
Megan B. Abrahamson

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION

PhD in English (Medieval Literature) University of Missouri Interdisciplinary Minor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies <i>Dissertation: "Fanfiction, Medieval Romance, and the Erotics of Shame."</i>	May 2020
MA in English with a concentration in Medieval Studies University of New Mexico	May 2014
BAs in English and History with a minor in Medieval Studies UNM, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> with International Distinction Study Abroad to the University of Aberdeen, UK	May 2011 2009-2010

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Faculty, Department of English, Central New Mexico Community College	2024-present
Term Faculty, University of New Mexico	2023-2024
Term Faculty, Central New Mexico Community College	2020-2024
Graduate Instructor, University of Missouri	2015-2020
Assistant to the Director of Graduate Studies <i>Maintained department website, assisted in improvements to graduate program, and planned welcome day for prospective students.</i>	2019-2020
Online Instructor for MU Online, University of Missouri	2018-2019
Composition Staff, University of Missouri <i>Supported the curricular, professional development, and administrative functions of the Composition Program, including mentoring new instructors, planning and facilitating pedagogical workshops, and contributing to program research, assessment, and evaluation.</i>	2017-2018
Term Faculty, University of New Mexico and UNM West	2014-2015
Medieval Outreach Fellow, University of New Mexico <i>Communicated with Albuquerque junior and high school teachers and organized visits and presentations from UNM faculty and students.</i>	2013-2014
Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship, University of New Mexico <i>Instructor of Record</i>	2011-2014

TEACHING

Instructor of Record***University of New Mexico, Honors College***

Rhetoric and Discourse: Fans and Fandom
 Legacy of Fantasy 2 sections

Central New Mexico Community College, Department of English

Film as Literature
 Analysis of Literature
 Introduction to Literature
 Honors (Legacy of Fantasy) 2 sections
 Composition I 11 sections
 Technical Communications 6 sections
 Composition II 12 sections

University of Missouri, Department of English

Technical Writing
 Themes in Literature (Science Fiction and Fantasy)
 Writing about Literature (Science Fiction and Fantasy)
 Introduction to British Literature 2 sections
 Exposition and Argument (English 1000) 5 sections

University of Missouri, Honors

Exposition and Argument, Honors Humanities section
 Exposition and Argument, Honors (English 1000) 4 sections

University of Missouri, Online

Exposition and Argument (English 1000) Online 2 sections
 Popular Literature: Tolkien

University of New Mexico, English Department

Topics in Medieval Literature and Studies “Middle-earth, Middle Ages: Tolkien and the Medieval Past”
 Technical and Professional Writing 2 sections
 Expository Writing “Fandom and Fanfiction” 4 sections
 Expository Writing “Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings* Today”
 Composition II: Analysis & Argument 4 sections
 Composition I: Exposition 3 sections

University of New Mexico, Honors Program

Rhetoric and Discourse (Writing) “Media Fandom, Fan Culture, and Fanfiction”

Teaching Assistantships***University of Missouri***

Themes in Literature: Heroes and Monsters *Teaching Assistant to Johanna Kramer*

University of New Mexico

Viking Mythology *Teaching Assistant to visiting scholar Geoffrey Russom*
 Arthurian Legends *Grader for Anita Obermeier*
 Honors Senior Teaching Co-Teaching Capstone “J.R.R. Tolkien’s Legacy”
with Leslie A. Donovan

PUBLICATIONS

- “‘Great Plaits Braided with Gold’: Black Fingon, Racebending, and Tolkien Fan Art on Tumblr.” Accepted, forthcoming in: *Anthology of Race, Racism and Tolkien*, ed. Robin Anne Reid (McFarland).
- “‘Spectacle’ and Cyclicity in *The Green Knight* (2021).” Under review for *The Year’s Work in Medievalism*.
- “J.R.R. Tolkien, Fanfiction, and ‘The Freedom of the Reader.’” *Mythlore* Vol. 32, No. 1 (Fall/Winter 2013): 53-72.
- “‘A Long Time Ago, in a Britain Far, Far Away’: The Arthurian Influences on *Star Wars*.” *Best Student Essays*: Vol. 20, No. 2 (2008): 10-15.

