

August 3, 2018

Shayne Aaron Legassie

Associate Professor

Department of English and Comparative Literature

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

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Education

Ph.D. (2007), Columbia University, English and Comparative Literature

M.A. (2000), Columbia University, English and Comparative Literature

B.A. (1999), University of New Hampshire, English

Professional Experience

* Associate Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, UNC (2016-present)

* Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Romance Studies, UNC (2016-present)

* Affiliated Faculty, Program in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, UNC
(2009-present)

* Core Faculty, Program in Global Cinema, UNC
(2012-present)

* Affiliated Faculty, Sexuality Studies, UNC
(2009-present)

* Assistant Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, UNC
(2009-2016)

* Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Columbia University, New York, NY
(2007-2009)

Bibliography

Monographs

Shayne Aaron Legassie, *The Medieval Invention of Travel* (University of Chicago Press, 2017).

Documents how late-medieval Europe's historically unprecedented contacts with Asia and Africa gave rise to both the literary genre of travel writing and also to recognizably modern conceptions of "travel." Considers works spanning four centuries and written in twelve languages, by Marco Polo, John of Plano Carpine, William of Rubruck, John Mandeville, Petrarch, Pero Tafur, Christine de Pizan, Niccolò da Poggibonsi, Felix Fabri, and many others.

Co-edited Collection

John Ganim and Shayne Aaron Legassie, Editors, *Cosmopolitanism and the Middle Ages* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2013).

Book Manuscripts in Preparation

Shayne Aaron Legassie, *Hollywood Horror and the Gothic Fly*.

A short, original monograph about the premodern philosophical and artistic roots of horror cinema's treatment of the common housefly.

Refereed Articles

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "Insect Life and Afterlife in Medieval Thought" [Under review]

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "The Comely Corpses of Boccaccio's *Decameron* / On Mourning and Premodern Camp" [Revisions Pending]

Shayne Aaron Legassie, "Mobility," in *A Cultural History of Western Empires, Vol. 2: The Middle Ages*, ed. Matthew Gabriele (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2018), pp. 115-137.

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "The Pilgrimage Road in Middle English Literature" in *Road Works: Medieval Roads, Medieval England*, Ed. Valerie Allen and Ruth Evans (Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 2016), pp. 198-218.

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "The Gothic Fly" in *The Future We Want/Burn after Reading* Ed. Eileen A. Joy, Myra Seaman, and Jeffrey Jerome Cohen (New York: Punctum Books, 2014), pp. 73-78.

Shayne Aaron Legassie, "Among Other Possible Things: The Cosmopolitanisms of Chaucer's *Man of Law's Tale*" in *Cosmopolitanism and the Middle Ages*, pp. 181-206.

John Ganim and Shayne Aaron Legassie, "Introduction" in *Cosmopolitanism and the Middle Ages*, pp. 1-19.

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "The Lies of the Painters: Artisan Trickery and the Labor of Painting in Boccaccio's *Decameron* and Sacchetti's *Trecentonovelle*" in *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* (Fall 2013), pp. 487-519.

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "Chivalric Travel in the Mediterranean: Converts, Kings, and Christian Knights in Pero Tafur's *Andanças*" in *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 41.3 (Fall 2011), pp. 515-44.

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "Chaucer's Pardoner and Host—On the Road, in the Alehouse," *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 29 (2007), pp. 183-223.

Articles and Book Chapter Manuscripts in Preparation

Shayne Aaron Legassie. "Filth, Painting, and the Limits of 'Nature,'"

Shayne Aaron Legassie. 10 entries for *The Chaucer Encyclopedia*, ed. Richard Newhauser, et. al. (Wiley-Blackwell).

Select Conference Presentations

"Travel, Writing, Power," *The Modern Language Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago (January, 2019).

"Filth, Painting, and the Limits of 'Nature,'" *The Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting*, Chicago (March 30, 2017).

"The Note-taker as Hero" *Annual Congress on Medieval Studies*, Western Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, MI (May 16, 2015)

"So Comely a Corpse" *Annual Congress on Medieval Studies*, Western Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, MI (May 2011).

"Is there a Chaucerian Cosmopolitanism?" *New Chaucer Society Congress*, Siena, Italy (July 2010).

"Forensicphiles: Chaucer's 'Prioress' Tale' and Medieval Murder Investigations," *New Chaucer Society Congress*, Swansea, Wales (July 2008).

Select Invited Talks

August 23, 2018

"Insect Life and Afterlife," Freie Universität (Berlin).

