

Alison I. Beach

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Professional Experience

Regular Faculty Positions

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Professor of History (with tenure) 2019—
Resident Director, History and Archaeology of Medieval Ireland Study Course 2013—
(with the Irish Archaeology Field School)
Associate Professor of History (with tenure) 2013—2019
Assistant Professor of History 2011—2013

Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany

apl. Professor of Medieval History 2009—2011

College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA

Associate Professor of Religious Studies (with tenure) 2006—2009
Director, Program in Medieval & Renaissance Studies 2005—2008
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies 2001—2006

Visiting Positions

Columbia University, New York, NY

Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Religion Fall 2018

Universität Bonn, Bonn, Germany

Guest Scholar, Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät,
Institut für Kirchengeschichte Fall 2017, Spring 2005, and 2006—2007
Guest Scholar, Historisches Seminar Summer 2001 and Fall 2004

Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ

Visitor, School of Historical Studies June-July 2017
Member, School of Historical Studies 2013—2014
Postdoctoral Research Assistant to Professor Giles Constable 1998—2000

Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany

Guest Scholar, Sonderforschungsbereich 923 ("Bedrohte Ordnungen") January-February 2016

Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ

Guest Scholar 2014—2015

Universität Konstanz, Constance, Germany

Guest Professor, Medieval History July 2014

Universität Trier, Trier, Germany

DAAD Guest Professor, Medieval History 2008—2009

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Visiting Assistant Professor of History 2000—2001

New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, NJ

Visiting Assistant Professor 1997—1998

Union Theological Seminary, New York NY

Visiting Lecturer 1996

Education

Columbia University, New York, NY

Ph.D., Religion	1996
M.Phil., Religion	1992
M.A., History	1987

Smith College, Northampton, MA

B.A., History	1985
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Fellowships, Honors, and Grants

The Ohio State University

The Ronald and Deborah Ratner Distinguished Teaching Award	2017
Research Enhancement Grant (with David Brakke, for an international workshop on medieval monasticism)	July 2014

Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung

Trans-Coop Grant for Collaborative Research (with Anne Winston-Allen, Southern Illinois University; Gisela Muschiol, Universität Bonn; and Sigrid Schmitt, Universität Trier)	March 2008—June 2013
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Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (D.A.A.D)

International Guest Professorship, Universität Trier	March 2008—July 2009
Research Fellowship	February 2004—March 2004
Research Grant for Ph.D. Candidates and Recent Ph.D.s (declined)	1994

College of William and Mary

Alumni Fellowship Award for Teaching Excellence	2006
Summer Faculty Research Grant	2002 and 2003

German-American Fulbright Commission

Research Fellowship	September 2003—January 2004
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Books

Monographs

Women among the Apostles: The Female Evangelical Awakening of the Twelfth Century (working title), in preparation.

The Trauma of Monastic Reform: Community and Conflict in Twelfth-Century Germany (Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Women as Scribes: Book Production and Monastic Reform in Twelfth-Century Bavaria (Cambridge University Press, 2004; paperback 2010).

Edited Volumes

Cambridge History of Medieval Monasticism in the Latin World. co-edited with Isabelle Cochelin, 2 vols. Cambridge New History Series (Cambridge University Press, in production, forthcoming 2019).

June Mecham, *Sacred Communities, Shared Devotions: Gender, Material Culture and Monasticism in Late Medieval Germany*, ed. Alison I. Beach, Constance Berman, and Lisa Bitel. With an Introduction by Lisa Bitel (Brepols Publishers, 2014).

Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: Reform and Renewal in Twelfth-Century Germany. Medieval Church Studies 13 (Brepols Publishers, 2007).

Translations

Monastic Experience in Twelfth-Century Germany: The Chronicle of Petershausen in Translation, with Shannon Turner Li and Samuel Sutherland and (Manchester University Press, forthcoming 2019).

Articles

"Medieval Women's Early Involvement in Manuscript Production Suggested by Lapis Lazuli Identification in Dental Calculus," (with A. Radini, M. Tromp, E. Tong, C. Speller, M. McCormick, J.V. Dudgeon, M. Collins, F. Rühili, R. Kröger, and C. Warinner). *Science Advances* (January 2019).

- Media coverage in *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic*, *Archeology*, *Popular Science*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Associated Press*, *National Post* (Canada), *Daily Mail* (UK), *The Telegraph* (UK), *Tagesspiegel* (Germany), *Blick* (Switzerland), *NRC Handelsblad* (Netherlands), *La Vanguardia* (Spain), *El País* (Spain), *Haaretz* (Israel), CNN, National Public Radio ("All Things Considered"), CBC (Canada), BBC (UK), WDR (Germany), SWR (Germany), Bayerische Rundfunk (Germany), Deutschland Funk (Germany), ORF (Austria), SRF (Switzerland), VRT (Belgium), Rás (Iceland), and RFM (Poland), among many others.

