

**JENNIFER PAXTON**

(301) 320-1893

paxton@cua.edu

**EDUCATION**

*Harvard University*

Cambridge, MA

Ph.D., History, June 1999

A.M., History, June 1990

*Yale University*

New Haven, CT

B.A., History, May 1987

*Summa cum laude*, Distinction in History

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

Director, University Honors Program

June 2016 to present

Assistant Director, University Honors Program

June 2013 to June 2016

*The Catholic University of America*

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Fall 2013 to present

VISITING CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Fall 2010 to Spring 2013

*The Catholic University of America*

History 216A: Medieval Britain

History 236A: The World of the Crusades

History 330A: The Celtic World

History 380A: Medieval Ireland

History 387: Junior Seminar

History 422: Magna Carta through the Centuries

History 401/496: Senior Seminar

History 609 and 610: Medieval Civilization I and II

History 617A, 640 and 640A: Colloquia in Medieval England

History 643A: Medieval Monasticism

History 805: Research seminar in Medieval England

HSCP 490: Honors Program Senior Capstone Seminar

PROFESSORIAL LECTURER

*Georgetown University*

Spring 1998, Fall 1999 to Spring 2012

History of the Middle Ages I and II:

“From the Fall of Rome to the Millennium” and

“From the Millennium to the Black Death”

Undergraduate lecture/discussion classes; adapted and taught course.

“Medieval Monasticism: A Christian Counterculture?”

Upper-level undergraduate seminar; designed and taught course.

“War, Law, and Politics in Medieval England”

Upper-level undergraduate seminar; designed and taught course.

“History of Ireland, Part I”

Undergraduate lecture/discussion class with two sections; designed course,

lectured, taught one section, and supervised teaching assistant.  
“History of Ireland, Part II”  
Undergraduate lecture/discussion class with two sections; designed course,  
lectured, taught one section, and supervised teaching assistant.

LECTURER

*The Catholic University of America*  
History 610: Medieval Civilization II

Spring 1997

TEACHING FELLOW

*Harvard University*

Fall 1990

“Power and Society: A Crisis of the Twelfth Century”  
“Western Societies, Politics and Cultures: From Antiquity to 1650”

**DISSERTATION**

"Charter and Chronicle in Twelfth-Century England: The House Histories of the Fenland Abbeys" (Adviser: Thomas N. Bisson)

**BOOK**

*Chronicle and Community in Twelfth-Century England*  
(under contract to Oxford University Press)

**COURSES WITH WONDRIUM (THE GREAT COURSES)**

*England from the Fall of Rome to the Norman Conquest* (24-lecture video course)  
*1066* (6-lecture video course on the Norman Conquest) (2019)  
*The Celtic World* (24-lecture video course) (2018)  
*Medieval Britain: From King Arthur to the Tudor Conquest* (36-lecture video course)  
(2011)

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“Fighting the Last War: Remembering the Norman Conquest during the Anarchy,”  
in *Military Cultures and Martial Enterprises in the Middle Ages* (Woodbridge: Boydell  
and Brewer, 2020), 117-35.

Review of *Historia Ecclesie Abendonensis: The History of the Church of Abingdon*,  
Vol. II, ed. and trans. John Hudson (Oxford, 2002), *Early Medieval Europe* 17 (July  
2009): 351-52.

“Good Lordship and Bad Lordship in English Monastic Chronicles,” in *The Experience  
of Power in Medieval Europe, 950-1350* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2005), 227-36.

“Textual Communities in the English Fenlands: A Lay Audience for Monastic  
Chronicles?” *Anglo-Norman Studies* 26 (2004 for 2003), 123-37.

“Forging Communities: Memory and Identity in Post-Conquest England,” *Haskins  
Society Journal* 10 (2002 for 2001), 95-109.

“Monks and Bishops: The Purpose of the *Liber Eliensis*,” *Haskins Society Journal* 11 (2003 for 1998), 17-30.

“The *Book of Ely*,” in T. F. Head, ed., *Medieval Hagiography: A Sourcebook* (New York: Garland, 2000), pp. 459-94.

Review of Graeme White, *Restoration and Reform, 1153-1165* (Cambridge, 2000), *Speculum* (April 2003): 631-32.

## SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

“Fighting the Last War: Remembering the Norman Conquest during the Anarchy,”  
International Medieval Congress, July 4, 2018 Leeds, UK

“Byrhtstan’s Shackles: Orderic Vitalis and the Politics of the Miraculous,”  
Medieval Academy of America, Apr. 13, 2014 Los Angeles, CA

“Caught in the Middle: Priests as Villains and Victims in Monastic Chronicles”  
International Medieval Congress, July 2, 2013 Leeds UK

“Excusing the Inexcusable: Abbots Who Diminish the Patrimony, and the Monks Who  
Love Them Anyway”  
Charles Homer Haskins Society, Nov. 3, 2012 Chestnut Hill, MA

“Inside and Out: The Twelfth-Century Renaissance and the Growth of Professionalism in  
Monastic Administration”  
American Historical Association, Jan. 7, 2011 Boston, MA

“Good Lordship and Bad Lordship in English Monastic Chronicles,”  
Charles Homer Haskins Society, Nov. 3, 2003. Ithaca, NY

“Textual Communities: A Lay Audience for Monastic Chronicles?”  
Battle Conference on Anglo-Norman Studies, July 27, 2003. Battle, UK

“Forging Communities: Memory and Identity in Post-Conquest England,”  
American Historical Association, Jan. 8, 2000. Chicago, IL

“Lords and Monks: Creating an Ideal of Noble Power in Monastic Chronicles,”  
North American Conference on British Studies, Nov. 19, 1999. Cambridge, MA

“Commemoration as *Exemplum*: The *Liber Benefactorum* of Ramsey Abbey,”  
International Medieval Congress, July 16, 1998. Leeds, UK

“Monks and Bishops: The Purpose of the *Liber Eliensis*,”  
Charles Homer Haskins Society, November 8, 1997. Houston, TX

“Narrative Strategies in the *Liber Eliensis*,”

Washington Area Medieval History Colloquium, May 5, 1997. Washington, DC

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

“The Reel Middle Ages: Does It Matter If the Movies Get It Right?”

