JESSE WAYNE TORGERSON

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Byzantine history; Medieval history; historiography; digital humanities; manuscript studies

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of Letters, Wesleyan University, 2022 –

Assistant Professor of Letters, Wesleyan University, 2014 – 2022

Core faculty member, Medieval Studies, Wesleyan University, 2014 –

Affiliate faculty member, History Department, Wesleyan University, 2014 –

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Amherst College, 2013-2014

Adjunct Professor, Modern Greek Studies, San Francisco State University, 2006, 2008, 2010

Adjunct Professor, Humanities Department, Diablo Valley Community College, 2007

Graduate Student Instructor, Department of History, UC Berkeley, 2004-2012

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 2013

Synchrony and Dissonance: Politics, Belief, and the Reckoning of Time in the Chronicle of Synkellos & Theophanes M.A., University of California, Berkeley, 2007

"The *Vita* of St. Gregory of Sinai by Kallistos I: the Origins of Late Medieval Hesychast Practice" B.A., Biola University, 2003 (Magna cum laude)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

Wesleyan University, Grants in Support of Scholarship (internal funding applications), 2016-2024

Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture, Publication Grant, 2021-2022

Service Learning Initiative Grant, Allbritton Center for Public Life, Wesleyan University, Fa 2021

Faculty Fellowship, Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University, Sp 2016

University of California Regents' Fellowship, UC Berkeley, Sp 2013

Mabelle McLeod Lewis Grant in Aid of Dissertation Completion, 2012-2013

UC Berkeley History Department Fellowship for Dissertation Completion, 2012-2013, declined

Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley, Sp 2012

Paul J. Alexander Fellowship, UC Berkeley, Sp 2011

Mellon Summer Fellowship, Vatican Film Library, Saint Louis University, Sum 2010

UC Berkeley Sydney Ehrman Fellowship to King's College, Cambridge University, 2008-2009

Heller Grant, Classics Department, UC Berkeley, 2005-2006

Peter Brown Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2004-2005

PUBLICATIONS

Published Books

The Chronographia of George the Synkellos and Theophanes: the Ends of Time in Ninth-Century Constantinople (Open Access Online), Brill Series on the Early Middle Ages (Brill: Leiden, 2022)

Published Digital Projects

Constantinople as Palimpsest version 1.1 (2021) (DOI: 10.34055/osf.io/ehmkx)

- Catalogued and archived on 1/25/2021 at https://osf.io/preprints/bodoarxiv/ehmkx
- Constantinople as Palimpsest version 1.0 (2017)

Published Articles and Book Chapters

- (with S. Perrone, A. Franklin-Lyons, and D. Shaw) "Visualization, Mapping, and the History of Mobility in the Middle Ages," *The Historian* 84.3 (2023) 504-538
- (with O. Gengler) "The Significance of Eusebius in the Byzantine Chronographic Tradition," contribution to roundtable on M. J. Hollerich, Making Christian History: Eusebius of Caesarea and His Readers (2021) in *Church History* 92 (2023) 656-660
- "Historical Practice in the Era of Digital History," History and Theory 61.4 Special Issue: Digital History and Theory (2022) 37-63
- "Constantinople as a (Pixelated) Palimpsest," Medieval Studies, Digital Methods, ed. S. Gilsdorf and L. Morreale (ArcHumanities Press, 2022) 77-97
- (with M. Humphreys) "Chronicles, Histories, and Letters," *A Companion to Byzantine Iconoclasm*, ed. M. Humphreys (Brill, 2021) 191-229
- "Could Isidore's Chronicle Have Delighted Cicero? Using the Concept of Genre to Compare Ancient and Medieval Chronicles," *Medieval Worlds 3* (2016) 65-82
- "Time and Again: Early Medieval Chronography and the Recurring Holy First-Created Day of George Synkellos," *Time: Sense, Space, Structure*, ed. N. van Deusen and L. M. Koff (Leiden, 2016) 18-57
- "From the many, one? The shared manuscripts of the *Chronicle* of Theophanes and the *Chronography* of Synkellos," *Studies in Theophanes* ed. M. Jankowiak and F. Montinaro, Travaux et Mémoires XIX (Paris, 2015) 93-117
- "William Wake's Byzantine Manuscripts: Notes on Provenance," in *Christ Church Library Newsletter* 6.1 (2009) 19-21

