

JACOB W. DOSS (he/him)
jacobwdoss@txstate.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Instruction 2024-Present
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Texas State University

Lecturer 2023-2024
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Texas State University

Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer 2022-2023
Institute for Historical Studies
Department of History
University of Texas at Austin

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Medieval European History 2022
University of Texas at Austin

Dissertation: “Making Monastic Men: Gender and Imagined ‘Childhood’ in Cistercian Formation in the Long Twelfth Century”

- *Winner of the Society for the History of Children and Youth’s Prize for Best Dissertation of 2022*

Committee: Martha Newman (Director), Judith Coffin, Alison Frazier, Steven Vanderputten, Marjorie Curry Woods

Qualifying Exams (Scored “Exceptional”): Twelfth-Century Europe (Martha Newman), Medieval Europe (Alison Frazier), Early Modern Religion (Brian Levack)

M.T.S. in Church History 2013
Boston College

Master’s Thesis: *Aelred of Rievaulx and Women, Equals?*

Committee: Catherine M. Mooney (Director), Francine Cardman (Reader)

Field: Theology and History of Christianity

B.A. Double Major in History and Anthropology; Religious Studies Minor 2010
University of Arkansas

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cultural History; Reform Movements; History of Christianity; Women, Gender, and Sexuality; History of Childhood; Monasticism; Twelfth-Century Renaissance; Medievalisms in the U.S. Culture Wars

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

External Awards

Society for the History of Children and Youth, Best Doctoral Dissertation on the History of Children, Childhood, or Youth Defended in 2022 (2023)
Pacific Coast Branch-American Historical Association, Presidents' Graduate Travel Award (Summer 2019)
The American Catholic Historical Association, Graduate Student Research Grant (2018)
The Medieval Academy of America, John Boswell Dissertation Grant (2018)
American Historical Association, Bernadotte E. Schmitt Research Grant (2017)
Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Heckman Stipend (Summer 2017)

Internal Awards

Continuing Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin (2019-2020)
University of Texas at Austin Professional Development Grant (Spring 2019, Fall 2019)
History Department Academic Year Research Fellowship (2017-2018)
Kuhn Family Intellectual Entrepreneurship Mentor Award (Fall 2016)
The University of Texas at Austin Medieval Studies Fellowship (2016)
History Department Summer Fellowship (2015; 2016; 2017)
History Department Academic Year Fellowship (2014-2015)

Boston College

Boston College School of Theology and Ministry Graduate Fellowship (2011-2013)
Boston College School of Theology and Ministry Conference Travel Grant (2013)

PUBLICATIONS

Book Projects in Progress

Making Monastic Men: Imagined "Childhood," Education, and Gender in Cistercian Formation
Reform and the Construction of "Otherness" on Europe's Monastic Margins

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Making Masculine Monks: Gender, Space, and the Imagined 'Child' in Twelfth-Century Cistercian Identity Formation." *Church History* 91, no. 3 (September 2022; published Dec. 15, 2022): 467–491. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009640722002098>.

"Metaphor, Moral Formation, and a Carolingian era Florilegium: The *Liber scintillarum* and Cistercian Education at the turn of the Thirteenth Century." *Cîteaux: Commentarii cistercienses* 73 (2022; published Oct. 29, 2023): 101-117.

"To be a Monkish Man: Medievalism, Monasticism, Education, and Gender in the United States' Culture Wars." *Studies in Medievalism XXXI* (2022): 37-44.

Peer-Reviewed Reference

- “Aelred of Rievaulx, *De institutione inclusarum*.” *Palgrave Encyclopedia of Medieval Women’s Writing of the Global Middle Ages*. Edited by Michelle M. Sauer, Diane Watt, and Liz Herbert McAvoy (Palgrave, 2022). <https://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007/978-3-030-76219-3>. [Forthcoming].
- “Gilbert of Hoyland.” *Dictionary of Cistercian Saints (DCS)*. Mirko Breitenstein, Alkuin Schachenmayr, O. Cist, & Jörg Sonntag (Eds.) Dresden, DE; Heiligenkreuz, AT. Research Centre for Comparative History of Religious Orders (FOVOG) and the European Institute for Cistercian Studies (EUCist). <https://doi.org/10.25716/amad-85258>
- “Congregation of Savigny.” *Database of Religious History*. Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia. <https://religiondatabase.org/browse/661/>

