Medieval Disability Sourcebook

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**Contributors**

**Danielle Allor** is a PhD candidate in the Department of English at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Her work focuses on vegetal life and late medieval literature, arguing that late medieval authors imported knowledge-organizing and classifying strategies from natural philosophy to bolster claims to religious authenticity and literary authority. Her dissertation, “Trees of Thought: Arboreal Matter and Metaphor in Late Medieval England,” examines trees as material and figural classification systems in the work of William Langland, Geoffrey Chaucer, John Lydgate, and John Skelton.

**Lucy Barnhouse** is a Visiting Assistant Professor of History at Wartburg College. Her research focuses on the intersections between legal, religious, and medical history. Her prospective monograph, *Houses of God, Places for the Sick*, examines the place of hospitals in the religious and social networks of late medieval cities. Her publications include a study of a medical miscellany used in a hospital managed by religious women, and an article on leprosy in the Rhineland for *Leprosy and Identity in the Middle Ages: from England to the Mediterranean*. Her future research plans include a study of mobility and urban identities in late medieval Central Europe. She has been a podcaster with Footnoting History, on topics including women’s history and medical history, since 2013.

**Paul A. Broyles** is a Lecturer in English at North Carolina State University, where he previously held a CLIR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Data Curation for Medieval Studies. His research concerns medieval romance, geographic imagination, and cultural identity, with broader interests in textual transmission and translation. He is active in the development of Digital Humanities projects, and serves as Technical Director of the Society for Early English and Norse Electronic Texts and Technical Editor of the *Piers Plowman Electronic Archive*.

**Eliza Buhrer** is a cultural historian, whose work explores intersections between the histories of medicine, law, and knowledge in premodern Europe. She recently began a new position as a Teaching Associate Professor at Colorado School of Mines, fulfilling a long-held dream of living in the mountains, and previously worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor of History at Loyola University New Orleans, and an Assistant Professor of History at Seton Hall University. She has published on intellectual disability in medieval law and culture and has forthcoming essays on how medieval jurists imagined monstrosity and how medieval society conceptualized learning difficulties. She is currently working on a book on the cultural history of attention and distraction.

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Skin in the Age of Chaucer, 2018), and “Mad for Margery: Disability and the Imago Dei in the Book of Margery Kempe” (The Ashgate Research Companion to Medieval Disability Studies, Routledge, forthcoming). She remains an ardent advocate for the Digital Humanities and public scholarship, maintaining an online center for the study of transgender and disability, medieval and post-medieval, www.ThingsTransform.com. Additionally, she serves on the executive board of the Mental Health Network, an advising think-tank for the national UCC church, as well as consults for local businesses, schools, and political groups on diversity and social justice. This work led her to serve at “the White House Forum on LGBTQ and Disability Issues” in 2016.

Karen M. Cook is associate professor of music history at The Hartt School at the University of Hartford. Her primary research is on late medieval music theory and notation, with her current work focusing on lesser-known or fragmentary treatises. She also maintains strong secondary interests in medievalism and in ludomusicology, with several publications focusing on the creative repurposing or reimagining of medieval music in video game soundtracks. Recent work appears in Studies in Medievalism XXVII: Authenticity, Medievalism, Music; The Oxford Handbook of Medievalism in Music; Musica Disciplina; Plainsong & Medieval Music; and Oxford Bibliographies in Music. She was a recipient of the inaugural ACLS Professional Development Grant, which she used toward her forthcoming monograph on the development of rhythmic notation in the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries.

Leigh Ann Craig is an associate professor of History and the Director of Undergraduate Studies in History at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her recent research has focused on loss of mind (including both physical illness and demonic affliction), disability, and community in Latin Christendom, especially as it appears in later medieval miracle stories. Her publications include Wandering Women and Holy Matrons: Women as Pilgrims in the Later Middle Ages (Brill, 2009); “The Spirit of Madness: Doubt and the Miraculous Restoration of Sanity in the Miracles of Henry VI,” Journal of Medieval Religious Cultures (2013); “The History of Madness and Mental Illness in the Middle Ages: Directions and Questions,” History Compass (2014); and “Describing Death and Resurrection: Medicine and the Humors in Two Late Medieval Miracles,” in The Sacred and the Secular in Medieval Healing: Sites, Objects, and Texts (Routledge, 2016).

