

CURRICULUM VITAE

Katherine L. French

OFFICE:

Dept. of History
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.: Department of History at the University of Minnesota, 1993.

Advisor: Dr. Barbara A. Hanawalt

Dissertation: "Local Identity and the Late-Medieval Parish: the Communities of Bath and Wells"

M.A.: Department of History at the University of Minnesota, 1989.

B.A.: Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, 1984.

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Medieval Europe

Medieval Religious History

Medieval and Early Modern England

Social and Cultural History

Women's History

EMPLOYMENT

J. Frederick Hoffman Professor of Medieval English History, University of Michigan: 2011-present.

Professor of History, SUNY-New Paltz: 2008 – 2011.

Associate Professor of History, SUNY-New Paltz: 2000 – 2008.

Assistant Professor of History, SUNY-New Paltz: 1993 – 2000.

Research Associate and Visiting Lecturer in Women's Studies in the History of Christianity -

Women's Studies in Religion, Harvard Divinity School: 1997-8.

Instructor, Department of History, University of Minnesota: 1992-1993.

Teaching and Research Assistant, Department of History and Center for Medieval Studies,
University of Minnesota: 1986-1993.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs:

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:

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).

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

Scholarly Articles:

"Painted Clothes in Late Medieval London Houses," in *European Painted Clothes, 14th-21st Centuries: Pageantry, Ceremony, Theatre and the Domestic Interior*, eds. Christina Young and Nicola Costaras (London: Archtype Press, 2012), 27-33; forthcoming.

- “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), pp. 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 James L. Halverson (ed.) *Contesting Christendom* (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.
- “The Legend of Lady Godiva and the Image of the Female Body,” *The Journal of Medieval History*, 18:1 (1992): 3-19.

Survey Articles:

- “Localized Faith: Parochial and Domestic Spaces” in *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Christianity*, ed. John Arnold (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming).
- “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.

“Parish Life,” in *A People’s History of Medieval Christianity*, ed. Daniel Bornstein (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008), 329-52.

Miscellaneous:

- “Golden Ages and the ‘Distant Past’ in Women’s History,” forum discussing Judith Bennett’s *History Matters: Patriarchy and the Challenge of Feminism* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006), in *Lilith: a Feminist Journal* 17 & 18 (2011): 90-93.
- “Women in the Parish,” in *The English Parish Church Through the Centuries*, Interactive CD-Rom, ed. Dee Dyas (York: York University, Christianity and Culture, 2010).
- “Parishes,” in *Women and Gender in Medieval Europe*, ed. Margaret Schaus (London: Routledge, 2006), 630-1.
- “Lady Godiva,” and “Hocktide” in *Women in the Middle Ages: An Encyclopedia*, eds. Katharine M. Wilson and Nadia Margolis (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2004), 368-72; 435-6.
- “Black Death,” “Chantries,” “The Parish,” “Popular Religion,” and “The Robin Hood Legends” in *The Historical Dictionary of Late Medieval England*, eds. Ronald H. Fritze and William B. Robison (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2002), 58-61; 99-100; 401-3; 460-2, 478-9.
- “Parenting With ‘Mother Church’: Child-rearing in the Middle Ages,” *Christian History*, 15:1(February, 1996): 22-3.

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, 2013.
- State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research-2008.
- Visiting Fellow, Classics Department, Yale University, 2006-2008.
- State University of New York Chancellor’s Research Recognition Award, 2002.
- National Endowment for the Humanities 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.
- National Endowment for the Humanities 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), United States Department of Education, 1989-90.

University Awards: (last 5 years)

- Helmut Stern Fellow at the Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan, 2012-13.
- Research and Creative Projects Award, SUNY-New Paltz, 2011-12 (declined).
- Term Faculty Development Award, New York State United University Professors Joint Labor Management Committees, 2011 (declined).
- Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Award, SUNY New Paltz, 2009.
- Research and Creative Projects Award, SUNY-New Paltz, 2008-9.

