and embodiment.

Digital Humanities Update: Outremer Map Project

This year, the Outremer Map Project's progress followed parallel paths. One track entailed laying the groundwork for the project's expansion, the Burchard of Mt. Sion map of the Holy Land, by digitally enhancing, transcribing, translating, and organizing the geographic and cartographic details. The other involved the Outremer map's evolving accessibility, from updates to the interactive map's website, standardizing historical notes, and preparing the present data for imminent upload to Wiki-data. You can check the map out for yourself at medievaldigital.ace.fordham.edu/oxfordoutremermapproject

Faculty Notes:

Notes on a papal transition:

"On Friday morning, April 25, I received one of the more unusual requests of my career. It was from a global provider of language translation and interpretation: could I offer simultaneous Latin translation for Pope Francis' funeral on Saturday morning, *i.e.* some eighteen hours later? They told me that the client was a major NY media firm that wanted a live-feed and needed a professional in studio: could I do it? Probably. But was I a *professional*? Well, it sounds like *professor*, and both words come from Latin *professus*, "he spoke with conviction." I took the job!

The client, it turned out, was ABC News, and the show was World News Tonight with David Muir. I don't think I had ever seen his show before heading down to the shiny, new ABC/Disney studio on Varick Street to make a 2am sound-check, but I quickly learned that *he* was a real professional. I also learned that the Vatican Press Office does a bang-up job prepping international media for the latest mass or ceremony. Their video-feeds were the envy of my newfound colleagues – colleagues? why not? it was early, and we ate egg & cheese sandwiches together – and I received helpful notes on the order of the mass and an advanced copy of the homily to be delivered by Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, Dean of the College of Cardinals and chief celebrant of the funeral. Cardinal Re offered a generous appreciation of Francis' life and ministry, and I found myself moved by the whole ceremony, especially the singing of the *Schola Cantorum Cappellae Sistinae*, the pope's personal choir established in fifteenth century by its namesake, Sixtus IV (1414-1484), with roots stretching back to Sylvester I (284-334) and now made up of twenty men and thirty boys, again real professionals.

The translations came off well, my producers were pleased, and I was home in time for a late lunch. Two days later ABC was asking again whether I could also translate for the *conclave papale* to start on the morning of Wednesday, May 7: *ita vero!* Already around noon on Thursday – shortly after 6pm Rome-time – we all saw the white smoke billowing from the

Sistine Chapel's chimney: *mirabile dictu*, the *cardinales electores* had done their job and a new pope had been elected in short order. *Sed quisnam fuit? Et quod nomen sibi imponat?* But who, pray, was it? And which name would he take? The mood in studio was one of busy elation, and all eyes were trained on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica. Tension mounted for a good hour before there appeared His Eminence Dominique Mamberti, the Cardinal Protodeacon who got to deliver the famous *Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum: habemus Papam!* "I announce to you a great joy: we have a Pope!" Of course, what came next was what really mattered: *Eminentissimum ac Reverendissimum Dominum, Dominum ROBERTUM FRANCISCUM, Sanctae Romanae Ecclesiae Cardinalem PREVOST, qui sibi nomen imposuit LEONEM DECIMUM QUARTUM* "the most eminent and most reverend Lord, Lord ROBERT FRANCIS, Cardinal PREVOST of the Holy Roman Church, who has taken upon himself the name of LEO XIV." There it was: Robert Francis Prevost, the first North American pope, Chicago native, Villanova alumnus, Augustinian friar, and now successor to St. Peter and heir, as many have noted, to the enduring legacy of Leo XIII and, we pray, to the great learning of Leo I, Latin father & Church unifier.

It was a memorable moment and a fascinating experience, but my favorite was being called back the next day for Leo's first mass before his cardinal electors in the Sistine Chapel. There, the *Schola Cantorum* sang from the book of their great twentieth-century choirmaster, Domenico Bartolucci (1917-2013), himself made cardinal by Benedict XVI in 2010, whose *O Sacrum Convivium* and *Jubilate Deo–Quoniam Dominus* filled that glorious space with inspiration and joy. With my headphones on in a high-tech sound-studio in NY, following along in Latin and providing translations where needed, I felt lucky to be part of it: *vivat vigeatque Papa Leo XIV!"*

Matthew McGowan
Fordham Classics

Alexander Angelis (Medieval Studies/History undergraduate major)

received the Stella Moundas Award for Orthodox Christian Service upon graduation *magna cum laude*, and was admitted to Drexel Kline School of Law's 2028 Class with a significant scholarship award.

