

Ph.D. Program Highlights

Eight tenured faculty members working in the field: Kasey Evans, Jeffrey Masten, Susan Phillips, Regina Schwartz, Laurie Shannon, Wendy Wall, William N. West, and Kelly Wisecup.

Extraordinary field coverage in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century literature and culture; particular strengths in drama, poetry, the comparative and classical Renaissance, animal studies, digital humanities, gender and sexuality, history of the book, religion, Shakespeare, Spenser, and Milton, and writing by early modern women. Strong links to medieval and eighteenth-century faculty.

Interdisciplinary study with Northwestern Renaissance specialists in Art History (Jesús Escobar, Claudia Swan, Rebecca Zorach), French & Italian (Cynthia Nazarian), History (Lydia Barnett, Edward Muir, Scott Sowerby), Music (Linda Austerlitz), and Religious Studies (Sylvester Johnson, J. Michelle Molina), as well as faculty in fields such as Classics, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Performance Studies, Theatre & Drama.

Local access to the consortium seminars and rare book and manuscript archives of Chicago's Newberry Library. Our students have also secured internal and external funding for research travel to archives including the Folger, Huntington, Bodleian, British, and Vatican Libraries, and the Bibliothèque Nationale de France.

Current and recent students have received grants from the Mellon Vernacular Paleography Institutes, and the AAUW, ACLS/Mellon, Fulbright, & Woodrow Wilson fellowships, with multiple early modernist recipients of Northwestern's highest graduate honor, the Presidential Society of Fellows. Our students have also garnered recognition for their pedagogical skills both inside and outside the classroom; winning teaching awards, and delivering pre-performance lectures at the acclaimed Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Home of the semi-annual journal *Renaissance Drama*.

Colloquia and speaker series, including the Northwestern Early Modern Colloquium, and the Newberry Library's History of the Book and Milton seminars.

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Early Modern Literature & Culture Department of English Northwestern University



With eight faculty specialists in the Renaissance, Northwestern's English department offers superb graduate training in the full range of genres, topics, methods, and approaches in early modern literature and culture. In addition to a highly visible and productive faculty, the program features a wide range of interdisciplinary opportunities in a variety of related departments and programs at Northwestern, a strong record of job placement, the nearby resources of Chicago's Newberry Library, and more.

Job Placement and Research Publication

In the past 10 years, our graduates specializing in early modern literature have secured tenure track positions at Cornell University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Santa Clara University, SUNY-Brockport, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, USC, the University of Washington in Seattle, and others. They have been awarded post-doctoral positions with Emory University, the Michigan Society of Fellows, and the Public Theater in New York. Two have won the Leeds Barroll Prize for Best Dissertation from the Shakespeare Association of America. One produces the podcast "Rude Tudors". Other graduates of our program have accepted tenure track positions at universities and colleges including Boston University, Temple University, UNC Chapel Hill, University of Pittsburgh, Washington University in St Louis, Wheaton College in Massachusetts, and Yale University. While in our program, recent and current students have placed articles in major scholarly journals, including *Book History*, *Criticism*, *ELR*, *PMLA*, *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *Shakespeare Studies*, *Sidney Journal*, and *SEL*.

Our Faculty

Kasey Evans (Ph.D. Berkeley) Narrative poetry, allegory, gender, colonialism, psychoanalysis; Spenser, Shakespeare; Italian sources and models (Ariosto, Dante). Author: *Colonial Virtue: The Mobility of Temperance in Renaissance England* (Toronto). Current project: "Renaissance grief and mourning."

Jeffrey Masten (Ph.D. Penn) Renaissance drama, Shakespeare, collaboration, authorship; sexuality, gender, queer theory; book history, textual editing; early women's writing; philology. Author: *Textual Intercourse: Collaboration, Authorship and Sexualities in Renaissance Drama*; *Queer Philologies: Sex, Language, and Affect in Shakespeare's Time*. Editor: *Language Machines*; *Renaissance Drama* journal; Middleton, et al., *The Old Law*. Current project: edition of Marlowe's *Edward II* (Arden); Marlowe's readers.

Susan Phillips (Ph.D. Harvard) Late medieval and early modern book culture, history of the book; gossip; religion; early multi-lingual dictionaries, phrasebooks, and conversational guides; travel, strangers and aliens, race, gender; Shakespeare. Author: *Transforming Talk: The Problem of Gossip in Late Medieval England*. Current project: "Learning to Talk Shop: Mercantile Mischief and Popular Pedagogy in Premodern England."

Regina Schwartz (Ph.D. Virginia) Poetry, seventeenth-century literature, Milton, Hebrew Bible, religion and literature, theology, philosophy, and law. Author: *Remembering and Repeating: On Milton's Theology and Poetics*; *The Curse of Cain: The Violent Legacy of Monotheism*; *Sacramental Poetics at the Dawn of Secularism: When God Left the World*. Editor: *The Book and the Text: The Bible and Literary Theory*; *Desire in the Renaissance: Psychoanalysis and Literature*; *Transcendence: Philosophy, Literature, and Theology*. Current projects: on Justice (in theology, philosophy and law); "Milton: Early Modern Thinker."

Laurie Shannon (J.D. Harvard, Ph.D. Chicago) Literary and intellectual texts of the long sixteenth century; Shakespeare; history of ideas (political thought, affect, natural history, law, and medicine). Author: *Sovereign Amity: Figures of Friendship in Shakespearean Contexts* and *The Accommodated Animal: Cosmopolitanism in Shakespearean Locales*. Current projects: book on *Hamlet* and the natural history of human being, c. 1600.

Wendy Wall (Ph.D. Penn) Sixteenth- and seventeenth-century poetry, drama, Shakespeare; gender, early women's writing; authorship, history of the book, early print and manuscripts; food studies. Author: *The Imprint of Gender: Authorship and Publication in the English Renaissance*; *Staging Domesticity: Household Work and English Identity in Early Modern Drama*; *Recipes for Thought: Knowledge and Taste in the Early Modern English Kitchen*. Current project: The Pulter Project, an interactive website editing project introducing the work of Hester Pulter.

William N. West (Ph.D. Michigan) Drama and performance, lyric, epic, encyclopedism; poetics and aesthetics; classical literatures and its Renaissance transformations; comparative renaissances. Author: *Theatres and Encyclopedias in Early Modern Europe*. Editor: *Author's Pen and Actor's Voice: Writing and Playing in Shakespeare's Theatre* (by Robert Weimann); *Rematerializing Shakespeare: Authority and Representation on the Early Modern Stage*. Current projects: understanding and confusion in Elizabethan playhouses, Angelo Poliziano's humanism.

Kelly Wisecup (Ph.D. Maryland - College Park) specializes in Native American literatures, early American literature and culture, and medicine and literature in the Atlantic world. She is the author of *Medical Encounters: Knowledge and Identity in Early American Literatures* and of "Good News from New England" by Edward Winslow: *A Scholarly Edition*. Her articles have appeared in *Early American Literature*, *Early American Studies*, *Atlantic Studies*, *Studies in Travel Writing, Literature and Medicine*, *The Southern Literary Journal* and the *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal*.

