

HELEN CUSHMAN

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Education

Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
Ph.D. English, ABD, expected May 2018

University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA)
B.A. Classics and English with Highest Honors, May 2012

Dissertation

Producing Knowledge in the Middle English Mystery Plays

Directed by Nicholas Watson, James Simpson, and Amy Appleford (Boston University).

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Handling Knowledge: Holy Bodies in the Middle English Mystery Plays.” *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*. 47.2 (2017), 279-304.

Book Reviews

Review of *Lyric Tactics: Poetry, Genre, and Practice in Later Medieval England* by Ingrid Nelson in *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 39. Forthcoming 2017.

Fellowships

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2017-18

Dexter Term-time Fellowship (one semester teaching relief), Harvard University, 2017

English Prize Fellowship, Harvard University, 2012-14

Academic Honors and Awards

Alexandra Johnston Prize (for best conference paper), Medieval and Renaissance Drama Society, 2017

Schallek Award, Medieval Academy of America, 2016

Donald Howard Scholarship, New Chaucer Society, 2016

Dexter Summer Research Grant, Harvard University, 2016

Invited Talks

“Handling Knowledge: Drama and Authority in Late Medieval England.” Medieval Lunch Series, Yale University (New Haven, CT), April 2017.

“Knowledge From Below: Authority and Pedagogy in the Middle English Mystery Plays.” Department of English, Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, LA), February 2017.

Selected Conference Papers

“Tangible Knowledge.” New Chaucer Society Congress (Toronto, Ontario), July 2018. Scheduled.

“Proof Demonstratif.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2018. Scheduled.

“Staging ‘School Choice’ in the Coventry Weavers’ Pageant.” Medieval Academy of America (Atlanta, GA), March 2018. Scheduled.

“*Curiositas* in Middle English Drama.” New Chaucer Society Congress (London, England), July 2016.

“Producing Knowledge in the Chester and N-Town Cycles.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2016.

With Daniel Donoghue (Harvard) and A.J. McMullen (Centenary College), “Teaching Chaucer Online: The Future of Larry Benson’s Geoffrey Chaucer Website.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2016.

“The Digital Margin.” Method and the Middle English Text (Charlottesville, VA), April 2016.

“The Grave as Aesthetic Domain in Late Medieval Lyric.” Renaissance Society of America (Boston, MA), April 2016.

“Marginal Readers and the Digital Humanities.” Digital Britain (Cambridge, MA), March 2016.

“Marcolf’s Biological Warfare.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2015.

“The Eternity Effect: Liquefied Time and Revenge in the *Carmina Burana* Christmas Play.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2014.

“False Confession and the Lollardization of Saint Marina.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2013.

Campus Talks

“Pedagogical Theater in the Plays of Christ and the Doctors.” Harvard Medieval Colloquium (Cambridge, MA), March 2017.

“The Spectacle of Testimony in the Middle English Mystery Plays.” Harvard Drama Colloquium (Cambridge, MA), November 2016.

Conference Panels Organized

With Joseph Stadolnik (Univ. College London): “Staging Knowledge in Early English Drama.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2018.

With Maj-Britt Frenze (Univ. of Notre Dame): “Dancing with Death in Medieval Literature.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2018.

With Patricia Dailey (Columbia) and Erica Weaver (Harvard): “Affective Transformations.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2017.

With Jessica Brantley (Yale) and Erica Weaver (Harvard): “Devotional Luxury, Literary Necessity.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2017.

With Emma Maggie Solberg (Bowdoin College): “Medieval Drama and Its Afterlives,” MLA (Philadelphia, PA), January 2017.

With Nicholas Watson (Harvard) and Taylor Cowdery (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill): “Middle Time: Past, Present, and Future.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2016.

With Emily Thornbury (Univ. of California, Berkeley) and Taylor Cowdery (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill): “Dark Age Classicisms.” International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), May 2016.

With Emma Maggie Solberg (Bowdoin College): “Medieval Drama and Its Early Modern Afterlives.” Renaissance Society of America (Boston, MA), April 2016.

Teaching Experience

As sole instructor

“Tragic Flaws: Crippling Western Drama” Fall 2016

As teaching fellow (indicates head teaching fellow)*

“History of the English Language” Fall 2016*

“Making the Middle Ages” (introduction to medieval studies and digital humanities) Spring 2016*

Guest workshop: “Medieval Objects at the Harvard Art Museum”

Guest lecture: “Reject or Reconstruct? A Literary History of Misogyny”

“Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales*” Fall 2014*, Fall 2015*

Guest lecture: “The Grief of Melibee”

Guest presentation: “Medieval Drama and ‘The Miller’s Tale’”

“The Humanities Colloquium” (great books survey) Spring 2015

Guest workshop: “Medievalisms: from *King Lear* to *The Seventh Seal*”

Guest presentation: *To the Lighthouse*

Guest presentation: *The Brothers Karamazov*

Guest presentation: *King Lear*

Guest presentation: Augustine’s *Confessions*

Teaching Awards

Four-time winner of the Harvard Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

Fall 2016: “History of the English Language”

Spring 2015: “The Humanities Colloquium”

Fall 2014 and Fall 2015: “Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales*”

Academic Service

Founder and Organizer, “Harvard Open Panels at Kalamazoo,” 2015-2017

Coordinator, Harvard Department of English Medieval Colloquium, 2014 – 2016

Steering committee, Harvard Graduate Student Symposium, Fall 2015

Digital assistant for the Harvard Chaucer Page: <http://chaucer.fas.harvard.edu>, Summer 2015

Research and editorial assistant for Nicholas Watson (Harvard), Spring 2015

Languages

Research and teaching languages: Middle English, Old English

Reading languages: Latin, Italian, French

References

Available upon request.