PRESENTATIONS (last 5 years):

- “To have in money or plate or household stuff: The Value of Household Goods in Late Medieval London,” Renaissance Society of America, New York, NY, March 2014 (forthcoming).
- “Priests at Home: the Material Culture of Clerical Households in Pre-Reformation London,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Puerto Rico, October 2013 (forthcoming).
- “Late Medieval Housekeeping: Ideal and Practice,” Medieval Academy of America, Knoxville, TN, May 2013.
- “The Material Culture of Childbirth and Childhood in Late Medieval London,” American Historical Association, New Orleans, LA, January 2013.
- “Women and the Urban Parish: Westminster and London,” European Association for Urban History, 11th International. Conference on Urban History, Prague, Czech Republic, August, 2012.
- “Painted Clothes in Late Medieval London Houses, “European Painted Cloths, 14th-21st Centuries: Pageantry, Ceremony, Theatre, and the Domestic Interior, Courtauld Institute of Art, London, June 2012.
- “My Maser that I had of my Good Mother”: Material Culture and Family Dynamics In Late Medieval London,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Fort Worth, TX, October, 2011 (session organizer).
- “Household Goods and Household Violence in Late Medieval London: the Murder of Isabel Watson,” Berkshire Conference on Women’s History, Amherst, MA, June 2011.
- “Dangerous Women in Henry Watson’s Translation of the *Gospelles of Distaffs*,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Montreal, Canada, October, 2010.
- “Mary and Elizabeth: Women’s Networks in Late Medieval Westminster,” North East Conference on British Studies, Burlington, VT, September, 2010.
- “Well-Behaved Women Do Make History,” Round-table on Telling Medieval Women’s Lives, American Historical Association, San Diego, CA January, 2010.
- “All-Women Dinner Parties and Other Post-Plague Worries,” North American Conference on British Studies, Louisville, KY November, 2009.
- “Translating Misogyny: Henry Watson’s *Gospelles of Dystaves*” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Geneva, Switzerland May, 2009.
- “Margery Kempe and the Parish,” American Catholic Historical Association, New York, January 2009 .
- “Women, Sexuality, and Social Control after the Plague in England,” Berkshire Conference on Women’s History, Minneapolis, MN June, 2008.

Invited Talks (last 5 years)

- “Material Culture of Childbirth and Childhood in Late Medieval London and its Suburbs,” Kalamazoo College, February 2013.
- “The Murder of Isabel Watson” with Shannon McSheffrey, Michigan Medieval Symposium, University of Michigan, September 2012.
- “Neighborhoodliness in Late Medieval Westminster,” The Experience of Neighbourliness in Europe, 1000-1600,” Bath Spa University, May 2012.
- “Material Culture, Memory, and Family Dynamics in Late Medieval London.” Center for Medieval Studies, University of Minnesota, November, 2011.
- “Rebuilding St. Margaret’s: Parochial Participation in Late-Medieval Westminster,” Medieval Studies Seminar, Northwestern University, November, 2009.
- “Women and Medieval Christianity,” Women’s History Month Talk, Moravian College, March, 2009.

“Some Brought Flesh, Some Brought Fish: Pot-Luck Dinners and Late-Medieval Household Order,” Laughter and Smiles in the Middle Ages: A Conference in Honor of Barbara Hanawalt,” Ohio State University, October, 2008.

“Surviving Widowhood in Late Medieval Westminster,” Honor’s Center Colloquium, SUNY-New Paltz Honors Center, April 2008.

“Safeguarding Widows in Late Medieval Westminster,” Medieval Studies Center, Yale University, February, 2008.

“Why Women’s History?” Holton-Arms School, Bethesda, MD January, 2008.

SERVICE

Editorial:

Medieval Continental Editor for *History Compass* Wiley Online, 2013-present.

Professional Service: (last 5 years)

Joan Kelly Book Prize Committee for Best Book in Women’s History, American Historical Association, 2010-2012 (Chair 2012).

Walter D. Love Prize Committee for Best Article in British Studies, North American Conference in British Studies 2006-2008 (Chair 2008).

Department Evaluator for Frostburg State University (MD), April 2008.

University Service: (last 5 years)

Dept. Personnel Committee for Third-Year Review of Hussein Fancy, University of Michigan, 2013.

Chair, Dept. Personnel Committee for Promotion of Paolo Squatriti, University of Michigan, 2012

Dept. Personnel Committee for Promotion of Helmut Puff, University of Michigan, 2011.

Middle States Accreditation Standard 8 Committee, SUNY New Paltz, 2009-10.

Search Committee, Department of History, SUNY New Paltz, 2009-10

(Historian of the Middle East)

Committee on Tenure, Reappointment, and Promotion, SUNY-New Paltz, 2007-10 (Chair-2008-10).

Search Committee, Department of History, SUNY-New Paltz, 2007-8.

(Historian of Post-War Europe)

Chair, Medieval and Early Modern Studies Program, 2008-2011.

Women Studies Curriculum Committee, Women’s Studies Program, 2006-7.

Academic Appeals Committee, SUNY-New Paltz, 2005-8.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Fellow of the Royal Historical Society

American Historical Association

Medieval Academy of America

Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship

Sixteenth-Century Society and Conference

North American Conference on British Studies