

## Marcel Elias

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Department of English  
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Citizenship: Canada and Switzerland

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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Assistant Professor, Department of English, Yale University Affiliated Faculty, European Studies Council, MacMillan Center Core Faculty, Medieval Studies	2020-
Swiss National Science Foundation, Research Fellow, Council for British Research in the Levant, Honorary Fellow, King's College London	2019-2020
Jeremy Haworth Research Fellow, St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge	2017-2019
Lecturer and Supervisor in English, University of Cambridge	2014-2019

### EDUCATION

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PhD in English, University of Cambridge	2013-2017
Dissertation: "The Emotional Rhetoric of the Later Crusades: Romance in England after 1291." Defended in June 2017. Funded by the Gates Cambridge Scholarship Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.	
MA of Arts, University of Lausanne	2011-2013
English and History (Joint Degree). Funded by the Office Cantonal des Bourses d'Études (OCBE) (bursaries awarded to students from low-income families).	
BA of Arts, University of Lausanne	2007-2010
Majors in English Literature & Linguistics and History. Minor with options in the Classics and Middle Eastern Literature. Funded by the OCBE.	

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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#### Book

*Crusade Literature and the Interrogation of Self: Romance and History, 1291-1453* (under contract, Cambridge Studies in Medieval Literature, Cambridge University Press).

#### Articles and Chapters

"Toward a New Model of Medieval Orientalism" (under review).

"Crusade Romances and the Matter of France," in *The Oxford History of Poetry in English, vol. 2 (1150-1408)*, ed. Helen Cooper and Robert R. Edwards (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming in 2021).

"Chaucer and Crusader Ethics: Youth, Love, and the Material World," *The Review of English Studies* 70 (2019), 618-39.

“Rewriting Chivalric Encounters: Cultural Anxieties and Social Critique in the Fourteenth Century,” in *Romance Rewritten: The Evolution of Middle English Romance – A Tribute to Helen Cooper*, ed. Elizabeth Archibald, Megan Leitch, and Corinne Saunders (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 2018), 49-68.

“Interfaith Empathy and the Formation of Romance,” in *Emotion and Medieval Textual Media*, ed. Mary Flannery (Turnhout: Brepols, 2018), 99-124.

“Violence, Excess, and the Composite Emotional Rhetoric of *Richard Coeur de Lion*,” *Studies in Philology* 114:1 (2017), 1-38.

“Mixed Feelings in the Middle English Charlemagne Romances: Emotional Reconfiguration and the Failures of Crusading Practices in the *Otuel* Texts,” *New Medieval Literatures* 16 (2016), 172-212.

“The Case of Anger in *The Siege of Milan* and *The King of Tars*,” *Comitatus* 43 (2012), 41-56.

## Review

Review of Phillipa Hardman and Marianne Ailes, *The Legend of Charlemagne in Medieval England: The Matter of France in Middle English and Anglo-Norman Literature* (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 2017), *The Review of English Studies* 69 (2018), 971-74.

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND PRIZES

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Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) Research Fellowship, King’s College London.	2019-2020
Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL), Honorary Fellowship.	2019-2020
Jeremy Haworth Research Fellowship, St Catharine’s College, University of Cambridge.	2016-2019
Spanish Society for Medieval English Language and Literature (SELIM) Lecture Grant (invited guest lecture at the University of Alicante).	2018
Gates Cambridge Scholarship for a PhD, University of Cambridge (Full funding from the Gates Cambridge Trust of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation).	2013-2016
Clarendon Scholarship for a PhD, University of Oxford (Full funding, offer declined in favor of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship).	2013-2016
Travel and Conference Grants from Magdalene College, the Gates Cambridge Trust, the Kate Westoby Foundation, and the Swiss National Science Foundation (5 grants to present at international conferences).	2013-2016
University of Cambridge, Faculty of History Grant (to set up a medieval studies website for Cambridge).	2016
Faculty Award, University of Lausanne, for “exceptional academic achievements culminating in an outstanding dissertation” (the highest award given by Swiss Universities).	2013