Reviews

- Bernard of Clairvaux: An Inner Life*, by Brian Patrick McGuire, *Speculum* 99.1 (January 2024): 253-255. <https://doi.org/10.1086/728373>
- Elite Participation in the Third Crusade*, by Stephen Bennett, *H-War*, *H-Net Reviews* (April 11, 2023). <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=57238>
- Warrior Churchmen of Medieval England, 1000-1250: Theory and Reality*, by Craig M. Nakashian, *H-War*, *H-Net Reviews* (April 2020). <https://networks.h-net.org/node/6084719/pdf>
- The Trauma of Monastic Reform: Community and Conflict in Twelfth-Century Germany*, by Alison I. Beach, *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (June 7, 2018). <https://readingreligion.org/books/trauma-monastic-reform>
- Money and the Church in Medieval Europe, 1000-1200: Practice, Morality and Thought*. Edited by Giles E.M. Gasper and Svein H. Gulbekk. *Hortulus*. 12.1 (2015). <https://hortulus-journal.com/journal/volume-12-number-1-2015/doss/>
- Medieval Anchoritisms: Gender, Space and the Solitary Life*, by Liz Herbert McAvoy. *Hortulus*. 8 (2012). <https://hortulus-journal.com/journal/volume-8-number-1-2012/doss/>

Online and Public Facing Publications

- “From Nurslings of God to Soldiers of Christ: Gender and Childhood in Cistercian Spiritual Formation,” *Not Even Past* (Jan. 31, 2023). Invited contributor. <https://notevenpast.org/from-nurslings-of-god-to-soldiers-of-christ-gender-and-childhood-in-cistercian-spiritual-formation/>
- “Imagining ‘Childhood’ and Youth in Cistercian Hagiography.” *Hagiography Society Newsletter*. Vol. XXXII, Issue 1 (April 2022): 6-7. Invited contributor. https://www.hagiographysociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Hagiography-Society-April-2022_compressed.pdf

Review of *Architectural Agents: The Delusional, Abusive, Addictive Lives of Buildings*, by Annabel Jane Wharton. *Not Even Past*. (May 20, 2015). <https://notevenpast.org/architectural-agents-the-delusional-abusive-addictive-lives-of-buildings-by-annabel-jane-wharton-2015/>

Review of *From Virile Woman to WomanChrist: Studies in Medieval Religion and Literature*, by Barbara Newman. *Not Even Past*. (February 23, 2015). <https://notevenpast.org/from-virile-woman-to-woman-christ-studies-in-medieval-religion-and-literature-by-barbara-newman-1995/>

Translations

Translation of Paul of St. Père de Chartres. “The Orléans Heresy, Synod of Orléans (1022),” in *The Penguin Book of Cults* (Forthcoming). Invited translator.

Popular Publications

“Casting Call: A Beginner's Guide to Fishing Ozark Waters.” *CitiScapes Magazine*. (June 2015).

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences and Workshops

“Making American Men Medieval.” 59th International Congress on Medieval Studies, “Medieval and Medievalist Masculinities (A Roundtable).” The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (May 9-11, 2024).

“Mounting the Seventh Rung: Florilegia and the Sources of Scripture in Alan of Lille's *Ars praedicandi*.” 58th International Congress on Medieval Studies’ special session, “The Bible, Sacred Texts, and Preaching.” The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. (May 11-13, 2023).

“The Mobilization of Medieval Education in the U.S. Gender Wars.” The Institute for Historical Studies in the Department of History, University of Texas at Austin. Panel: “Imagining Tradition: Right-wing Uses of History.” (March 30, 2023).