AWARDS

University of Missouri

John D. Bies International Travel Award	Summer 2019
Judith A. and Richard B. Schwartz Travel Award, English Department	Summer 2019
English Graduate Student Association Conference Travel Grant Recipient	2016, 2019
Graduate Professional Council Conference Presentation Travel Award	Fall 2018

University of New Mexico

Nominated, Core Writing Award: Outstanding Student Teacher	Spring 2014
Office of Graduate Studies RPT Grant Recipient	Spring 2014
English Department Student Travel Grant Recipient	Spring 2014
Medieval Studies Student Association Recognition of Service 2011-2013	Spring 2014
Core Writing Award: Best 220 Sequence	Spring 2013
Reba Rutz Beidleman Scholarship Recipient	2011-2012

Professional

Emerging Scholar Grant, International Courtly Literature Society	Spring 2020
Starving Scholar Award, Mythopoeic Society	Summer 2019
Alexi Kondratiev Award for the Best Student Paper Presented at Mythcon, Mythopoeic Society	Summer 2016
Alexi Kondratiev Award for the Best Student Paper Presented at Mythcon, Mythopoeic Society	Summer 2013

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Papers and Panels

- “‘F Yeah, Arthuriana’: Fan Scholarship on Tumblr.” Roundtable. 58th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Online, May 11-13, 2023.
- “‘Long Dark Hair in Great Plaits Braided with Gold’: Black Fingon and Racebending in Transformative Tolkien Fanworks.” Mythcon 52: *The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien*. Albuquerque, NM July 29-August 1, 2022.
- “Queer Encounters of the Third Kind: The Alien Metaphor in *Roswell, New Mexico*.” Panel Chair. Mythcon 52: *The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien*. Albuquerque, NM July 29-August 1, 2022.
- “‘Spectacle’ and Cyclicity in *The Green Knight*.” Roundtable. 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Online, 9-14 May, 2022.

- Session Chair, “Romance and Rhetoric: Roundtable in Honor of Dhira Mahoney.” 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Online, 9-14 May, 2022.
- “‘Thou Shalt Commit Adultery’: Precision in Technical Writing.” EPA Region 6 Pesticide Inspector Conference. Albuquerque, NM: May 9-13, 2022.
- “Race, Racisms, and Tolkien.” Panel organizer and presenter. Mythcon 51: *A Virtual Halfling Mythcon*. Online, July 31-August 1, 2021.
- “Violence, Vulnerability, and Hurt/Comfort Fanfiction in the *Stanzaic Guy of Warwick* and the *Alliterative Morte Arthure*.” 56th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI: 10-15 May, 2021.
- “What (Loathly) Ladies Want: Fanfiction, Fantasy, and Feminine Desire in *The Wife of Bath’s Tale* and *The Wedding of Sir Gawain*.” Mythcon 50: *Looking Back, Moving Forward*. San Diego, CA: August 2-5, 2019.
- “Sadomasochistic Fanfiction and the Rules of *Fin Amor* in Marie de France and Malory.” *Fan Cultures and the Premodern World: A Conference*. History Faculty, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK: July 5-6, 2019.
- “Feirefiz, Ferumbras, and Finn: Motifs of the Converted Saracen in *Parzival*, *The Sultan of Babylon*, and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*.” 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI: 9-12 May 2019.
- “Teaching Tolkien in Today’s University.” A panel co-organized with Leslie A. Donovan. Tolkien Weekend: A New York Tolkien Conference in partnership with the Morgan Library and Museum in New York, NY. March 16-17, 2019.
- “Defining Medievalism: Tolkien’s *Sellic Spell* and the Problem of Unferth and Grendel’s Mother”; Panelist on “The Golden Foundations of Arda” and “The Single Leaf Project: Tolkien in Birmingham.” Mythcon 48: *All That Is Gold*. Champaign-Urbana, IL: Jul 28-31, 2017.
- “Ferumbras, Feirefiz, and Finn: Motifs of the Converted Saracen in *The Sultan of Babylon*, *Parzival*, and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*.” Mythcon 47: *Faces of Mythology: Ancient, Medieval, Modern*. San Antonio, TX: 5-8 Aug, 2016.
- “The Critical Fan: Chaucer’s Clerk as Fanfiction Author.” Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association 2106: *The Past, Present, and Future of Medieval and Renaissance Text*. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM: 16-18 Jun 2016.
- “Tolkien and the Graduate Student Instructor: A Medieval Fanboy in the Composition Classroom.” *Tolkien Studies II: Pedagogy. Teaching Tolkien’s Middle-earth in the 21st Century Roundtable*. Popular Culture and American Culture Associations 46th Annual Conference. Seattle, WA: 22-25 Mar 2016.
- “‘It is not said that Aredhel was wholly unwilling’: Consent and Historical Bias in ‘the Silmarillion.’” Mythcon 45: *Where Fantasy Fits*. Wheaton College, Norton, MA: 8-11 Aug 2014.
- “Criseyde and the Wife of Bath as Fans: Female Readership and Subversive Strategies in Fandom.” 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI: 8-11 May 2014.
- “Arcane and Divine: The Medievalism of Magic in the *Dungeons and Dragons* Roleplaying Game.” Southwest Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Association’s 35th Annual Conference. Albuquerque, NM: 19-22 Feb 2014.

