

AMELIA JENNIE KENNEDY

Curriculum vitae – 1 May 2026

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EDUCATION

- 2020 **Ph.D.**, History, Yale University
Dissertation: “Growing Old in a Cistercian Monastery, c. 1100-1300”
- 2016 **M.Phil.**, History, Yale University
M.A., History, Yale University
- 2012 **B.A.**, History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Highest Honors and Highest Distinction
- 2011 Summer courses in Medieval Latin and Paleography, University of Notre Dame

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022- Assistant Professor of the History of Medieval Christianity
Princeton Theological Seminary
- 2021-22 Universitätsassistentin mit Doktorat, Institut für Geschichte
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz
- 2020-21 Lecturer, History Department, Yale University

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

On the Threshold of Eternity: Old Age and Disability in Medieval Monasticism, c. 910-1350. [manuscript complete; under contract with University of Michigan Press]

Medieval Minds and Brains, c. 400-1400. [manuscript in progress; under contract with Routledge]

JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Ageing in Harmony: Medieval Representations of Transformation across the Life Course.” *Quaderni di storia religiosa medievale* (2023): 407-434.

“Cistercian Understandings of Old Age and the Aging Process, c. 1150-1300.” *Cîteaux – Commentarii cistercienses* 72 (2021): 95-114.

“Crip Time in the Medieval Monastery: Cistercian Writers on the Time-Scapes of Infirmary, c. 1150-1250.” *Journal of Medieval Monastic Studies* 10 (2021): 67-87.

“‘Do Not Relinquish Your Offspring’: Changing Cistercian Attitudes Toward Older Abbots and Abbatial Retirement in High Medieval Europe.” *Radical History Review* 139 (2021): 123-144.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

[accepted] “Preaching at the Intersection of Uncertainty and Experience: The Imaginative Theology of Guericke of Igny (d. 1157).” In *The Theological Imagination in Dialogue: Perspectives on Religious Imaginaries and Aesthetics between Traditions*. Ed. Daniel Minch and Ikenna Okpaleke.

[under review] “Teaching Religious Diversity Through Experiential Learning in Bosnia and Herzegovina.” Solicited as part of a yearlong project supported by the Wabash Center.

BOOK REVIEWS

Andrea Janelle Dickens, *Heresy in the Middle Ages: A History of Authority and Exclusion*, Fortress Press, 2024. Reviewed for *Theology Today*, 83 (2026): 76-77.

Ninon Dubourg, *Disabled Clerics: Un/suitable for Divine Service?* Amsterdam University Press, 2023. Reviewed for *The Journal of Religion* 105 (2025): 500-502.

DIGITAL WORK

Digital Camino de Santiago (<https://digitalcaminodesantiago.com/>), supported with funding from Yale University’s Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning and the Wright Library at Princeton Theological Seminary.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

2025-26	Class of 1955 Award, Princeton Theological Seminary
2022-23	Digital Humanities grant, Wright Library, Princeton Theological Seminary
2022	Travel grants, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz
2020-21	Graduate School Alumni Postdoctoral Fellowship, Yale University
2020	Certificate in Public Communication, Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning
2020	Finalist and Audience Choice Winner, 3-Minute Thesis Competition, Yale University (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmTVHSypG4k)
2019-20	Edward H. Butler Fellowship, Yale University
2019	MacMillan Conference Travel Grant
2018	MacMillan Conference Travel Grant
2018	Digital Education Innovation Grant, Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning
2016-17	MacMillan International Dissertation Research Fellowship
2016-17	Baden-Württemberg Stipendium, Universität Heidelberg Funded by the Baden-Württemberg Foundation and DAAD
2016	Yale History Department Pre-Dissertation Fellowship
2014	Max Kade Travel Grant, Yale/Baden-Württemberg Summer German Program, Universität Freiburg
2012	Frank Ryan Prize, awarded for best History honors thesis, UNC – Chapel Hill
2012	Joshua Meador Prize, awarded for best History research paper, UNC – Chapel Hill
2011	Phi Beta Kappa
2010	Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, UNC – Chapel Hill