“Metaphor, Gendered Moral Formation, and a Carolingian era Florilegium: The *Liber scintillarum* and Cistercian Education at the turn of the Thirteenth Century.” The Institute for Historical Studies in the Department of History, University of Texas at Austin (March 20, 2023).

“*Intellectus* and the Monastic Child: Age and Gender in Carolingian Monasticism.” 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies’ special session, “Age in Monastic Life.” The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. (May 9-14, 2022).

“Preparing for their Heavenly Groom: The Role of Ascetic Florilegia in the Moral Formation of New Cistercian Recruits in the late Twelfth Century.” Cistercian Worlds Virtual Conference. Centre for Medieval Studies. University of York. (July 1-2, 2021).

“Battle, Perilous and Frightening”: Learning Monastic Masculinity through Experience in Bernard of Clairvaux's Parables.” 56th International Congress on Medieval Studies' special session, “Preaching Gender.” The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. (May 13-15, 2021).

“The Angels are like oblates: 'Childhood' and the Construction of Masculinity in Early Medieval Monasteries.” The Symposium on Gender, History, and Sexuality. University of Texas at Austin (February 12, 2021).

“Making Political Men: Weaponizing Monasticism in the Twentieth-Century Gender Wars.” Two Nations, Under God: Religious Rhetoric in the Political Process in the United States and Russia. The University of Texas at Austin (Invited participant, canceled due to COVID-19).

“Gendering the Novitiate: Imagining the Novice in a Time of Reform,” New Works in Progress Series. Institute for Historical Studies in the Department of History, The University of Texas at Austin (February 12, 2020).

“History of Childhood and Youth II.” Invited Roundtable Participant. Western Society for French History's 47th Annual Conference. Bozeman, Montana (October 3-5, 2019).

“To be a Monkish Man: Monasticism, Medievalism, and Masculinity in the U.S. Culture Wars.” Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. University of Nevada, Las Vegas. (July 31-August 2, 2019).

“Gendering Florilegia: Vice, Virtue, and Making Monastic Language.” 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies. The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. (May 9-12, 2019).

“Buildings Building Bodies: The Intersection of Spiritual Formation and Architecture in the Making of Cistercian *Habitus*.” Body, Place, and Identity Conference. University of North Texas. Denton, Texas (March 1-2, 2019).

“Making Monastic Men out of Metaphorical Boys: Cistercian Novices in the “*Schola Christi*.” Cistercian Studies Conference. Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 2016).

“A Holy Drama: The Cell in Ælred of Rievaulx's *De Institutis Inclusarum*.” Vagantes Medieval Graduate Student Conference. Madison, Wisconsin (March 2013).

Panels, Conferences, and Colloquia Organized or Chaired

“Imagining Tradition: Right-wing Uses of History.” Organizer. The Institute for Historical Studies in the Department of History, University of Texas at Austin (March 30, 2023).

“Age in Monastic Life.” Organized with Amelia Kennedy. 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies. The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (May 9-14, 2022).

“Eroticism and Love Interests.” Chair. 56th International Congress on Medieval Studies. The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (May 13-15, 2021).

“Teaching the Middle Ages with Inclusivity and Diversity.” Roundtable. Sponsored by The Medieval Academy of America's Graduate Student Committee. Organized with Jonathan Correa-Reyes. 56th International Congress on Medieval Studies. The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (May 13-15, 2021).

“Placing People in the Past.” Chair. Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. University of Nevada, Las Vegas (July 31-August 2, 2019).

“Masculinities and Medievalisms in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century.” Organized and chaired. Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada (July 31-August 2, 2019).

“Vices and Virtues: Gender, Subversion, and Moralizing Discourses.” Organized with Matthew Vanderpoel. 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies. The Medieval Institute. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo (May 9-12, 2019).

“A Political or Apolitical Faith: The Role of Faith in Politics, Civic Discourse, and Governance.” Organizer. Boston College School of Theology and Ministry's Second Annual Colloquium sponsored by *Lumen et Vita*. Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts (November 30, 2012).

Lectures and Other Talks

“Star Wars and Religion.” Guest lecturer. Religion and Outer Space. University of Texas at Austin (November 1, 2021).