"*Placet nobis electio*: The Election and Investiture of the Abbess at Fourteenth-Century Nivelles," in *Proceedings of the Radcliffe Seminar 2016*, eds. Jeffrey Hamburger and Eva Schlotheuber (Mohr Siebeck Verlag, forthcoming 2019).

"The Double Monastery as an Historiographical Problem" (with Andra Juganaru), in *Cambridge History of Medieval Monasticism in the Latin West*, eds. Alison I. Beach and Isabelle Cochelin, (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2019).

"*In diu desideratum mansiunculam*. Der Weg zum Inklusentum in den Heiligenviten von Verena und Wiborada," in *Konstanz und Wandel, Religiöse Lebensformen im europäischen Mittelalter*, eds. Gordon Blennemann, Christine Kleinjung, and Thomas Kohl (Didymos-Verlag, 2017).

"Shaping Liturgy, Shaping History: A Cantor-Historian from Twelfth-Century Petershausen," in *Medieval Cantors and Their Craft: Music, Liturgy and the Shaping of History, 800-1500*, eds. Katie Bugyis, Andrew Kraebel, and Margot Fassler (Boydell and Brewer for the York Medieval Press, 2017).

"Mathilde of Neuffen and the Female Scribes of Twelfth-Century Zwiefalten," in *Medieval Nuns' Literacies: The Hull Dialogues*, eds. Virginia Blanton, Veronica O'Mara, and Patricia Stoop (Brepols Publishers, 2014), pp. 33-50.

"Imagining *Libertas*: Keeping the Bishop at Bay in the Twelfth-Century Chronicle of Petershausen," in Uta-Renate Blumenthal, Anders Winroth, and Peter Landau, eds. *Canon Law, Religion, and Politics* (Catholic University Press, 2012), pp. 185-198.

"The Dream-Vision of Bernhard of Petershausen: An Image in a Reformed Landscape," in Colum Hourihane, ed. *Looking Beyond: Visions, Dreams, and Insights in Medieval Art and History* (Princeton University Press, 2010), pp. 75-83.

"Gottesdienst und Leben nach der Regel," in *Als Hildegard noch in Bingen war. Der Disibodenberg -- Archäologie und Geschichte*. Falko Daim and Antje Kluge-Pinsker, eds. (Verlag des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums, 2009), pp. 107-109.

"The Multiform Grace of the Holy Spirit: Salvation History and the Book of Ruth at Twelfth-Century Admont," in *Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: Reform and Renewal in Twelfth-Century Germany*, Alison I. Beach, ed. (Brepols Publishers, 2007), pp. 125-137.

"Listening for the Voices of Admont's Twelfth-Century Nuns," *Voices in Dialogue: New Problems in Women's Cultural History*, Kathryn Kerby-Fulton and Linda Olson, eds. (University of Notre Dame Press, 2005), pp. 187-198.

"Voices from a Distant Land: Fragments of a Twelfth-Century Nuns' Letter Collection," *Speculum* 77/1 (January, 2002), pp. 34-54.

"Claustration and Collaboration between the Sexes in the Twelfth-Century Scriptorium," in *Monks and Nuns, Saints and Outcasts: Religion in Medieval Society*, Sharon Farmer and Barbara H. Rosenwein, eds. (Cornell University Press, 2000), pp. 57-75.