In the 2024-2025 academic year, **Benjamin Bertrand (History PhD)** completed drafts of two of his dissertation chapters and presented his research at the Haskins Society Conference in Richmond, Virginia and the International Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He has a forthcoming publication in the *Haskins Society Journal*, which should appear in the fall of 2025, and collaborated on an edition and commentary of a Latin saint's life with his advisor Scott G. Bruce and Dr. Christopher A. Jones which they have submitted to the *Analecta Bollandiana*. He continues to teach courses in the History Department, including the course on the Global Middle Ages which he created. In the coming year, Benjamin has been chosen as a Duffy Fellow at the Center for Religion and Culture at Fordham. He will be using this opportunity to produce a podcast on the history of the medieval Church and its impact upon the modern world, which will come out in the spring of 2026.

Maria Carriere (History PhD) was awarded the Al Nofi Summer Fellowship for the Summer of 2025. She presented a paper entitled, "Curtius Rufus, Helinand of Froidmont, and Walter of Châtillon at the Episcopal Court of William of the White Hands," at Kalamazoo in May, and with Curtis Rager participated in a roundtable entitled, "Working Across Institutional and Disciplinary Boundaries," at the Medieval Academy of America in March.

Alex DaCruz (History PhD) received Fordham's Loyola New Student Distinguished Fellowship. In October, he and his wife found out that they will be

having a baby girl, due in June. During winter break, he attended and presented his paper "Against the 'idol-maniacs': An Examination of the Historical Context for the Anti-pagan Polemical Digressions in the *Historia Ecclesiastica* of Evagrius Scholasticus" at the annual conference of the American Society of Church History (ASCH) in Chicago. A version of this paper is also under consideration for publication by the ASCH journal *Church History*. During the year at Fordham, he has really enjoyed coursework, and passed all three language exams. This summer, Alex has been chosen to review Michelle Brown's book, *Bede and the Theory of Everything* (2023) for *Comitatus*. He will take his first class with his advisor, Dr. Scott G. Bruce, on the Fall of Rome. And, in July, he will present his paper "'The Hands of a Healer': St Oswald's Miracles and Royal Imitation in Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum*" at Leeds, in a panel moderated by Dr. Rosalind C. Love.

Digital Humanities Update: Siege of Antioch Project

During the 2024-2025 year, the Siege of Antioch Project made significant progress on coding and editing laisses from the *Siege d'Antioche*. New graduate and undergraduate students were brought onto the project and taught TEI coding. Project members also met several times for "group edits," where members gave the final round of edits for laisses before they were uploaded to the SAP website. Former project leads Maria Carriere and Curtis Rager presented about the Siege of Antioch Project at the Medieval Academy of America's 2024 conference during the roundtable "Working Across Institutional and Disciplinary Boundaries," organized by the MAA Graduate Student Council. Project leads Daphna Bendull and Frances Seabrook will pass the reins to Kathryn Rauscher and Annie Bharucha for the 2025-2026 year.

You can see the project online at <https://medievaldigital.ace.fordham.edu/siegeofantioch/503-2/the-text/>

Student News

Elias Holmquist (Medieval Studies MA) was awarded the GSAS Professional Development Grant in 2024, for which he continued to contribute to the Oxford Outremer Map project as project lead and graphic designer. Throughout the academic year, Eli represented the Medieval Studies program as Graduate Student Council representative, while working as a grad assistant in the Center's office. This spring, he presented part of his thesis in the paper, "Extramural Narratives: Negotiating Space and Social Norms in the Sacristan II" at the 60th Annual International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, MI, funding for which he received from the Graduate Student Council's Student Support Grant program. He was also awarded the Center for Medieval Studies' Joseph O'Callaghan Graduate Essay prize for his paper, "Expecting the Unexpected Guest: Strange and Mundane Hospitality in late Medieval Romance and Household Accounts." Eli has defended his MA thesis and remains the project lead for the Outremer Map project.

Elissa Johnston (English PhD) gave two papers this spring: "Tomb, Text, and Time: Locating Richard Rolle's English Psalter at Hampole Priory," at the 2025 IUDC Medieval Studies Conference, and "'Thar it ligt in cheyn bondes': Re-Reading an Interpolated English Psalter in Its Pilgrimage Contexts," at Kalamazoo.

Galina Krasskova (Theology PhD) is a sixth year PhD candidate in historical Theology. She received the Senior Teaching Fellowship in Theology for Fall 2024 - Spring 2025. Galina taught Christian Mystical Texts and Faith and Critical Reason. She also guest lectured for Sacred Texts of the Middle East, and Understanding Historical Change: Modern Europe. Galina participated in the Jesuit Pedagogy Seminar in Spring 2024 and received the Jewish Studies Fellowship in Fall 2024. She presented a paper titled "Tertullian, Eunuchs, and the Language of Chastity" at the 49th Patristics, Medieval, and Renaissance Conference, October 2024 at Villanova University, and likewise chaired

a panel at the same conference titled "Theologies of Politics and History." In her spare time, Galina has published several small books for the popular religious press.

Brittany Lugo (Medieval Studies MA) was accepted to the Summer 2025 weeklong skills course, "Orientation to Research Methods and Agendas," at the Folger Shakespeare Library.