November 13, 2016

Symposium on David Wallace's *Europe: A Literary History, 1348-1418*, King's College (London).

March 13, 2012

"Ape as Painter, Painter as Snail: Reading Craft Back into the Art of *Trecento* Painting", Special Series on Method in Classical and Medieval Studies, King's College (London).

March 2011

"What We Talk About When We Talk About Medieval 'Travel'" MEMS Lunchtime Lecture Series, UNC (Chapel Hill, NC).

January, 2011

“Hollywood Horror and the Gothic Fly” The Furst Forum for Comparative Literature, UNC (Chapel Hill, NC).

March 11, 2010

“Margery Kempe and the Discovery of the Americas: Gender, Genre, and the Historiography of Travel Writing,” Joint conference organized by MEMS at UNC and King’s College (London, UK).

April 14, 2009

“Three Ways of Looking at an Elephant: Narrating Global Encounters in the Middle Ages,” Department of History, Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY).

Print and Radio Interviews

“Books Interview: Shayne Aaron Legassie,” *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, June 8, 2017.

“Reading Boccaccio’s *Decameron*,” *Arts and Answers*, WKCR 89.9 FM, New York, NY. Hosted by Madeline Lewis. Recorded August 2006. Aired February 2007.

“Reading Cervantes’ *Don Quixote*,” *Arts and Answers*, WKCR 89.9 FM, New York, NY. Hosted by Madeline Lewis. Recorded August 2006. Aired March 2007.

Teaching Record

Courses Taught at UNC (Fall 2009-Present)

CMPL 122–Literature and the Visual Arts from Antiquity to 1750

CMPL 123–Literature and Politics from Antiquity to 1750

CMPL 227–The Middle Ages in World Cinema

CMPL 250–Introduction to Methods in Comparative Literature

CMPL 251–Introduction to Literary Theory

CMPL 254–Horror and the Global Gothic

CMPL 277–Myth, Fable, Novella: The Long History of the Short Story

CMPL 452–The Middle Ages

CMPL 453–The Erotic Middle Ages

CMPL 474H–Cannibals, Kings, and Holy Men: Ethnography and Literature

CMPL 478–The Medieval Frame Tale: Chaucer, Boccaccio, and the Arabian Nights

CMPL 500–Advanced Seminar

CMPL 621–Arthurian Romance

CMPL 622–Medieval Cosmopolitanisms

CMPL 890–Literature & Ecology in the Preindustrial World

ENGL 143–Horror Fiction

ENGL 786—Introduction to Graduate Study

Dissertations Advised

Jameela Dallis, English and Comparative Literature, (with Minrose Gwin) (Defended Spring 2016); Caitlin Watt, Comparative Literature (Defended Spring 2018); Meredith Ringel, Comparative Literature; Ani Govjian (with Mary Floyd-Wilson), English.

Supervised Honors Undergraduate Theses

Jon William O'Neill (2012), Gavin Whitehead (2012), Clark Sanford (2013), Taylor Bacques (2013), Austin Cooper (2014), Erik Maloney (2016), Nathan Smith (2016), Patrick Wise (2017, w/Stanslav Shvabrin), Colleen Buchanan (2017, w/Priscilla Lane), Noah Rawlings (2018), Daniel Lampman (2019), Jamie Mace (2019).

Professional Service

January 2013-December 2018—Book Reviews Editor, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*
April 2017-present—Editorial Board, *Studies in Philology*

Grants

Summer 2015—MEMS Summer Research Grant—\$5000
Spring 2012—MEMS Faculty Semester Leave Grant—\$32,000
2011-2012—Parents' Council Grant for UniVarsity Film Series—\$10,000
2010-2011—Junior Faculty Development Grant, UNC—\$7,500
Summer 2010—MEMS Summer Research Grant—\$5,000
Summer 2010—MEMS Conference Travel Grant—\$2,000

Select Department and University Service at UNC

2016-present Director of Graduate Admissions, English & Comparative Literature
2013-2014 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Comparative Literature
2013-2014 Advisory Board, Program in Medieval and Early Modern Studies
2013-2014 Departmental Curriculum Committee, English and Comparative Lit.
Spring 2013 Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, Comparative Literature
2010-present Graduate Advisory Committee, English and Comparative Literature
2010-2011 Advisory Committee on the Proposed MEMS Minor
2010-2011 MEMS Grant Writing Committee, UNC-Berlin Graduate Exchange
2009-2011 Faculty Organizer, The UniVarsity Film Series at the Varsity Theater
Spring 2010 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Comparative Literature