

CURRICULUM VITAE

Katherine L. French

POSITIONS

J. Frederick Hoffman Professor of History, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: 2011-present.
Mellon Foundation Visiting Scholar, American University of Cairo, February-March 2020.
Visiting Scholar, ERC Working Group “Beyond the Elite: Jewish Daily Life in Medieval Europe”
& the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, May 2017.
Visiting Professor, NEH-Institute: “Teaching the Reformation after Five Hundred Years,” Calvin
College, Grand Rapids, MI, July 2016.
Elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society 2009.
Professor of History, SUNY-New Paltz: 2008 – 2011.
Associate Professor of History, SUNY-New Paltz: 2000 – 2008.
Chair of the Department of History, SUNY-New Paltz, 2000-2002.
Acting Chair of the Department of History, SUNY-New Paltz, Fall 1999.
Assistant Professor of History, SUNY-New Paltz: 1993 – 2000.

EDUCATION

Ph.D.: Department of History at the University of Minnesota, 1993.
M.A.: Department of History at the University of Minnesota, 1989.
B.A.: Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, 1984.
Major: History

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Medieval Europe
Social and Cultural History

Women’s History
Religious History

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs:

Household Goods and Good Households in Late Medieval London (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, under contract).
The Good Women of the Parish: Gender and Religion after the Black Death (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008).
People of the Parish: Community Life in a Late Medieval English Diocese (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001).

Text Book:

with Allyson Poska, *Women and Gender in the Western Past* 2 vols. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2007).

Edited Works:

Cultural History of the Home: Medieval Europe (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, forthcoming).
“A Thing of the Past: Material Evidence and the Study of Medieval England’s Past,” special issue
of *Fragments: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of the Ancient and Medieval Pasts*, with Robin
Fleming and Katherine L. French, 6 (2016); 6 (2017) 7(2018)
<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/f/frag>.
The Ties that Bind: Essays in Medieval British History in Honor of Barbara A. Hanawalt, with Linda E.
Mitchell and Douglas L. Biggs (Burlington, VT: Ashgate Press, 2011).

Parish in English Life, 1400-1600, with Gary G. Gibbs and Beat A. Kümin (Manchester, England: Manchester University Press, 1997).

Scholarly Articles:

with Gary G. Gibbs, "The Poor, the Pious, and the Privileged: Toward a Social and Cultural Topography of Parish Participation in Late Medieval London" in *The Urban Church in Late Medieval England: Essays in Honour of Clive Burgess*, eds. Christian Steer and David Harry, Harlaxton Medieval Studies, vol. 25, (Donington, Lincs.: Shaun Tyas/Paul Watkins Publishing, 2019), 380-96.

"Wives in Sanctuary: Married Couples and Asylum for Debt in Westminster," *Medieval Prosopography*, special issue in honor of Joel T. Rosenthal, 33 (2018): 223-37.

with Kathryn Smith and Sara Stanbury, "The Honest Bed: The Scene of Life and Death in Medieval England," in "A Thing of the Past: Material Evidence and the Study of Medieval England's Past," special issue of *Fragments: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of the Ancient and Medieval Pasts*, 5 (2016) 61-95. <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.9772151.0005.003>

"Material Culture of Childbirth in Late Medieval London and its Suburbs," *Journal of Women's History* 28: 2(2016): 126-48.

"Nouveaux Arts de la table et convivialités sexuées (Angleterre, fin de l'époque médiévale)," *Clio*, 40:1(2014), 45-67. Also, to be published as "Gender and Changing Foodways in England's Late-Medieval Bourgeois Households."

"Painted Clothes in Late Medieval London Houses," in *Setting the Scene, European Painted Cloths from the Fourteenth to the Twenty-First*, eds. Christina Young and Nicola Costaras (London: Archtype Press, 2013), 27-33.

"Well-Behaved Women Can Make History: Women's Friendships in Late Medieval Westminster," In *Writing Women's Lives*, eds. Amy Livingstone and Charlotte Newman Goldy (Basingstoke: Palgrave/MacMillan, 2012), 247-65.

"Rebuilding St. Margaret's: Parish Involvement and Community Action in Late Medieval Westminster," *Journal of Social History*, 45:1 (2011): 148-171.

"Margery Kempe and the Parish," in *The Ties that Bind: Essays in Medieval British History in Honor of Barbara A. Hanawalt*, eds. Linda E. Mitchell, Katherine L. French, and Douglas L. Biggs (Burlington, VT: Ashgate Press, 2011), 159-74.

