

## **DR. KRISTINA MARIE OLSON**

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Fairfax, VA 22030  
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### **Academic Appointments**

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Associate Professor of Italian (with tenure) and Italian Program Coordinator, Department of Modern and Classical Languages (MCL), George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.  
August 2016 to present

Assistant Professor of Italian and Italian Program Coordinator, MCL, GMU, 2009-2016

Term Assistant Professor of Italian and Italian Program Coordinator, MCL, GMU, 2007-2009

Instructor of Italian and English, MCL and English, GMU, 2005-2007

Teaching Fellow, Department of Italian, Columbia University, 2001-2004

### **Education**

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Ph.D., Columbia University, Department of Italian, 2006

M.Phil., Columbia University, Department of Italian, 2004

M.A., Columbia University, Department of Italian, 2001

B.A., Bard College, Division of Languages and Literature, 1998

### **Fellowships and Awards**

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Faculty Study Leave, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, George Mason University (GMU), Fall 2024

Faculty Research Development Award, CHSS, GMU, Summer 2021

Teaching Award for Mason Core General Education, Office of the Provost, GMU

*Seventeen awards received between 2006 and 2023.*

Faculty Study Leave, CHSS, GMU, Spring 2018

Fenwick Faculty Fellowship, Office of the Provost, GMU, 2015-16

Finalist, Rome Prize in Medieval Studies, American Academy in Rome, 2016

Mathy Junior Faculty Award in the Arts and Humanities, CHSS, GMU, 2011-2012

Summer Research Award, Office of the Provost, GMU, 2010

Austin Oldrini Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University, 2005-2006

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University, 2004-2005

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, 2000-2004

Presidential Fellowship, Columbia University, 1999-2000

Lockwood Award, Bard College, 1998

Irma Brandeis Award, Bard College, 1997

## Monographs

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*Dressing Babylon: Sartorial Poetics in Dante, Boccaccio, and Petrarch*

(in progress and under advance contract with the University of Toronto Press)

*Courtesy Lost: Dante, Boccaccio, and the Literature of History.* Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2014, 240 pp.

## Edited Volumes

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*Boccaccio internazionale*, co-edited with Valerio Cappozzo, Maggie Fritz Morkin, and Rino Modonutti. Florence: Casa editrice Leo S. Olschki (in progress)

*The Decameron Second Day in Perspective*, co-edited with Victoria Kirkham. Toronto: University of Toronto Press (in progress)

*Approaches to Teaching Dante's Divine Comedy*, co-edited with Christopher Kleinhenz. Second Edition. Series: Approaches to Teaching World Literature. New York: Modern Language Association, 2020, xii, 300 pp.

*Boccaccio 1313-2013*, co-edited with Francesco Ciabattini and Elsa Filosa. Ravenna: Longo Editore, 2015, 369 pp.

## Edited Anthology

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*Open City: Seven Writers in Post-War Rome*, co-edited with William Weaver. South Royalton, VT: Steerforth Press, 1999, 462 pp.

## Audiobook

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"Books That Matter: Boccaccio's *Decameron*," Audible Books, 2021.

(<https://www.audible.com/pd/Books-that-Matter-The-Decameron-Audiobook/B092313D2F>)

## Edited Journal Forum

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"Ideology and Pedagogy: The Tensions of Teaching Dante," *Dante Studies* 137 (2019): 124-216.

## **Journal Articles and Book Chapters**

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### In progress:

“The Man Battler’s Lament: Andromache and Paternal Affect in Dante’s *Inferno*”

“Boccaccio’s *Decameron*,” In *The Oxford Handbook of Italian Literature*, ed. Stefano Jossa. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

### Forthcoming:

“In Good Faith: From Dante’s First American Poet-Translator, Thomas William Parsons, to Sandow Birk, Marcus Sanders and Mary Jo Bang.” In *Dante in America*, eds. Theodore J. Cachey, Jr., and Zygmunt Barański. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press.

“Filling in the Blanks: Free-Verse Translations of the *Commedia*.” In *Dante’s Divine Comedy in English*, eds. Jacob Blakesley, Theodore J. Cachey, Jr., and Federica Pich. London, UK: Routledge.

### Published:

“E se non piangi, di che pianger suoli?': The Tragic and Visual Art of Dante's *Commedia* in Paolo Sorrentino's *È stata la mano di Dio*.” In *Early Modern Voices in Contemporary Literature and on Screen*, eds. Ambra Moroncini and Aaron Kahn. Holden. MA: Quod Manet, 2024, pp.57-76.

“Migrant Purgatories: Dante, Lô, Nabil, and Sedira,” *Le Tre Corone. Rivista internazionale di studi su Dante, Petrarca, Boccaccio* 9 (2022): 77-92.

