

Marcel Elias

Assistant Professor
Yale University
Department of English
marcel.elias@yale.edu

Citizenship: Canada and Switzerland

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Yale University	2020-Present
Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) Research and Teaching Fellow, King's College London	2019-2020
Jeremy Haworth Research Fellow, St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge	2016-2019
Lecturer and Supervisor in English, University of Cambridge	2014-2019

EDUCATION

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

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

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. Selection criteria: academic excellence; commitment to improving the lives of others; capacity for leadership).	2013-2016
Clarendon Scholarship for a PhD, University of Oxford (Full funding, offer declined in favour 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.”	2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Yale University

- “Readings in English Poetry 1” ENGL 125 [Fall 2020]
- “The Multicultural Middle Ages” ENGL 154 / FREN 216 / HUMS 134 (Lecture course with Ardis Butterfield) [Fall 2020]

King’s College London

- “Performance in Medieval Culture.” Seminars 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; and masculine urban performance in Hoccleve. [Fall 2019]

University of Cambridge

College Teaching

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

Faculty Teaching

- Lecturer for a collaborative module on “The Medieval Supernatural, 1000-1550.” Faculty of English. 3rd year BA. [Winter 2018]
- Lecturer for a collaborative module on “Nature and the Wild, 1300-1550.” Faculty of English. 1st 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; a revised version was published in the journal *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 in Middle English Romance.” [Fall 2019 and Winter 2020]

Universities of Lausanne and Alicante

- Guest Lecture for MA students on “Religious Warfare in Medieval Romance,” University of Lausanne. [Fall 2013]
- Guest Lecture for MA students on “Blasphemy and Religious Apostasy in the later Middle Ages,” University of Alicante. [Spring 2018]

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

- “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.
- “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 49th 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.

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.

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Article Reviewer for the <i>Journal of English and Germanic Philology</i>	2020
Member of the Rooms Committee, St Catherine’s College, Cambridge	2018-2019
Admissions Interviewer, St Catharine’s College, Cambridge	2016, 2017
Open Day Organiser, St Catharine’s College, Cambridge	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 <i>Marginalia</i>	2014-2015
Member of the Gates Cambridge Ambassador Programme	2013-2016
Graduate Assistant, Faculty of English, University of Lausanne	2012-2013
Translator from French to English of several academic abstracts for the Faculty of History at the University of Lausanne.	2012-2013

NON-ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

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, mover, cashier, sales assistant, waiter, bartender, ski/snowboard instructor, EFL teacher, language consultant, and student/teaching assistant (2007-2013).

LANGUAGES

Modern

English and French (native fluency)

Italian and Spanish (conversational and good reading skills)

German (adequate reading skills; course taken at the Cambridge Language Centre, 2018-2019)

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

Medieval

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

Old English and Latin (good reading knowledge)

Middle High German (basic reading knowledge)