

# SARAH J. SPROUSE

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, English Literature. Texas Tech University, 2019  
Interdisciplinary Certificate in Medieval & Renaissance Studies  
Certificate in Book History and Digital Humanities  
Dissertation: "Fantasies of Wales: Some Paleographic Evidence for the Mediating Role of Gerald of Wales"  
Defense Date: March 29, 2019  
Committee: Julie Nelson Couch (chair), Brian McFadden, Ryan Hackenbracht

M.A. English Literature. George Mason University, 2012  
Thesis: "The Subversive Power of St. David's: Gerald of Wales and the Dominion of Canterbury, A Postcolonial Approach"

B.A. English. Virginia Commonwealth University, 2007  
Minor: Religious Studies  
Senior Thesis: "Female Identity in Greek and Celtic Mythology"

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Journal Articles:**

"Gerald's Deep Maps: A Reexamination of the *Itinerarium Cambriae* and *Descriptio Cambriae*." *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* (Under Consideration)

"From *ides aglæcwif* to "shebeast": The Loss of the *Wrecend* in Thomas Meyer's Translation of *Beowulf*." *Medievalia* (Under Consideration)

"Lady Bertilak's Pearls: *Instrumenta Dei* and the Stone Imagery that Unites the Cotton Nero A.x. (art. 3)." *Arthuriana* 28.4 (2018): 25-45.

"Two Sets of Two Hunters: The Illusion of *Gomen* in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*." *Comitatus* 47 (September 2016): 163-188.

"The Associative Branches of the Irish Barnacle: Gerald of Wales and the Natural World." *Hortulus: The Graduate Journal of Medieval Studies* 11.2 (May 2015): 26-53.

"Ending The Dualism Of Nature And Industry In The Lord Of The Rings." *Mallorn: The Journal of The Tolkien Society* 51 (2011): 27-31.

**Chapters in Edited Collections:**

“The Commonplace Book as an Experiential Guide.” *Teaching the History of the Book*. Co-authored with Sarah Banschbach Valles. Eds. Matteo Pangallo & Emily Todd. NY: MLA, 2019. (In Preparation)

“Pastoral Assemblages in *Culhwch ac Olwen*.” *Eco d’Arthur: Green Camelot*. Ed. Timothy Wenzell. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2019. (Forthcoming)

“In Sickness and In Health: The Boethian Narrative of the Two Gerald of Brecon.” *Treason: Medieval and Early Modern Treachery, Betrayal and Shame*. Ed. Larissa Tracy. Leiden: Brill, 2019.

**Book Reviews:**

Callan, Maeve Brigid. *The Templars, the Witch, and the Wild Irish: Vengeance and Heresy in Medieval Ireland*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2015. For *Comitatus* 47 (2016): 269-271.

Sims-Williams, Patrick. *Irish Influence on Medieval Welsh Literature*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. For *Peritia* 27 (2016): 301-303.

**FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

Texas Tech University Dissertation Completion Fellowship. 2018-2019.

Huntington Library Exchange Fellowship for research at Trinity College-Dublin. November 2018.

Marco Manuscripts Workshop Honorarium for Participation in the Workshop. February 2-3, 2018.

Medieval Academy of America’s Robert & Janet Lumiansky Dissertation Grant for dissertation research at the British Library, National Library of Wales, and Oxford Bodleian Library. Summer 2017.

Allan L. Carter & Olga Meloy Carter Memorial Scholarship for contributions to the department and ongoing research. The Department of English at Texas Tech University. March 10, 2017.

Texas Tech University Research Support Award for dissertation research at the British Library, National Library of Wales, and Oxford Bodleian Library. Texas Tech University. February 17, 2017.

MLA Field Bibliography Fellowship for service to the field; offers support and training for contributing to the MLA; includes annual attendance at the MLA Annual Convention. Fellowship period is 2016-2019.

Medieval Academy of America/CARA Summer Scholarship to support travel and tuition to University of New Mexico’s Summer Paleography & Codicology Institute. May 4, 2016.

Allan L. Carter & Olga Meloy Carter Memorial Scholarship for contributions to the department and ongoing research. The Department of English at Texas Tech University. March 15, 2016.

Thomas Langford Endowed Graduate Scholarship for ongoing work on the intersections of religion and culture in medieval literature. The Department of English at Texas Tech University. April 21, 2015.

Texas Tech University Presidential Doctoral Excellence in Teaching Award for continued excellence in teaching. The Department of English at Texas Tech University. 2014-2019.

Innisfree International College Grant for participation in the Irish Studies Summer Institute at NUI Galway. Galway, Ireland. Summer 2008.

### **CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE**

Texas Tech University Special Collections Library

Guest Co-Curator, April 2016

Exhibition: *Offices of the Dead in the Duc de Berry's Horae*

### **DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS**

Dalhousie Manuscripts Project (Forthcoming):

In collaboration with Sarah Banschbach Valles, coordinating the diplomatic transcription of the Dalhousie Manuscripts with the Folger Library's Dromio/EMMO software and creating an open-source digital edition of the Manuscripts with IIIF viewer. Expected publication date: April 2019

### **INVITED TALKS**

(Upcoming) "How and When to Apply for Fellowships/Grants," for Texas Tech University Professional Development Curriculum, January 30, 2019.