“Maintaining Neutrality in a Period of Moral Crisis': The Appropriation of *Inferno* 3 from JFK to Martha Nussbaum.” In *Dante Beyond Borders: Contexts and Reception*, eds. Nick Havely, Jonathan Katz, and Richard Cooper. Oxford: Legenda, 2021, pp. 311-323.

“Dante in a Global World: Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” In *The Unexpected Dante: Perspectives on the Divine Comedy*, ed. Lucia Wolf. Lewisburg, PA: Bucknell University Press, 2021, pp. 47-59.

“Dante and Monetary Language,” Forum: “Dante and Economics,” eds. Antonio Montefusco and Filippo Petricca. *Dante Studies* 138 (2020): 195-202.

“The Tale of Lisabetta da Messina.” In *The Decameron Fourth Day in Perspective*, ed. Michael Sherberg. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2020, pp. 86-106.

“Conceptions of Women and Gender in the *Comedy*.” In *Approaches to Teaching Dante’s Divine Comedy*, second edition, eds. Christopher Kleinhenz and Kristina Olson. New York, NY: Modern Language Association, 2020, pp. 110-119.

“Legacies of Greed and Liberality: Angevin Rulers in Dante and Boccaccio,” *Studi sul Boccaccio*

XLVII (2019): 181-201.

“The Ethical and Sartorial Geography of the Far East: Tartar Textiles in Boccaccio’s *Decameron* and *Esposizioni*,” *Le Tre Corone. Rivista internazionale di studi su Dante, Petrarca, Boccaccio* 6 (2019): 125-139.

“Shoes, Gowns, and Turncoats: Reconsidering Cacciaguida’s History of Florentine Fashion and Politics,” *Dante Studies* 134 (2016): 26-47.

“Uncovering the Historical Body of Florence: Dante, Boccaccio and Sumptuary Legislation,” *Italian Culture* 33:1 (March 2015): 1-15.

“Dante’s Urban American Vernacular: Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” Special Issue: “New Voices in Dante Criticism,” *Dante Studies* 131 (2013): 143-169.

“The Language of Women as Written by Men: Dante, Boccaccio, and Gendered Histories of the Vernacular,” *Heliotropia* 8-9 (2011-12, <http://www.heliotropia.org/08-09/olson.pdf>)  
Reprinted in *Heliotropia* 700/10: *A Boccaccio Anniversary Volume* (LED, 2013), pp. 217-236.

“Resurrecting Dante’s Florence: Figural Realism in the *Decameron* and the *Esposizioni*,” *Modern Language Notes* 124:1 (January 2009): 45-65.

“Concivis meus’: Petrarch’s *Rerum memorandarum libri* II.60, Boccaccio’s *Decameron* VI.9, and the Specter of Dino del Garbo,” *Annali d’italianistica* 24 (2005): 375-80.

## Public-Facing Articles

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“Empty Flags and Fallen ‘Angeli’: Dante and the Imagery of the Capitol Riot.” *Biblioteca Dantesca* 4 (2021): 212-218. (<https://repository.upenn.edu/bibdant/vol4/iss1/11/>)

“Hell on Earth: Parents, Children, and Pain at the Border.” In “Dante: Prophet of Hope.” The Berkley Forum, Georgetown University. October 21, 2021.  
(<https://berkleycenter.georgetown.edu/responses/hell-on-earth-parents-children-and-pain-at-the-border>)

“Worse than Dante’s Hell: Parents, Children and Pain at the Border.” *Dante Notes*, September 28, 2018. (<https://www.dantesociety.org/node/132>)

“Selected Illustrations from Birk’s *Comedy*.” Birk Illustrations, Digital Dante. New York, NY: Columbia University Libraries, 2017.  
(<https://digitaldante.columbia.edu/image/birk-illustrations/>)

## Interviews

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“Teaching Dante's *Divine Comedy* in 21st-Century America: A Conversation with Kristina Marie Olson.” By Mario Sassi. *Bibliotheca Dantesca: Journal of Dante Studies* 3 (2020).

“Conversations on Dante #7: Chris Kleinhenz and Kristina Olson on *Approaches to Teaching Dante's Divine Comedy*.” Leeds Centre for Dante Studies. August 27, 2020.

## Reviews and Review Articles

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Review of *The Decameron: A Critical Lexicon*, eds. Pier Massimo Forni and Renzo Bragantini. English edition by Christopher Kleinhenz. Translation by Michael Papio. Tempe, AZ: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2019. In *Annali d'italianistica* 39 (2021): 492-494.

Review of *The Ethical Dimension of the Decameron* by Marilyn Migiel. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015. In *Heliotropia* 16-19 (2019-20): 297-300.

