

ARI (ROBERT) FRIEDLANDER
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PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Associate Professor of English, University of Mississippi, 2023 – Present
Assistant Professor of English, University of Mississippi, 2015 – 2023
Assistant Professor of English, University of Dayton, 2013 – 2015
Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Assistant Professor of English, University of California, Davis,
2011-2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, English Language and Literature
M.A., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, English Language and Literature
B.A., Columbia University, English Literature, Departmental Honors, *Magna Cum Laude*,
Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Impotent: A Sexual History of Early Capitalism (In Progress)

Rogue Sexuality in Early Modern English Literature: Desire, Status, Biopolitics (Oxford
University Press, 2022, Paperback, 2025)

- Finalist for the Shakespeare's Globe Book Award, 2023
- Finalist for the Shakespeare Association of America First Book Award, 2023

Reviewed in *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *Shakespeare Survey*, *Renaissance Studies*, and *The Year's Work in English Studies*

Edited Volumes

Trans Milton (in progress, with Urvashi Chakravarty and Colby Gordon)

Early Modern Biopolitics (in progress, with Jennifer Rust)

“Desiring History and Historicizing Desire,” Special issue, *JEMCS: Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 16.2 (Spring 2016), co-edited with Melissa Sanchez and Will Stockton

Peer Reviewed Articles and Chapters

“Mayhem’s Shadow: Seeing Debility, Race, and Soldierly in *Henry IV, Parts 1&2*,” *Shakespeare Jahrbuch* 161 (2025), Forthcoming

“When Milton Was Cis, or Histories of the Transgender Poet” (Under review)

“Asexuality, Impotence, and Colonial Desire in Richard Brome’s *The Antipodes*,” *Early Modern Asexualities*, eds. Liza Blake, Cat Clifford, and Aley O’Mara (Under review at Cornell University Press)

“Impotent,” *Logomotives: Words that Change the Early Modern World, 1400–1700*, eds. Marjorie Rubright and Stephen Spiess (Edinburgh University Press, 2025)

“Roguary and Reproduction in *The Winter’s Tale*,” *The Oxford Handbook of Shakespeare and Embodiment: Gender, Sexuality, Race*, ed. Valerie Traub (Oxford University Press, 2016)

“Introduction: Desiring History and Historicizing Desire,” Special issue, *JEMCS: Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 16.2 (Spring 2016)

“Mastery, Masculinity, and Sexual Cozening in Ben Jonson’s *Epicoene*,” *SEL: Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900*, 53.2 (Spring 2013)

Essay in Progress

“‘An Epitome of Time’: Queer Chronographia and Temporal Drag in Brome’s *A Jovial Crew*”

Public Scholarship

“[Conies Are Mean Rabbits Because They Carry Huge Swords](#),” *That Shakespeare Life*, Episode 245, Interview with Cassidy Cash (January 2023)

“[Paradise Lost: Book Four](#),” *Promiscuous Listening: A John Milton Podcast*, Episode 4, Interview with Marissa Greenberg (October 2021)

“[Five Myths About William Shakespeare](#),” *The Washington Post*, 4 September 2015, B3

“[Boning Richard III](#),” *Upstart: A Journal of English Renaissance Studies*, “Finding Richard: A Forum – Art Archaeology, Disability, Temporality” (August 2013)

Book and Theater Reviews

Rev. of Jeff Masten, *Queer Philologies: Sex, Language, and Affect in Shakespeare’s Time*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016, *Shakespeare Studies*, 45 (2017)

“*The Tragedy of Richard II* by Lord Denney’s Players,” *Shakespeare Bulletin*, 33.4 (Dec. 2015)

Rev. of James Bromley and Will Stockton, *Sex Before Sex: Figuring the Act in Early Modern England*, University of Minnesota Press, 2013, *Journal for Early Modern Cultural*

Studies, 15.1 (Winter 2015)

Poetry

“The Paul Simon Annotations, or, You Can Call Me Sonnet 110,” *Out of Sequence: The Sonnets Remixed*, ed. D. Gilson, Parlor Press, 2016

EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Delegate, International Shakespeare Conference, 2024
RaceB4Race Second Book Institute (Folger Shakespeare Library Mellon-funded Initiative), 2024
Finalist for Shakespeare’s Globe Book Award, 2023
Finalist for Shakespeare Association of America First Book Award, 2023
North American Conference on British Studies-Folger Institute (NACBS-FI) Fellow, The Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington D.C., 2022-2023
Andrew W. Mellon and Volkswagen Foundation Post-doctoral Fellow, Dahlem Humanities Center, Freie Universität Berlin, 2015-2016
Huntington Library Conference Organizer Grant, Henry E. Huntington Library, September 2014
Francis Bacon Foundation Fellowship, Henry E. Huntington Library, Summer 2012
Phi Beta Kappa, Columbia University, 2003

INTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Office of Research Travel Grant, University of Mississippi, 2024
Isom Fellow, The Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies, University of Mississippi, 2022-2024
College of Liberal Arts Summer Research Grant, University of Mississippi, 2023, 2022, 2019, 2017, 2016
Research Council Seed Grant, University of Dayton, 2014 (accepted), 2015 (declined)
A. Bartlett Giamatti Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan, 2008-2009
Carl Braun Research Travel Grant, University of Michigan, 2009
Rackham Humanities Research Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2007-2008
Rackham Humanities Research Candidacy Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2006-2007

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

“Histories of the Transgender Poet,” Early Modern Tans Sexualities Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, November 6-8, 2024
“The Color of Potency,” Uncommon Bodies Symposium, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, 2024
“Rogue Sexuality in Early Modern England,” First Book Series, University of Texas, Austin, 2023
“Impotence: Disability, Sex, and Labor in Early Modern England,” Early Modern Area Studies Seminar, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, 2022
“When Milton Was Cis,” Early Modern Trans Studies II, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, 2022

- “From Babel to Biopolitics: Class, Sexuality and Race in Early Modern English Rogue Literature,” University of North Carolina, Asheville, 2021
- “Status,” *Intersecting the Sexual: Modes of Early Modern Embodiment*, Folger Shakespeare Institute, 2019
- “Debility and Biopolitics in Early Modern England,” Renaissance Studies NOW, Program in Renaissance Studies, University of Indiana, Bloomington, 2019
- “Poverty, Population, Calculation,” Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 2017
- “The Biopolitics of Renaissance Roguery,” Early Modern Exchanges Seminar, University College London, 2016
- “Rogue Sexuality and the Material Text,” Ohio State University, History of the Book Group, 2014
- “Temporal Drag and the Sexual Politics of Social Difference,” Miami University Early Modern Studies Collective, Oxford, Ohio, 2013
- “Are We Being Digital Yet?: The Text Creation Partnership and Early Modern Literary Studies,” *Beyond the Facsimile: Rich Models of Late Medieval and Early Modern Texts*, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, England, 2010
- “Snapping Up Unconsidered Trifles: Bastards and Rogues in *The Winter’s Tale*,” University of Pennsylvania Medieval-Renaissance Seminar, Philadelphia, 2009

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Conferences Organized

- “Knowledge Relations: Historical Epistemologies, Emerging Methodologies, Contemporary Practices,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, January 2025, Co-organized with Marjorie Rubright, Gavin Hollis, and Stephen Spiess
- “The Abnormal Renaissance: Queers, Crips, and Rogues in the Early Modern World,” Dahlem Humanities Center, Freie Universität Berlin, June 6-7, 2016
- “Desiring History and Historicizing Desire: Sexuality in Early Modern England,” Henry E. Huntington Library, September 2014, Co-organized with Melissa Sanchez and Will Stockton
- “The Renaissance Arts of Science and Nature,” English Department, Early Modern Colloquium, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2010, Co-organized with Andrew Bozio, Katherine Brokaw, and Katherine Will

