

Alan B. Farmer

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Columbus, Ohio 43210
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PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

The Ohio State University, Associate Professor, Columbus, OH, 2011–present

The Ohio State University, Assistant Professor, Columbus, OH, 2005–2011

Columbia University, Graduate Instructor, New York, NY, 1998–2005

Barnard College, Lecturer, New York, NY, 2003–2004

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY

Ph.D. in English Literature, 2005

M.Phil. in English Literature, 2000

M.A. in English Literature, 1997

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

B.A. College of Arts and Sciences, 1994

Major: English Literature, *Summa cum laude*

B.S. in Economics, Wharton School of Business, 1994

Concentration: Strategic Management, *Summa cum laude*

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Plays, Print, and Popularity in Shakespeare's England. Co-authored with Zachary Lesser. Under contract with Cambridge University Press. 12 chapters plus introduction, about 125,000 words.

Playbooks, Newsbooks, and the Politics of the Thirty Years' War in England. In progress.

Localizing Caroline Drama: Politics and Economics of the Early Modern English Stage, 1625–1642.

Essay collection co-edited with Adam Zucker. New York: Palgrave, 2006.

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

2016 “Playbooks and the Question of Ephemerality.” In *The Book as History, The Book as History: New Intersections of the Material Text*. Ed. Heidi Brayman, Jesse M. Lander, and Zachary Lesser. New Haven: Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University, 2016. 87–125.

2015 “Shakespeare as Leading Playwright in Print, 1598–1608/9.” In *Shakespeare and Textual Studies*. Ed. Margaret Jane Kidnie and Sonia Massai. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2015. 87–104.

2013 “What Is Print Popularity? A Map of the Elizabethan Book Trade.” Written with Zachary Lesser. *The Elizabethan Top Ten: Defining Print Popularity in Early Modern England*. Ed. Andy Kesson and Emma Smith. Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2013. 19–54.

- 2013 “John Norton and the Politics of History Plays in Caroline England.” *Shakespeare’s Stationers: New Essays in Cultural Bibliography*. Ed. Marta Straznicky. Philadelphia: U of Pennsylvania P, 2013. 147–76.
- 2010 “Print Culture and Reading Practices.” *Ben Jonson in Context*. Ed. Julie Sanders. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2010. 192–200.
- 2008 “Early Modern Digital Scholarship and *DEEP: Database of Early English Playbooks*.” Written with Zachary Lesser. *Literature Compass* 5/6 (Oct 2008): 1139–1153, doi 10.1111/j.1741-4113.2008.00577.x.
- 2007 “Cosmopolitanism and Foreign Books in Early Modern England.” *Shakespeare Studies* 35 (2007): 58–65.
- 2006 “Play-Reading, News-Reading, and Ben Jonson’s *The Staple of News*.” *The Book of the Play: Playwrights, Stationers, and Readers in Early Modern England*. Ed. Marta Straznicky. Amherst: U of Massachusetts P, 2006. 127–58.
- 2006 “Canons and Classics: Publishing Drama in Caroline England.” Written with Zachary Lesser. *Localizing Caroline Drama: Politics and Economics of the Early Modern English Stage, 1625–1642*. Ed. Adam Zucker and Alan B. Farmer. New York: Palgrave, 2006. 17–41.
- 2006 “Introduction.” Written with Adam Zucker. *Localizing Caroline Drama: Politics and Economics of the Early Modern English Stage, 1625–1642*. Ed. Adam Zucker and Alan B. Farmer. New York: Palgrave, 2006. 1–15.
- 2005 “The Popularity of Playbooks Revisited.” Written with Zachary Lesser. *Shakespeare Quarterly* 56 (2005): 1–32.
- 2005 “Structures of Popularity in the Early Modern Book Trade.” Written with Zachary Lesser. *Shakespeare Quarterly* 56 (2005): 206–13.
- 2002 “Shakespeare and the New Textualism.” *The Shakespearean International Yearbook* 2. Ed. W. R. Elton and John M. Mucciolo. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2002. 158–79.
- 2000 “Vile Arts: The Marketing of English Printed Drama, 1512–1660.” Written with Zachary Lesser. *Research Opportunities in Renaissance Drama* 39 (2000): 77–165.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY

- 2001 “Edward Poynings.” *Tudor England: An Encyclopedia*. Ed. Arthur F. Kinney, David W. Swain, Eugene D. Hill, and William B. Long. New York: Garland, 2001.

DIGITAL MEDIA PROJECTS

DEEP: Database of Early English Playbooks

<<http://deep.sas.upenn.edu>>

Created with Zachary Lesser, *DEEP* is an easy-to-use and highly customizable online database of every playbook produced in England from the beginning of printing to the Restoration. *DEEP* provides a wealth of information about the original playbooks, their title-pages, paratextual matter, advertising features, and bibliographic and theatrical backgrounds, allowing scholars and students to investigate the publishing, printing, and marketing of English Renaissance drama in ways not possible using any other print or electronic resource. From November 2007 through January 14, 2017, the site has received 265,890 “Page Views” and 101,511 “Unique Visits”; in the year 2016, it received 29,061 “Page Views” and 12,132 “Unique Visits.”