Christie Olek (History PhD) enjoyed spending this last year working for the Office of Development at Columbia University's medical school, where she learned about university fundraising, finance, and business operations. In Spring 2025, she taught a course at Fordham Lincoln Center on the history of medicine, science, and technology. She is excited to teach again at Fordham for the 2025-2026 school year and get back to her dissertation research on the Trial of Jacoba Felicie, a woman charged with unlicensed medical practice in Paris in 1322.

Graduate Essay Prizes 2024

First-Year Graduate Essay Prize
Brittany Lugo (Medieval Studies MA):
"From Metaphor to Hierarchy:
Augustine's Theology of
Light and Shadow as a Precursor to
Medieval Racial Thought"

**Joseph O'Callaghan Graduate
Essay Prize**
**Elias Holmquist (Medieval Studies
MA):** "Expecting the Unexpected
Guest: Strange and Mundane
Hospitality in late Medieval Romance
and Household Accounts"

Student News

Kristian Powell (Medieval Studies MA)

produced an episode for the MAA's Multicultural Middle Ages Podcast. He worked as a tutor in the University Writing Center and began learning Old English.

Curtis Rager (History PhD) presented a paper entitled "Abbatial Authority and the Monastic Mint" at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo. Alongside Maria L. Carriere, Curtis participated in a roundtable discussion entitled "Working across Institutional and Disciplinary Boundaries" at the Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America at Harvard University.

During the current academic year (Fall 2024 - Spring 2025), **W. Tanner Smoot (History PhD)** taught as a Senior Teaching Fellow in the History Department. Over the summer (2024), he received the Leahey Fellowship in Medieval History, which allowed him to conduct archival research at the British Library in London relative to his dissertation. In May of this year (2025), he presented a paper at Kalamazoo on the concept of "professionalism" in relation to medieval history-writing. This spring (2025), Tanner was awarded the Charles T. Wood Dissertation Grant by the Medieval Academy of America, as well as an Alumni Dissertation Fellowship at Fordham University for the coming academic year (Fall 2025 - Spring 2026). Lastly, this May and June (2025) he participated in a Medieval Studies Exchange with the University of York (UK), where he was able to workshop portions of his dissertation with York's medievalist faculty and graduate community.

Emily Varker (Medieval Studies MA) has finished her thesis project, a prototype of an interactive fiction game titled *In Her Own Right: A Story of Power and Its Consequences*. She was able to present on the game and its subject - Jeanne of Constantinople, Countess of Flanders and Hainaut (1205-1244) - at both the Public Medieval Workshop at Virginia Tech and the 43rd

International Conference of the Haskins Society.

This spring **Venus O'Neill Weber (History/Medieval Studies undergraduate major)**, **Eleanor Clay (History/Medieval Studies undergraduate major)**, and **Wade Rogers (Classics undergraduate major)** had the opportunity to volunteer at the centennial meeting of the Medieval Academy of America (MAA) held at Harvard University. In addition to assisting scholars, they had the opportunity to attend talks and were delighted to have had such a lovely first conference experience!

The Medievalist Toolkit Reading Group at Fordham

For the past two years, Fordham graduate students have participated in a reading group collaborating with the [Medievalist Toolkit](#), an organization dedicated to depoliticizing the Middle Ages and producing public facing work on this topic. Students read through scholarship on medievalisms and modern interpretations and uses of the Middle Ages, paying particular attention to how medieval ideas and imagery are co-opted by various political movements. In 2024 Benjamin Bertrand (History PhD), who leads the Fordham reading group, presented at the Medieval Academy with one of the organization's founders to run a workshop on public facing writing. Based on the conversations that came out of these meetings, Benjamin will be co-presenting a paper with Emily Varker (MVST MA) at the 2026 meeting of the American Historical Society on the intersection between medieval video games and pedagogy.

For more information, or to join next year, email Benjamin Bertrand at bbertrand3@fordham.edu.

Alumni Updates

Nicolás Agrait (Medieval Studies/History) presented two papers: "The Church's Support of Warfare in Castile During the Late Middle Ages" (Kalamazoo) and "Was There a Crisis in Castilian Chivalry During the Reign of Alfonso XI of Castile, 1312-50" (Leeds). He will publish the essay "Support for Warfare by the Castilian Church of the Later Middle Ages" in the forthcoming collection *"Kill Them All, God Will Know His Own"; Clerical Violence and Violent Clerics in Medieval Europe*, eds. L. J. Andrew Villalon and Donald J. Kagay (Brill).