- “J.R.R. Tolkien, Fanfiction, and ‘The Freedom of the Reader.’” Mythcon 44: *Green and Growing: The Land and Its Inhabitants in Fantasy*. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI: 12-15 July 2013.
- “‘Sir Gary-Stu’: *Le Morte D’Arthur* as Malory’s Self-Insert Fan-Fiction.” Medieval Association of the Pacific Conference. University of San Diego, San Diego, CA: 21-23 March 2013.
- “‘Sir Marty-Stu’: Lancelot and *Le Morte D’Arthur* as Self-Insert Fan-Fiction.” Southwest Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations 33rd Annual Conference. Albuquerque, NM: 8-11 Feb 2012.
- “‘I do know Celtic things’: Tolkien, the Accidental Celticist.” Studies in Medievalism: 26th International Conference on Medievalism. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM: 21-22 Oct, 2011.
- “Túrin Turambar and Lancelot Du Lac: Tolkien’s Answer to Malory.” Mythcon 42: *Monsters, Marvels, and Minstrels: The Rise of Modern Medievalism*. Albuquerque, NM: 15-18 July 2011.
- “‘A Long Time Ago, In a Britain Far, Far Away’: The Arthurian Influence on *Star Wars*.” Medieval Association of the Pacific Conference. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM: 6-7 March 2009.

Conference Organizer

- Co-Chair. Mythcon 52: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien. Albuquerque, NM: 2019-August 2022. Rescheduled for July 29-August 1, 2022.
- Co-Chair. Mythcon 51: *A Virtual “Halfling” Mythcon*. 2019-August 2021.
- Coordination Committee Member. Mythcon 49: *On the Shoulders of Giants*. Atlanta, GA: July 2018.
- Coordination Committee Member. Mythcon 42: *Monsters, Marvels, and Minstrels: The Rise of Modern Medievalism*. Albuquerque, NM: 2009-July 2011.
- Coordinator and Session Chair. Medieval Studies Student Association Fall Colloquium. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM: 18 Oct 2012.
- Co-Creator and Coordinator. Intellectual Hooliganism: 1st Science Fiction and Fantasy Student Colloquium. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM: 27 March 2009.