TEACHING

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD, PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 2022-

Race in the Middle Ages (doctoral seminar: Spring 2025)

Medieval Disability (Spring 2024)
Growing Old: Historical and Spiritual Perspectives (online: Spring 2024)
World Christian History I (Fall 2023, 2024)
Life Together: Sacred Reading (Fall 2023)
Minds and Brains in Medieval Christianity (Spring 2023)
Theological Imagination: Age-Old Dilemmas (January 2023)
Christian Monasticism from Origins to Dissolution (Fall 2022)
Medieval Christian Lifecycles (Fall 2022)

Travel Courses:

Religious Diversity in Bosnia and Herzegovina (May/June 2025)

Independent Studies and Theses:

Contemplative Listening (course designed by Bo Karen Lee; implemented by me) (Spring 2025)
History of Religion in the Balkans (Spring 2025)
Theology and Art (2024-25)
Premodern Astronomy and Astrology (Fall 2024)
Thomas Aquinas' *Analogue* (Spring 2024)
History of Pregnancy and Spirituality (Spring 2023)
Disability and Temporality in Medieval Hagiography (Spring 2023)
Anarchy in Medieval England (Spring 2023)

GRADUATE SUPERVISION

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees

2023-25, Casey Smith
2022-, Charles Johnson
2022-24, Andrea Giraldi

Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam Committees

2025, Jalen Baker: Medieval Christianity and the History of Race and Ethnicity
2022, Casey Smith: Poverty, Charity, and Welfare in the Middle Ages

Ph.D. Residency Committees

2025-, Allison LoPrete (primary adviser)
2025-, Yostena Labib
2025-, Brian Ballard
2024-, Nana Ama Asante
2023-2026, Jalen Baker

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD, KARL-FRANZENS-UNIVERSITÄT GRAZ, 2021-22

Exkursion: Auf den Spuren von Hemma von Gurk (co-led with Cristina Andenna)
Geist, Seele und Denken: Kognitive Ansätze zur mittelalterlichen europäischen Geschichte
Einführung in das Studium der mittelalterlichen Geschichte

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD, YALE UNIVERSITY, 2020-21

From Cradle to Grave in Medieval Europe (online)

Early Middle Ages, 284-1000 (online)
Medieval Minds and Brains (online)

LEAD INSTRUCTOR, YALE YOUNG GLOBAL SCHOLARS, SUMMER 2016

Summer pre-college program, Biological and Biomedical Sciences: Led seminars on pediatric ethics, religion and medicine, the science of happiness, the doctor/patient relationship, cryonics, and medical advertising

TEACHING FELLOW, YALE UNIVERSITY, 2015-18

Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World (Instructor: Joseph Manning)
Eastern Europe to 1914 (Instructor: Timothy Snyder)
The Middle Ages, 300-1500 (Instructor: Anders Winroth)
Minds and Brains in America (Instructor: Henry Cowles)

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 “Time and Age in Women’s Religious Communities, c. 1100-1300”
Workshop on women’s aging in premodern Europe, Universitetet i Bergen
- 2022 “Age, Gender, and Authority in Medieval Monastic Writing, c. 1100-1300”
Gender and Ageing in Premodern Europe, Universitetet i Bergen
- 2022 “Alter, Geschlecht und Autorität in Darstellungen älterer Nonnen und Äbtissinnen, c. 1100-1300”
Fakultät für Geschichte, Kunst- und Regionalwissenschaften, Universität Leipzig

CONFERENCES

PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2022 Co-organizer with Jacob Doss: “Age in Monastic Life,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI

PANELS & ROUNDTABLES MODERATED

- 2026 “Out of Work: Infirmary in Cistercian and Monastic Culture,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI
- 2025 “Cistercians, III: Shaping Cistercian Life and Its Transmission beyond the Abbey Walls,” International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2024 “Crisis, Flight, and Places of Refuge II” and “Famine, Crisis, and Exclusion: Bishops and Their Communities in the High Medieval Latin West, 10th-13th Centuries,” International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2023 “Christian Witness During the Pandemics,” World Christianity Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary

PAPERS DELIVERED

- 2026 “Aging and *Infirmitas* in Cistercian Monasticism,” International Medieval Congress, Leeds [upcoming]

- 2025 “Learning How to Lead: A Cistercian Handbook for Abbots,” International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2025 “Spaces of Aging and Eldercare in Medieval Monasteries,” Workshop on the Histories of Disabilities and Living Spaces, Royal Holloway, London
- 2025 “Imaginative Theology in the Sermons of Guerric of Igny (d. c. 1157),” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI
- 2024 “Crisis as Turning Point in Medieval Monastic Texts”
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2023 “Ageing in Harmony: Medieval Christian Representations of Transformation across the Life Course”
Gender and Medieval Studies Conference, Birkbeck, University of London and Wellcome Collection
- 2022 “Drawing the Borders of Crip Time in Women’s Monastic Life, c. 1200–1300”
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2022 “Middle-Aged and Older Women in Christian Monastic Life, c. 1100-1300”
International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI
- 2022 “Crip and Chronic Time in the Medieval Monastery, c. 1100-1300”
97th Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, Charlottesville, VA
- 2021 “Older Women in Medieval Monastic Thought”
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2021 “Crip Time in the Medieval Monastery: Cistercian Writers on the Time-Scapes of Infirmary, c. 1150-1250”; roundtable participant
Cistercian Worlds Conference, University of York
- 2021 “Time to Work or Time to Retire? Changing Attitudes toward Older Cistercian Abbots in the Thirteenth Century”
The Politics of Old Age: Old People and Ageing in British and European History, Centre for British Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 2021 “Exceptional Older Women in the Medieval Monastic Imagination, c. 1100-1250”
Seminar on Chronological Age as a Category of Historical Analysis – Age & Gender American Historical Association
- 2020 “Masculinity and the Older Monk”
Masculinities in the Premodern World, Toronto Renaissance & Reformation Colloquium
- 2020 “Older Cistercian Abbots, the ‘Dying Role,’ and Relocation in Later Life”
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2019 “Old Age and Retirement Among English Cistercian Abbots”
Haskins Society Conference, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2019 “Older Cistercian Abbots and Retirement from Abbatial Duties in Twelfth- and Thirteenth-Century Western Europe”
Medieval History Seminar, German Historical Institute London

- 2019 “Growing Old in a Medieval Cistercian Monastery”
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 2019 “Crisis at Kaisheim, c. 1198-1210: Time, Memory, and the *Visio Rudolfi*”
Aberystwyth Medieval Conference, Aberystwyth University
- 2019 “A Liturgical Vision of Monastic Strife: The *Visio Rudolfi* and Kaisheim Abbey c. 1174-1210”
Workshop on Medieval Germany, German Historical Institute London
- 2018 “Growing Old in a Cistercian Monastery” – Poster session
Symposium of the International Medieval Sermon Studies Society (IMSSS), Bristol
- 2018 “Liturgy, the *Visio Rudolfi*, and the Construction of Old Age”
Politics, Society, and Liturgy in the Middle Ages (PSALM-Network), Poznań
- 2018 “Growing Old in a Cistercian Monastery”
Seminar Fellows Program, Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota

CAMPUS TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- 2023 “Ageing in Harmony: Medieval Christian Representations of Transformation across the Life Course”
History and Ecumenics Colloquium, Princeton Theological Seminary
- 2021 “Alter, Geschlecht und Autorität in Darstellungen älterer Nonnen und Äbtissinnen, c. 1100-1300”
Institut für Geschichte, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz
- 2019 “Digital Camino de Santiago”
Digital Education Innovation Showcase, Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2019 “‘Was Not Sarah’s Barrenness Turned into Fertility?’: Exceptional Older Women in the Cistercian Imagination”
Yale Pre-Modern Gender and Sexuality Working Group
- 2019 “Older Cistercian Abbots and Opposition to Abbatial Retirement in Twelfth-Century Europe”
Yale Medieval Graduate Student Working Group
- 2019 “‘Do Not Relinquish Your Offspring’: Abbatial Retirement in Twelfth-Century Europe”
Yale Medieval Lunch talk
- 2018 “It’s Not the Years; It’s the Mileage”
Yale Medieval Lunch talk
- 2015 “Demons and Discernment in Rudolf of Schlettstadt’s *Historiae memorabiles*”
Yale Pre-Modern Gender and Sexuality Working Group
- 2015 “Expulsion in Early Christian Monasticism”
Harvard-Yale Graduate Conference, Cambridge, MA
- 2014 “Raymond of Peñafort and the Development of Inquisitional Culture in the Thirteenth Century”

