

Robyn Thum-O'Brien
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EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, English Language and Literature

Started 2019

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

MA, English Language and Literature

2020

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

BA in Liberal Arts, Concentration in English and Art History

2017

Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY

TEACHING & ADVISING

Instructor of Record

F/W 2020; Fall 2021

English 125 & 124

English Department Writing Program, University of Michigan

- Created syllabus, selecting readings and assignments to help students meet departmental goals.
- Taught classes, and led both individual and group workshops with a focus on student writing.
- Integrated synchronous and asynchronous sessions to best meet student needs.
- Created criteria for student intervention, and successfully implemented.
- Organized a series of interdisciplinary resources to help students with diverse research interests in developing writing norms appropriate to their discipline.

Teaching Assistant

2015-2017

Department of Art History, Sarah Lawrence College

- Taught a section on late Germanic and early Anglo-Saxon art.
- Planned lessons and assignments, led discussion sections, graded papers and exams. Responsible for checking the status of student work and response
- Led discussion sections, graded papers and exams.

Teaching Assistant

2016-2017

Department of Creative Writing, Sarah Lawrence College

- Taught a workshop on poetry forms and meters.
- Worked with faculty to prepare readings and posts. Responsible for checking the status of student work and response
- Scanned, copied, edited, and posted readings for courses.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

2016-2017

English Language and Literature, University of Michigan

- Assistant to Dr. Catherine Sanok, compiling annotated bibliography on the astrolabe in Middle English literature for forthcoming article on Chaucer and the measurement of days.

Research Assistant

2016-2017

Department of Art History, Sarah Lawrence College

- Assistant to Dr. David Castriota, conducting primary and secondary source research for book on late Roman Britain.

PUBLICATIONS

Thum-O'Brien, R. (Forthcoming). "The King, the Giant, and Time: Disordered Temporality in the Alliterative *Morte Arthure*." *Arthuriana*. Vol. 32.1

Powell, S. Contributor, **Thum, R.** "Can Apps Really Democratise Art?" *HASTA*, University of St. Andrews, 20 Mar. 2018.

Thum, R. "The Wife's Lament" *Babel*, Sarah Lawrence College., 2017.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Thum-O'Brien, R. (2021). "The King, the Giant, and Time: Disordered Temporality in the Alliterative *Morte Arthure*." Discussion panel at the 56th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.

Thum, R. (2016) "The Wife's Lament: A New Translation." Paper presented at Moravian College Undergraduate Conference in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Bethlehem, PA.

Thum, R. (2015) "The Pagan, the Christian, and the Ælf: Elves as Intermediaries in Anglo-Saxon Mythology." Paper presented at Moravian College Undergraduate Conference in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Bethlehem, PA.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Fair Unknown Award, <i>Arthuriana</i> & International Arthurian Society	2021
Mary Bianco Scholarship, Sarah Lawrence College	2016
William Park & James Zito Scholarship in Literature, Sarah Lawrence	2016
The Marilyn Katz Fund Travel Grant Recipient, Sarah Lawrence	2016
Grace Paley Scholarship in Creative Writing, Sarah Lawrence	2015
The Marilyn Katz Fund Travel Grant Recipient, Sarah Lawrence	2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Selection Committee Member

Forthcoming (2022-2024)

Fair Unknown Prize, Arthuriana

Co-Chair

Present

Forum on Research in Medieval Studies (FoRMS)

(Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop)

- Arranged talks for graduate students & faculty to promote interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Collated past resources to best facilitate the current group.
- Hosted both in person and digital events, in collaboration with Taylor Sims (History) and Folger Teaching Paleography.

Co-Chair

2019-Present

Middle English Reading Group

(English Departmental Interest Group)

- Helped to coordinate readings based on the interest of participants.
- Helped lead discussions on both primary and secondary Middle English literature.
- Formatted emails and scheduling polls to arrange sessions.
- Alternately led and participated in discussions on readings,

Editor-In-Chief

2016-2017

The Sarah Lawrence Review

- Processed manuscripts submitted for publication
- Oversaw production and publication procedures.
- Maintained editorial correspondence with prospective contributors.
- Conducted business transactions including publicity, subscriptions and advertising.

LANGUAGES

English. Old English. Middle English. Reading Latin. Some French.