Shakespeare and the Book: A Companion Study Environment

www.ccnmtl.columbia.edu/projects/shakespeareandthebook/studyenv/index.html

Published online in conjunction with a December 2001 exhibit in Columbia University's Rare Book and Manuscript Library, this website offers an introduction to early modern playbooks and to the authors, actors, publishers, and printers who produced them.

SELECTED PAPERS AND CONFERENCES

- 2016 "Who Published Plays?: Printers and Booksellers, from Thomas Alchorn to Robert Young, from Leadenhall to Westminster Hall." Invited speaker at "Shakespeare, The Book" Conference. Trinity University. San Antonio, TX. September 30, 2016.
- 2016 "Big Books: Reprints, Revivals, and the Shakespeare First Folio." Shakespeare Association of America Conference. New Orleans, LA. March 26, 2016.
- 2016 "Idle and Scurrilous Trifles: Playbooks and Popular Culture in Early Modern England." Shakespeare's Day–1616/2016, Third Annual Conference on Popular Culture and the Deep Past, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. February 20, 2016.
- 2015 "Idle, Scurrilous, Prophane: The Cultural Ephemerality of Playbooks in Early Modern England." Invited speaker at "The Futures of Historicism: A Symposium in Honor of David Scott Kastan," Yale University. New Haven, CT. October 2, 2015.
- 2015 "Lost Editions in the Early Modern English Book Trade." Invited speaker at the Early Modern Digital Agendas Conference, Folger Shakespeare Library. Washington, DC. June 22, 2015.
- 2015 "'Whoeres subtil shifts': Commonplacings Women in the Meisei Copy of the Shakespeare First Folio." Invited workshop participant. Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Vancouver, Canada. April 2, 2015.
- 2015 "Genre in the Early Modern Book Trade." Invited speaker at the St. Louis University Text-Mining Initiative Symposium. St. Louis, MO. January 22, 2015.
- 2014 "Shakespeare's Histories: Real and Imagined Politics." Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference. Columbus, OH. October 25, 2014.
- 2014 Invited workshop participant in "Digital Resources for the Early Modern Book Trade." Shakespeare Association of America Conference. St. Louis, MO. April 12, 2014.
- 2014 "Lost Editions: Estimating Ephemerality in the Early Modern English Book Trade, 1580–1640." Society for Textual Scholarship Conference. Seattle, WA. March 21, 2014.
- 2013 "'Gross Errors': The Myth of Shakespeare's Indifference to Print." Invited seminar participant. European Shakespeare Research Association Conference. Montpellier, France. June 27, 2013.
- 2013 "'The Allegory and Purpose of the Author' in Ben Jonson's *Staple of News*." Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Toronto, Canada. March 28, 2013.
- 2012 Workshop leader: "Early Modern Drama, Playbooks and *DEEP*." Folger Shakespeare Library "Teaching Book History" Conference. Washington, DC. December 15, 2012.
- 2012 "Foreign News in the Age of Shakespeare, 1588–1620." Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Boston, MA. April 6, 2012.
- 2011 "'Newly Corrected and Augmented': Selling Shakespeare in Early Modern England." Invited seminar participant. Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Bellevue, WA. April 9, 2011.

- 2011 “The Three Texts of *Othello*.” “O! What Learning [Shakespeare] Is: Exploring Practices and Pedagogy of Renaissance Theatre” Symposium. Ohio State University Department of Theatre. Columbus, OH. February 11, 2011.
- 2010 “Shakespearean Revision and the Cultural Status of Playbooks.” “Rethinking Early Modern Print Culture” Conference. University of Toronto. Toronto, Canada. October 23, 2010.
- 2008 “Shakespeare, Revision, and the Ephemerality of Playbooks.” Invited speaker at the International Shakespeare Conference. The Shakespeare Institute. Stratford-upon-Avon, UK. August 4, 2008.
- 2008 “Forms of News: Printed Newsbooks and the Politics of the Thirty Years’ War in England.” Invited speaker at conference on “Forms of Writing in Early Modern Writing.” Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library. New York, NY. April 25, 2008.
- 2008 “John Norton and Shakespeare’s History Plays in Caroline England.” Invited seminar participant. Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Dallas, TX. March 14, 2008.
- 2007 “Digital Scholarship and *DEEP: Database of Early English Playbooks*.” With Zachary Lesser. Modern Language Association Conference. Chicago, IL. December 29, 2007.
- 2007 “The Ephemerality of Playbooks Reconsidered.” Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland, OH. November 10, 2007.
- 2007 “Communicating News.” Invited speaker at the Early Modern Seminar, History Department, The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. May 25, 2007.
- 2007 “Newsbooks and History Plays in Caroline England.” Invited speaker at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Faculty Colloquium, The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. April 20, 2007.
- 2007 Session organizer with Zachary Lesser: “Readings in Early Modern Book History.” Shakespeare Association of America Conference. San Diego, CA. April 5, 2007.
- 2007 “‘On the other side’: The Newsbooks and Playbooks of Nathaniel Butter in Caroline England.” Invited speaker at the Material Texts Seminar, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. April 2, 2007.
- 2007 “Drama Publishing in the Renaissance.” Invited panelist on “The Book as an Object of Historical Inquiry,” sponsored by the Literacy Studies Working Group, The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. March 1, 2007.
- 2007 “Ephemera and History, Newsbooks and Playbooks in Caroline England.” Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies Conference. Chicago, IL. February 23, 2007.
- 2006 “Peace, *Perkin Warbeck*, and Printed History Plays in Caroline England.” Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Philadelphia, PA. April 15, 2006.
- 2006 “Structures of Popularity in the Early Modern Book Trade.” History of the Book Group, The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. February 24, 2006.
- 2005 “‘If you haue the truth’: Ben Jonson and the Caroline News Trade.” Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies Conference. San Antonio, TX. December 3, 2005.
- 2004 “Canons and Classics: Publishing Drama in Caroline England.” Shakespeare Association of America Conference. New Orleans, LA. April 10, 2004.
- 2004 “The Popularity of Plays in Early Modern England.” Princeton University Center for the Study of Books and Media: Book History: Dissertations in Progress. Princeton, NJ. February 13, 2004.