This year **Lucy Barnhouse (History)** published "Disability and Medieval (In)Justice in The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938) and Robin of Sherwood (1984)" in *The Bulletin of the International Association for Robin Hood Studies*, as well as two pieces in collections overseen by fellow Fordham alumni. "Religious Women's Authority and Rules for Nuns in *Vision: From the Life of Hildegard von Bingen* (2009)" is just out in *Law, Justice, and Society in the Medieval World: An Introduction Through Film*; and "Communities and Custom: The Elections and Identities of Independent Benedictine Monastic Superiors in the Diocese of Lincoln, 1183-1340" will appear this summer in *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques*. Also this year, Lucy was invited to become a co-coordinator of the German Studies Association's Medieval and Early Modern German Studies Interdisciplinary Network, and began a three-year term on the CARA Executive Committee of the MAA. She published book reviews in *Early Modern Women*, *University of Toronto Quarterly*, *Medieval Feminist Forum*, and the centenary issue of *Speculum*. In October, she presented "Picturing Care: Saints and Healing in Medieval Hospital Art" at the meeting of the International Society for the History of Medicine in Salerno. Presenting on teaching at the AHA in NYC gave Lucy a chance to catch up with some Fordham friends, and at this year's Kzoo, she is gratified to have been recognized alongside Nina Rowe as having a

Notable Book in Medieval Germanic Studies (*Hospitals in Communities of the Late Medieval Rhineland*.)

Christopher Belitto (History) edited *Essential Vatican II: The Council for the Future Church* (Paulist Press, 2024); and published "Engaging Islam: Conversion or Crusade for Cusanus, Juan de Segovia, and Libellus to Leo X." *Religious Studies and Theology* 42 (2024): 219-31; and "Fighting Feasting Fools: Nicolas de Clamanges and the Reform of Saints' Feast Days." *Reformation and Renaissance Review* 26 (2024): 3-18. He was a panelist on "A Discussion of Karsten Harries' *Nicholas of Cusa's On Learned Ignorance: A Commentary on De docta ignorantia*," at Kalamazoo, and presented "Humility vs. Clericalism: Juan de Avila and Pope Francis on Spiritual Formation and Reform" at the Irish Theological Quarterly Annual Lecture, St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth, Ireland, March 2025. He also wrote "Peer review should be a dance, not a duel" with Frank Argote-Freyre for *Inside Higher Ed*, January 2025. He continues as series editor in chief of Brill's *Companions to the Christian Tradition* (proposals welcome). He also did a lot of media work during the papal transition, April-May 2025 for BBC, CNN, WNBC, WNYC, History.com, BBC.com, Reuters, The Tablet, National Catholic Reporter, and Time.com.

This year, **Kim Benard (Medieval Studies)** was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM) offered by President Biden's Office of Science and Technology and sponsored by the NSF. The award celebrates those who've made "significant contributions to mentoring and thereby support the future productivity" of the nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics workforce. She was selected on the basis of her work leading the Distinguished Fellowships team at MIT for the last 18 years.

Alumni Updates

Amy Cedrone (Philosophy) received tenure and a promotion effective Fall 2025. She is now Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Harford Community College in Bel Air, MD.

Still, in a sense, a Fordham medievalist, **Lou DiGiorno (Medieval Studies)** has been awarded the Bene Merenti Medal in recognition of his completion of twenty years on the Fordham Prep faculty. In addition to serving as one of the campus archivists, he teaches Latin, Greek, comparative mythology, and an introductory course in Latin palaeography. His fantasy novel, *And So They Say*, has recently been published. Of possible note to fellow Fordhamites: it may be the first work of fantasy fiction that metadiagetically begins and ends at Rose Hill.

Laura Gathagan (Medieval Studies) published two books- a monograph (*The Queenship of Mathilda of Flanders, c. 1031-1083: Embodying Conquest* (2025)); and a collected volume (eds. Laura L. Gathagan and Charles Insley, *Gender, Memory and Documentary Culture, 900-1300* (2025)). She also won SUNY Cortland's 'Rozanne Brooks Dedicated Teacher Award' for 2025.

This year, **Olivia Caroline Geraci (Medieval Studies)** began her doctoral degree at the Medieval Institute at the University of Notre Dame, where she holds a Richard and Peggy Notebaert Premier Fellowship. In the fall, she presented a paper, "Testators and Women Religious: Perceptions of Piety in Late Medieval London," at the annual meeting of the North American Council on British Studies in Denver, CO. The spring took her to London, where she presented a paper, "The Minoresses without Aldgate: Practices of Piety and Politics in Late Medieval London," at the Leading Women in Medieval Religious Communities conference, hosted at Notre Dame's London

campus. She was recently awarded a summer research grant from the Nanovic Institute, which will fund a research trip to archives in London, Oxford, Cambridge, and Paris, after which she will be headed to Rome to present a paper, "Clares Who Sing: Evidence for the Musical Practices of the Minoresses without Aldgate in Cranston Library MS 2322," at a symposium on Ritual Cultures of Medieval Religious Women.