Review of *Speaking Spirits: Ventriloquizing the Dead in Renaissance Italy* by Sherry Roush. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015. In *Speculum* 92:2 (April 2017): 580-81.

Review of *Inferno Revealed: From Dante to Dan Brown* by Deborah Parker and Mark Parker. Palgrave Macmillan, 2013. In *Italica* 92:2 (2015): 508–511.

Review of *Boccaccio: A Critical Guide to the Complete Works*, eds. Victoria Kirkham, Michael Sherberg and Janet Levarie Smarr. University of Chicago Press, 2013. In *Modern Philology* 113:4 (May 2016): 217-224.

Review of *Money, Morality, and Culture in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe*, eds. Juliann Vitullo and Diane Wolfthal. Ashgate Publishing Company, 2010. In *Annali d'italianista* 30 (2012): 509-511.

Review of *Boccaccio's Naked Muse: Eros, Culture, and the Mythopoeic Imagination* by Tobias Foster Gittes. University of Toronto Press, 2007. In *Heliotropia* 6:1-2 (2009): 63-66.

Review of *Dante's Two Beloveds* by Olivia Holmes. Yale University Press, 2007. In *The Medieval Review*, July 1, 2009. <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.baj9928.0907.001>.

Review article of *From Florence to the Heavenly City: The Poetry of Citizenship in Dante* by Claire Honess. Legenda, 2006. In *Symposium* 61:3 (Fall 2007): 211-216.

## Translation

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Selected poetry from Amelia Rosselli's *Documento*. Published in *Italian Poetry Review* IV (Società editrice fiorentina, 2009).

## Editorial Assistant

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Editorial Assistant. *Medieval Constructions in Gender and Identity: Essays in Honor of Joan M. Ferrante*, ed. Teodolinda Barolini. Tempe, AZ: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2005.

Editorial Assistant. *Life of Moravia*, by Alain Elkann and Alberto Moravia, translated by William Weaver. South Royalton, VT: Steerforth Press, 2000.

## Invited Lectures (Conferences, Symposia and Speaker Series)

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“Cowardice is Political: The Legacy of *Inferno* 3 in 20th- and 21st-Century America.” Medieval Studies Program’s 2023-2024 Speaker Series: “Then/Now: Modern Medievalisms.” University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. April 12, 2024.

“Dressing Babylon: Semiramis in Dante and Boccaccio.” The Department of Italian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA. February 9, 2024.

“Dressing Babylon: Semiramis in Dante, Boccaccio and Petrarch.” The Department of Italian Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT. November 30, 2023.

“The Ancient and Eastern Fabric of the *Esposizioni*: The Case of Semiramis.” Conference: “Das vernachlässigte Spätwerk Giovanni Boccaccios: *Le Esposizioni sopra la Commedia di Dante Alighieri*.” University of Göttingen, Germany. October 18-20, 2023.

“Dressing Babylon: Sartorial Biographies in Dante and Boccaccio.” The Center for Medieval Studies, University of Bristol, UK. October 12, 2023.

“Reading across the Binary: The Lexicon of the Transgender Body in the *Inferno*.” “Dante Work in Progress Seminar.” The University of Notre Dame Rome Global Gateway, Rome, Italy. May 25-26, 2023.

“‘Da lingua che chiami mamma o babbo’: Paternal Grief and Affect in Dante.” The Fifth International Seminar on Critical Approaches to Dante (ISCAD): “Emotions and Communities in Dante.” University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. April 12-13, 2023.

“Making Gender: Diviners, Weavers, and the Transgender Women and Men of *Inferno* 20.” The Dante Project of New York. Conference: “Make it New.” New York University and Columbia University, New York, NY. December 1-2, 2022.

“The Textual and Sartorial Protagonists of Pride: Nimrod, Arachne, and Geryon.” Conference: “The *Undivine Comedy*: Thirty Years Later.” Sponsored by the Department of Italian at Columbia University and the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies, Columbia University, New York, NY. October 21, 2022.

Honorary Participant on Closing Roundtable. Symposium: "Cultures of Exchange: Mercantile Mentalities between Italy and the World." Sponsored by the Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham University, New York, NY. March 27, 2022. Online.

"Migrant Purgatories: Lô, Nabil, and Sedira." The Department of Italian and Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC. March 17, 2022. Online.

"Come 'l vecchio sartor fa ne la cruna': Clothing and Gendered Performance in the *Commedia*." Symposium: "Dante and Performance." Villa Le Balze, Georgetown University, Florence, Italy. April 8, 2022.

"Sì che la ripa, ch'era perizoma/dal mezzo in giù" (*Inf.* 31.61-62): Nimrod, Original Sin and Artifice," Dante Public Lecture Series 2022. Organized by the Center for Dante Studies in Ireland (CDSI), Department of Italian and CASiLaC, University of College Cork, Ireland. January 31, 2022. Online.

