
Laura Stokes
Assistant Professor of History
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EDUCATION

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

PhD in History, May 2006

Major Field: Early Modern Europe (social history); Minor Field: East Africa, 1500-1850

Dissertation: "Demons of Urban Reform: The Rise of Witchcraft Prosecution in Basel, Lucerne and Nuremberg 1430-1530"

Dissertation Advisor: Erik Midelfort

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

MA in History, 2001

Thesis: "Demons and Dangerous Women: Johannes Nider on Witches"

Reed College, Portland, OR

BA in History, 1996

Thesis: "Demons and Deviants: A Study of the Changing Social Treatment of Witches and Madmen in Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century France"

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Fairfax County, VA

Advanced Studies Diploma, 1992

BOOKS

Demons of Urban Reform: Early European Witch Trials and Criminal Justice, 1430-1530
(Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

Translation: Johannes Dillinger *'Evil People': A comparative study of witch hunts in Swabian Austria and the Electorate of Trier* (University of Virginia Press, 2009).

ARTICLES

Peer Reviewed

"Towards the Witch Craze" in *The [Oxford] Handbook of Women and Gender in Medieval Europe* (currently available online, hardcopy forthcoming in July 2013).

"Experiments in Pain: Reason and the Development of Judicial Torture" in *Ideas and Cultural Margins in Early Modern Germany: Essays in Honor of H. C. Erik Midelfort*, (Ashgate, 2009).

"Prelude: Early witch-hunting in Germany and Switzerland." In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 4:1 (Summer, 2009): 54-61.

Other

"Mit dem Teufel im Bund." In *Epoc. Das Magazin für Archäologie und Geschichte*. (05/2010).

“Nuremberg/Nürnberg” in *Hexenforschung Lexikon* at historicum.net

“Lucerne/Luzern” in *Hexenforschung Lexikon* at historicum.net

WORKS IN PROGRESS

A Social History of Greed in the Age of the Reformation (working title). Book project on the uses and meanings of the concept of greed among ordinary people during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Archival research begun Fall 2011.

The Murder of Uly Mörnach (working title). Microhistory of a murder conspiracy within the Basel butchers' guild at the turn of the sixteenth century. Manuscript currently under revision.

"The Limits of Persecution? Gay subculture in late medieval Cologne survives a panic" (working title). Translation and analysis of archival sources pertaining to a gay panic in Cologne in 1499.

BOOK REVIEWS

Michael Ostling, *Between the Devil and the Host: Imagining Witchcraft in Early Modern Poland*. (New York, 2001). In *The American Historical Review*.

Katrin Utz Tremp, *Von der Häeresie zur Hexerei: "Wirkliche" und imaginäre Sekten im Spätmittelalter*. (Hannover, 2008). In *Speculum*.

Jeffrey R. Watt, *The Scourge of Demons: Possession, Lust, and Witchcraft in a Seventeenth-Century Italian Convent*. (Rochester, NY, 2009). In *Journal of Social History*.

Sönke Lorenz and Jürgen Michael Schmidt, eds., *Wider alle Hexerei. Die europäische Hexenverfolgung und ihre Auswirkungen auf Südwestdeutschland* (Thorbecke, 2007). In *Francia-Recensio*.

Thomas Robisheaux, *The Last Witch of Langenburg: Murder in a German Village* (Norton, 2009). In *Law and History Review*.

Edward Bever, *The Realities of Witchcraft and Popular Magic in Early Modern Europe* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008). In *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*.

Georg Modestin, *Ketzer in der Stadt. Der Prozess gegen die Straßburger Waldenser von 1400* and *Quellen zur Geschichte der Waldenser von Straßburg (1400-1401)* (Hannover: Hahnsche Buchhandlung, 2007). In *Sixteenth Century Journal*.

Niklaus Schatzmann, *Verdorrende Bäume und Brote wie Kuhfladen. Hexenprozesse in der Leventina 1431-1459 und die Anfänge der Hexenverfolgung auf der Alpensüdseite*. (Zurich: Chronos Verlag, 2003). In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*.