M. Rowan Kurz's (Medieval Studies undergraduate) Young Adult Fantasy debut novel, *The Fall of Linda Waters*, is coming out on September 1, 2025, under the pen name R.E. Kurz with Soncata Press. (The book is about healing from grief, overcoming hate, and having Jack Frost as a science partner.) At the end of January, Rowan also started a job as a Research Associate at Corporate Insight, based in Manhattan.

Esther Liberman Cuenca (History) published a monograph, *The Making of Urban Customary Law in Medieval and Reformation England* (Oxford University Press) in March 2025 with the generous assistance of a subvention grant from the Medieval Academy of America. This book is based on her doctoral dissertation that she completed at Fordham. Additionally, she edited, with Anthony Perron and Fordham alumna M. Christina Bruno, the textbook *Law, Justice, and Society in the Medieval World: An Introduction through Film*, which was published by Fordham Press in May 2025, for which she also contributed a chapter on the movie *Kingdom of Heaven* (2005). She also published a chapter, "International Cooperation, Competition, and Changing Trends in American Space Cinema, 1997-2019," in Fordham professor Asif Siddiqi's edited volume on *Cosmic Fragments: Dislocation and Discontent in the Global*

Alumni Updates

Space Age (University of Pittsburgh Press) in April 2025, and a book review on Felice Lifshitz's *Reading Gender: Studies on Medieval Manuscripts and Medievalist Movies* for [The Medieval Review](#) in August 2024. She presented a paper based on her new research, "The Customs of Skin: On Writing a History of Medieval Tattooing," in March 2025 at the Centennial Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America at Harvard University, where she helped co-organize two sessions in memory of Marie Kelleher, her MA advisor. In May 2025, her co-edited special issue (with Eliza Hartrich), "Quantifying the English Archive: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Administrative and Social Histories of Medieval England," was published in *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques*, vol. 51, no. 2, featuring essays from fellow Fordham medieval alumni Lucy Barnhouse, Caroline Dunn, Elizabeth Keohane-Burbridge, Samantha Sagui, Tobias Hryn timer, and Ron Braasch. In Spring 2025, she received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of History at the University of Houston-Victoria (which will become Texas A&M University-Victoria), effective Fall 2025. However, her first semester as an Associate Professor will be spent on leave in California. She received an Academic Term Fellowship from the Huntington Library and a Project Development Grant from the American Council of Learned Societies for her second book project, *Body Art and Tattooing Customs in the Global Middle Ages*, which is under contract with Cambridge University Press. She will be living it up in her hometown of Los Angeles (aka the greatest city on earth) from late July 2025 to early January 2026 working on this project.

Camila Roxana Marcone (Medieval Studies) is now a PhD candidate and new mother! She is a recipient of the Paul Oskar Kristeller Fellowship from the Renaissance Society of America for her project "Technology in Exile: Tétouan's skundo system as an Andalusí Legacy." She advanced to the semi-finalist stage for a

Digital Humanities Update: Medieval New York

This year the Medieval New York project continued work on its video game based on George Grey Barnard's Cloisters museum (1914-1925). In addition to the ongoing modeling expertise of Maximiliano Aguilar (FCRH '27), we were also fortunate to work with New Rochelle High School senior intern Emily Eng who learned Unity while helping to develop tool tip functionality for our game. We were delighted to host Emily and her mom in March!

Katherina Fostano and Christina Bruno are also very excited to announce plans for an edited volume on teaching "medieval" New York. You can read the call for submissions [here](#), or email mbruno@fordham.edu for more information. All are warmly encouraged to apply!



Emily Eng and Max Aguilar testing the VR model in March 2025

Fulbright Open Research/Study Award before external events stalled the program. She also attended the "Medieval Afterlives" workshop at the Newberry Library in Chicago with financial support from the Center for Renaissance Studies.

Laura Morreale (Medieval Studies/History) has been chosen to serve on the *Speculum* review board as the Reviews

Alumni Updates

Editor for Digital Medieval Studies books and projects. Working with the Editorial Board, Laura plans to put out a call for projects to review, and to institute a system of digital project documentation and cataloguing for all projects reviewed in *Speculum*. Along with her colleague N. Kivilciim Yavuz, Laura co-organized two iterations of the Digital Medieval Studies Institute (DMSI) this year, the first at Harvard and Boston College in March 2025 and the second at the University of Leeds, following the IMC in June.

In the fall of 2024 **David Pedersen (English)** was appointed to the advisory network for "Emergence" (Early Medieval English in Nineteenth Century Europe), an ERC-funded research initiative housed at the University of Leiden. This summer he will travel to London to help build a digital network of correspondence on early medieval England for the "Emergence" project. He will investigate the letters of W.P. Ker and R.W. Chambers housed in the University College London archives. His first book, *Constructing Heroic Christianity in Early Medieval England*, will head to print with De Gruyter later this year, hopefully becoming available in early 2026. He continues to work as an Associate Professor of Humanities at College of the Ozarks in southwest Missouri and to publish and present on various topics relating to early England. In fall of 2024, he taught a course called "Israel and Islam in the Medieval Christian Imagination." The course culminated in a trip to Spain and Portugal to study the cultural interactions between Muslims, Christian, and Jews throughout the Middle Ages.