"Dante's Migrant Purgatories: Lô, Nabil, and Sedira." International Symposium: "Dante, Poet of World Literature." Hebrew University of Jerusalem. December 20-22, 2021. Online.

"Dante's Sartorial Poetics: Belts, Cords, Girdles and *Perizoma*." Center of Medieval and Renaissance Studies Speaker Series, Ohio State University. November 19, 2021. Online.

"Separated by the State: Parental Love and Corporeality in Dante." Virtual International Symposium: "Dante Politico at the Crossroad of Arts and Sciences." University of Rochester, NY. April 17, 2021. Online.

"Hell on Earth." Symposium: "Dante in the Hell of Modernity." Fordham University, NY. April 7, 2021. Online.

"In Good Faith: Translations and Iconographies of Dante from Longfellow and Doré to Birk and Sanders." Symposium: "Dante in America." Devers Program in Dante Studies and the Center for Italian Studies at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN. February 18, 2021. Online.

"Costor non saranno dalla morte vinti': Boccaccio's Strategy of Invincibility in the *Decameron*." Symposium: "Danza Macabra: Ancient Pestilences and Contemporary Pandemics." Center for Italian Studies, Stony Brook University. October 28, 2020. Online.

Keynote Lecture: "Crowns, Coronals and Genealogies: Women and the Italian Canon." International Conference: "Cinque Corone? Rethinking the Early Italian Canon." UCC Ireland. June 18-21, 2020. (*conference cancelled because of COVID-19*)

"Da la cintola in sù': Dante's Sartorial Poetics." Medieval Seminar Series. Department of Italian, Columbia University, New York, NY. February 7, 2020.

- “Tartar Textiles and Ethical Geography in Dante and Boccaccio.” Italian Studies Lecture Series, Department of German and Romance Languages and Literatures, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. February 15, 2019.
- Respondent (with Christopher Kleinhenz). Symposium: “‘Come il baccialier’: Questioning and Professing Dante.” Spring Meeting of the Dante Society of America. Boston College, MA. May 2018.
- Roundtable: “Reconsidering Petrarchan Poetics.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans, LA. March 2018.
- “Sartorial Poetics: Clothing and Politics in Dante and Boccaccio.” Italian Studies Lecture Series, Department of Italian Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. October 19, 2017.
- “Cowardice, Silence, and Activism: Spivak, Nussbaum and Dante’s Fraught Role in Feminist Thought.” Conference: “The Future of the Catholic Literary Imagination.” Fordham University, New York, NY. April 27, 2017.
- “Skirting the Issue: Clothing and Politics in Fourteenth Century Italy.” Fenwick Fellow Lecture, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA. April 13, 2017.
- “Finding the Celestial Rose in Mecca: Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” The Simpson Program in Medieval Studies 2017 Series. The University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA. October 10, 2017.
- “Sòstati tu ch'a l'abito ne sembri/essere alcun di nostra terra prava’: Textiles and Political Truth in the *Comedy*.” Conference: “*Dante’s Poets: Thirty Years Later*.” The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies, Columbia University, New York, NY. November 13, 2014.
- “Dante’s Urban American Vernacular: Sandow Birk’s *Comedy*.” Conference: “Dante in Contemporary Perspectives.” The Department of Comparative Literature at the Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY. October 24, 2014.
- “Sumptuary Legislation in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries.” The Simpson Program in Medieval Studies 2014 Symposium: “The Rise of Vernacular Culture in Fourteenth Century Florence.” The University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA. October 4, 2014.
- “Courtesy Lost: Boccaccio as *dantista* and *storico*.” The Annual Dante Lecture, The Department of Italian Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT. November 21, 2013.
- “The Politics of *Cortesìa*: Dante, Boccaccio and the Case of Corso Donati,” The Annual Meeting of the Dante Society of America, Cambridge, MA. May 18, 2013.
- “Lisabetta and the Pot of Basil, or, Colonies of the Lovelorn (*Decameron* IV.5),” The *Lectura boccacii* for the *Decameron Day Four in Perspective*, ed. Michael Sherberg, University of Toronto Press. The Annual Meeting of the American Association for Italian Studies, University of Pittsburgh, PA. April 2011.



“A Beginning and an End to Philology: Boccaccio’s *Esposizioni sopra la Comedia* and the Philosophy of the Tartars.” Conference: “Boccaccio filologo-filosofo: una giornata di studi.” The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies at Columbia University, New York, NY. April 28-29, 2011.

### Conference Presentations

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“Crossing Sex and Species: Dante’s Corporeal Poetics between the *Inferno* and *Purgatorio*.” The Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, University of Notre Dame, March 2024.