Book Reviews

- Fiona Griffiths, *Nuns' Priests' Tales: Men and Salvation in Medieval Women's Monastic Life* (2018), in *Church History* (forthcoming).
- Steven Vanderputten, *Dark Age Nunneries: The Ambiguous Identity of Female Monasticism, 800-1050* (2018), in *The American Historical Review* (forthcoming).
- Kathleen Thompson, *The Monks of Tiron: A Monastic Community and Religious Reform in the Twelfth Century* (2014) in *Speculum* 91(1):261-263 (January 2016).
- Fiona Griffiths and Julie Hotchin, eds. *Partners in Spirit: Women, Men, and Religious Life in Germany, 1100-1500* (2014) in *The American Historical Review* 120(4):1539-1540 (October 2015).
- Gert Melville and Anna Müller, eds. *Female 'vita religiosa' between Late Antiquity and the High Middle Ages. Structures, Developments and Spatial Contexts* (2011), in *Journal of Medieval Monastic Studies* 2:186-187 (2013)
- Katherine Sykes, *Inventing Sempringham. Gilbert of Sempringham and the Origins of the Role of the Master* (2011) in *Journal of Medieval Monastic Studies* 2:189-190 (2013)
- Cynthia J. Cyrus, *The Scribes for Women's Convents in Late Medieval Germany* (2009), in *Manuscripta* 56(1):140-143 (2012).
- Beverly Mayne Kienzle, *Hildegard of Bingen and her Gospel Homilies: Speaking New Mysteries* (2009) in *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 63(1):141-143 (January 2012).
- Erika Lauren Lindgren, *Sensual Encounters: Monastic Women and Spirituality in Medieval Germany* (2009) in *Francia-Recensio* 2010(4).
- Heinzer, Felix, *Klosterreform und mittelalterliche Buchkultur im deutschen Südwesten* (2008), in *Medium Aevum* 78(2):324 (2009).
- Malcolm Parkes, *Their Hands before our Eyes: a Closer Look at Scribes* (2009), in *The Medieval Review* (2010).
- Hartmut Hoffmann, *Schreibschulen des 10. und des 11. Jahrhunderts in Südwesten Deutschen Reichs* (2004), in *Speculum* 82(1):197-198 (January 2007)
- Anne Winston-Allen, *Convent Chronicles: Women Writing about Women and Reform in the Middle Ages* (2004), in *The American Catholic Historical Review*, 91(1):116-117 (January 2006).
- Constance H. Berman (trans.), *Women and Monasticism in Medieval Europe: Sisters and Patrons of the Cistercian Reform* (2002), in *Speculum* 79(4):1034-1035 (October 2004).
- Constant Mews (ed.), *Listen, Daughter: The Speculum Virginum and the Formation of Religious Women in the Middle Ages* (2001), in *Speculum* 79(2):526-529 (April 2004).

Entries in Encyclopedias

"Scribes, Compilers, and Illuminators," In *Women and Gender in Medieval Europe: An Encyclopedia*, Margaret C. Schaus, ed. (New York, 2006).

Writing for Popular Press

- "War 'Anonymous' eine Frau?" (with Christina Warriner), *Spektrum der Wissenschaft* (forthcoming).
- "Nuns Were Secluded to Avoid Scandals in Early Christian Monastic Communities" (with Mariachiara Giorda), in *The Conversation* (21 March 2019).

Presentations (last 5 years)

- "Women among the Apostles: Remnants of Female Religious Life in Germany's Long Twelfth Century." International Medieval Congress, Leeds. July 2019.
- "The Medieval Woman with Lapis Lazuli in her Teeth: An Interdisciplinary Detective Story." College of Dentistry Science Colloquium. The Ohio State University. April 2019.
- "Reading the Remnants: Religious Women and the Material Turn in Medieval History." Distinguished Lecture. Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena. April 2019.
- "Women Among the Apostles: Remnants of Female Religious Life in Germany's Long Twelfth Century." Cambridge University. January 2019.
- "Re-Imagining the Landscape of the Hirsau Reform." Neue Forschungen zum Kloster Hirsau im Mittelalter. Hirsau, Germany. November 2017.
- "Self-Projection and Imposed Identities: The Women of St. Agnes, Schaffhausen ca. 1150-1500." Ordnungsdiskurse in Frauenklöstern: Chroniken und Selbstzeugnisse. Universität Tübingen, April 2017.
- "Entangling Alliances: Negotiating Patronage in a Violent Landscape." Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. April 2017.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of High Medieval Germany: A Quantitative Approach." Yale University, Economic History Seminar (with David Jaeger). February 2017.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of High Medieval Germany: A Quantitative Approach." Germania Sacra, Universität Göttingen (with David Jaeger). August 2016.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of High Medieval Germany: A Quantitative Approach." Annual Medieval Academy of the Medieval Academy of America (with David Jaeger). Boston, MA. February 2016.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of Medieval Germany: A Project Report." Space and Settlement Conference. Trinity College, Dublin. May 2015.
- "The Dynamic Monastic Landscape of Medieval Germany: A Project Report." AGFEM Research Workshop. Kloster Weingarten (with David Jaeger). March 2015.
- "The Dis-Orderly Women of the Hirsau Reform." Medieval Studies Seminar. Central European University, Budapest. October 2014.
- "The Dis-Orderly Women of the Hirsau Reform." Columbia University Medieval Studies Seminar. Columbia University. February 2014.

Invited Conference and Workshop Participation

- Konstanzer Arbeitskreis für Mittelalterliche Geschichte. Reichenau, Germany. October 2017.
- The *Liber Ordinarius* of the Abbey of Nivelles. Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University. March 2016.
- Excavating Medicine in a Digital Age: Paleography and the Medical Book in the Twelfth-Century Renaissance. National Humanities Center, Chapel Hill. October 2010.
- Konstanzer Arbeitskreis für Mittelalterliche Geschichte. Reichenau, Germany. September 2010.
- Wissensraum Frauenkloster. Universität Trier. April 2009.