Ida Wise East Lecture in the Humanities

Lynchburg College, Mar. 5, 2013.

Lynchburg, VA

### **SMITHSONIAN ASSOCIATES**

“Thomas Cromwell: Villain or Victim?,” Oct. 26, 2020.

“The History of Ireland: Four Turning Points,” Oct. 3, 2020.

“Why Brexit?,” Sept. 22, 2020.

“Understanding the Celtic World,” Mar. 4, 2020.

“The World of the Crusades: Holy War and Jihad,” Feb. 8, 2020.

“The Hundred Years War: England’s Quest for the French Throne,”  
Sept. 10, 2019.

“Scotland and England: An Imperfect Union?” Jan. 27, 2018.

“The Celtic World: Ancient and Modern,” Mar. 11, 2017.

“The Norman Invasion: William’s Unlikely Conquest,” Nov. 13, 2017.

“Mary, Queen of Scots: Villain or Victim?” Sept. 13, 2017.

“Thomas Becket: A Martyr for All Seasons,” Apr. 18, 2017.

“How the Britons Became the English, the Welsh, and the Scottish:  
Creating a United Kingdom,” Oct. 29, 2016.

“Ireland Britain: 800 Years of Conflict,” Jan. 30, 2016.

### **SELECTED OTHER LECTURES**

“Marlowe’s *Tamburlaine* and *Edward II*,” Classics in Context,  
The Shakespeare Theatre, Dec. 22, 2007.

Washington, DC

“The Ascent of Europe,” Europe Regional Intensive Seminar,  
George P. Schultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center, School of  
Professional and Area Studies, Foreign Service Institute,  
five times yearly, 2002-17.

Arlington, VA

“The Conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity,”  
The Treasures of Early Britain, Smithsonian Associates,  
May 23, 2002.

Washington, D.C.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS**

Bethell Prize (co-winner) for best article on Anglo-Norman England, Charles Homer  
Haskins Society, 2000

Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 1994

Frank Knox Memorial Traveling Fellowship, 1992-93

Harvard Dissertation Fellowship, 1991

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University, Fall 1990

Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, 1988-1990  
Ellsworth Prize for an outstanding senior essay, Jonathan Edwards College,  
Yale University, 1987  
Phi Beta Kappa, Yale University, 1986

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

ASSOCIATE EDITOR (March 2013 to present)

*Catholic Historical Review*

Edited articles related to medieval history and supervised medieval book reviews.

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR (June 2011 to June 2013, September 2014 to present)

*Program in Medieval and Byzantine Studies, the Catholic University of America*

Advised undergraduate majors and minors, sat on MBS Steering Committee, and served as faculty mentor to the student Medieval Society, including supervising Medieval Day, a day-long event in April celebrating the culture of the Middle Ages.

CONFERENCE DIRECTOR (Nov. 2003 to Nov. 2008)

*Charles Homer Haskins Society*

Planned an annual three-day scholarly conference for approximately 75 participants at Georgetown University.

REFEREE (Fall 2004)

*Trinity College, Cambridge (UK)*

Reviewed a dissertation submitted for the research (post-graduate) fellowship competition.

VISITING SCHOLAR (Sept. 1992-June 1993)

*Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, University of Cambridge (UK)*

Conducted research and participated in scholarly meetings.

STAFF MEMBER (Summer 1990)

*Medieval Academy of America (Cambridge, MA)*

Wrote entries for the subject index of *Speculum*, the journal of the Medieval Academy.

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Medieval Europe, Church History, Medieval England, Heresy and Society,  
The Anglo-Norman World, Medieval Germany, Irish History, Medieval Women,  
Historiography

## **LANGUAGES**

German, reading, writing and speaking

French, reading and speaking

Italian, reading

Latin, reading

Anglo-Saxon, reading

Middle High German, reading

Middle Welsh, reading

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Catholic Historical Society—member, editorial board  
Medieval Academy of America--member, Local Arrangements Planning Committee for  
1999 annual meeting, Washington, D.C.  
American Historical Association--member  
Charles Homer Haskins Society--member  
North American Conference on British Studies--member

## **ACADEMIC REFERENCES**

Professor Brigitte Bedos-Rezak  
New York University  
Department of History  
53 Washington Square South  
New York, NY 10012  
(212) 998-8607  
bbr2@nyu.edu

Professor Thomas N. Bisson  
Harvard University  
Department of History  
Robinson Hall  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 495-5221  
tnbisson@fas.harvard.edu

Professor Jo Ann Hoeppe Morán Cruz  
Georgetown University  
Department of History  
600 Intercultural Center  
Washington, D.C. 20057  
(202) 687-6189  
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Professor L. R. Poos  
The Catholic University of America  
Department of History  
230 O'Boyle Hall  
620 Michigan Ave., N. E.  
Washington, D.C. 20064  
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