Panels and Seminars Organized

- “Trans Milton,” with Urvashi Chakravarty and Colby Gordon, Sponsored by the Milton Society of America, Renaissance Society of America, Boston, 2025
- “Trans Theologies,” Modern Language Association, New Orleans, 2025
- “The Biopolitics of Disability in Renaissance Europe,” Sponsored by the Hudson Strobe Program, Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, 2024
- “‘The World Must Be Peopled’: Biopolitics and Early Modern Sexuality, Labor, and Race,” Shakespeare Association of America, Minneapolis, 2023 (Invited)

- “Posthuman Identity Circuits,” Co-organized with Todd Borlick and Karen Raber, World Shakespeare Congress, Virtual Conference, 2021
- “Early Modern Biopolitics: Histories of Sexuality in National and Transnational Contexts,” Shakespeare Association of America, Virtual Conference, 2021
- “Early Modern Disability and Labor,” Sponsored by the Hudson Strode Program, Renaissance Society of America, Virtual Conference, 2021
- “Early Modern Disability and Labor,” Sponsored by the Hudson Strode Program, Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, 2020 – Canceled due to COVID-19 Pandemic
- “Early Modern Biopolitics: Race, Nature, Sexuality,” Co-organized with Vin Nardizzi, Modern Language Association, New York, 2018
- “The Politics of Embodiment in Early Modern Europe,” Renaissance Society of America, Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans, 2018
- “Early Modern Biopolitics,” Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, 2017
- “Sexuality from Below,” Seminar Director, Shakespeare Association of America, New Orleans, 2016 (Invited)
- “Materiality and Embodiment in Renaissance England,” Renaissance Society of America, Berlin, Germany, 2015
- “Social Reproduction and the Politics of Failure in Seventeenth-Century England: Crime, Poverty, Emergency,” Renaissance Society of America, San Diego, 2013
- “England’s Domestic Aliens,” Renaissance Society of America, Washington, D.C., 2012

Papers Presented

- “Asexuality, Disability, and Imperial Desire in Early Modern England,” Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, 2024
- “When Milton Was Cis,” Sponsored by the Milton Society of America, MLA, Philadelphia, 2024
- “From Babel to Biopolitics in Early Modern Rogue Literature,” Shakespeare Association of America, Virtual Conference, 2021
- “Impotence and Idleness,” Renaissance Society of America, Virtual Conference, 2021
- “Impotence and Idleness,” Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, 2020 – Canceled due to COVID-19 Pandemic
- “Debility and Biopolitics in Early Modern England,” Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans, 2018
- “Poverty, Population, and the Prehistory of Biopolitics,” Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, 2017
- “‘From Ability and Wealth, to Disability and Povertie’: Embodiment, Ability, and Status in Early Modern England,” Renaissance Society of America, Berlin, 2015
- “‘Things Long Past Seeme Present’: The Temporalities of Rogue Sexuality,” “Desiring History and Historicizing Desire: Sexuality in Early Modern England,” Henry E. Huntington Library, September 2014
- “Readers, Rogues, and Rabbits: Sexuality, Class, and Identification in Robert Greene’s Frontispiece Illustrations,” Renaissance Society of America, New York, 2014
- “My Children Now Were Beggars”: Rogue Sexuality and Elite Reproduction in Richard Brome’s *A Jovial Crew*,” Renaissance Society of America, San Diego, 2013
- “Beastliness, Desire, and Identity in Early Modern Rogue Literature,” Renaissance Society of

America, Washington, D.C., 2012

“Sexual Regulation and Communal (Re)Production in *The Winter’s Tale*,” Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), Philadelphia, 2008

“‘This Untoward Generation of Loose Libertines’: Sexual Crime and Criminal Sexuality in Early Modern English Rogue Literature,” *Criminality, Liminality, and Imprisonment in the Early Modern Era*, Michigan State University, East Lansing, 2008

Other Seminar Participation

“Naming and Maiming in Shakespeare’s *Henriad*,” International Shakespeare Conference, Seminar on “Shakespeare and Mobility,” The Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon, UK, 2024

“Introduction to Critical Indigenous Studies,” Participant in Newberry Library Faculty Seminar led by Lehua Yim, Newberry Library, Chicago, 2023

“Introduction to Early Modern Critical Race Studies,” Participant in Newberry Library Faculty Seminar led by Noémie Ndiaye, Newberry Library, Chicago, 2021