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Yale University

- “Readings in English Poetry 1” ENGL 125 Introductory course on Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, Shakespeare’s sonnets, and Milton’s *Paradise Lost*. [Fall 2020]
- “The Multicultural Middle Ages” ENGL 154 / FREN 216 / HUMS 134 Lecture course with Ardis Butterfield (12 lectures each). Course moving between the era of the Crusades and the twenty-first century, Europe and the Islamic Mediterranean, placing English, French, Italian, Spanish, and Arabic literary and non-literary texts in dialogue. Units on “What is Medieval,” “Travel and Trade,” “Crusades and the Erotic Other,” “The Device of the Foreign Observer,” “Trials of Identity,” “Cultural Confrontations and History.” [Fall 2020]

## King's College London

- “Performance in Medieval Culture.” Seminar teaching on a selection of the Towneley, N-Town, Corpus Christi, and Chester plays; sermon, household, and gender performance in Chaucer; female embodiment in the lives of Elizabeth of Spalbeek and Christina Mirabilis; masculine urban performance in Hoccleve. [Fall 2019]

## University of Cambridge

### College Teaching

- “English Literature and its Contexts, 1300-1550.” Supervisions on Chaucer, Gower, Langland, Malory, the Gawain-poet, Margery Kempe, Middle English romance, and the morality plays. Lectures on “Literature and Religion,” “History and Politics,” “Manuscripts and Trilingual Culture,” “Gender and Violence.” 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year BA. [Fall 2014, Fall 2015, and Fall 2017]
- “Old English Language and Literature.” Supervisions on *Beowulf* and *The Battle of Maldon*. 1<sup>st</sup> year BA. [Winter 2018]
- “Early Medieval Literature, 1066-1350.” Supervisions and seminars on the *Chanson de Roland*, the romances of Chrétien de Troyes, the *lais* of Marie de France, *Boeve de Hampton*, and *Gui de Warewic*. 3<sup>rd</sup> year BA. [Winter 2019]

### Faculty of English

- “The Medieval Supernatural, 1000-1550.” Lecturer, collaborative module. 3<sup>rd</sup> year BA. [Winter 2018]
- “Nature and the Wild, 1300-1550.” Lecturer, collaborative module. 1<sup>st</sup> year BA. [Fall 2018]

### Outreach Lectures

- “Medieval Travel and Geography.” Annual Outreach Residential, Magdalene College. [Spring 2019]
- “Medieval Maps and Monsters.” Cambridge Admissions Office (CAO) Master Classes. [Summer 2019]

### BA Dissertations Supervised

- “War and Women: Textual Representations of the Other During the Crusades, 1100-1200,” awarded a Prize from the Faculty of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies; revised version published in *Al-Masāk*. [Fall 2017 and Winter 2018]
- “Reverse Orientalism in Medieval and Post-9/11 Literature: John Mandeville’s *Travels* and Mohsin Hamid’s *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*.” [Fall 2018 and Winter 2019]
- “The Monstrous Hero of Middle English Romance.” [Fall 2019 and Winter 2020]

## English as a Foreign Language

- EFL teacher at the Wall Street Institute in Montreux, Switzerland [100% contract from July 2010-September 2011; 20% contract from October 2011 to January 2012]

## INVITED TALKS

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- “Les Sarrasins critiques des héros chrétiens,” Invited paper, University of Lausanne, March 2020.
- “Global Developments, Postcolonial Theory, and the Formation of Middle English Romance.” Invited paper at the “Crossing Borders in the Insular Middle Ages” seminar, University of Birmingham, September 2019, sponsored by the Humboldt Foundation.
- “The Superior Enemy: Towards a New Model of Medieval Orientalism.” Invited paper at the seminar series of the Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies, University of Durham, June 2019.
- “Blasphemy and Religious Apostasy in the Later Middle Ages,” University of Alicante, April 2018.
- “Crusade as Therapy and the Lamentable Excesses of Violence in *The Siege of Jerusalem*.” Invited speaker for a session on “Narratives of Violence: Constructions of Encounters with Otherness in the Crusades” at the Leeds International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2017.
- “Blasphemy and the Failure of the Crusades in Middle English Romance.” Invited speaker for a session on “Romance and Intertextuality” at the Romance in Medieval Britain Conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, August 2016.
- “Interfaith Empathy and the Protean Nature of Romance.” Invited speaker for a session at *Marginalia*, the graduate reading group in medieval studies at the University of Cambridge, March 2016.