Published Book Reviews

N. Aschenbrenner & J. Ransohoff (eds.), *The Invention of Byzantium in Early Modern Europe* (2021) in TMR: The Medieval Review <u>23.01.08</u> (2023)

PRESENTATIONS

Conference & Symposium Presentations

- "Landscapes of Empire: Visualising Geographic Data from the Chronicle of Theophanes," in Session 247, International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2023
- "Changing Continuities, Changing Presents: Eighth and Ninth-Century Reckonings with the Eusebian Revolution," Ancient Histories and History Writing in New Rome: Byzantine Studies Symposium at Dumbarton Oaks, Washington D.C., May 2023
- "Historical Data: Publish (It) or Perish," <u>Digital History and Theory: An Open Conversation on the Future of Digital Scholarship</u>, Brown University, Providence, March 2023
- (in abstentia with Olivier Gengler and Christopher Bonura) "The Syriac and Byzantine Perspective on Michael Hollerich's Making Christian History," American Society of Church History Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, January 2023
- "To Translate Time: The *Chronographia* of George and Theophanes at the 870 Council of Constantinople," Byzantine Studies Conference, Case Western University, Cleveland, December 2021
- "The Spaces (in which) We Teach," New England Medieval Conference Sponsored by Harvard University and the University of Massachusetts Boston (via Zoom), November 2021
- "New Approaches to Medieval Historiography: the *Chronography* of George and Theophanes," MEMS Research Seminar Series, Kent University (via Zoom), December 2020
- "Conceptualizing the Humanities: The Traveler's Lab at Wesleyan University," American Association of Liberal Arts Colleges Conference, Carleton College, November 2019

- "Your Emperor, the Antichrist: How the *Chronography* of Synkellos and Theophanes Reimagined the Present by Re-calibrating Time," International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2017
- "Innovation in Ninth-Century Byzantium: was the *Chronicle* of Synkellos and Theophanes meant to incite a revolt?" International Congress on Medieval Studies, University of Michigan, Kalamazoo, May 2016
- "Anastasius Bibliotecarius' *Historia Tripartita*: claiming an imperial past." International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, Leeds, July 2014
- "Translation as Source: Theophanes' *Chronicle* and Anastasius Bibliothecarius." Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, April 2014
- "Many Authors, One Chronicle? The Manuscripts of Synkellos and Theophanes' chronicles." The *Chronicle* of Theophanes: an international workshop. Institut d'Études Byzantines, Collège de France, Université Paris Sorbonne, Paris, September 2012
- "Roman History, Christian History, and Diplomatic Power in the Ninth Century." Medieval Association of the Pacific Annual Conference, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, March 2012
- "Rome and the Idea of Rome in Carolingian Italy: Anastasius Bibliothecarius." Mellon Symposium on Medieval Subjectivity, Northwestern University, Evanston, July 2011
- "Anastasius Bibliothecarius: the value of Greek in the Carolingian world." Graduate Medievalists' Conference: Reading the Middle Ages, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, March 2011
- "Hagiography as a Historical Source: Kallistos I's *Life* of St. Gregory of Sinai." Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Toronto, Toronto, October 2007

Workshop & Seminar Presentations

- "An Introduction to Nodegoat for Byzantinists," Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture (via Zoom), October 2023
- "Quo Vadis: Digital Mapping and Medieval Studies Today," Digital Medievalist and Harvard University Standing Committee on Medieval Studies (via Zoom), October 2022
- "When Research and Teaching Can be Friends: Developing a Humanities Lab at Wesleyan," Center for Pedagogical Innovation Compass Workshop, Wesleyan University, September 2019
- "Discover what is missing': Theophanes the Confessor and his Reader." Five-Colleges Late Antiquity Seminar, Amherst MA, February 2017
- "Time and Again: George Synkellos' Holy First-Created Day." Five-Colleges Late Antiquity Seminar, Amherst MA, March 2014
- "The Word in Time: the chronological system of George Synkellos." California Medieval History Seminar, Huntington Library, Santa Monica CA, November 2011
- "Re-reading Theophanes the Confessor." Cambridge University Medieval History Seminar at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, February 2009

