

KARA GASTON

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ACADEMIC HISTORY

Employment

Assistant Professor of English, The University of Toronto, Scarborough, July 1, 2013—Present

Assistant Professor of English (Graduate Faculty), University of Toronto, July 1 2014—Present

Associate Faculty, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, July 1 2014—Present

Education

Ph.D., English Literature, University of Pennsylvania, 2013

M.Phil., Medieval and Renaissance Literature, Girton College, University of Cambridge, 2007

A.B., *summa cum laude*, English Literature, Princeton University, 2006

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Reading Chaucer in Time: Literary Formation in England and Italy, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.

Articles

“Forms and Celestial Motion in Chaucer’s *Complaint of Mars*,” *PMLA* 133 (2018): 282-95.

“History Writing After Coppo di Borghese Domenichi: *Decameron* V.9,” *Le tre corone* V (2018): 121-36.

“The Poetics of Time Management from the *Metamorphoses* to *Il Filocolo* and *The Franklin’s Tale*,” *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 37 (2015): 227-56.

“‘Save Oure Tonges Difference:’ Translation, Literary Histories, and *Troilus and Criseyde*,” *The Chaucer Review* 48 (2014): 258-83.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Continental Influences,” in Siân Echard and Robert Rouse, eds., *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Medieval Literature in Britain*, Oxford: John Wiley & Sons, 2017.

Book Reviews

Tellers, Tales, and Translation in Chaucer’s “Canterbury Tales” by Warren Ginsberg, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 38 (2016): 319-322.

Romance and History: Imagining Time from the Medieval to the Early Modern Period, ed. Jon Whitman, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 37 (2015): 335-38.

Comedy in Chaucer and Boccaccio by Carol Falvo Heffernan, *Studi sul Boccaccio* 38 (2010): 331-34.

Dante's Poetry of the Donati by Piero Boitani, *Annali d'Italianistica* 28 (2010): 502-503.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

SSHRC Insight Development Grant, 2019-2021

Vice Principal Research Competitiveness Fund, University of Toronto, Scarborough, 2015.

Connaught New Researcher Award, University of Toronto, 2014

Vice Principal Research Impact Fund, University of Toronto, Scarborough, 2014

Salvatori Research Grant, Department of Italian, University of Pennsylvania, 2012

Pew Presidential Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2011

Fulbright Research Grant for Rome, Italy, 2010-2011

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2007-2012

Gates Cambridge Scholarship, 2006-2007

Doris Russell Graduate Scholarship, Girton College, Cambridge University 2006-2007

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Bad Students and Slow Learning in the Griselda Story,” *Biennial London Chaucer Conference*, London, UK, June 28-29, 2019.

“Astronomy as Prosimetrum,” *Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA, March 7-9, 2019.

“Forms of Constellation,” *International Congress of the New Chaucer Society*, Toronto, Ontario, July 10-15, 2018.

“Decapitation, Self-Reflection: The View from the Spheres in Lucan, Boccaccio, and Chaucer,” *Kalamazoo International Congress on Medieval Studies*, May 11-14, 2017.

“Planning for the Future with Walter and Griselda,” *Canada Chaucer Seminar*, 22 April, 2017.

“Returning to Thebes in the *Thebaid* and *The Knight's Tale*,” *American Boccaccio Association Third Triennial Conference*, Durham, NC, September 30 – October 1, 2016.

“Literature as Aberration,” *International Congress of the New Chaucer Society*, London, UK, July 10-15, 2016.

“Form and Celestial Motion in Chaucer's *Complaint of Mars*,” Department of English, Saint Francis Xavier University, March 11, 2016. Invited Lecture.

“Natural Harmonies, Artificial Forms, and Big Data,” *MLA Annual Convention*, Austin, TX, January 7-10, 2016.

- “Quid enim non carmina possunt:” Magic and the Poetics of Time Management from *Metamorphoses* 7 to *The Franklin’s Tale*,” *Biennial London Chaucer Conference*, London, UK, July 10-12, 2015.
- “How much experience is enough in *The Clerk’s Tale*?,” *Kalamazoo International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 14-17, 2015.
- “Literary Catalogues and Verse Units,” *International Congress of the New Chaucer Society*, Reykjavik Iceland, July 16-20, 2014.
- “An holy boond:” Form and the Search for Order in Troilus and Criseyde III.1744-71, *Revisiting the Legacy of Boethius in the Middle Ages*, Harvard University, March 13-15, 2014.
- “Translation as Fortune: Chaucer’s Boethian Lyrics,” Mellon Symposium, *The Middle Ages in Translation*, Northwestern University, July 15-19 2013. By invitation.
- “Ghosts of Influence in Chaucer’s *The Franklin’s Tale*,” *Chaucer and the Trecento: Rome 2013*, Rome, Italy, June 6-8 2013. By invitation.
- “History on the Edge: *Anelida and Arcite*,” *Britain, Ireland, and Italy: Cultural Exchanges c. 1270 – c. 1400*, University of York, January 11-12 2013. By invitation.
- “Translation and Poetry in Prose Boethius *Volgarizzamenti*,” Salvatori Lecture, Center for Italian Studies, University of Pennsylvania, November 5 2012.
- “Chaucer, Boccaccio, and Vernacular Translation,” *International Congress of the New Chaucer Society*, Portland, OR, July 23-26 2012.
- “Between Text and Gloss in *The House of Fame* and *Inferno* III,” *Kalamazoo International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 10-13 2012.
- “Tutta quella dolcezza venne meno?: Poetry in Translation in *Convivio* and *Troilus and Criseyde*,” *Chaucer, Boccaccio, and the Italian Trecento*, Pembroke College, Cambridge University, January 10-11 2012. By invitation.
- “The Difficult Vernacular: Translation and Grammar Instruction in Chaucer’s *Boece*,” *International Congress of the New Chaucer Society*, Siena, Italy, July 15-19 2010.
- “Audience and Askesis: Reading Socially in *Convivio* and *Purgatorio*,” *American Association for Italian Studies Annual Conference*, New York, NY, May 7-10 2009.