Sarah Edwards Obenauf is the Public Services and Instruction Librarian at the New Mexico Institute for Mining and Technology. She earned her MA in Medieval History from the University of New Mexico and her MLIS from San Jose State University. As a historian of the Middle Ages, her research centers on analyzing medical pilgrimage through Digital Humanities. As a librarian, her focus is on teaching people how to find good, reliable information. In both of these capacities, she is a passionate supporter of increased and unrestricted access to information.

Will Eggers earned his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut with his dissertation, “Misticall Unions: Clandestine Communications from Tristan to Twelfth Night,” which explores the tradition of lovers who have fashioned themselves as a conglomerate self that shares one mind and erases all distinctions between sender and receiver. He has found a home at the Loomis Chaffee School, having previously taught at Wesleyan University and the University of Hartford. His research interests range from medieval and early modern English literature to modern graphic novels.

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Moira Fitzgibbons is Professor of English, and her teaching and research interests include medieval and modern pedagogies; disability studies; late medieval religious culture; and the interplay between verbal and visual rhetoric in a wide variety of texts, including graphic narratives. Teaching interdisciplinary First Year Seminars for the past 5 years has provided her with many valuable opportunities to explore these issues in collaboration with her students. Her research has appeared in such venues as *The Open Access Companion to the “Canterbury Tales”; Pedagogy; Studies in the Age of Chaucer; Medium Aevum*; and *The Ashgate Research Companion to Medieval Disability Studies* (Routledge, forthcoming).

Anne Galanaud graduated at Paris 4–Sorbonne University and earned her PhD in history at Franche-Comté University on the population of late medieval Dijon. She established a database that includes tax records from about 20,000 persons living between the mid-fourteenth century and the early sixteenth century, managed by an original program developed, with her contribution, by Henri Labesse (Paris–Sorbonne University). Her studies include an analysis of the socio-economic and topographic characteristics of medieval Dijon winegrowers and an analysis of the fate of widows and orphans survivors to the Black Death in Dijon, deciphered from a so far untapped mid-fourteenth century source document. She studied, in collaboration with Pierre Galanaud, the cartography of medieval plagues and now focuses on their impact on fragile populations.

Pierre Galanaud is emeritus professor of immunology at Paris–Sud University. He graduated at Paris–Descartes University Medical School and performed post-doctoral studies at Tufts University, Boston. At Paris–Sud University, he was head of the Internal Medicine and clinical Immunology unit of Antoine Béclère hospital (Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris) and director of the INSERM affiliated research laboratory Cytokines and Immunoregulation. His combined interests in the functional cartography of gene expression in the immune system and in the history of medicine led him to analyze, in collaboration with Anne Galanaud, medieval plagues by applying spatial analysis to the GIS based cartography of deaths (P. Galanaud, A. Galanaud, and P. Giraudoux, *Historical Epidemics Cartography Generated by Spatial Analysis: Mapping the Heterogeneity of Three Medieval “Plagues” in Dijon, 2015*). This collaboration is pursued for the impact of medieval epidemics on fragile populations.

Rachael Gillibrand is a PhD student in the Institute for Medieval Studies at the University of Leeds. Drawing upon her background in both history and art history, her research focuses upon physical impairment and the non-conformist body and between c. 1400 and c. 1600—particularly, the design, production and function of disability aids in the late medieval West. She is passionate about making her research accessible to a diverse audience and, as a result, she recently featured as a guest speaker on the KNFX radio show *Healthy Vision*, where she spoke about medieval attitudes towards blindness and the invention of spectacles.

Brandon W. Hawk is an assistant professor of English at Rhode Island College. He has published on early English literature, the history of the English language, biblical apocrypha, and medieval biblical commentar-
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Ármann Jakobsson is Professor of Early Icelandic Literature at the University of Iceland and is currently involved with the “Disability Before Disability” research project that focuses on medieval and early modern attitudes towards disability. He is interested in categorisation in general and his done work on kingship, age, social classes and the supernatural. Among his books are *A Sense of Belonging: Morkinskinna and Icelandic Identity c. 1220*, The Viking Collection 22 (2014); *The Troll Inside You: Paranormal Activity in the Medieval North* (punctum books, 2017); and *The Routledge Research Companion to the Medieval Icelandic Sagas*, co-edited with Sverrir Jakobs-son (2017).

