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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2024–present Ashoka University, Associate Professor, Department of English
2018–2024 Ashoka University, Assistant Professor, Department of English

EDUCATION

2018 PhD in English, University of California, Los Angeles
with a Graduate Certificate in Writing Pedagogy
Dissertation: “‘A New Kingdom of Femininity’: Women’s Utopias in Early English Culture and Imagination (1405–1666)”
Committee: Christine Chism (co-chair), Lowell Gallagher (co-chair), Sarah Kareem, Eleanor Kaufman, Charlene Villaseñor Black

2010 M.A. in English, Columbia University
Thesis: “Gender and Genre in *La Estoire de Seint Aedward le Rei*”
Supervisor: Christopher Baswell

2006 B.A. in History of Art, Courtauld Institute of Art
Thesis: “Reading the Sacred and the Profane at St. Pierre de Caen”
Supervisor: John Lowden

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

2022 *Englishwomen’s Spiritual Utopias, 1400–1700: New Kingdoms of Womanhood*.
Palgrave Macmillan for the New Middle Ages Series

Edited Volumes

2023 *Medieval Gender and Mysticism, from India to Europe*.
Routledge for Contemporary Theological Explorations in Mysticism Series

Peer-Reviewed Articles & Book Chapters

Forthcoming “At Home, in Love: Janabai and Marguerite Porete,” in *Comparative Mysticism*, ed. Louise Nelstrop (Routledge).

2023 With Yashaswini Chanda, “Sister Acts: Nuns in Rumer Godden’s Black Narcissus and at the Loreto Convents in India,” *Gender & History*.

2023 “Women’s Mystical Friendships: Margery Kempe and Mirabai,” in *Women’s Literary Cultures in the Global Middle Ages: Speaking Internationally*, eds. Liz Herbert McAvoy and Sue Niebrzydowski (Boydell and Brewer).

2022 “Sisters and Friends: The Nuns of Medieval Syon Abbey,” in *Women’s Friendship in Medieval Literature*, eds. Karma Lochrie and Usha Vishnuvajjala (Ohio State University Press). [Invited essay]

- 2022 “‘Apt for friendship’: the Epistolary Friendships of Mary Ward,” in *Female Friendship: Literary and Artistic Explorations*, ed. Slav Gratchev, Ida Day, and Larry Sheret (Lexington Books).
- 2020 “Women’s Friendship and Utopia in Wroth’s *Urania* and Cavendish’s *Blazing World*,” *SEL Studies in English Literature 1500–1900* 60.3 (2020): 441–461.
- 2017 “Performing Community and Place in the St Albans Psalter,” *English Studies* 98.1 (2017): 63–72.
- 2016 “Models of Medieval Female Friendship in Christine de Pizan’s *The Book of the City of Ladies* and *The Book of Margery Kempe*,” *Feminist Studies* 42.2 (2016): 365–391. [Recipient of *Feminist Studies* Graduate Student Award]
- 2015 “Visions of Medieval Queenship: Gender and Genre in *La Estoire de Seint Aedward le Rei*,” *Medieval Feminist Forum* 50.2 (2015): 5–32.
- 2011 “Reading Between the Lines: Female Friendship in Osbern Bokenham’s *Life of St Katherine of Alexandria*,” *Magistra: Women’s Spirituality in History* 17.2 (2011): 53–70.