Yvonne Rode (Medieval Studies) received the 2023-24 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship.

Rebecca Slitt (Medieval Studies) has been living in Western Massachusetts since 2012, and continues to work at Choice of Games as an editor and publisher of digital interactive fiction. She is a member of the advisory committee for the Digital Games in Libraries program (unfortunately on hiatus now due to federal funding cuts). As one of the creative leads of Choice of Games's spinoff romance label Heart's Choice, she gave a virtual presentation for the Emerald City Writers Conference in October 2024 on writing interactive romance novels. In June, she presented at Narrascope at Drexel University, a conference dedicated to narrative games. Her paper "Help! I Accidentally Wrote a Sequel!" discusses her process of writing the Psy High series for Choice of Games - although, now that she has begun outlining the third in the series, her next presentation might turn out to be "Help! I Accidentally Wrote a Trilogy!" Outside of work, she is active in her temple, Congregation Beit Ahavah, as a member of the Board of Directors and head of the Prayer and Practice Committee.

Gilbert Stack (History) has taken a new job as Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness at CUNY School of Professional Studies. He has also continued to publish fiction in his series, the latest of which are: *Sturm Season* (Musket Men), *Snow* (Legionnaire), *Hero* (Navarre), *Widow's Peak* (Preternatural), and *Leverage* (Pembroke Steel). He also published a novella titled *Phantoms of Saw Mill Bridge*.

Degrees Conferred

Masters Degrees Granted 2024-2025

Elizabeth Duchovni

"The Reckoning of Medieval English Navigation"

Mentor: Maryanne Kowaleski

Reader: Asif Siddiqi

Olivia Caroline Geraci

"Where There's a Will: Bequests to Monastic and Mendicant Orders and their Members in Late Medieval London"

Mentor: Maryanne Kowaleski

Reader: Mary Erler

Benjamin Hausman

"The Invention of a Holy Kingdom: The Cult of Saint Helena, the True Cross, and their uses in the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem"

Mentor: Nicholas Paul

Reader: George Demacopoulos

Elias Holmquist

"Operationalizing the Practice of Space in the Fabliaux: The Database of Staged Fabliaux"

Mentor: Brian J. Reilly

Reader: Maryanne Kowaleski

2025 Undergraduate Awards

Anne Mannion Award (Lincoln Center)

David Veliaj FCLC '25

Encaenia Award (Rose Hill)

Ann Marie Headrick FCRH '25



Graduate students in Dr. Paul's Angevin Empire class learn about the Exchequer by becoming it, Fall 2024

Taryn DeLeon Mendiola

"*Vaðmál*: Cloth Currency and Systems of Labor and Extraction in Medieval Iceland"

Mentor: Elizabeth Comuzzi

Reader: Nicholas Paul

Adviser: Laurel Ann Wilson

Meredith McLaughlin

"The 'Privilegio' Of Santa María De Valdeiglesias [Hsa B16]: Its Production, Use, and Significance"

Mentor: Nicholas Paul

Reader: Nina Rowe

James Terrasi

"Cloth at a Crossroads: The Social and Economic Activity of Drapers in Peralada, 1297-1308"

Mentor: Elizabeth Comuzzi

Reader: Lluís To Figueras (University of Girona)

2024-2025 Graduate Courses

Fall 2024

ENGL 6235 | Yeager
Medieval Travel Narrative

GERM 5001 | Hafner
Graduate Reading for German I

HIST 6077 | Paul
The Angevin Empire

HIST 7110 | Mueller
Proseminar: Church Law and Medieval Society

MVST 5071 | Paul
Medieval Archives and Materials

PHIL 5012 | Cullen
Introduction to St. Augustine

THEO 6026 | Hogan
Ancient Judaism

THEO 6193 | Fiano
Law and Theology in Antiquity

Spring 2025

EN 5211 | O'Donnell
Introduction to Old English Language and Literature

FREN 5001 | Gschwandtner
Reading French Theory

GERM 5002 | Hafner
Graduate Reading for German II

HIST 5423 | Myers
Religion, Magic, and Science in the Late Medieval and Renaissance World