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Anne M. Koenig is a cultural and medical historian specializing in late medieval Germany. Her primary research interests include madness and the spread of medical literacy and medical knowledge in popular culture. She has several forthcoming publications, including an essay “Magicking Madness: Secret Workings and Public Narratives of the Disordered Mind in Late Medieval Germany” in *The Sacred and the Sinister* coming out with Pennsylvania State University Press in 2019. She is currently a NEH Fellow at the Newberry Library in Chicago and was previously the Assistant Professor of History at the University of South Florida.

Cameron Hunt McNabb is an associate professor of English at Southeastern University. Her primary research interests include disability studies and early drama, and she has published in numerous journals, including *Early Theatre, Neophilologus, Studies in Philology,* and *Pedagogy*. Her chapter “Staging Disability in Medieval Drama” in forthcoming in the *Ashgate Research Companion to Medieval Disability Studies* (Routledge, forthcoming). She is a strong advocate for undergraduate research, and she and her students have contributed two entries to the *Medieval Disability Glossary*.

Kara Larson Maloney is an adjunct professor at Canisius College in Buffalo, NY. She earned her PhD from Binghamton University in 2015. Her research interests include the intersection of chivalry and identity in intratextual communities and how that creates identity in extratextual medieval communities. She focuses on King Arthur and medieval romance across the British Isles and France. Her essay on gendered readings of the textiles in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* will be published in *Medieval Clothing and Textiles* in 2019.

Frank Napolitano is an associate professor of English and coordinator of the Graduate Teaching Fellows Mentoring Program at Radford University in Virginia. His primary research interests include Middle English biblical drama, the history of rhetoric, disability studies, rhetoric and composition, and writing program administration. He has published in *Early Theatre and Studies in Philology* and is in the process of co-editing a collection of essays on the labor practices of writing program administrators.

Leah Pope Parker is an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Southern Mississippi. Her current book project, "Disability
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Alicia Protze is a graduate of Fitchburg State University, where she majored in history. She continued her education at King’s College, London, where she studied her master’s in Arts and Cultural Management. She is currently enrolled at Fitchburg State University, where is is studying special education.

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Marit Ronen has recently received her PhD in History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her research interests include the study of marginalized and liminal groups in early Medieval Europe, including ethnicity, gender, and disability studies, and focuses on early medieval England. She has published on the agency of disabled people, on kingly impairment, and on religious constructions of disability. She is passionate about making Medieval Studies more accessible to the wider public, and has participated as an instructor in history workshops for high-school students.

Rose A. Sawyer is a PhD student in the Institute for Medieval Studies at the University of Leeds. Her research focuses upon changelings and child substitution discourse in the Middle Ages, as well as other aspects of the medieval imaginative landscape. In addition to her contribution to this volume, she has contributed “‘That elfe and vile congion’: Constructing the Body of the Child as a Site of Violence through Changeling Insults and the Child Substitution Motif” to the upcoming edited volume Literary Cultures and Medieval/Early Modern Childhoods, edited by Naomi Miller and Diane Purkiss and published by Palgrave.

Kurt Schreyer teaches courses on Shakespeare and early English drama at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. His interests extend to a wide variety of genres and texts across the traditional medieval/Renaissance
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**Julie Singer** is an associate professor of French at Washington University in St. Louis. A co-founder of the Society for the Study of Disability in the Middle Ages, she is the author of *Blindness and Therapy in Late Medieval French and Italian Poetry* (D.S. Brewer, 2011) and *Representing Mental Illness in Late Medieval France: Machines, Madness, Metaphor* (D.S. Brewer, 2018).

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**Kisha G. Tracy** is an associate professor of English Studies and Coordinator of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Fitchburg State University in Massachusetts. Her main research interests include medieval memory and confession, medieval disability, and higher education pedagogy. She is the author of *Memory and Confession in Middle English Literature*, which is available through Palgrave.

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