Christina Deutsch, *Ehegerichtsbarkeit im Bistum Regensburg (1480-1538)* (Cologne:Böhlau, 2005). In *Sixteenth Century Journal*.

Friedrich Spee, *Cautio Criminalis, or a Book on Witch Trials* translated by Marcus Hellyer (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2003). In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*.

Edward Peters, "The Medieval Church and State on Superstition, Magic and Witchcraft: From Augustine to the Sixteenth Century" in: *Witchcraft and Magic in Europe: The Middle Ages* (London: Athlone Press, 2002). AKIH mailing list, 2003.

PRESENTATIONS

- “Persecution, Law, and the Origins of Modernity: A Lecture on the History of Witch Hunting,” Keynote Lecture, Point Park University Humanities Symposium, April 2013.
- “Wealth Admired, Wealth Hated. Managing Money and Power in Fifteenth-Century Basel,” Stanford Religion and Wealth Lecture Series, March 2013.
- “A Man Who Needed Killing: Hubris and Guild Honor in Sixteenth-Century Basel,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 2012.
- “Reassessing the Reformation Hiatus in the Witch Hunts,” German Studies Association, October 2012.
- “Greed between the Lines: Social Criticism in Court Depositions from Basel,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 2010.
- “Witchcraft Accusations and the Social Criticism of Greed,” German Studies Association, October 2010.
- “Indigenous Manifestations of Evil and the Epistemology of Witchcraft,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, March 2009.
- “The Witches’ Devil: Outlaws, Wolves and the Saturation of the Ordinary with the Supernatural,” Devil in Premodern Society conference at the University of Toronto, October 2008.
- “Hagel und Hexen: The meaning of weather magic in the formation of witch stereotypes on the upper Rhine,” invited lecture at the University of Minnesota, October 2008.
- “Hagel und Hexen: The meaning of weather magic in the formation of witch stereotypes on the upper Rhine,” Boundaries of Witchcraft conference at Oxford University, March 2008.
- “Experiments in Pain: Reason and the Development of Judicial Torture,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, October 2007.
- “Gendered Persecutions of Witchcraft and Sodomy in Basel and Lucerne,” Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Salt Lake City, October 2006.
- “Every Witch Must Make Hail, Whether She Wants to or Not: The Origins of Witch Hunting in Basel, Lucerne, and Nuremberg,” invited lecture at Bucknell University, 2006.
- “The State of Contemporary Witch Research,” roundtable at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 2005.
- “Evil in the Hinterlands: Territorial Growth and the Prosecution of Witches and Sodomites in Basel, 1430-1530,” Barnes Club Conference at Temple University, 2005 (Awarded Honorable Mention for Best Paper in European History)
- “Verbannung der Hexe: Stadtfrieden und Zaubereidelikt in Basel, Luzern und Nürnberg, 1430-1530” AKIH conference, 2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Stanford University, Department of History, Fall 2007-present.

Courses: Core Colloquium for Early Modern Europe (HIST 330A), Ordinary Lives: Social History of Early Modern Europe (HIST 132), European Witch Hunts Freshman Seminar (HIST 34N), Early Modern Sexualities (HIST 233B/333B), European Witch Hunts Lecture (HIST 34A/134A), Utopia Freshman Seminar (HIST 6N), Early Modern Survey Lecture (HIST 10A/110A), European Reformations (HIST231G/331G), Early Modern Europe in Print (HIST 430C), The Problem of Europe (IHUM74A)

Lecturer, University of Virginia, Corcoran Department of History, Spring 2007. Gender History, History of Utopias, African History.

Assistant Professor, George Mason University, Department of History and Art History, Fall 2006. Western Civilization.

Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia, Corcoran Department of History, Spring 2005. History of Witchcraft.

Instructor, University of Virginia, Corcoran Department of History, Summer 2004. Western Civilization II: 1600-2000 (Lecture and discussion).

Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia, Corcoran Department of History, 2001-2002. Ancient Greece; Roman Republic and Empire.