Editorial and Referee Activities

Book Review Editor, *Speculum*, 2014—2016

Editor, Monastic Matrix: A Scholarly Resource for the Study of Women's Religious Communities from 400-1600 CE. <http://monasticmatrix.org>, 2012—

Series Co-Editor, *Sanctimoniales – Medieval Religious Women*, Brepols Publishers, 2011—

Member Advisory Board, *Monastic Matrix: A Scholarly Resource for the Study of Women's Religious Communities from 400-1600 CE*, 2005—2012.

Member Editorial Board, *Epistolae*, an online database of women's letters from the Middle Ages, Columbia University. <http://epistolae.ccnmtl.columbia.edu>, 2001—

Referee, Cambridge University Press, Fordham University Press, *Book History*, *Speculum*, American Academy in Berlin, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Tenure Reviewer, University of Southern California, Beloit College, Marquette University.

Other Professional Activities

Trustee, Association of Members of the Institute for Advanced Study (AMIAS), Princeton, NJ (elected) 2015—2017 and 2018—2020, Treasurer 2018—2020.

Founding Member, AGFEM (Arbeitsgruppe geistliche Frauen im europäischen Mittelalter/Research Group for the Study of Religious Women in the European Middle Ages).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Frauenklöster im europäischen Mittelalter: Aktuelle Forschungs-Diskurse und -Projekte X*. Kloster Heiligkreuztal, Germany. April 2019 (AGFEM).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Reformen geistlicher Frauengemeinschaften im Mittelalter/Reforms in Female Religious Communities in the Middle Ages*. Third Annual International AGFEM Conference. Kloster Weingarten, Germany. March 2017 (AGFEM).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Neue Forschungen zum Kloster Hirsau im Mittelalter*. Hirsau, Germany. November 2017.

Conference Organizer, *New Directions in the Study of Medieval Religious Women*. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. April 2013 (AGFEM).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Religious Women's Spaces of Knowledge in the European Middle Ages*. (Klosterräume und Wissenswelten geistlicher Frauen im europäischen Mittelalter.) Schloss Dhaun, Germany. July 2011 (AGFEM).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Frauenklöster im europäischen Mittelalter: Aktuelle Forschungs-Diskurse und -Projekte*. Schloss Dhaun, Germany. October 2008 (AGFEM).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Order and Identity: Religious Women's Communities in the High and Late Middle Ages*. (Ordo und Identität: Geistliche Frauengemeinschaften in Hoch- und Spätmittelalter.) Schloss Dhaun, Germany. March 2008 (AGFEM).

Conference Co-Organizer, *Networking Women: Geistliche Frauengemeinschaften in Hoch- und Spätmittelalter*. Schloss Dhaun, Germany. June 2011 (AGFEM).

Conference Organizer, *Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: Admont and the Twelfth-Century Renaissance in Germanic Lands*. Admont, Austria, 7-10 August 2002.

Session Organizer, *Manuscripts and Monastic Culture: The Case of Twelfth-Century Admont*. International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 1999.

Session Co-Organizer, *Revisiting Enclosure: New Approaches to the Study of Medieval Women's Religious Life*. Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, New Haven, CT, March 2010 (with Sigrid Schmitt).

Session Co-Organizer, *Questioning Received Categories: The Medieval Double Monastery*. Tenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Chapel Hill, NC, June 1996 (with Catherine Peyroux).

Session Chair and Discussant, *Women and Religious Orders in Medieval Germany*. American Catholic Historical Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, January 2005.

Doctoral Student Advising

* dissertation advisor, ∇ academic advisor

- * Christina Grundmann (continuing)
- * Shannon Turner Li (2017)
- * Samuel Sutherland (2017)
- ∇ Rebecca Favorito (2016)
- ∇ Sarah Kernan (2015)

Courses Taught

PhD, The Renaissance of the Twelfth Century, Medieval Monasticism, Pre-Modern Emotional History

MA/MDiv, The Medieval Manuscript as Material Culture, Church History I (Ancient and Medieval), Church History 2 (Early Modern and Contemporary), Women in the Christian Tradition, Gender and Sexuality in the Pre-Modern West

BA, Medieval Europe 1, Medieval Europe 2, Introduction to the Middle Ages (The Popular Middle Ages), Introduction to Religion, The History and Archaeology of Medieval Ireland (Study Abroad), Medieval Christianity, Religion and Society in the Medieval West, The Social Contexts of Medieval European Religious Communities, The Reformations of the Sixteenth Century, Women as Readers and Writers in the Middle Ages, Women's Spiritual Autobiography, Modern Christian Thought (Theologies of Liberation), Gender & Sexuality in the Pre-Modern West, Readings in Medieval History (Monasticism), Research Seminar in Medieval History (Medieval Material Culture), Introduction to the Discipline of History (Historical Methods).