Book Reviews

- 2024 Steven Rozenski, Joshua Byron Smith, and Claire M. Waters, eds. *Mystics, Goddesses, Lovers and Teachers. Studies in Honour of Barbara Newman* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2023) (solicited) in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*.
- 2024 Review of Otaño Gracia, Nahir I. and Daniel Armenti, eds. *Women’s Lives: Self-Representation, Reception and Appropriation in the Middle Ages* (University of Wales Press, 2022) (solicited) in *The Journal of Religion*.
- 2022 Review of Jennifer Edwards, *Superior Women: Medieval Female Authority in Poitiers’ Abbey of Sainte-Croix* (Oxford University Press, 2019) in *Medieval Feminist Forum*, 57.2 (Winter 2022): 205–207.
- 2020 Review of Judy Kem, *Pathologies of Love: Medicine and the Woman Question in Early Modern France* (Lincoln: Nebraska University Press, 2019) (solicited) in *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 15.1 (Fall 2020): 194–195.
- 2017 Review of Karma Lochrie, *Nowhere in the Middle Ages* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016) in *Comitatus* 48 (2017): 227–229.
- 2015 Review of *Friendship and Sociability in Premodern Europe: Contexts, Concepts, and Expressions*, ed. Amyrose McCue Gill and Sarah Rolfe Prodan (Toronto: CRRS, 2014) in *Comitatus* 46 (2015): 236–238.
- 2014 Review of Barbara Newman, *Medieval Crossover: Reading the Secular Against the Sacred* (Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame, 2013) in *Comitatus* 45 (2014): 295–297.
- 2012 Review of Linda Marie Zaerr, *Performance and the Middle English Romance* (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 2012) in *Comitatus* 44 (2013): 364–366.

Public Writing & Speaking

- 2022 “Piety as Autonomy” essay in *The New Historia* (<https://thenewhistoria.org>).
- 2021 “Speaking, Weeping and Sewing,” Catalogue Essay for Denny Diman Gallery “Fringe” Exhibit, June 2021.
- 2021 “Mirabai” Interview on My Favorite Mystic Podcast
- 2021 “The Viability of Utopia Today,” *OpenAxis* (March 26, 2021).

- 2019 With Boyda Johnstone, "The Second Shepherd's Play: Teaching Medieval Drama with Film," *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching* 26.1 (Spring 2019).
- 2017 Contributor to Beth Goodhue, "A Values-Engaged Approach to Cultivating Civic Professionalism in Graduate Education," *Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning* 24.1 (Fall 2017): 72–92.
- 2017 "Jill Filopovic's *The H-Spot* and Feminist Pursuits of Happiness," *Los Angeles Review of Books*, August 10, 2017.
- 2017 "Mary Ward and the Society of Jesus," *Early Modern Women: Lives, Texts, Objects*, April 24, 2017.
- 2016 "What Medieval Women Can Tell Us about the 2016 Election," *The Hairpin*, June 9, 2016.
- 2016 "Spiritual Utopias: Researching Early Women's Convents," *UCLA Center for the Study of Women Update News Letter*, March 22, 2016.
- 2015 "Working Through Early Modern Cultural Encounters: Early Modern Research Group," *The Center & Clark Newsletter* (UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies), Fall 2015.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

- 2021–Present *The New Historia*, Contributor
(<https://www.thenewhistoria.com>) This project, led by Dr. Gina Walker, is a digital archive of feminist history.
- 2017–Present *Early Women Writers*, Lead Project Developer
(<http://earlywomenwriters.com>) This project is a database of women writers from around the world between 500 and 1600 C.E. It has been funded by the University of California's Middle Ages in the Wider World and by Ashoka University's Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality.

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023 Paul Oskar Kristeller Fellowship, Renaissance Society of America
- 2022 Renaissance Society of America Conference Travel Grant
- 2021 Mother Theodore Guerin Research Travel Grant, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, University of Notre Dame
- 2019 Governing Intimacies Project, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Grant
- 2018 Society for the Study of Early Modern Women Graduate Student Travel Grant
- 2017 UC Research Initiative The Middle Ages in the Wider World Research Grant
- 2017 *Feminist Studies* Graduate Student Best Essay Award
- 2017 Editor-in-Residence Program, UCLA Division of Humanities
- 2016–2017 English Department Dissertation Research Fellowship, UCLA
- 2015 English Department Research Travel Grant, UCLA
- 2015 Center for the Study of Women Travel Grant, UCLA
- 2015–2016 Dickson Fellowship in History of Art, UCLA
- 2015 LAMAR Summer Fellowship, UCLA