Yale-UConn Medievalist Working Group, Storrs, CT
 2014 “The Language of Possession and the Failure of Exorcism”
 Harvard-Yale Graduate Conference, New Haven, CT

SERVICE – PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

2024- Member, Religion and Society Committee
 2024-25 Member, Admissions Committee
 2024-25 Member, Alexander Hall renovation planning team
 2023-25 Co-organizer, International Students’ Cohort
 2023-24 At-large member, Faculty Executive Committee; member of the sub-committee on the MAT online degree program
 2023-24 Member, search committee, Asian Christianity position
 2023-24 Faculty organizer, Colloquium in History and World Christianity
 2023 Presenter and seminar leader, “Growing Old in Medieval Europe”
 2023 Facilitator, Table-to-Table program
 2023 Speaker, Admissions Virtual Open House: “Why Medieval Christianity Matters Today”
 2023 Member, Ph.D. Admissions Committee
 2023 Member, Event Metrics Working Group
 2022- Participant, Ph.D. professionalization workshops

ADDITIONAL SERVICE

2025- Book Reviews Editor, *Cîteaux – Commentarii cistercienses*
 2025- Member, Editorial Board, *Cîteaux – Commentarii cistercienses*
 2020-21 Graduate Writing Lab (GWL) Public Communication Fellow, Yale University
 2020 Volunteer judge, Connecticut History Day
 2019 Member, Yale Teaching Fellow Committee
 2017-18 Co-organizer, “Marginalities, the Middle Ages, and the Modern Classroom” pedagogical working group
 2017 Volunteer, 20th Annual Conference of the Comité international de paléographie latine (CIPL), Yale University
 2016-17 Volunteer mentor, Yale Young African Scholars
 2015-16 Co-organizer, Yale Lectures in Medieval Studies
 2011 Organizer, UNC Medieval Latin reading group

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2025 Invited to give a lecture on the history of Lent, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian, NYC
 2024 Worship leader, Princeton Theological Seminary Chapel, 13 November
 2023 Worship leader, Princeton Theological Seminary Chapel, 8 November
 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wThKmBRqtt8>)
 2023 Invited to lead a forum on old age in medieval Christianity, Trinity Church, Princeton, NJ
 2022 Invited to lead a discussion on aging, disability, and Christianity, Baptist Church of West Chester, PA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017-20 Researcher, Clio (public and digital history non-profit: <https://www.theclio.com/>): research historical sites, create new entries, and edit preexisting ones.
- 2016-17 Research Assistant, Yale University: transcribed audio interviews on Architecture and Design education in East and South Africa.
- 2013-15 Digital Research Assistant, Yale University: assisted in production of a new edition of Gratian's *Decretum*.
- 2013 Research Assistant, Yale University: translated academic French into English.

LANGUAGES

Latin – Excellent
German – Excellent
French – Proficient
Old French – Reading knowledge
Spanish (Castilian) – Reading knowledge
Bosnian-Croatian-Montenegrin-Serbian – Basic knowledge
Arabic (MSA) – Basic knowledge
Swahili – Conversational

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
Medieval Academy of America
American Society of Church History

REFERENCES

Paul Freedman
Chester D. Tripp Professor of History
Yale University
paul.freedman@yale.edu

Barbara Shailor
Senior Research Scholar
Yale University
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