“‘The Signification of the Word Impotent’: Disability, Labor, and Philology in the Early Modern Poor Laws,” Shakespeare Association of America, Invited Seminar Participant, Virtual Conference, April 2020

“Shakespeare’s Crip Poetics,” Shakespeare Association of America, Washington, D.C., 2019

“Bodies in Spaces: Early Modern Population Theory,” Shakespeare Association of America, Atlanta, 2017

“Promiscuous Generation: Rogue Sexuality and Social Status in Early Modern England,” Seminar on Gypsies, Rogues, and Outsiders: Early Modern People on the Margins, The Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C., 2014

“Pressed Men: Rogue Reproduction and Sodomitical Sovereignty in *1 Henry IV*,” Shakespeare Association of America, Toronto, Canada, 2013

“Mastery, Masculinity, and Sexual Cozening in Jonson’s *Epicoene*,” Shakespeare Association of America, Chicago, 2010

TEACHING

Graduate Courses

At the University of Mississippi:

Introduction to Queer Theory, Fall 2024

Shakespeare and Queer Theory, Fall 2022

Genealogies of Biopolitics, Fall 2020

Graduate Writing Practicum, Fall 2020-Spring 2021

Disability in Early Modern England, Spring 2018

Rogue Sexualities in Early Modern England, Fall 2016

At the University of California, Davis:

The Politics of Reproduction in the Early Modern World, Humanities Program, Spring 2013

Rogue Sexualities in Early Modern England, Winter 2012
Mellon Graduate Fellows Seminar on Writing for Publication, 2011-2013

Undergraduate Courses

At the University of Mississippi:

I'm the Problem, It's Me: Milton's Anti-Heroes, Spring 2025
Shakespeare, Fall 2024, Fall 2023
Shakespeare and Queer Theory, Spring 2022
Genealogies of Biopolitics in Shakespeare's Time, Spring 2021
Disability in Early Modern England, Fall 2018, Fall 2019
How to Read Any Ole Poem, May Intersession, 2018
Introduction to the Renaissance, Fall 2017, Spring 2021
Early English Literature (120 Student Lecture Course), Annual Service Course
Early English Literature (Honors College Seminar), Spring 2017, Fall 2022
Sex and Crime in Early Modern Literature, Fall 2016

At the University of Dayton:

Sex and Crime in the Renaissance (senior seminar), Spring 2015
Shakespeare (lecture), Spring 2015, Fall 2013
Shakespeare, Politics, and the Common Good (honors writing seminar), Spring 2015, Fall 2014,
Spring 2014, Fall 2013
Shakespeare (honors seminar), Fall 2014, Spring 2014
Early English Literature (lecture), Spring 2014

At the University of California, Davis:

Shakespeare, Sexuality, and Embodiment (seminar), Spring 2013
The Politics of Genre in Tudor-Stuart Drama (seminar), Winter 2013
Shakespeare (lecture), UC Davis, Winter 2012
Sex and Crime in Renaissance Literature (seminar), Fall 2011

Graduate Supervision

Ira Sen, English, Dissertation Committee Member, Expected 2027
Diego Fleitas, English, Dissertation Committee Member, Expected 2027
Ashleigh Kennedy, English, M.F.A. Thesis Committee, Expected 2027
Sophie Ezzell, English, M.F.A. Thesis Committee, Expected 2026
Alex Chand, English, "Celestial Mechanics," M.F.A. Thesis Committee, Expected 2026
April Little, History, "Lying Signes & Woonders: The Politics of the Miraculous, 1559-1660,"
Dissertation Committee Member, Expected 2026
Bridget Bartlett, English, "Neurodiversity and Racial Formation in Early Modern English
Drama," Dissertation Committee Member, Expected 2025
Elizabeth Purnell, M.A. Thesis Committee Member, Expected 2025