"Loving Friends: Surviving Widowhood in Late Medieval Westminster," *Gender and History* 22: 1 (2010): 21-37.

"Women Churchwardens in Late Medieval England," in *The Parish in Late Medieval England* eds. Clive Burgess and Eamon Duffy, Harlaxton Medieval Studies, vol. 14 (Donington, Lincs.: Shaun Tyas/Paul Watkins Publishing, 2006), 302-21.

"Social History, Women's History, and the British Archive System," *Medieval Feminist Forum* 40 (2005): 34-41.

"The Seat Under Our Lady: Gender and Seating in the Late Medieval English Parish Church," in *Women's Space: Parish, Place and Gender in the Middle Ages* eds. Sarah Stanbury and Virginia Raguin (Albany: SUNY Press, 2005), 141-160.

"Women in the Late Medieval English Parish," in *Gendering the Master Narrative: Medieval Women and Power*, eds. Mary C. Erler and Maryanne Kowaleski (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2003), 156-73.

Excerpted in *Contesting Christendom*, ed. James L. Halverson (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2008), 219-25.

- “I Leave My Best Gown as a Vestment: Women’s Spiritual Interests in the Late Medieval English Parish,” *Magistra*, 4:1 (1998): 57-77.
- “Maidens’ Lights and Wives’ Stores: Women’s Parish Guilds in Late Medieval England,” *Sixteenth Century Journal*, 29:2 (1998): 399-425.
(Selected as Article of the Month for *The Medieval Feminist Index*, April 1999.)
- “Competing for Space: The Monastic-Parochial Church in Dunster,” *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, 27:2 (1997): 215-244.
- “Parochial Fund-Raising in Late Medieval Somerset,” in *The Parish in English Life, 1400-1600*, eds. Katherine L. French, Gary G. Gibbs, and Beat A. Kümin. (Manchester, England: Manchester University Press, 1997), 115-132.
- “To Free Them From Binding: Women in the Late Medieval English Parish,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 27:3 (1997): 387-412.
Reprinted in *Women in the Medieval World*, vol. 1, ed. Cordelia Beattie (London: Routledge, 2017), 424-44.
- “The Legend of Lady Godiva and the Image of the Female Body,” *The Journal of Medieval History*, 18:1 (1992): 3-19.

Survey Articles (last 10 years):

- with Robin Fleming, “Object Hood, 800-1500,” in *Cultural History of Material Culture: Medieval Europe*, ed. Sarah Semple (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, forthcoming).
- “Household Furnishings, 800-1500,” in *Cultural History of the Home: Medieval Europe* ed. Katherine L. French (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, forthcoming).
- with Elisheva Baumgarten, “Religion in the Medieval Home,” in *Cultural History of the Home: Medieval Europe* ed. Katherine L. French (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, forthcoming).
- “Localized Faith: Parochial and Domestic Spaces” in *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Christianity*, ed. John Arnold (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014) 166-82.
- “Genders and Material Cultures,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Women and Gender in Medieval Europe*, eds. Judith Bennett and Ruth Mazo Karras (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), 197-212.
- “Religion and Popular Beliefs: Choices, Constraints, and Creativity for Christian Women,” in *A Cultural History of Women* ed. Kim Phillips (Oxford: Berg Publishers, 2013,) 59-83; 232-237.
- “Medieval Sources for Women’s History,” *Understanding Medieval Primary Sources: Using Historical Sources to Discover Medieval Europe*, ed. Joel Rosenthal (London: Routledge, 2011), 196-209.

DISSERTATIONS

- Emily Price, “Famous With Her Footsteps”: Place, Proof, and the Holy House in England, Scotland, and Italy, 1450-1620” Dept. of History, University of Michigan, 2020 (supervisor).
- Paula R. Curtis, “Inauthentic Truths: Forgery, Authority, and Economy in Medieval Japan,” Dept. of History, University of Michigan, 2019 (committee member).
- Melissa Ann Johnson, “‘Talk of the Town’: Gossip and Watchfulness in Seventeenth-Century Massachusetts,” Dept. of History, University of Michigan, 2018 (committee member).
- Laura Wood, “Vowesses in the Province of Canterbury, c. 1450-1540,” Dept. of History, Royal Holloway College, University of London, 2017 (outside reader).
- Carole Carson, “Iconography and Inspiration: The Parish Churches of East Anglia, c. 1300-1540,” Dept. of History, University of Western Australia, 2016 (outside reader).
- Elizabeth Papp Kamali, “A Felonious State of Mind: *Mens Rea* in 13th- and 14th-Century England,” Dept. of History, University of Michigan, 2015 (committee member).