“Pursuing Graduate Work in the Humanities.” Invited roundtable participant (Virtual). University of Arkansas Honors College (October 13, 2020).

“Commercial Capitalism, Civil Society, and the Making of the Bourgeois World.” Guest lecturer. Western Civilization in Modern Times. University of Texas at Austin (March 14, 2019).

“Making Medieval Christendom: Consolidation and Crusade, c. 1000-1204.” Guest lecturer. Premodern World. University of Texas at Austin (November 8, 2016).

“Gender and Evangelical Medievalisms.” Three Minute Thesis. University of Texas at Austin, History Department (November 2016).

TEACHING & SERVICE

Courses Taught or Scheduled

The Evolution of Christianity, 300-1500 (Fall 2025)

Renaissance and Reformation (Spring 2026)

Jesus and Gender: Premodern Christianity, Gender, and Sexuality

World Religions

Premodern World History

The Medieval Millennium: Economies and Encounters

Introduction to the Bible

Teaching Assistantships and Other Positions

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS 315L: The United States Since 1865 with Dr. H.W. Brands (Spring 2022)

Teaching Assistant and Discussion Section Leader, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Religious Studies UGS 303: Religion and Outer Space with Dr. Brent Landau (Fall 2021)

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS S315L: The United States Since 1865 with Ashley Garcia (Summer 2021)

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS 315L: The United States Since 1865 with Dr. Rachel Ozanne (Fall 2020)

Supplemental Discussion Leader, University of Texas at Austin
Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts and Ideas (Spring 2019)

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS 309L: Western Civilization in Modern Times with Dr. James Vaughn (Spring 2019)

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS 317L: Establishing America, 1565-1820 with Dr. Aragorn Miller (Spring 2017)

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS 301F: Pre-modern World History with Dr. William Kramer (Fall 2016)

Teaching Assistant and Discussion Section Leader University of Texas at Austin, Department of French and Italian UGS 303: Dante's Hell and Its Afterlife with Dr. Guy Raffa (Spring 2016)

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of History
HIS 375K: Tudor England, 1485-1603 with Dr. Brian Levack (Fall 2015)

Mentoring and Training

Inclusive Classrooms Leadership Certificate for Excellence in Teaching, University of Texas at Austin Division of Diversity and Community Engagement and the Graduate School

Teaching Certificate in First-Year Interdisciplinary Instruction, Granted by the University of Texas at Austin School of Undergraduate Studies

Organizer, Undergraduate History Reading Group (Spring 2016-Spring 2017)

Kubn Family Intellectual Entrepreneurship Pre-Graduate School Mentor (Fall 2016)

Academic Service

Chair, Society for the History of Children and Youth Dissertation Prize Committee (2024-2025)

Editorial Board, Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth (Summer 2024-Present)

Peer Reviewer, Essays in Medieval Studies (2022-Present)

Co-Coordinator, Symposium on Gender, History, & Sexuality, Department of History, University of Texas at Austin (2021-2022)

Medieval Academy of America Graduate Student Committee (2019-2021)

Assistant Editor, Hortulus: The Online Graduate Journal of Medieval Studies (2018)

Peer Reviewer, Hortulus: The Online Graduate Journal of Medieval Studies (Fall/Winter 2017)

Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Martha Newman (2014-2015)

Editor-in-Chief, Lumen et Vita: The Graduate Academic Journal of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry (2012-2013)

Associate Editor, Lumen et Vita: The Graduate Academic Journal of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry (2011-2012)

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Andrew, Scottie. "The Inhabitants of a Medieval Grave in Finland May Have Been Nonbinary, a New Study Finds." *CNN* (August 12, 2021). <https://www.cnn.com/2021/08/12/world/nonbinary-warrior-finland-scnd-trnd/index.html> [Interviewed about and provided expertise on the history of medieval European nonbinary people.]

LANGUAGES

Latin (Reading and translating ability)

French (Reading ability)

German (Reading ability)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Hagiography Society

Society for the History of Children and Youth

Society of Medieval Feminist Scholarship