Stanford



Rowan Dorin

Associate Professor of History

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

I am a historian of western Europe and the Mediterranean, primarily during the high and late Middle Ages. Much of my research tries to understand how law and society interact with each other, especially where legal norms conflict with social practices. Another strand of my research explores the history of economic life and economic thought, especially medieval debates over usury and moneylending. I have also written on the circulation of goods, people, and ideas in the medieval Mediterranean.

My recent book (No Return: Jews, Christian Usurers, and the Spread of Mass Expulsion in Medieval Europe, Princeton University Press, 2023) uses the banishment of Jewish and Christian moneylenders to explore the rise of mass expulsion as a widespread practice in the later Middle Ages. A second ongoing project examines the ways in which medieval canon law was adapted, reinterpreted, or resisted in local contexts in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The latter builds on Corpus Synodalium, a prize-winning full-text database of late medieval local ecclesiastical legislation that I have been developing since 2016, with assistance from colleagues around the world.

Born and raised in western Canada, I did my undergraduate and doctoral work at Harvard University, earning an MPhil in Medieval History from the University of Cambridge along the way. Before coming to Stanford, I was a Junior Fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, History

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Director, Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, (2023- present)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Comitato scientifico, Fondazione per le scienze religiose, Bologna (2022 - present)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Harvard University , History (2015)
- M.Phil., University of Cambridge , Medieval History (2009)
- AB (Hon.), Harvard College , History (2007)

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Core Colloquium: Graduate Readings in Medieval History: HISTORY 313 (Aut)
- Junior Honors Colloquium: HISTORY 299H (Win)
- New Directions in Medieval and Early Modern Studies: COMPLIT 311M, HISTORY 311M (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Pastimes: History through Sport and Games: HISTORY 2 (Win)

2025-26

- Blood and Money: The Origins of Antisemitism: HISTORY 86Q, JEWISHST 86Q (Spr)
- Blood and Money: The Origins of Antisemitism: MLA 395 (Spr)
- Doing Legal History: HISTORY 200A (Win)
- Humanities Research Intensive: ENGLISH 9R (Win)
- Junior Honors Colloquium: HISTORY 299H (Win)
- New Directions in Medieval and Early Modern Studies: COMPLIT 311M, HISTORY 311M (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Traders and Crusaders in the Medieval Mediterranean: HISTORY 116, HISTORY 16 (Spr)

2024-25

- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Core Colloquium: Graduate Readings in Medieval History: HISTORY 313 (Aut)
- Crisis and Community in the Jewish Tradition: HISTORY 18C, JEWISHST 117 (Spr)
- Introduction to the Sources of Medieval History: HISTORY 317 (Spr)
- Junior Honors Colloquium: HISTORY 299H (Win)
- New Directions in Medieval and Early Modern Studies: HISTORY 311M (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Research Seminar for Majors: HISTORY 209S (Aut)

2023-24

- Blood and Money: The Origins of Antisemitism: HISTORY 86Q, JEWISHST 86Q (Win)
- Doing Legal History: HISTORY 200A (Win)
- Medieval Paris: OSPPARIS 73 (Spr)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Lauren Urbont

Orals Chair

Luo Jia, Fernando Martinez Periset

Orals Evaluator

Joe Amato, Eric Lindheim-Marx, Lauren Urbont

Doctoral (Program)

Eric Lindheim-Marx, Lauren Urbont

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **No Return: Jews, Christian Usurers, and the Spread of Mass Expulsion in Medieval Europe** *Histories of Economic Life*
  Dorin, R.
  Princeton University Press.2023

- **Corpus Synodalium: Medieval Canon Law in the Digital Age** *Digital Medieval Studies: Practice and Preservation*
  Dorin, R.
  edited by Morreale, L. K., Gilsdorf, S.
  ARC Humanities.2022: 49-75

- **THE BISHOP AS LAWMAKER IN LATE MEDIEVAL EUROPE** *PAST & PRESENT*
  Dorin, R.
  2021: 45-82

- **Usury and Restitution in Late Medieval Episcopal Statutes: A Case Study in the Local Reception of Conciliar Decrees** *BULLETIN OF MEDIEVAL CANON LAW-NEW SERIES*
  Dorin, R., Riva, R.
  2021; 38: 309-359

- **Diffusion des normes dans l'église de la fin du moyen âge: Les législations ecclésiastiques locales, 1215-1500. Introduction** *Revue de droit canonique*
  Dorin, R., Barralis, C.
  2021; 71 (1): 5-17

- **Migrant Moneylenders and the Threat of Expulsion in Late Medieval Europe** *L'expérience de la mobilité, de l'Antiquité à nos jours. Entre précarité et confiance*
  Dorin, R.
  edited by Moatti, C., Chevreau, E.
  Ausonius.2021: 49-66

- **Order and Disorder: The Documentary Additions to the Liber Ordinarius of Nivelles** *The Liber ordinarius of Nivelles (Houghton Library, MS Lat 422): Liturgy as Interdisciplinary Intersection*
  Dorin, R., Schlotheuber, E.
  edited by Hamburger, J. F.
  Mohr Siebeck.2019: 133-150

- **"Once the Jews have been Expelled": Intent and Interpretation in Late Medieval Canon Law** *LAW AND HISTORY REVIEW*
  Dorin, R. W.
  2016; 34 (2): 335-362

- **Les maîtres parisiens et les Juifs (fin XIIIe siècle): Perspectives nouvelles sur un dossier d'avis concernant le regimen judaeorum** *Journal des Savants*
  Dorin, R. W.
  2016: 241-282

- **Canon law and the problem of expulsion: The origins and interpretation of Usurarum voraginem (VI 5.5.1)** *Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte: Kanonistische Abteilung*
  Dorin, R. W.
  2013; 99: 129-161

- **Adriatic Trade Networks in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries** *Trade and Markets in Byzantium*
  Dorin, R. W.
  Harvard University Press.2012: 235-279