- Ayana Sheree Brown, “‘That peace shall always dwell among them and true love be upheld’: Charity, Neighborliness, and the Seven Works of Mercy in Late Medieval and Early Reformation England,” Dept. of History, University of Michigan, 2014 (supervisor).
- Woodward Bain, “From Community Conflict to Collective Memory: Lived Religion and the Late Medieval Parish Church,” Dept. of Religious Studies, Northwestern University, 2014 (outside reader).
- Joseph Groves, “Ethics and Imperialism in Livy,” Classics, University of Michigan, 2012 (committee member).
- Evan May, “For the good order to be had thereby:” Civic Archives and the Creation of Conformity in Late Medieval London, c. 1475-1525.” Dept. of History, Concordia University, 2010 (outside reader).
- Sharon Wright, “‘And they Say She Drew Blood:’ Women, Aggression, and the Vice of Wrath on the Wakefield Manor, 1323-1410,” Dept. of History, University of Toronto, 2006 (outside reader).

PRESENTATIONS (last 5 years)

Academic Conferences:

- Praying Upon Beads: Women and Paternosters in Late Medieval London,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, St. Louis, MO, October, 2019.
- “Domestic Devotion in Late Medieval London,” 25th International Medieval Congress, Leeds, England, July, 2019.
- “The Cock on the Hoop: A Lodging House In Late Medieval London,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Albuquerque, NM, November, 2018.
- Roundtable on Peter Marshall’s *Heretics and Believers*, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Albuquerque, NM, November, 2018.
- “Emotional and Financial Value of Stuff in Late Medieval London,” North American Conference on British Studies, Providence, RI, October, 2018.
- “Gender and Household Goods in Late Medieval and Early Modern London,” Movable Goods and Immovable Property: Gender, Law and Material Culture in Early Modern Europe (1450–1850), 9th Conference of the European network “Gender Differences in the History of European Legal Cultures,” London, July 2018.
- “Do Things Do More Than Help People Keep Up with the Jones: Emulation or Adaptation in Late Medieval London Households,” Medieval Academy of America, Atlanta, GA, March, 2018.
- “Furnishing the Merchant/Artisan Household in Late Medieval London,” North American Conference on British Studies, Washington, D.C., October, 2016.
- “Seeing Change in Material Culture without the Material Culture,” Midwestern Conference on British Studies, Ames, Iowa, September, 2016.
- “Single-Room Households in Late Medieval London,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Bruges, Belgium, August, 2016.
- “A Room of her Own: Material Culture and Widows’ Households in Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth-Century London,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Vancouver, CA, October, 2015.
- “Thinking about Women’s Networks in Late Medieval Westminster,” (Re)Building Networks A Medieval and Early Modern Studies Conference, University of Maryland, College Park, October 2015.
- “Material Culture of Domestic Piety in Late Medieval London,” Domestic Devotions in the Early Modern World, St. Catharine’s College, Cambridge University, July 2015.

Invited Talks: (last five years)