"The Theory and Mechanics of TEI," Guest lecture in a Graduate Course on Digital Humanities: Texas Tech University, October 18, 2018.

"Writing from the Margins: The Interpolation of Annotations into the Works of Gerald of Wales," Literature, Social Justice, and Environment Monthly Lecture Series: Texas Tech University. October 3, 2018.

"The Games of Gawain," Guest lecture and discussion of my article, "Two Sets of Two Hunters: The Illusion of *Gomen* in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*." April 19, 2018.

"Fancies of Wales: Some Paleographic Evidence of the Mediating Role of Gerald of Wales," 2018 Marco Manuscripts Workshop: University of Tennessee at Knoxville. February 2-3, 2018.

"Work/Life Balance & Preparing for Exams," for Texas Tech University Professional Development Curriculum, January 31, 2018.

“The Pearl-Poet and Lapidaries,” Guest lecture on lapidaries and stone imagery to senior-level students in a *Pearl*-poet class: Texas Tech University, September 20, 2016.

“Submitting to National Conferences & Engaging with the Field,” for Texas Tech University Professional Development Curriculum, September 6, 2016.

## **CONFERENCES**

### **Conference Organizer:**

“The Materiality of Wonder,” Second Annual Medieval & Renaissance Studies Symposium, Texas Tech University. April 16, 2018.

“Opening Up the Book: Interactions between Reader and Text,” Medieval & Renaissance Studies Symposium, Texas Tech University. April 19, 2017.

### **Panel Organizer:**

(Upcoming) “Experiential Games in the Classroom,” for the Game Cultures Society. 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 9-12, 2019.

(Upcoming) “Transcribing John Donne: The Development of a Digital Edition,” for the South-Central Renaissance Conference: Texas Tech University. April 11-13, 2019.

“Building a Digital Edition: The Case of the Dalhousie Manuscripts,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas Tech University. October 25-27, 2018.

“Games and Manuscripts,” for the Game Cultures Society. 52<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 10-13, 2018.

“Formulating the MS Cotton Nero A.x. (art. 3),” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas A&M University. September 23-25, 2016.

### **Presider:**

(Upcoming) “Experiential Games in the Classroom,” for the Game Cultures Society. 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 9-12, 2019.

(Upcoming) “Transcribing John Donne: The Development of a Digital Edition,” for the South-Central Renaissance Conference: Texas Tech University. April 11-13, 2019.

“The Visual Middle English Narrative,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas Tech University. October 25-27, 2018.

“Building a Digital Edition: The Case of the Dalhousie Manuscripts,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas Tech University. October 25-27, 2018.

“Games and Manuscripts,” for the Game Cultures Society. 52<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 10-13, 2018.

**Presenter:**

(Upcoming) “Superstition or Miracle?: Conflict in the Margins of British Library, Additional MS 43706,” 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 9-12, 2019.

(Upcoming) “The Dalhousie Manuscripts Project: Navigating the Ethics of Digital Editing,” 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the John Donne Society: Baton Rouge, Louisiana. February 14-16, 2019.

“(De)Centered Wales: Remapping Gerald of Wales in the Bodleian MS B.188,” 2019 Modern Language Association Annual Convention: Chicago. January 3-6, 2019.

“Brut Lost? Brut Found: The Curious Case of *The Historie of Cambria*,” 2018 Congress of the New Chaucer Society: Toronto. July 10-15, 2018.

“A Communally-Produced Topography of Wales: Marginal Annotation in the Manuscripts of Giraldus Cambrensis,” 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 10-13, 2018.

“Pastoral Assemblages in *Culhwch ac Olwen*: Green Resistance to the Giant,” 2018 Modern Language Association Annual Convention: New York City. January 4-7, 2018.

“Tropes that Last: Giraldus Cambrensis and Literary Constructions of Wales,” 52<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 11-14, 2017.

Dramatic Reader for: “Gawain at Play: Ambiguous Reading and Performance in the Pearl Manuscript,” 52<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 11-14, 2017.

“Translating Gerald’s Coded Rhetoric: Wallia, Kambria, Britannia,” 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Comparative Literature Symposium: Texas Tech University. April 7-8, 2017.

“Lady Bertilak’s Pearls: *Instrumenta Dei* in the Cotton Nero A.x.,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas A&M University. September 23-25, 2016.

“*Speculum Monstrorum*: The Lexical Mirroring of the Monsters in *King Horn* and *Beowulf*,” Rocky Mountain Medieval & Renaissance Association Conference: University of New Mexico. June 16-18, 2016.

“Winifred & Kamala: Saints, Superheroes, and the Authorization of Miracles,” 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Comparative Literature Symposium: Texas Tech University. April 22-23, 2016.