2015, 2016	Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Travel Grant, UCLA
2013, 2014	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program Award, UCLA
2013	English Department Conference Travel Grant, UCLA

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conferences Organized

2020	Gender in Global Medieval Mysticism Conference, March 20–21 (in-person event canceled due to Covid-19; reorganized as a series of panels during Spring 2021)
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Panels Organized

2022	“Media, Materiality, and Early Modern Catholic Women,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Dublin March 30–April 2
2021	“Women Religious and the Project of Empire,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, (online) April 13–22
2017	“Other Spaces: Gender and Architecture in the Imagination,” sponsored by the Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship at Leeds International Medieval Congress, July 3–6
2014	“Early Modern and Medieval Materialities,” Friends of English Southland Conference, University of California, Los Angeles, May 30

Invited and Departmental Talks

2024	“From the Convent to the Page,” Ashoka University English Colloquium, March 27
2020	“Utopia in the Archives of Medieval and Early Modern Syon Abbey,” History Department Lecture series, Ashoka University, November 4
2020	“Disease and Faith in the Middle Ages,” Art Humanities Lecture, Columbia University, October 21
2020	“Medieval Travel Writing and Pilgrimage: Margery Kempe, John Mandeville and Matthew Paris,” Aryabhata College, Delhi University, February 7
2019	“Sisterhoods of Resistance: Homo-eroticism in Female Solidarity Groups,” Solidarities: Challenging Hegemonies, Ramjas College English Department, Delhi University, February 25–27
2019	Research Symposium with Lehigh University faculty, Ashoka University, February 5
2018	Workshop on Old English Riddles, Ashoka University Literary Society, November 3
2016	“Mirrors of Devotion: Women’s Spiritual Community and Utopia at Syon Abbey,” UCLA Grad Salon, December 5
2016	“My Cloister shall not be a Cloister of restraint but a place of freedom: Restraint and Utopia in Syon Abbey’s Female Alliances,” Southern California Book History Consortium, UCLA, May 13
2014	“Praying like a Woman in Two Anonymous Thirteenth-Century Prayers,” UCLA Medieval Reading Group, April 22

Papers and Presentations

2022	“Global Medieval Women’s Literary Networks,” New Chaucer Society Conference, Durham University, July 19–22
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- 2022 “Materiality and Spirituality in Mary Ward’s Painted Life,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Dublin March 30–April 2
- 2021 “spectakells to god, angells and men’: Mary Ward’s Legacy in India’s Loreto Schools,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, (online) April 13–22
- 2019 “Mystical Friendship: Margery Kempe and Mirabai,” Speaking Internationally: Women’s Literary Culture and the Canon in the Global Middle Ages, Bangor University, June 26–28
- 2019 “Women’s Friendship in ‘The Blazing World,’” The International Margaret Cavendish Society Conference, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, June 6–9
- 2018 “Women’s Complaint and Utopia,” The Shakespeare Association of America, 46th Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, March 28–31
- 2018 “Imagining Female Community and the English Nation in the Career of Mary Ward,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, March 22–24
- 2017 “Nuns as ‘Acting Authors’ in Liturgical Drama,” Women’s Literary Culture & the Medieval Canon International Conference, University of Bergen, June 22–24
- 2017 “Service Learning, Social Justice and the Wife of Bath,” 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, May 10–14
- 2017 “Feeling Utopia: Women’s Selfhood, Authorship, and Spatial Imaginary in Lady Mary Wroth’s *Urania*,” Women’s Writing and Subjectivity in Early Modern England, Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, March 30–April 1
- 2017 “Keywords: a Roundtable,” Entertaining the Idea: Shakespeare, Philosophy, Performance, UCLA Center for 17th & 18th Century Studies Core Program, April
- 2016 “Spiritual Utopia and Female Community at Post-Reformation Syon Abbey,” On the Eve of the Reformation, Toronto Renaissance and Reformation Colloquium, October 21–22
- 2016 “Mirrors of Devotion: Collective Female Agency at Syon Abbey,” Gender, Politics and Agency Conference, Centre for Gender Studies, University of Winchester, August 30–31
- 2015 “Between Women: Uneasy Alliances at Syon Abbey,” 50TH International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, sponsored by the Syon Abbey Society and the Hagiography Society, May 14–17
- 2014 “I schal send the frendys anow:’ Female Friendship in *The Booke of Margery Kempe*,” MARGOT Conference: Women and Community in the Ancien Régime, Barnard College, New York, June 19
- 2013 “Performing Community and Place in the St Albans Psalter,” Psalm Culture and the Politics of Translation, Charterhouse Square London, July 15–17
- 2013 “Praying like a Woman: Anonymous Female Voices in Two Thirteenth-Century Prayers,” 48TH International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, sponsored by the Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship, May 9–12
- 2012 “Miracles of Disability in the Anglo-Norman Lives of Three British Foundresses,” 47TH International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, sponsored by the Society for the Study of Disability in the Middle Ages, May 10–13, 2012