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Courses Taught

Graduate Courses, University of Toronto

ENG 1333: Reception of the Classics in Middle English Literature, Fall 2017

ENG 1552: Chaucer’s *Troilus and Criseyde* and Other Works, Fall 2016

ENG 1582: *Piers Plowman*, Spring 2016

ENG 1551: *The Canterbury Tales*, Fall 2014, Fall 2019

Undergraduate Courses, University of Toronto, Scarborough

ENG D30: Topics in Medieval Literature, Fall 2013, 2015; Winter 2019
 ENG D29: Chaucer at Work, Fall 2014, Winter 2020
 ENG C40: Medieval Life Writing, Winter 2019
 ENG C30: Studies in Medieval Literature, Winter 2015, Fall 2016, 2018
 ENG C29: Chaucer, Winter 2014, 2016; Fall 2017, Fall 2019
 ENG B31: Romance: In Quest of the Marvelous, Winter 2014, Fall 2018
 ENG B27: Charting Literary History, Fall 2013, 2014, 2015
 ENG B39: Tolkien's Middle Ages, Winter 2020

PhD Supervisions

Charissa Chan, "Ardent Lovers, Affectionate Others: The Emotional Spaces of Chaucer's Courtly Tradition." Co-supervisor with Suzanne Akbari. 2019-Present.

PhD Committee Memberships

Colin Rowley, "The Mnemonic Significance and Sociopolitical Utility of Material Elements of Performance in Early English Drama." Supervisors Alexandra Gillespie and Matthew Sergi, 2019-Present.

Julianna Chiannelli, "Middle English Literature and Premodern Technologies of Identity." Supervisor Alexandra Gillespie. 2018-Present.

André Babyn, "Affecting Annihilation: Translating Oblivion in Marguerite Porete's *The Mirror of Simple Souls*." Supervisor Suzanne Akbari. 2018-Present.

Katherine Walton, "Social Visions in Late Medieval Affective Pieties: Private Devotions and English *Evencristene*." Supervisor Suzanne Akbari. 2018-Present.

Jonathan Brent, "Writing English History 1272-1461." (Centre for Medieval Studies) Supervisor Suzanne Akbari. 2017-Present.

Julia Mattison, "Cest liure est a moy: The Circulation of French Manuscripts in England in the Fifteenth Century." Supervisor Alexandra Gillespie. 2017-Present.

Undergraduate Supervisions

Kimberly Chow, "A Journey Through Shadows: A Deconstruction of Poetic Identity in Dante's *Commedia*," 2019-2020.

Chantelle Cho, "The Monsters of Our Time: Breaking Binaries in *Beowulf* and *Earthsea*." 2018-2019.

Gabriella Bablanian, "It Was a Pleasure to Burn: Apocalypse Narrative in *Dark Souls III*." 2016-2017. Co-supervision with Sonja Nikkila.

COMMITTEE SERVICE

University Committees

University of Toronto, Scarborough English

Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Early Modern Literature, 2018-19
 Curriculum Committee, 2015-16, Fall 2016, 2018-20
 PTR Committee, 2018, 2020
 Search Committee, CLTA in Early Modern Literature, 2017
 Academic Planning Committee, 2014-15
 Prize Committee, 2013-14, 2019 (Chair)

University of Toronto Graduate English

Planning Committee, 2019-2020
 MA Admissions Committee, 2018-19
 Comprehensive Examinations, Paper One Committee, 2016-18
 Graduate Staff-Student Relations Committee, 2015-16, Fall 2016

University of Toronto Centre for Medieval Studies

Placement Committee (Chair), 2015-20
 Planning Committee, 2015-2016, 2017-2018

External Committees

Local Organizing Committee, New Chaucer Society Congress, Toronto, ON, July 10-15, 2018
 Organizing Committee, Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, April
 6-8, 2018
 Local Organizing Committee, 4th Biennial Meeting of the BABEL Working Group, Toronto, ON,
 October 9-11, 2015.