INTERNAL TALKS AND GUEST TEACHING

“The Murder of Uly Mörmach: Greed, Honor, and Violence in the Sixteenth Century” Stanford Continuing Education, Saturday University, January 2013.

Guest Lecturer “The Reformation” Structured Liberal Education Program, February 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010.

Guest Lecturer “The European Witch Hunts” HIST 110B, October 2012.

History Lunch Talk “Vampires in Early Modern Europe: The Night-Terrors of New Mothers” October 2010.

Halloween Talks at Haus Mitteleuropa and Robinson Hall, October 2010.

History Lunch Talk “A Halloween Werewolf: Wolves and Terror in the European Past” October 2009.

Feminist Studies Lunch Talk “Witchcraft, Sexuality and Persecution” October 2009.

Guest Seminar Participant “Witchcraft, Sodomy, and the Demonization of Crime” in Matt Sommer's Homosexuality in Historical and Comparative Perspective course, April 2009.

“Modernization, Reform and the Persecution of Witchcraft” International Discussion Series Talk at Bechtel International Center, February 2009.

History Lunch Talk “From Terrifying to Tame: Domesticating the witch” October 2007 and October 2008

Guest Lecturer “The Witch Hunts” in Kathryn Miller's Great Trials course, April 2008.

Guest Lecturer “German Paleography” in John Mustain's Materials and Methods course, February 2008.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Internal Faculty Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, 2012-2013
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship, George Mason University, 2006
Graduate Fellowship, Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund, 2004, 2005
GSAS Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2005 (declined)
Graduate Travel Grant for International Conference, Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär, 2005
Dumas Malone Fellowship, Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, 2002, 2003
Graduate Research Fellowship, DAAD, 2002 (declined)
Paleography Seminar, German Historical Institute, 2002
Governor's Fellowship, University of Virginia, 1997, 2000, 2001
Summer Research Travel Grant, University of Virginia, 2001
Latin Summer Language Institute Grant, University of Virginia, 2001
Academic Scholarship, Reed College, 1993, 1994, 1995
Commendation for Academic Excellence, Reed College, 1993, 1994, 1995

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

External Reviewer Journal of Law and Religion, 2012
Search Committees Modern European History, 2009-2010. Medieval Europe, 2012-2013.
Committee Member History One Exploratory Committee, summer 2012
Graduate Affairs Committee, Stanford History Department, 2010
Graduate Admissions Committee Stanford History Department, 2008
Faculty Appointments Committee Stanford History Department, 2008-2012
Committee Member Honors thesis prize committee of the History Department, 2010, 2012
Committee Member Dissertation prize committee of the History Department, 2008
Acting Committee Chair Ad-hoc Greening Committee of the History Department, 2010
Community Volunteer MAGIC Oaks Reforestation Project on Stanford Dish, 2008-2010
Application Screener External faculty fellowship program of the Stanford Humanities Center, 2009-2010
Graduate Admissions Coordinator Early Modern Europe Field, 2009-2012
Curricular Coordinator Early Modern Europe Field, 2009, 2011-2012
Panel Coordinator For annual panels at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference sponsored by Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär, 2008-2012
Faculty Coordinator Multidisciplinary Approaches to Medieval and Early Modern Studies, a workshop sponsored by the Stanford Humanities Center and CMEMS, 2008-2012
Judge for Lopez/Rosaldo Prize for Stanford Program in Feminist Studies, 2008
Organizer Sarah Dunant, "Novel History: Fact or Fiction" Public Lecture and MEMS Workshop, November 2010
Organizer with Nancy Kollmann of a Witchcraft Workshop sponsored by Stanford CMEMS, 2008
Sixteenth Century Society and Conference Member 2005-present
Arbeitskreis Interdisziplinär Hexenforschung (AKIH: Interdisciplinary Witchcraft Research Workshop) Member 2001-present

INTERVIEWS

Voice of America Korea 1/12/2009
Stanford Radio Station, 2008
Stanford Humanities News Service, 2011 and 2012