- 2012 “Written and Spoken Authority in the Paston Women’s Letters,” 43rd Annual Convention, Northeast Modern Language Association, March 15–18
- 2010 “Embodying Sir Orfeo,” Southeastern Medieval Association 36th Annual Conference, Virginia Tech, November 18–20

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Ashoka University Department of English

Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

- “A Second Self: A Literary History of Friendship” (Spring 2024)
- “Dazzling Darkness: Medieval Mysticisms” (Spring 2023)
- “Global Medieval Travel Writing” (Spring 2022)
- “Graduate Proseminar” (Monsoon 2021–Spring 22; Monsoon 2022–Spring 23)
- “A Literary History of Utopia” (Spring 2020; Summer 2021; Monsoon 2024)
- “Visions and Visionaries: an Introduction to Medieval Mysticism” (Spring 2020)
- “Global Medievalisms” (Monsoon 2019, Spring 2024)
- “Early British Literature” (Monsoon 2018, 2019, 2022, 2024)
- “Forms of Literature” (Spring 2019)
- “Global Medieval Women Writers” (Spring 2019)

Independent Studies

- “Medievalism & Fantasy” (Spring 2019)
- “Women’s Recipes” (Spring 2019)
- “Feminist Utopias” (Monsoon 2018)

Highschool Outreach

- AshokaX: “Futures (Im)Perfect: Utopian and Dystopian Literature”

Dissertations Advised

- 2024 Dissertation, co-advisor: Nitya Pawar, “Signature and the Construction of Self in Bhakti Poetry”

MA Thesis Projects Advised

- 2023 “Reconstructing Metaphor: Early Modern England’s Pocky Bodies”
- “I schall spekyn of God: Reading Speech in The Book of Margery Kempe”
- 2022 “Intimate Histories: Reading Domestic Communities in Sughra Fatema’s Poetry”
- “Mapping Discourse, Desire, and Displacement in *Patna Roughcut*”

Undergraduate Thesis Projects Advised

- 2023 “Human-ish Bodies: Literary Experiments on Radical Queerness in Sayaka Murata’s *Earthlings*”
- “Shape-Shifting Grandma: Objects as a Mode of Feminist Resistance”
- 2022 “Jennifer and Our Bodies: The Monstrous Spectator”

- 2021 “‘The stories have begun to stir again’: Re-membering Resistance in Yoko Ogawa’s *The Memory Police*”
 “The Imagined Proto-historicity of Giants”
 “You Got Played: Subverting Authority Through Games”
 “Women, Witches, and Witch-Hunting in India: From the Historic and Literary Past to Contemporary Urban Spaces”
- 2020 “Kabhi-Kabhi Mere Dil Me: The Politics of Emotions in Women’s Partition Novels”
 “From the Margins: Reading Women’s Agency in Indian Epics”
 “‘A Whole New World’: Female Utopia in *The Book of the City of Ladies* and *Sultana’s Dream*”
 “The Inadequacy of Language through Camus, Manto, Butalia Wallace”
 “Hulk Smash’-ing Boundaries: Normal Trouble and the Superheroic Body”
- 2019 “Performing Politics: A Study of the Adaptation from Antigone to Aneeka”