“Wynken de Worde’s Revision of *The Book of Margery Kempe*,” AVISTA 2016 Medieval Graduate Student Symposium: University of North Texas. March 3-4, 2016.

“From *ides aglæcwif* to “shebeast”: The Loss of the *Wrecend* in Thomas Meyer’s Translation of *Beowulf*,” 2015 Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas State University at San Marcos, Texas. October 16-18, 2015.

“The Associative Branch of the Irish Barnacle: Gerald of Wales and the Natural World,” 50<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 14-17, 2015.

“Narratives of Invasion: The *Expugnatio Hibernica* and the Crusade Cycle,” 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Comparative Literature Symposium: Texas Tech University. April 10-11, 2015.

“In Sickness and In Health: The Boethian Narrative of the Two Gerald of Brecon,” 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Illinois Medieval Association Conference: Saint Louis University. February 20-21, 2015.

“Treebeard as a Green Knight: A Celtic Parallel for Tolkien’s Ents,” 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference: Albuquerque, New Mexico. February 11-14, 2015.

“The Associative Branch of the Irish Barnacle: Gerald of Wales and the Natural World,” Knowing Nature: University of Maryland Fall 2014 Interdisciplinary Conference. October 24-25, 2014.

“Bisclavret the Maiden?: Sexed Performance in *The Lais* of Marie de France,” Vagantes Medieval Graduate Student Conference: University of Texas: Austin. March 2014.

“The Subversive Power of St. David’s: Gerald of Wales and the Dominion of Canterbury,” 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Medieval & Renaissance Forum: Plymouth State University. April 2013.

“Ending the Dualism of Nature and Industry in *The Lord of the Rings*,” Festival in the Shire Academic Conference: Pontrhydfendigaid, Wales. August 2010.

#### **Roundtables:**

(Upcoming) “Transcribing John Donne: The Development of a Digital Edition,” for the South-Central Renaissance Conference: Texas Tech University. April 11-13, 2019.

“Building a Digital Edition: The Case of the Dalhousie Manuscripts,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas Tech University. October 25-27, 2018.

“The “Authoritative” Middle Ages: The Academic v. The Popular Medieval World: A Roundtable,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Baylor University. September 29-30, 2017.

“The Format of Teaching the Middle Ages: A Roundtable,” Texas Medieval Association Conference: Texas A&M University. September 23-25, 2016.

#### **TEACHING**

##### **Texas Tech University, 2014-Present**

English 3303: *Book History: Evolution of the Page from Scribe to Print*, Guest Lecturer and co-creator of the course, Fall 2018

English 2308: *Introduction to Non-Fiction: Letters, Lives, and Legends of Medieval Ladies*, Spring 2018

English 2307: *Introduction to Fiction: Creation, Apocalypse, and Monsters: An Introduction to World Mythology*, Fall 2017

English 2306: *Introduction to Drama: Shakespeare and his Classical & Medieval Sources*, Spring 2017

English 2305: *Introduction to Poetry: Arthur the Briton, Breton, & British King*, Fall 2016, Summer 2017, Summer 2018

English 1302: *Advanced College Rhetoric*, Spring 2015 - Summer 2016, & Summer 2017

English 1301: *Essentials of College Rhetoric*, Fall 2014 & Summer 2015

**Hogar Hispano ESL Program, Fall 2009 – 2014**

Lead teacher of an adult Literacy ESL program for recent immigrants.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**To the Field:**

*Game Cultures Society*, 2018—Present

Incoming organizer and member of the Advisory Board.

*The Heroic Age: A Journal of Early Medieval Northwestern Europe*

Assistant to the Editor in Chief, 2011—Present

Contributor, Chaucer Reader, August 2010

Publisher: Gale Cengage

**To the TTU Medieval & Renaissance Studies Center:**

MARTIN: The Texas Tech Medieval & Renaissance Student Association

Co-founder; President, 2015 – Present

Medieval & Renaissance Studies Reading Group

Founder and Organizer, Fall 2015 – Present

**To the University:**

Texas Tech University Graduate English Society Mentorship Program

Mentor, 2016-Present

Texas Tech University Book History Club

Treasurer, 2016 – Present

*Poictesme Literary Journal*

Content Editor, Summer 2005 – 2007

**SUMMER INSTITUTES**

Summer Paleography & Codicology Institute, 2016

University of New Mexico intensive paleography and codicology summer study, taught by Professor Timothy Graham.

Study Abroad in Sligo, Ireland, 2008

Small grant through George Mason University for the purpose of studying Irish history, archaeology, mythology, and literature at St. Angela's College in Sligo, Ireland.

Study Abroad in Glasgow, Scotland, 2006

Studied under local poets and professors as well as professors from Virginia Commonwealth University.

### **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

Latin, Old English, Middle English, Middle Welsh, French, German

### **ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Medieval Academy of America

Modern Language Association

International Arthurian Society – North American Branch

Hagiography Society

American Society of Irish Medieval Studies

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Game Cultures Society