“E se non piangi, di che pianger suoli?”: The Tragic and Visual Art of the *Commedia* in Sorrentino’s *È stata la mano di Dio*.” Il Congresso Dantesco Internazionale 2023. University of Bologna in Ravenna, May 17-20, 2023.

“Surviving the Plague: Invincibility in Boccaccio’s *Decameron*.” Panel: “Boccaccio and Petrarch in the Wake of the Plague.” The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 2022.

“Tartar Textiles and Ethical Geography in Dante and Boccaccio.” Panel: “Dante, Local and Global: Towards 2021.” Conference: Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. March 2019.

“Family Separation in Hell: Parents, Children and Pain in Dante.” Panel: “Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio and the Poetics of the Early Italian Renaissance I.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Toronto, Ontario. March 2019.

“*Panni tartarici* and Ethical Geography in Boccaccio’s *Decameron* and *Esposizioni*.” Panel: “Civic Boccaccio.” Conference: Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, Chicago, IL. January 2019.

“Sumptuous Literature: Clothing, Gender and Governance in Dante, Boccaccio and Petrarch.” Symposium: “Inside Out: Dress and Identity in the Middle Ages,” Fordham University, NY. March 2018.

“Maintaining Neutrality in a Time of Moral Crisis: The Appropriation of *Inferno* 3 from JFK to Martha Nussbaum.” Panel: “Dante on Crisis.” Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, New York, NY. January 2018.

Respondent: “Boccaccio and Law.” Panel at the Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL. March 2017.

“*Panni corti* and Minos’s Tail: Boccaccio’s History of Fashion and Governance in *Esposizioni* 5.” The Triennial Conference of the American Boccaccio Association, Duke University, Durham, NC. September 30-October 2, 2016.

- “Shoes, Gowns and Turncoats: Reconsidering Cacciaguida’s History of Florentine Fashion.” Panel sponsored by the Dante Society of America. The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 2016.
- “Histories of the Southern Kingdoms from Dante to Boccaccio (and Petrarch).” Panel: “Dante and Boccaccio.” Annual Conference of the American Association of Italian Studies. The University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. March 26-28, 2015.
- “Maternal and Literary Languages: Biographies of Female Eloquence and Literacy in Giovanni Boccaccio and Christine de Pizan.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, New York, NY. March 2014.
- “The Arno Runs Red (or White?): Narrating Florentine Politics and Violence in Dante, Boccaccio and Compagni.” Conference: “Boccaccio at 700.” The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Binghamton University, NY. April 26-27, 2013.
- “Chiosar con altro testo’: The Presence of the *Decameron* in the Dante Commentary Tradition.” Panel: “Dante and Boccaccio.” Sponsored by the American Boccaccio Association. The International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 2012.
- “The Problem with ‘Onesti Vocaboli’: Self-Censorship, Censorship, and the *Decameron*.” Panel: “Censorship and Self-Censorship in Renaissance Literature.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America. Washington, DC, March 2012.
- “What Language Did Women Speak? The Gendered Vernacular in the *Questione della lingua*.” Panel: “Early Modern Italian Identities.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Montreal, Quebec. March 2011.
- “Dante’s Urban American Vernacular: Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” Panel: “Illustrating Dante.” Sponsored by the Dante Society of America. The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 2010.
- “La lingua materna’ versus ‘il volgare delle femine’: Gendered Histories of Literary Language in Dante and Boccaccio.” Southeastern Medieval Association Annual Meeting, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. October 15-17, 2009.
- “One Nation and Two Crowns: Dante and Boccaccio in the Classroom.” Panel: “New Approaches to Teaching Dante to American Undergraduates.” The South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Louisville, KY. November 2008.
- “Towards an Historical Reconstruction of Dante’s World: Boccaccio and the Origins of Dante Studies.” The Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Chicago, IL. December 2007.
- “Boccaccio’s Gendered History of Dante’s Chivalric World.” The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 2007.
- “A Political Boccaccio? Avarice and the Merchant Class in the *Decameron* and the *Esposizioni*.”

The Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Washington, DC.  
December 2005.

“‘Concivis meus’: Petrarch’s *Rerum memorandarum libri* II.60, Boccaccio’s *Decameron* VI.9 and the Writing of Florentine History.” Conference: “Francis Petrarch and the European Lyric Tradition.” The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. March 2004.

“Le case dei morti’: Cavalcanti among Florence’s Living Dead in *Decameron* 6.9.” The Carolina Conference for Romance Languages. The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. March 2003.

“Da costei onde io principio piglio’: Dante between Dido and Vergil,” South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Baltimore, MD. November 2002.