Public & Invited Lectures

- "It's About Time! (And Other Reasons Not to Forget the Craft of Early Medieval Chronography)" Zoom Lecture, Chinese University of Hong Kong, March 2023
- "Dropping a Medieval Chronicle (and putting it back together). Reading the Byzantine Chronography of Theophanes and George Synkellos through Manuscripts, Maps, and Text Analysis," Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture and Harvard University Standing Committee on Medieval Studies, Harvard University, March 2019
- "Lying Comparatively: Ordered Times and Ruptured Worlds." Center for Humanities Monday Night Lecture Series, Wesleyan University, March 2016
- "Robbins Collection Manuscript 67: Greek scholarship and the Renaissance." Hellenic Law Society of Northern California, San Francisco, June 2008

Conference Panels and Workshops Organized

Workshop Organizer, "Nodegoat at Wesleyan University," December 2023

Workshop Organizer, "What is a Nodegoat and What Can it Do?" Traveler's Lab Workshop for Wesleyan University, January 2023

Workshop Organizer and Symposiarch, "What Makes History Digital? Why (and How) Digital History is Happening Now," Zoom Workshop sponsored by Wesleyan University, May 2022

Workshop Organizer, "Geographic Data and Humanities Research: Building a Medieval Travel Database," Traveler's Lab Annual Workshop, Wesleyan University, January 2020

Panel Chair, "Analyzing Communication Networks in Medieval Europe: Geography, Connection, Mobility" (H. Birkett, A. Franklin-Lyons, K. Jasper, G. Shaw), Session 47: American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, January 2020

Panel Chair, "Mapping Communication in Late Medieval Europe," Historical Geography and GIS strand: Social Science History Association Annual Conference, Montreal, November 2017

Workshop Organizer, "From Theory to Practice: Digital Methods in Research and Teaching," Traveler's Lab Annual Workshop, Wesleyan University, September 2017

TEACHING

Wesleyan University

Team-Taught Courses:

COL 242 – Sophomore Colloquium: Middle Ages (Sp21, Sp22, Sp23, Sp24)

COL 150 - Great Books Unbound (Fa16, Fa17, Fa18, Fa19, Fa20, Fa21, Fa23)

COL 243 – Junior Colloquium: Medieval (Fa14, Fa15, Fa16, Fa17, Fa19, Fa20)

COL 241 – Sophomore Colloquium: Antiquity (Fa18)

Seminar Courses:

COL 118 – FYS: The Fall of Rome and Other Stories (Fa14, Sp15)

COL 128/MDST 128/HIST 230 – Constantinople: from Rome to Istanbul (Sp15, Sp17)

COL 221 / MDST 241 / HIST 232 – Revolutionary Lives (Sp23)

COL 295/MDST 128/ HIST 230 – Constantinople: A Digital Archaeology of Medieval Rome (Sp20)

COL 308/MDST 308/HIST 303 – Medievals on the Move (Sp15, Sp17)

COL 347/CHUM 315/HIST 327 – Emperor, Caliph, King (Sp16)

COL 424 – Traveler's Lab Research Seminar (Sp23)

Lecture Courses:

COL 247/CCIV 118/HIST 247 – The Fall of Rome and Other Stories (Sp19, Sp20, Sp21, Sp22)

Tutorial Courses:

Research Tutorials:

HIST 423 / HIST 424 – Traveler's Lab: History Research Tutorial (Fa16-Sp23)

Senior Thesis Tutorials:

Mae Davies (2021), "Easter Lillies"

Jessica Mason (2020), "Trickery and Restoration in the Alexiad"

Henry Spiro (2019), co-advised with Marco Aresu, "Tu mi segui, e io sarò tua guida: A Reading of the ms. Palatine 313"

Kira Stern (2019), "Where am I? The Search for the Self in U. S. Narratives"

Brendan McGlone (2018), co-advised with Jeff Rider "Meetings with a Remarkable Manuscript: A Study of a Late Medieval Collection of Latin Sermons"

Emma C. Davis (2017), "The Alexander Romance: A Graphic Novel"

Noah S. Gup (2016), "From Rule to Revolution: Finding a 'Form of Life' for Occupy Wall Street" Katherine (Trina) Parks (2015), (co-advisor with Michaelle Biddle) "Cracking the Codex: Exploring Medieval Bookbinding Technology Through Experimental Replication"

Bielefeld University

Grundseminar Methodik/Theorie: Digital Humanities Lab, New Methods for Historians (Sum 2019)

Amherst College

HIST 120 – The World of Medieval Europe (Sp 2014)

HIST 122 – The Byzantine World: History and Texts (Fa 2013)