LECTURES

Guest Lectures

- “Sir Gawain and Arthurian Fanfiction.” Special Topics in Literature: Arthurian Myths taught by Emilee Howland, University of Wisconsin, Superior: 10 Feb 2021.
- “Violence, Vulnerability, and Fanfiction in the *Alliterative Morte Arthure*.” Arthurian Literature Graduate Seminar taught by Susanne Hafner, Fordham University: 10 June 2021.
- “Representation and Popular Media” for English Composition taught by Emilee Howland, University of New Mexico: 21 Apr 2016.
- “*Alliterative Morte Arthure* and *Le Morte D’Arthur*” for Middle English Heroes, Saints, and Lovers, taught by Anita Obermeier, University of New Mexico: 10 Apr 2014.

Community Outreach

- “How to Wage Medieval Warfare.” Medieval Outreach to Albuquerque Academy: 25 Nov 2013.
- “*Beowulf*: Backgrounds and Contexts.” Medieval Outreach to St. Pius High School: 12 Nov 2013.
- “Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Medieval Spain.” Medieval Outreach to Salam Muslim

Academy: 1 Oct 2013.
 “The Peasant’s Revolt.” Medieval Outreach to Albuquerque High School: 15 Oct 2012.

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Editor, <i>Mythprint: The Quarterly Newsletter of the Mythopoeic Society</i> . Issue Numbers 370-407.	2014-present
Editorial Assistant, Mythopoeic Press <i>Mapping a Sense of Humour: Space and Narrative in Terry Pratchett’s Discworld Novels</i> (forthcoming)	Fall 2020
<i>Perilous and Fair: Women in the Works and Life of J. R. R. Tolkien</i>	Summer 2014

SERVICE

Professional

Mythopoeic Society Steward (Nonprofit Organization Leader)	2014-present
Reviewer, <i>Journal of Fandom Studies</i>	2023
President, Mythopoeic Society	2022
Reviewer, <i>Journal of Transformative Words and Cultures</i>	2020

Central New Mexico Community College

First Year Curriculum Committee member	2023
English Department Assessment Committee member	Fall 2021

University of Missouri

Missouri University Graduate Association for Medieval/Renaissance Studies Executive Board: Vice President	2018-2020
Judge, Mahan Freshman Essay Award	2019
English Graduate Student Association Co-Chair: Diversity Committee	2019-2020
Executive Board Member	2017-2018
Chair: Intersections Lecture Series	2016-2017
Coalition of Graduate Workers, English Department Representative	2016-2020

University of New Mexico

Member, Core Writing Textbook Focus Group Committee	Spring 2014
Member, Core Writing Student Learning Outcomes Focus Group	Fall 2012
Teaching and Learning Community at University of New Mexico	Fall 2011
Hobbit Society, University of New Mexico Officer: President	2008-2012
Officer: Secretary	2007-2008
Medieval Studies Student Association, University of New Mexico Officer: Vice President	2012-2013
Officer: Secretary	2011-2012

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Central New Mexico Community College

Critical Pedagogy Coalition cohort member (Spring 2022)

University of Missouri

Old Norse Reading Group (2021-present)

Old English Reading Group (2015-present)

Latin Reading Group (2022)

Composition Pedagogy Workshop “Teaching the Remediated Rhetoric Project” (2019)

Safe Space Training with the LGBTQ Resource Center (2017, 2019)

Manuscript Workshop on Books of Hours with Cynthia Camp (2108)

Department of English One-Reads: Zadie Smith and Angie Abdou (2019); “Teaching is Accommodation” (2018)

Composition Pedagogy Workshop “‘Shards of the Glass Ceiling’: Learning from the Visual-Digital Rhetorics of Multiracial Students’ Designs” (2019)

PROFESSIONAL AND SCHOLARLY AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association	2019-present
International Courtly Literature Society (North American Branch)	2019-present
International Arthurian Society (North American Branch)	2019-present
Mythopoeic Society	2013-present

LANGUAGES

Proficient: Middle English, Old English

Reading: Italian, Latin, Old Norse