### Invited Seminars

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“Surviving an Endless Pandemic: Boccaccio’s Strategy of Invincibility in the *Decameron*.” The Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. November 9, 2023.

“*Decameron* II.1-5.” The Department of French, Francophone, and Italian Studies, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KA. September 7, 2023. Online.

“‘Costor non saranno dalla morte vinti’: Boccaccio’s Strategy of Invincibility in the *Decameron*.” Boccaccio Studies roundtable organized by the graduate students in the Department of Italian, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK. February 11, 2022. Online.

“Empty Flags and Fallen ‘Angeli.’” Department of Italian Studies, Connecticut College, Carlisle, PA. November 17, 2021. Online.

“Dante in a Global World: Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” Department of Italian and Italian Studies, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA. October 14, 2021. Online.

“Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” Presentation for the Doyle Dante Seminar, Prof. Francesco Ciabattini, Georgetown University, Washington, DC. May 4, 2021. Online.

“Sartorial Poetics.” Presentation for the seminar: “Made in Italy,” Department of Italian, Prof. Nicoletta Pireddu. Georgetown University, Washington, DC. September 9, 2020.

“Teaching the *Decameron*.” Teaching Seminar for the Literature Humanities Program, Core Curriculum. Columbia University, New York, NY. February 5, 2018.

“Im/material Girls: *Paradiso* 15, the Commentary Tradition, and the Influence of Giovanni Villani.” Villanova University, Villanova, PA. November 2, 2016.

“Dante, Boccaccio and Sumptuary Legislation in 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Century Italy.” University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH. October 14, 2016.

“Dante’s *Inferno*: Influence, Adaptation and Reception.” Speaker in NEH Seminar on teaching Dante. University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. June 2015.

“Dante as ‘musa,’ Boccaccio as ‘donna’: Gendered Literary Histories in Boccaccio.” Invited graduate-student seminar at the Department of Romance Languages (Prof. Pier Massimo Forni), The Johns Hopkins University (March 8, 2010), and the Department of Italian (Prof. Karina Attar), Queens College (CUNY), (April 29, 2010).

### **Invited Talks (Cultural Institutions and Community Associations)**

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“Boccaccio’s Works and Influence.” Italian Cultural Society of Washington, D.C., Bethesda, MD. November 18, 2018.

“Dante in a Global World: Sandow Birk’s *Divine Comedy*.” “Uncharted Dante on His 750<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary.” The Library of Congress, Washington, DC. December 3, 2015.

“Boccaccio’s *Decameron*.” Order of the Sons in Italy, Fairfax, VA, Chapter. September 27, 2017.

“Dante Alighieri: The Poet and His Times.” The Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society of the Washington, DC, Area (September 23, 2012); Lucchesi nel Mondo (November 4, 2012); Order of the Sons in Italy, Fairfax, VA, Chapter (February 27, 2013); Westminster at Lake Ridge (October 7, 2016).

“Century of Italian Film.” Smithsonian Associates Program, The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. November 15, 2009.

## **TEACHING**

### **Curriculum Development and Instruction**

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Italian Program Coordinator, Department of Modern and Classical Languages (MCL), George Mason University (GMU), Fall 2007 to present.

#### Undergraduate and graduate courses developed and taught include:

- *Boccaccio’s Decameron* (FRLN 550 & ITAL 325)
- *The Language of Empire: Ancient Rome, Italy, and Africa* (HNRS 122)
- *Global and Local Italy* (ITAL 420)
- *The Italian South* (ITAL 360)
- *Italian through the Arts* (ITAL 340)
- *Advanced Italian: Language and Culture I & II* (ITAL 330 & ITAL 331)
- *Dante’s Inferno* (ITAL 325)
- *Dante’s Divine Comedy* (ITAL 325)
- *Italian Cinema through the Lens of Neorealism* (ITAL 320)
- *Neorealism and Global Cinema* (ITAL 320): Co-taught with Dr. Carla Marcantonio,

*Department of English*

- *Intermediate Italian I and II (ITAL 201 & 202)*
- *Elementary Italian I and II (ITAL 101 & 102)*
- *Intensive Elementary Italian (ITAL 110)*
- *“Little Italies”: A partial immersion summer language program taught on the Fairfax Campus, with local cultural excursions and catering. Designed and piloted in 2007. Intensive Elementary Italian and Intermediate Italian (ITAL 110 & 210)*

### **Graduate and Undergraduate Research Mentorship**

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Dissertation Reader, Matías Sur, Department of Romance Languages, Duke University, 2022-.

Doctoral Oral Examination (“viva”), Charlotte Alton, Department of Italian, University of Cambridge, UK. October 2023.

Doctoral Registration Interview, Becky Reilly, Department of Italian, University of Cambridge, UK. July 2023.

