

SARAH J. SPROUSE

Box 870244, English Department
The University of Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

Cell: (703) 474-2378
sjsprouse@ua.edu
<http://www.sarahjsprouse.com>

APPOINTMENTS

Instructor, The University of Alabama, Fall 2019 – Present

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. 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”
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

Book Project:

Fantasies of Wales: Welsh Nationalism, Chorography, and Antiquarianism, 1200-1700 (In Preparation)

Journal Articles:

“Early Antiquarian Methodologies: Conflict in the Margins of a Sixteenth-Century Copy of *Itinerarium Kambriae* and *Descriptio Kambriae*.” *Manuscript Studies: A Journal of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies* (Under Review)

“Pastoral Assemblages in *Culhwch ac Olwen*.” *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* (Under Review)

“From *ides aglæcwif* to “shebeast”: The Loss of the *Wrecend* in Thomas Meyer’s Translation of *Beowulf*.” *The Year’s Work in Medievalism* (Forthcoming)

“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:

“Keeping the Romish Wolves at Bay: A Breviary for Britain and the Welsh Book Trade of the Sixteenth Century.” *Religion in the Medieval and Early Modern Marketplace*. Eds. Kristin Bezio and Scott Oldenburg. (Forthcoming)

“*Brut* Lost? *Brut* Found: The Curious Case of the *Historie of Cambria*.” *New Approaches to Medieval Chronicles*. Ed. Lane Sobehrad. (Forthcoming)

“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. (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. pp. 56-77.

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

Digital Humanities Summer Institute Scholarship for Participation in the Summer Institute at the University of Victoria, Summer 2019.

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: December 2019

INVITED TALKS

"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.

“Fantasies 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) “Playing with Game Theory I: Reading Games in Medieval Culture,” for the Game Cultures Society. 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 7-10, 2020.

(Upcoming) “Playing with Game Theory II: Parks and Recreation: Experiencing Medieval Games,” for the Game Cultures Society. 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 7-10, 2020.

(Upcoming) “Gamification in the Classroom: How to Design a Game (A Workshop),” for the Game Cultures Society. 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 7-10, 2020.

“Experiential Games in the Classroom,” for the Game Cultures Society. 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 9-12, 2019.

“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. 53rd 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) “Playing with Game Theory I: Reading Games in Medieval Culture,” for the Game Cultures Society. 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 7-10, 2020.

“Experiential Games in the Classroom,” for the Game Cultures Society. 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 9-12, 2019.

“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. 53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 10-13, 2018.

Presenter:

(Upcoming) “Remapping the Deep Map: Anglicizing Gerald of Wales in the Flyleaves,” 2020 Congress of the New Chaucer Society: Durham, England. July 12-16, 2020.

(Upcoming) “Dangerous Games: Beheading Narratives in the Percy Folio,” 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 7-10, 2020.

(Upcoming) “The Dalhousie Manuscripts Project: Double-blind Transcription and Ethical Editing,” 2020 Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America: Philadelphia, PA. April 2-4, 2020.

(Upcoming) “Student-Scribe: A Hands-On Approach to Codicology and Book History,” 2020 Modern Language Association Annual Convention: Seattle. January 9-12, 2020.

“Superstition or Miracle?: Conflict in the Margins of British Library, Additional MS 43706,” 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 9-12, 2019.

“The Dalhousie Manuscripts Project: Navigating the Ethics of Digital Editing,” 34th 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,” 53rd 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,” 52nd 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,” 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 11-14, 2017.

“Translating Gerald’s Coded Rhetoric: Wallia, Kambria, Britannia,” 49th 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,” 48th 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,” 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Western Michigan University. May 14-17, 2015.

“Narratives of Invasion: The *Expugnatio Hibernica* and the Crusade Cycle,” 47th 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,” 32nd Annual Illinois Medieval Association Conference: Saint Louis University. February 20-21, 2015.

“Treebeard as a Green Knight: A Celtic Parallel for Tolkien’s Ents,” 36th 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,” 34th 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:

“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

The University of Alabama, 2019 – Present

English 101: *English Composition I*, Fall 2019

English 205: *English Literature I: Anglo-Saxon to 1800*, Fall 2019

Texas Tech University, 2014 – Present

English 3391: *Literature and War: The Great War*, Summer 2019

English 3309: *The Quest for Failure and the Failure of the Quest: Medievalisms in Modernist Literature*, Summer 2019

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

Society president and member of the Advisory Board.

The Heroic Age: A Journal of Early Medieval Northwestern Europe

Assistant to the Editor in Chief, 2011—2018

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 – 2019

Medieval & Renaissance Studies Reading Group

Founder and Organizer, Fall 2015 – 2019

To the University:

Texas Tech University Graduate English Society Mentorship Program

Mentor, 2016 – 2019

Texas Tech University Book History Club

Treasurer, 2016 – 2019

Poictesme Literary Journal

Content Editor, Summer 2005 – 2007

SUMMER INSTITUTES

Digital Humanities Summer Institute, 2019

University of Victoria's intensive summer courses in digital humanities.

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

New Chaucer Society

Hagiography Society

American Society of Irish Medieval Studies

Game Cultures Society

Renaissance Society of America