- “Romance Fluidity, Emotional Interpolations, and Blurring the Christian-Saracen Divide.” Invited speaker for an international workshop on Emotion and Medieval Media, University of Lausanne, June 2015, sponsored by the Swiss National Science Foundation.
- “Emotional Rhetoric in Middle English Crusade Romance.” Invited speaker for a session on “Motion and Emotion in Medieval England” at the 49<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, May 2014, sponsored by the Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern Studies and the Australian Research Council for the History of Emotions.

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## SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Chaucer, the Crusades, and Chivalric Reform,” New Chaucer Society Conference, University of Toronto, July 2018.
- “God, Women, and Other Chivalric Motives in *Guy of Warwick*.” Romance in Medieval Britain Conference, University of Cardiff, April 2018.
- “Reshaping Cognitive Appraisal from *Chanson de Geste* to Romance.” Medieval Romance Conference, University of Cambridge, September 2016.
- “Modifying Chivalric Emotions in the Charlemagne Romances.” Gender and Medieval Studies Conference, University of Hull, January 2016.
- “Anger, Sorrow, and Retribution: Christian Emotional Solidarity in *The Siege of Milan*.” Leeds International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2014.
- “Violence and the Composite Emotional Rhetoric of *Richard Coeur de Lion*.” SAUTE (Swiss Association of University Teachers of English) Conference on Emotion, Affect, and Sentiment, University of Lausanne, April 2013.
- “The Manuscript History of *Richard Coeur de Lion*.” Research Day in Medieval Literature with the Universities of Lausanne, Warwick, Padua, and Pázmány Péter Budapest, March 2013.

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## ACADEMIC SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

### Yale University

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2020-2021.

Senior Essays and Special Projects Committee, 2020-2021.

Faculty Representative, Medieval Colloquium, 2020-2021.

PhD Dissertation Reader: Eric Ensley, “Troubled Signs: Thomas Hoccleve’s Objects of Absence.”

PhD Oral Examiner: Rachel Wilson, “Crusade Historiography.”

### University of Cambridge

Rooms Committee, St Catherine’s College, 2018-2019.

Admissions Interviewer, St Catharine’s College, 2016, 2017.

Open Day Organizer, St Catharine’s College, 2017.

Founding Member and Editor of the Medieval Studies Website at Cambridge, 2016-2019.

President of the Magdalene Society of Medievalists, 2014-2016.

Issue and Reviews editor of *Marginalia*, 2014-2015.

Member of the Gates Cambridge Ambassador Program, 2013-2016.

### University of Lausanne

Graduate Assistant, 2012-2013.

Translator from French to English of several academic abstracts, Faculty of History, 2012-2013.

### Other Activities

Article Reviewer for the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*.

MA Final Essay Reader, “The Troubadours & their Legacy,” King’s College London, 2020.

## **NON-ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

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### *Certificates and Degrees*

Certificate of Educational Studies in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (ACTDEC) (2010); Pool Lifeguard Qualification (Société Suisse de Sauvetage) (2009); Swiss Snowsports Degree in Ski/Snowboard Instruction (SSBS) (2007); Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Grade 8 in Cello (with Distinction) (2004).

### *Work Experience*

During my BA and MA degrees, contracts of up to 20 hours per week as a construction worker, cashier, sales assistant, waiter, bartender, ski/snowboard instructor, EFL teacher, language consultant, and student/teaching assistant (2007-2013).

## **LANGUAGES**

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### **Modern**

English and French (native fluency)

Italian and Spanish (reading and speaking competence)

German (reading knowledge; course at the Cambridge Language Centre, 2018-2019)

Arabic (basic knowledge; course at the Cambridge Language Centre, 2019-2020)

### **Medieval**

Middle English, Old French, Old Occitan (reading competence)

Old English and Latin (reading knowledge)

Middle High German (reading knowledge)