MFA Exam Member, Katherine Keeney, Department of English, GMU. Summer 2021.

Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (URSP) Mentor. Student: Giovanna Uberti. Project Title: “Urban Policing in Contemporary Italy.” Fall 2017.

URSP Mentor and English Honors Thesis Advisor. Student: Georgia Wood, June 2014-May 2015. Project Title: “The ‘Divine’ Revisited: Reflections of Dante’s *Divine Comedy* in Toni Morrison’s Trilogy”

### **Pedagogical Materials**

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The Teaching Company (Great Courses/Wondrium). Course title: “Learning Italian: Step by Step and Region by Region,” released December 2020.  
(<https://www.wondrium.com/learning-italian-step-by-step-and-region-by-region>)

### **Extramural Teaching**

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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), Fairfax, VA. Course title: Dante’s *Paradiso*, 2019.

OLLI, Fairfax, VA. Course title: Dante’s *Purgatorio*, 2018.

OLLI, Fairfax, VA. Course title: Dante’s *Inferno*, 2017.

## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

### Professional Associations and Editorial Boards

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Editor-in-Chief, *Dante Studies*, 2024-.

Editorial Board, *Dante Studies*, 2019-; Associate Editor, *Dante Studies*, 2023-2024.

Associate Editor, Digital Dante, 2020-.

Advisory Board, *Quaderni d'italianistica*, 2020-.

Editorial Board, *Bibliotheca Dantesca: Journal of Dante Studies*, University of Pennsylvania, 2018-.

Consigliere aggregato, Comitato scientifico, Ente Nazionale Giovanni Boccaccio, 2023.

Advisory Board, Devers Series in Dante and Medieval Italian Literature, University of Notre Dame Press, 2022-.

President, American Boccaccio Association, 2020-2023.

Planning Committee, Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, 2020-2023.

Nominating Committee, Dante Society of America, 2019-2021.

Giuseppe Velli Prize Committee, American Boccaccio Association, 2019.

LLC Medieval and Renaissance Italian Forum, Modern Language Association, 2018-2023 (Chair, 2021).

Vice-President, American Boccaccio Association, 2017-2020.

Vice-President, Dante Society of America, 2016-2017, re-elected 2017-2018.

Councilor, Dante Society of America, 2015-2018.

Prize Committee, Dante Society of America, 2014-2017 (Chair, 2016-2017).

Treasurer, American Boccaccio Association, 2014-2017.

Nominating Committee, American Boccaccio Association, February 2011.

Faculty Affiliate, Charles Singleton Center for the Study of Pre-Modern Europe, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 2010-.

Board of Directors, National Council for the Promotion of Italian in American Schools, 2009-2011.

Co-Organizer, Italians and Italianists, International Congress on Medieval Studies, 2007-2015.

### Manuscript Reviewer

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Broadview Press; Cambridge University Press; De Gruyter; Georgetown University Press; McGraw-Hill; MIT Press; Palgrave Macmillan; Pearson; Prentice-Hall; Princeton University Press; University of Notre Dame Press; Routledge; University of Toronto Press; *Arno*; *Dante Studies*; *Heliotropia*; *The Italianist*; *Modern Language Notes*; *Modern Philology*; *postmedieval*; *Quaderni d'Italianistica*; *Speculum*; *Traditio*.

### Conference and Panel Organization

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Principal Conference Organizer: “*The Undivine Comedy*: Thirty Years Later.” The Italian Academy at Columbia University. October 21, 2022.

Conference Organizer (as ABA executive officer): The Fifth Triennial ABA Conference, University of Padua, Italy. June 2022.

Panel Organizer: “New Approaches to Boccaccio and Gender Studies.” Conference: The Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America. April 2021.

Conference Organizer (as ABA executive officer): The Fourth Triennial ABA Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. October 2019.

Panel Organizer and Chair: “Teaching Dante in America.” Conference: Convention of the Northeast American Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, March 2019.

Principal Conference Organizer (with Chris Kleinhenz): Symposium: “Come il baccialier’: Questioning and Professing Dante.” Spring Meeting of the Dante Society of America. Boston College, MA. May 2018.

Panel Organizer and Chair: “Boccaccio and Law.” Conference: The Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL, March/April 2017.

Conference Organizer (as ABA executive officer): The Third Triennial ABA Conference, Duke University, September 2016.

Panel Organizer: “Boccaccio and Gender.” Conference: The Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Boston, MA, March 2016.

Principal Conference Organizer: “*Dante’s Poets*: Thirty Years Later.” The Italian Academy at Columbia University, November 13, 2014.

Panel Organizer and Chair: “Historicizing Boccaccio’s Life and Works.” Conference: “Boccaccio in Washington, DC,” Georgetown University, DC, October 2013.