Instructor, UCLA Department of English

Courses Taught

- “English Composition 3” (Fall 2017, Winter 2018)
 “English Composition 2: Approaches to University Writing” (Summer 2017)
 “Women’s Utopian Writing” (Spring 2017)
 “Critical Reading and Writing: Utopia and Dystopia” (Summer 2015)
 “Critical Reading and Writing & Service Learning” (Winter 2015)
 “Critical Reading and Writing: Friends and Enemies in Literature” (Fall 2014)

Tutoring and Mentoring

- 2017–2018 UCLA Undergraduate Research Center, Undergraduate Research Mentor
 2013–2018 UCLA Graduate Writing Center, Writing Consultant

ESL Instructor

- Fall 2010 Columbia University American Language Program, Adjunct Instructor
 Spring 2010 Family Justice Center, Brooklyn, NY, ESL Instructor
 2009–2010 Community Impact, Columbia University, ESL Program Coordinator

TEACHING GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Fall 2017 Seminar in Teaching Excellence on Inclusive Classrooms, Mellon-EPIC Fellow
 Spring 2017 English Department Quarterly Teaching Award, UCLA
 2016–2017 Collegium of University Teaching Fellowship Award, UCLA

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Professional

- 2022 *Medieval Feminist Forum*, article reviewer

- 2021–present Associate Editor for *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Medieval Women's Writing in the Global Middle Ages*
- 2020–2023 Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship, Advisory Board Representative
- 2020 *Viator*, article reviewer
- 2020–present Early Modern Women's Writing Group, Organizer
- 2020–2021 RSA Working Group: Managing Careers in the Age of COVID-19, Coordinator

Ashoka University

- 2021–present English Department Deputy Chair
- 2020–2021 English Department Junior Faculty Writing Group, Organizer
- 2019–2020 English Department Student Activities Committee, Faculty Advisor
- 2019–Present Student Comic Relief Club, Faculty Advisor
- Monsoon 2019 Personal Statement Workshop, YIF Critical Writing Program (Oct. 22)
- Spring 2019 Lehigh University/Ashoka University Exchange, Faculty Liaison
- 2018–2020 English Department Graduate Placement Committee, Co-Coordinator

University of California, Los Angeles

- 2017–2018 Medieval Hire Search Committee, Graduate Student Representative
- 2014–2018 *Comitatus: a Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, Board member; Editor
- 2014–2015 English Graduate Union, Vice-President,
- 2013–2015 Early Modern Research Group, Co-Coordinator

SELECTED COURSE PARTICIPATION

- Summer 2019 Hindi Language Intensive Course, Landour Language School (May 20–31)
- 2019 Digital Heritage Workshop, Centre for the Study of Developing Society (April 5)
- 2018 Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria (June 11–14)
- Spring 2017 First Generation Institute, UCLA (May 5)
- Summer 2015 “Early Modern English Manuscripts,” Rare Books School, University of Virginia (July 19–24)
- Spring 2015 LGBTQ Ally Training for Instructors, UCLA, LGBTQ Resource Center (Nov. 6)

LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS

French (Research, writing and speaking fluency); German, Italian, Spanish, Latin, Old French (Reading proficiency); Old English, Hindi (Basic)

Medieval Paleography: Graduate seminar in Insular Paleography, Professor Matthew Fisher, UCLA (Winter 2013) & Latin Paleography, Professor Richard Rouse, UCLA (Spring 2013)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Margaret Cavendish Society; Modern Language Association; Mystical Theology Network; New Chaucer Society; Renaissance Society of America; Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship; Society for the Study of Early Modern Women

References

Jonathan Gil Harris
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