HIST 8110 | Mueller
Seminar: Church Law and Medieval Society

MVST 5064 | Barsella/ Pini
Dante and Medieval Philosophy

PHIL 5010 | Klima
Introduction to St. Thomas Aquinas

PHIL 6110 | Somma
Philosophy of the Islamic World

THEO 5230 | Peppard
Advanced Greek: Early Christian Responses to Empire

THEO 6365 | Demacopoulos
Cappadocian Fathers

Summer 2025

ENGL 5213 | O'Donnell
Studies in Old English Literature

HIST 5205 | Bruce
The Fall of the Roman Empire

LATN 5090 | McGowan
Latin for Reading

LATN 5093 | McGowan
Ecclesiastical Latin

MVST 5350 | Reilly
Holy Grails: Medieval, Modern, and Digital Medieval Studies



Assistant Curator Joshua O'Driscoll talks graduate students through a manuscript at The Morgan Library & Museum, fall 2024

2024-2025 Undergraduate Courses

Fall 2024

ANTH 3110 | Gilbert
Ancient Cultures of the Bible

ANTH 3111 | Veneziana
New World Archaeology

ARAB 1001 | Tkachmita, Abdel Rahman, Alsiadi
Introduction to Arabic

ARAB 1502 | Abdel Rahman, Moulayes
Intermediate Arabic

ARHI 2360 | Rowe
Illuminated Manuscripts

ENGL 3107 | O'Donnell
Chaucer

ENGL 4005 | Yeager
The Medieval Traveler

ENGL 4027 | O'Donnell
Seminar: Race, Ethnicity, and Contact in
Early Medieval Ireland and Britain

ENGL 4096 | Carpenter
Hobbits/ Heroes/ Hubris

ENGL 4155 | Blakely
Seven Deadly Sins

GREK 1001 | McGowan
Introduction to Greek I

HEBW 1001 | Halperin
Introduction to Hebrew I

**HIST 1300 | Axen, Carriere, Doolittle,
Loritz, Rager, Sagui, Smoot**
UHC: Medieval

HIST 3051 | Overy
The Black Death

HIST 3211 | Mueller
Medieval Sin, Sinners, and Outcasts

HIST 3302 | Axen
Gender and the Body in the Middle
Ages

HIST 3310 | Sagui
Medieval England

HIST 4308 | Teter
Antisemitism

LATN 1001 | Kallimani, McGowan
Introduction to Latin I

LATN 1501 | Maiorov, Spiliotopoulos
Intermediate Latin I

LATN 2001 | Spiliotopoulos
Latin Language and Literature

LATN 3045 | McGowan
Livy

MLAL 3012 | Barsella
Medieval Storytelling

MVST 4010 | Bruno
Medieval Franciscans

PHIL 3552 | Pini
Medieval Philosophy

THEO 3100 | Sander, Restaino
Introduction to Old Testament/ Tanakh

**THEO 3200 | Kinman, Siebert,
Welborn**
Introduction to New Testament

THEO 3310 | Rakotoniaina, Balla
Early Christian Writings

THEO 3316 | Demacopoulos
Byzantine Christianity

2024-2025 Undergraduate Courses

Fall 2024 (contd.)

THEO 3340 | Pappas, Holsberg
Christian Mystical Texts

THEO 3711 | Hecht, Kueny, Abbasi
Sacred Texts of the Middle East

THEO 3713 | Mirotznik
Classic Jewish Texts

THEO 3715 | Abbasi
Classic Islamic Texts

Spring 2025

ANTH 3110 | Gilbert
Ancient Cultures of the Bible

ARAB 1501 | Abdel Rahman, Tkatchmita, Alsiadi
Intermediate Arabic

ARAB 2001 | Abdel Rahman
Arabic Language and Literature

ARAB 3440 | Abdel Rahman
Arabic Literature in English Translation

ARHI 2361 | Lakey
Italian Art, Politics, and Religion in the Age of Dante

ARHI 3350 | Rowe
Art and Science in the Middle Ages

CLAS 3050 | Keil
Pagans and Christians

ENGL 3088 | Ray
Medieval Britain: History and Prophecy

ENGL 3113 | O'Donnell
Introduction to Old English

ENGL 4096 | Carpenter
Hobbits/ Heroes/ Hubris

GREK 1002 | Peirce
Introduction to Greek II

GREK 2001 | Peirce
Greek Language and Literature

HEBW 1501 | Halperin
Intermediate Hebrew I

HEBW 2001 | Halperin
Hebrew Language and Literature

HIST 1300 | Axen, Carriere, Eshleman, Loritz, Overty, Rager, Smoot
UHC: Medieval

HIST 1850 | Teter
UHC: Jews in the Ancient and Medieval World

HIST 3019 | Smith
Medieval Paris: A City and its People

HIST 3205 | Mueller
Medieval Medicine

HIST 3206 | Bertrand
Global Middle Ages

HIST 3230 | Sagui
Criminals, Outlaws, and Bandits

HIST 3302 | Axen
Gender and the Body in the Middle Ages

HIST/MVST 4998 | Bruno, Myers
Study Tour: Medieval Spain

LATN 1002 | Merrill, Kallimani
Introduction to Latin II

LATN 2001 | Foster, Spiliotopoulos
Latin Language and Literature

2024-2025 Undergraduate Courses



Scenes
from the
Camino,
May-June
2025



Spring 2025 (contd.)