Panel Organizer and Chair: “Boccaccio and Women Authors.” Conference: “Boccaccio at 700,” Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Binghamton University, April 26-27, 2013.

Panel Chair: “The *Decameron* and the Critics.” The 2010 International Boccaccio Conference, sponsored by the American Boccaccio Association. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, April 2010.

Panel Organizer and Chair: “Dedications and Disclaimers: Gendered Audiences in Medieval Literature.” The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2009.

Panel Organizer and Chair: “Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarch and Italian National Identity.” The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 2008.

### **Academic Service at George Mason University**

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Faculty Workload Guidelines Committee, Department of Modern and Classical Languages (MCL), Fall 2023.

Ad-Hoc Promotion and Tenure Committee for Dr. Jacqueline Burek, Department of English, Fall 2023.

Tenure-Line Salary Advisory Committee, MCL, Fall 2023.

Associate Chair, MCL, Fall 2021 to Spring 2023.

Director of Undergraduate Studies, MCL, Fall 2021 to Spring 2023.

Italian Term Position Search Committee, Chair, MCL, Fall 2021.

Chair Selection Committee, MCL, Fall 2020 to Spring 2021.

Planning, then First Steering Committee, George Mason Center for Humanities Research, Fall 2018 to Spring 2021.

Faculty Study Leave Review Committee, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), Fall 2019.

Distinguished Mentoring Fellow, Faculty Affairs, Office of the Provost, Fall 2018 to Fall 2019.

Chair, Promotion and Tenure Committee for Dr. Nathaniel Greenberg, MCL, Fall 2019.  
Term Faculty Promotion Committee, MCL, Summer 2019.  
Italian Term Position Search Committee, Chair, MCL, Summer 2019.  
Resources and Long-Term Planning Committee, CHSS, Fall 2018 to Spring 2019.  
Faculty Salary Advisory Committee, MCL, Fall 2018.  
Core Renewal, Promotion and Tenure Committee, MCL, Fall 2016-Spring 2019. (seven cases)

- Chair, Renewal of Dr. Vincent Chanethom, 2018-2019.
- Chair, Promotion to Associate Professor for Dr. Christy Pichichero, 2017-2018.
- Chair, Promotion to Full Professor for Dr. Jennifer Leeman, 2016-2017.

Fenwick Fellow Selection Committee, Fenwick Libraries, June 2018.  
Curriculum Coordinator, MCL, Fall 2016 to Spring 2018.  
Curriculum Committee, CHSS, Fall 2016 to Spring 2018.  
Budget Committee, MCL, Fall 2011 to Spring 2018.  
Judge, Undergraduate Research Symposium, CHSS, Spring 2017.  
Chair Selection Committee, MCL, Fall 2016 to Spring 2017.  
Arabic Term Position Search Committee, MCL, Summer 2016.  
Chair Selection Committee, MCL, Spring 2016.  
Faculty Grievance Committee, CHSS, Fall 2014 to Spring 2016.  
Ad-Hoc Salary Rubric Development Committee, CHSS, Spring 2015.  
Japanese Tenure-Stream Search Committee, MCL, Fall 2013 to Spring 2014.  
Salary Review Committee for Term Faculty, MCL, Fall 2012 to Spring 2014.  
Co-Organizer, Second Annual Jeffrey T. Chamberlain Memorial Lecture, MCL, April 2012.  
Committee on Languages without Major Programs, MCL, Fall 2008 to Spring 2016.  
Equity and Diversity Committee, MCL, Spring 2009 to Spring 2011.  
Portfolio Review Team, Assessment of General Education of Global Understanding Requirement, Office of the Provost, Summer 2010.  
Arabic Tenure-Stream Search Committee, MCL, Fall 2009 to Spring 2010.  
Portfolio Review Team, Assessment of General Education of Literature Requirement, Office of the Provost, Summer 2009.  
Spanish Term Search Committee, MCL, Spring 2009.  
Faculty Advisor for the Honors Student Advisory Committee, Honors Program in General Education, Fall 2008-Spring 2009.  
Faculty Advisor, Italian Club, Fall 2008 to Spring 2020.  
Organizer, Faculty Research Forum, MCL, Fall 2008.  
Advisory Board, The Center for Field Studies, Fall 2007-2014.  
Curriculum Committee, Film and Video Studies Program, Spring 2007 to Spring 2016.

## **Languages**

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English: native proficiency  
Italian: near-native proficiency  
Latin: reading comprehension  
French: reading comprehension  
Old Occitan: reading comprehension



## **Memberships**

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American Association for Italian Studies  
American Boccaccio Association  
Dante Society of America  
Medieval Academy of America  
Modern Language Association  
Renaissance Society of America