- Jennifer Key, English, "Say Goodbye to the Age of Reason," Dissertation Committee Member, Expected 2025
- Elijah Ohrt, English, "The Queer and Trans Ecologies of Shakespeare's Ocean," M.A. Thesis, 2022 (Committee Member)
- Kacie Reilly, English, "Ever Higher," M.F.A. Thesis, 2022 (Committee Member)
- Summer Smith, History, "Midwifery and Medicine in Britain: A Comparative View of Midwifery and Childbearing in Scotland and England, 1650-1780," Dissertation, University of Mississippi, 2021 (Committee Member)
- Matthew Mullin, English, "The Human Face in the Works of John Milton," M.A. Thesis, University of Mississippi, 2020 (Committee Member)
- Tatiana Tomley, English, "The Dogmen," M.F.A. Thesis, University of Mississippi, 2018 (Committee Member)
- Sarah Sgro, English, "Without Them I Am Still a Mother," M.F.A. Thesis, University of Mississippi, 2018 (Committee Member)
- Nathan Likert, English, "'Speak'st; Art Sound': Extrahuman Voice and Sonic Space in Early Modern England," M.A. Thesis, University of Mississippi, 2017 (Committee Member)
- Caitlin Moran, English, "Social Class, Literacy, and Elizabeth Cary: The Participation of Servants in Early Modern Private Drama," M.A. Thesis, University of Dayton, 2014 (Committee Member)

SERVICE

To the Profession

- Member, TC Forum in Sexuality Studies, Modern Language Association, 2023-2027
- Editorial Board Member, *Early Theatre*, 2022-Present
- Member, Digital Strategies Committee, Shakespeare Association of America, 2016-2017
- Monograph Referee for Routledge and the University of Toronto Press
- Article Referee for *Shakespeare Quarterly*; *Early Theatre*; *Comparative Drama*; *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*; *JEMCS: Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*; *Upstart: A Journal of English Renaissance Studies*
- Advisory Board Member, UCSB *English Broadside Ballad Archive*, 2010-2011

To the University

- Member, Graduate Student Parental Leave Working Group, University of Mississippi, 2022-2023
- Member, ArtsLIVE Programming Advisory Committee, University of Dayton, 2014-2015
- Faculty Advisor, University of Dayton Shakespeare Undergraduate Club, University of Dayton, 2013-2015
- Member, Mellon Graduate Fellowship Committee, UC Davis, 2011-2013

To the Department

- Director of Graduate Studies, 2022-2023
- Co-Director, Teaching Assistant Training, 2021

Director, Graduate Writing Practicum, 2020-2021
Member, Executive Committee, 2022-2023
Member, Undergraduate Committee, 2023-2024
Member, Graduate Committee, 2022, 2017-2019
Member, Edwin Savage Lecture in the Renaissance Committee, University of Mississippi, 2016-
Present
Chair, Edwin Savage Lecture in the Renaissance, University of Mississippi, 2017
Academic Advisor, Undergraduate English Majors, University of Mississippi, 2016-2017
Academic Advisor, Undergraduate English Majors, University of Dayton, 2014-2015
Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee, English Department, University of
Dayton, 2014-2015
Member, Literary Track Committee on Curriculum Revision, English Department, University of
Dayton, 2013-2014
Member and Co-coordinator, Early Modern Colloquium, University of Michigan, 2004-2011

Professional Membership

International Shakespeare Conference
Modern Language Association
Renaissance Society of America
Shakespeare Association of America
World Shakespeare Congress

LANGUAGES

French, Spanish, Hebrew

REFERENCES

Simone Chess, Associate Professor of English and Director, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's
Studies, Wayne State University, schess@wayne.edu
Mario DiGangi, Professor of English, CUNY Graduate Center and Lehman College,
mdigangi@gc.cuny.edu
Jeffrey Masten, Professor of English and Gender and Sexuality Studies, Northwestern
University, j-masten@northwestern.edu
Melissa E. Sanchez, Donald T. Regan Professor of English and Comparative Literature and
Director, Center for Research in Feminist, Queer, and Transgender Studies, University of
Pennsylvania, sanchezm@english.upenn.edu
Valerie Traub, Adrienne Rich Distinguished Professor of English & Women's and Gender
Studies and Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of English & Women's Studies,
University of Michigan, traubv@umich.edu