PHIL 3552 | Klima
Medieval Philosophy

PHIL 3753 | Somma
Philosophy of the Islamic World

THEO 3100 | Parker, Sander, Jang
Introduction to Old Testament/ Tanakh

THEO 3120 | Ellman
The Prophets

THEO 3200 | Perkins
Introduction to New Testament

THEO 3207 | Castelblanco
The First Three Gospels

THEO 3310 | Tong
Early Christian Writings

THEO 3620 | Holsberg
Great Christian Hymns

**THEO 3711 | Kinman, Hecht,
Rakotoniaina**
Sacred Texts of the Middle East

THEO 3713 | Mirotznik
Classic Jewish Texts

THEO 3715 | Noori, Abbasi
Classic Islamic Texts

Summer 2025

CLAS 3050 | Keil
Pagans and Christians

LATN 1004 | McGowan
Intensive Latin

LATN 3061 | McGowan
Christian Latin

MVST 3502 | Hafner
The Clerkenwell Tales: England's
Literature

PHIL 4442 | Metzger
Fantasy and Philosophy

THEO 3310 | Reynoso
Early Christian Writings

THEO 3711 | Fiano
Sacred Texts of the Middle East

THEO 3715 | Kueny
Classic Islamic Texts

2024-2025 Events

Fall 2024

October 10, 2024

Royal Movements

Performing Space in High Medieval Iberia

Lecture by Marija Blašković

(Universitat Pompeu Fabra/
Fordham Medieval Fellow)

October 11, 2024

From Dirty Fingers to Sore Eyes:

Digital Challenges of Medieval Manuscripts

A roundtable with Martin Roček, Ondřej Fůsík, Karel Pacovský, Jakub Kozák, and Lucie Doležalová (Charles University)

October 24-27, 2024

Fiftieth Annual Byzantine Studies Conference (BSC)

The Byzantine Studies
Association of North America

October 29, 2024

Medieval Movie Night:

Legend (Ridley Scott, 1986)

November 7, 2024

Going Places Not Undocumented

Obedience, Jurisdiction and
'Ordyr' in The Book of Margery
Kempe

Lecture by Arvind Thomas (UCLA)

November 20, 2024

Practical DH Workshop:

Medieval Games and
Immersive Media

November 21, 2024

The Art of the Haggadah, 1350-1400

Lecture by Abby Kornfeld
(CUNY-CCNY)

Spring 2025

February 12, 2025 “Translations of Arabic 'Crusade' Chronicles as Objects of Historical Enquiry” Lecture by James Wilson (U. Konstanz)	February 20, 2025 “Slavery and Leprosy: Legal Medicine in Late Medieval Genoa” Lecture by Hannah Barker (Arizona State University)
February 27, 2025 “The Medieval Book of Marvels” Lecture by Joshua O’Driscoll (Morgan Library & Museum)	March 31, 2025 “A Prince of the Land Leading a Foreign Woman?” Translation and Consolation in Abelard’s Lamentation of Dinah the Daughter of Jacob” Master Class with Ruth Nisse (Wesleyan)
April 3, 2025 Practical DH Workshop: Introduction to Designing a Desktop or Online Database	April 8, 2025 “Dante’s Philosophy of Memory: From Infernal Fame to Heavenly Oblivion (or Oblivious Memory)” Lecture by Eleonora Buonocore (U. Calgary)
April 10, 2025 Medieval Movie Night: <i>The Hobbit</i> (directed by Arthur Rankin Jr. and Jules Bass, 1977)	

The 44th Annual Conference of
the Center for Medieval Studies at Fordham University

Boundaries, Crossings, and Crossroads



in the medieval Iberian worlds
500-1600

Friday February 27-Sunday March 1, 2026

Fordham University Lincoln Center

113 W. 60th St. New York, NY

Plenary Speakers:

Thomas Burman (University of Notre Dame)

María Judith Feliciano (CSIC, Madrid)

Anita Savo (Boston University)

See the full CFP online at

<https://mvstconference.ace.fordham.edu/iberianworlds/>

Submit abstract and CV to medievals@fordham.edu by September 15, 2025

Hosted by the Center for Medieval Studies at Fordham University with additional support
from el taller @ KJCC at New York University



Summer 2025

Director: Dr. Brian J. Reilly
Associate Director: Dr. M. Christina Bruno

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<https://www.fordham.edu/mvst/>

Welcome, 2025-2026 MA Cohort!

Lilia Carlisle | Justyn Cooke | Alexander French
Kendall Hickman | Sean Maldonado | Sally Parker
Lance Piao | Katie Robertson
Tia Verrone