

Lydia Yaitsky Kertz

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Center for Medieval Studies
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, 2016
Dissertation: "Luxury, Aesthetics and Politics: The Social Lives of Medieval Romance"
Committee: David J. Wallace (chair), Rita Copeland, Emily Steiner, Kevin Brownlee
- MA Department of English, Florida State University, 2009
English Literature, History of Text Technologies; MA thesis committee: David F. Johnson (chair), Elaine Treharne, and Daniel Vitkus
- BA *summa cum laude*, Departments of English and History, Emory University, 2004

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2017 Fordham University, Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow in Medieval Studies
- 2016-2017 University of Pennsylvania, English Department Lecturer

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 2014 "Shadows and Reflections: *Tristan and Isolde* in Manuscripts and Ivory," *Word & Image: A Journal of Verbal/Visual Inquiry*, 30.2, 131-154.
- 2013 "Fragments of Malmesbury: A Reevaluation of MS Lewis E. 247 Based on Recently Discovered Parchment Leaves," *Journal of the Early Book Society*, 16, 227-247.

Articles in Edited Volumes

- 2011 "Amitav Ghosh's Tridib-Tristan: Where Does a Knight without a Home Belong?" in *Amitav Ghosh's The Shadow Lines: A Critical Anthology*, ed. Sandip Ain (Delhi, India: Worldview Publications), 163-184.

Scholarly Bibliographies

- 2014 “Annotated Bibliography, 2013,” *Yearbook of Langland Studies*, 28, 281-311.
- 2013 “Annotated Bibliography, 2012,” *Yearbook of Langland Studies*, 27, 145-161.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Monograph

Aesthetics and Politics of Luxury: Experiencing Medieval Romance traces political uses of luxury in romance literature and narrative objects. The overall aim of the book is to delimit what it is that romance is and does by attending to the surfaces and the borders, the spaces where romance comes into contact with other genres. As such, this project intervenes in the growing field of medieval aesthetics.

Essay under Review

“The Cloth as Skin: Cultural Contact and Aristocratic Women’s Work in *Emarē*”

Essays in Preparation

“*Translatio studii* and Medieval Poetics of Ekphrasis”

“Tapestries and Public Display: Domestic Raw Materials and Foreign Luxury Objects”

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2015-2016 University of Pennsylvania, School of Arts and Sciences, Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2014-2015 University of Pennsylvania, English Department and Liberal and Professional Studies Program Teaching and Research Fellowship
- 2009-2014 University of Pennsylvania, Benjamin Franklin Fellowship
- 2013 University of Pennsylvania, School of Arts and Sciences, Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2013 University of Pennsylvania, Dalglish Chew Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2012, 2011 University of Pennsylvania, Graduate and Professional Student Association Summer Travel Grant
- 2007-2009 Florida State University, Teaching Assistantship Award

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania, 2010-2017

Survey of Early British Literature (Spring 2017)
Call to Adventure: The Lure of Romance from Camelot to *Star Wars* (Fall 2016)
Medieval Literatures and Cultures: King Arthur (Summer 2015)
Word and Image (Summer 2013, Fall 2014)
Critical Writing Seminar: Medieval Outlaws (Fall 2011, Spring 2012)
Old English Literature (Teaching Assistant, Spring 2011)
Shakespeare Survey (Recitation Instructor, Fall 2010)

Florida State University, 2007-2009

Writing about King Arthur, 2 sections (Spring 2009)
Freshman Rhetoric and Composition, 3 sections (2007-2008)
Freshman Writing Research, 2 sections (Spring 2008)

Mentorship and Advising, 2008-2017

Fordham University (Spring 2017), mentoring graduate students in medieval studies
University of Pennsylvania (2013-2016), mentoring BA, MA, and ABD students
Florida State University (2008), mentoring First Year Writing instructors

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conference Organized

2012 “Textual Intercourse: Medieval Appropriations and Appropriations of the Medieval,”
Medievalists@Penn Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference, University of
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, March 17.

Panel Organized

2013 “Embodied Geographies: Writers, Readers, and Publishers, 1150-1599.” 21st Annual
Conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing,
Philadelphia, PA, July 18-21.

Papers Presented

- 2017 “The Cloth as Skin: Reading the Two Women in *Emaré*.” The 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 11-14.
- 2016 “‘Romance Reading on a Book’: The Luxury and Sensuality of Reading Romance.” 15th Biennial Romance in Medieval Britain Conference. Vancouver, BC, August 15-19.
- 2016 “Packaging Romance: Romance Anthologies and Democratization of Texts.” The 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 12-15.
- 2014 “Ekphrasis as *Translatio*” work-in-progress, University of Pennsylvania Medieval and Renaissance Seminar. Philadelphia, PA, February 5.
- 2013 “The Text of Skin: Tactility, Textiles, and Reading the Body beneath Clothing.” The 21st Annual Conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing. Philadelphia, PA, July 18-21.
- 2013 “Ekphrasis as *translatio* in Middle English Poetry.” *Translatio*. Medievalists@Penn Fifth Annual Graduate Student Conference. Philadelphia, PA, February 15.
- 2012 “‘*Hou I may saue my soule*’ (f.395rb): The *Pater Noster* and Other Septinarian Arrangements in the Vernon Manuscript.” The Eighteenth Biennial Congress of the New Chaucer Society. Portland, OR, July 23-26.
- 2012 “Monmouth and Malmesbury in the Hands of Boswell and Griscom: A Codicological Assessment of MS Lewis E. 247.” The 47th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 10-13.
- 2011 “Tristan and Isolde or Love(rs) Triumphant: Tristan Visual Motifs on Fourteenth Century Ivory Caskets.” The 23rd International Arthurian Congress. Bristol, UK, July 25-30.
- 2010 “*Pro Patria Mori*: Privileging a Hero’s Death in *Sir Tristrem*.” Bring Out Your Dead: *Memento Mori* and the Work of Remembrance in the Middle Ages. Medievalists@Penn Second Annual Graduate Student Colloquium. Philadelphia, PA, October 1.
- 2009 “Amitav Ghosh’s Tridib-Tristan: Where Does a Knight without a Home Belong?” The 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 7-10.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Bibliographer, International *Piers Plowman* Society, *Yearbook of Langland Studies*, 2013-2015.

Coordinator, Medieval-Renaissance Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, 2013-2014.

Coordinator, Medievalists@Penn Graduate Reading Group, University of Pennsylvania, 2011-2012.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Fluency: Russian, Ukrainian

Reading Knowledge: Middle English, classical and medieval Latin, Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman, Old French, modern French, modern Spanish

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Medieval Academy of America

Modern Language Association

International Arthurian Society

International Center for Medieval Art

Early Book Society

New Chaucer Society

Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing

International *Piers Plowman* Society

International Courtly Literature Society

Phi Beta Kappa

REFERENCES

David J. Wallace, FMAA

Judith Rodin Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania

215-746-3767

<dwallace@english.upenn.edu>

Rita Copeland, FMAA

Sheli Z. and Burton X. Rosenberg Professor of the Humanities, Professor of Classical Studies, English, and Comparative Literature, University of Pennsylvania

215-898-7425

<rcopelan@sas.upenn.edu>

Emily Steiner
Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania
215-898-7033
<steinere@sas.upenn.edu>

Kevin Brownlee
Professor of Romance Languages, University of Pennsylvania
215-898-5104
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