HIST 322 – The Medieval Self (Fa 2013)

HIST 323 - Medieval Travel (Sp 2014)

University of California, Berkeley

HIST 103B - Ninth Century Mediterranean: Empires and Exchange (Fa 2009, Fa 2011)

San Francisco State University

MGS 510/HIST 326/CLAS 510 – The Byzantine Empire (Fa 2006, Sp 2008, Fa 2010)

Diablo Valley College

HUM 111 – Humanities 500-1700: The Middle Ages (Sp 2007)

SERVICE

Wesleyan University: Committee Work

Web Governance Committee (2023-2024)

Tenure Track Search Committee: "Islamic Intellectual Traditions" College of Letters (2022-2023)

Allbritton Center, Faculty Grants Review Committee (Sp23)

Faculty Library Committee, Humanities Division Faculty Representative, 8/2019-5/2022

Educational Policy Committee, Humanities Division Faculty Representative, 6/2018-6/2020

Tenure Track Search Committee: Art History Department: Medieval Art Historian (2018-2019)

Faculty Inverviewer, Associate University Librarian Search (2019)

Tenure Track Search Committee: College of Letters: Philosopher of Aesthetics (2016-2017)

Co-sponsor, Muslim Studies Certificate Proposal (2017)

Faculty Interviewer, ITS Search Committee: Academic Computing Manager (2017)

Faculty Representative, Classroom Renovations Committee (Chair: Sheryl Culotta; 2015)

Faculty Interviewer, ITS Search Committee: Academic Computing Manager for CPI (2015)

Post-doctoral Search Committee, Center for Humanities, for 2015-2017 postdoc fellows (2015)

Wesleyan University: Event Organizing (besides those included in "Conference Panels and Workshops")

Susanna Elm, "Books, Bodies, Histories: Augustine of Hippo on the Extraordinary." (October, 2019) Hosted by the College of Letters, Medieval Studies Program, and the History Department

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(with A. Quintman) Wesleyan Digital Humanities Network, an Allbritton Center Working Group. Speakers: Anke Finger (UCONN, 2/2019), Francesca Baird (Wesleyan, 3/2019), Chris Chenier (Wesleyan, 5/2019), Peter Gottschalk and Iris Bork-Goldfield (Wesleyan, 9/2019), Lisa Dierker and Alex Vazquez (Wesleyan, 10/2019), Sean Gilsdorf and Laura Morreale (Harvard, 12/2019)

Kathleen Davis, "From Periodization to the Autoimmune Secular State." (February, 2017) Hosted by the Medieval Studies Program, the College of Letters, and History and Theory

Tyler Lange, "What is the Church? Process Organisation Studies, Actor-Network Theory, and Excommunication for Debt." (April, 2015) Hosted by DACKI

Wesleyan University: Advising, Peer Teaching, Departmental Service

Major Advising (Spring 2015-Present)

First-Year Advising (2015-2017; 2019-2020)

Student Group Advisor: Disorientation (2022-Present)

"Learning with Projects," Presentation at New Faculty Orientation (8/2017, 8/2018, 8/2019)

Wes-vising Video for College of Letters (co-wrote script; recorded 4/2018)

First Year Matters, seminar leader (8/2017, 8/2018, 8/2019, 8/2021)

College of Letters Library Re-organization Committee (Fall 2014-2017)

College of Letters Departmental Seminars and Workshops Organized

Junior Colloquium Seminar (Susanna Elm, UC Berkeley, October 2019)

Senior Thesis Research Bibliography Workshop (May, 2017)

(with K. Tölölyan) Senior Colloquium Seminar (Kathleen Davis, University Rhode Island, Feb 2017)

(with various colleagues) College of Letters "Bridge Seminar" (Sept 2016, Jan 2017, Sept 2017)

Senior Thesis Showcase: Katherine (Trina) Parks, "Pre-Modern Book Cultures." (April, 2015)

Service to the Profession

Outside Referee, 2021-2022 Dissertation Grant and Project Grant Applications, Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture

Peer Review for Palgrave MacMillan monograph proposal

Peer Review for History and Theory

Peer Review for Studia Ceranea: Journal of the Waldemar Ceran Research Centre

Steering Committee: New England Medieval Conference (2015-2017)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association (AHA), member Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA), member Medieval Academy of America (MAA), member New England Medieval Conference (NEMC), member