- “Graduation in the Time of Covid: Lessons from the Black Death,” 2020 History Department Commencement Speech, University of Michigan, May 2020.
- “Living Like a Merchant in Richard III’s London, McGee Lecture, Richard III Society, American Branch, Detroit, MI, October, 2018.
- “Chests as Ideological Objects,” Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies, University of Michigan, October 2018.
- “The Problems of Storage in Late Medieval London Houses: Chests, Cupboards, and Moral Order,” Hartje Lecture, Wittenberg College, Wittenberg, OH, April, 2018. “Emulation or Adaptation in Late Medieval London Houses: Interior Decorating after the Plague,” Department of History, Wayne State, Detroit, MI, March 2018.
- “The Black Death,” Haya Bacharouch’s Fifth-Grade Class, Central Academy, Ann Arbor November 2017.
- Plenary Talk: “Interior Decorating After the Black Death: Recovery and Identity in Medieval London,” Texas Medieval Association, Waco, TX Sept. 2017.
- “The Poor and the Parish: Problems of Participation in Late Medieval London,” Harlaxton Symposium, Harlaxton Hall, Lincolnshire, England July, 2017.
- “Keeping the Moral Household: Material Culture and Housekeeping after the Plague, Israel Institute of Advanced Studies, Hebrew University, May 2017.
- “Interior Decorating After the Black Death: Recovery and Identity in Medieval London,” History Department, Hebrew University, May, 2017.
- “Household Goods and Good Households in Late Medieval London,” Humanities Institute, University of Michigan, January, 2017.
- “The Black Death,” Calisa Tucker’s Sixth-Grade Class, Rudolf Steiner Waldorf School, Ann Arbor, May, 2016.
- “Material Culture of Childbirth in Late Medieval London,” History Department, Grand Valley State, April 2016.
- “The Black Death,” Haya Bacharouch’s Fifth-Grade Class, Central Academy, Ann Arbor October 2015.
- “Medieval Women’s Friendship,” Cedars of Dexter, Retirement Community, Dexter, MI. March 2015.
- with Sarah Stanbury (College of the Holy Cross) and Kathryn Smith (New York University), “An Honest Bed: The Scene of Life and Death in Late Medieval England” A Thing of the Past: An Interdisciplinary Workshop on material evidence and the Rewriting of the English Middle Ages, University of Michigan, June, 2015.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Outside Awards:

- Radcliffe Institute Exploratory Seminar Grant for “A Thing of the Past: Material Evidence and the Writing of Medieval England’s Past” with Robin Fleming, 2012.
- SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research-2008.
- SUNY Chancellor’s Research Recognition Award, 2002.
- NEH-Full-Year Fellowship for College Professors, 2002-2003. Visitorship-School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J., 2002-2003.
- Research Associate and Visiting Lecturer in Women’s Studies in the History of Christianity – Women’s Studies in Religion, Harvard Divinity School, 1997-8.
- Bernadotte E. Schmitt Grant, American Historical Association, 1996-7.

NEH-Seminar Fellowship, Folger Shakespeare Library, November, 1995.
Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Foundation,
1991-2.
Eileen Power Fellowship, London School of Economics, 1991.
Foreign Language Area Fellowship for Italian (FLAS), US Department of Education, 1989-90.

University Awards: (last five years)

Faculty Fellowship, Eisenburg Institute for Historical Studies, University of Michigan, 2016-17.
Sidney Fine Sidney Teaching Partnership Program, with Tiggy McLaughlin, History Department
University of Michigan, Summer 2016.

SERVICE (last five years)

University:

Fellowship Committee, Department of History, 2019-20.
Augmented Executive Committee, Department of History, 2019.
Pre-Doc Fellowship Committee, Rackham Graduate School, 2017-20.
Chair of the Dean's Taskforce on the Bookstore, LSA, 2017-18.
Medieval and Early Modern Studies-Steering Committee, University of Michigan, 2016-2018.
Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies-Steering Committee, University of Michigan, 2016-18.
European Caucus Leader, History Department, University of Michigan, 2016-18.
Search Committee, Department of History, University of Michigan, 2016-17.
(Historian of Ancient Roman and the Mediterranean).
Graduate Fellowship Committee, Institute for the Humanities, 2016-17.
Executive Committee, Department of History, University of Michigan, 2014-2016.
Search Committee, Department of History, University of Michigan, 2014-15.
(Manoogian Chair in Armenian History)

Editorial:

Advisory Board for Medieval Londoners Database Project
<https://medievallondoners.ace.fordham.edu/>
Late Medieval Editor for *History Compass* Wiley Online, 2013-2020
Advisory Board for *Journal of British Studies*, September 2014-18.
Review Editor for *The Medieval Review*, September 2014-2016.

Conferences Organized:

with Robin Fleming (Boston College), "A Thing of the Past: an Interdisciplinary Workshop on
material evidence and the Rewriting of the English Middle Ages, University of Michigan,
June, 2015.
with Laura Sævetveit Miles, Michigan Medieval Seminar, University of Michigan, September, 2012.
Annual Mid-Hudson Medieval Circle Conference October, 1995 at SUNY-New Paltz.

Professional:

Grant Application Reader, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, NJ, 2010-2019.
Program Committee, American Historical Association for the 2017 Meeting in Denver, CO.
Department Evaluator for Brigham Young University (Utah), February 2016.
Joan Kelly Book Prize Committee for Best Book in Women's History, American Historical
Association, 2010-2012 (Chair 2012).