- 2002 “Religious Controversy in the Printed Plays of 1630.” Group for Early Modern and Culture Studies Conference. Tampa, FL. November 15, 2002.
- 2002 “Drama and the News Trade in Caroline England.” Shakespeare Association of America Conference. Minneapolis, MN. March 23, 2002.

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH AWARDS

- 2012–2013 Faculty Professional Leave, The Ohio State University
- 2007 Course Enhancement Grant (\$2,000), Ohio State University Libraries. For “Bibliography and Method” (English 980).
- 2005 Campus Research Board Award. Funding (\$6,298) to begin online creation of *DEEP: The Database of Early English Playbooks*, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. With Zachary Lesser
- 2002–2004 Teaching Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2001–2002 George A. Schweppe Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2001–2002 Folger Institute Consortium Grant, Folger Shakespeare Library
- 2001 Stern Summer Research Award, Columbia University
- 1997–2001 President’s Fellowship, Columbia University
- 1996–1997 Marjorie Hope Nicholson Fellowship, Columbia University
- 1994 Phi Beta Kappa, University of Pennsylvania
- 1990–1994 Joseph Wharton Scholar, Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania
- 1990–1994 Benjamin Franklin Scholar, University of Pennsylvania

TEACHING AWARDS

- 2015 *Undergraduate Professor of the Year*. English Department, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by undergraduate English majors.
- 2012 *Paul W. Brown Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching*. College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by students and faculty in the English Department and the College of Arts and Sciences.
- 2012 *Faculty and Staff Recognition Award*. Sphinx and Mortar Board, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by students in Sphinx and Mortar Board.
- 2011 *Undergraduate Professor of the Year*. English Department, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by undergraduate English majors.
- 2011 *Distinguished Faculty Award*. Panhellenic Association and Alpha Phi, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by students in the Panhellenic Association.
- 2010 *Outstanding Teacher Award finalist* (one of four). College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University. Nominated by students and selected by Arts and Sciences Student Council from among over 170 nominated professors.
- 2009 *Undergraduate Professor of the Year*. English Department, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by undergraduate English majors.
- 2009 *Outstanding Teacher Award finalist* (one of five). College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University. Nominated by students and selected by Arts and Sciences Student Council from among over 170 nominated professors.

- 2009 *Faculty Recognition Award*. Order of Omega, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by students in the Greek Honorary Society.
- 2006 *Undergraduate Professor of the Year*. English Department, The Ohio State University. Nominated and selected by undergraduate English majors.

COURSES TAUGHT AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 2005–present

Graduate

Bibliography and Method (English 980)
Seminar in English Renaissance Literature: Caroline Drama (English 7827)
Seminar in Shakespeare: Multiple-Text Shakespeare Plays (English 820)
Graduate Studies in Shakespeare (English 5720)
Introduction to Graduate Study in English Literature of the 17th Century (English 728)
Introduction to Graduate Study in Renaissance Drama (English 720)
History of the Book (Medieval and Renaissance Studies 611, 5611)

Undergraduate

Shakespeare (English 520.01, English 4520.01)
Special Topics in Shakespeare: Shakespeare and the Book (English 4520.02)
Special Topics in Shakespeare: Shakespeare's *Henriad* (English 4520.02)
Special Topics in Shakespeare: Shakespeare's Major Tragedies (English 520.02)
Shakespeare and Film (English 378, English 578, English 3378)
Literary Locations: Venice (English 595)
Introduction to the Study of Literature (English 2298, English 3398)
Critical Writing, Honors (English 398H)
Writing for English Majors (English 398)
Introduction to Shakespeare, Honors (English 220H)
Introduction to Shakespeare (English 220, English 2220)

The Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.

An Introduction to Folger Research Methods and Agendas, Master's Seminar, Spring 2015.
Guest Lecture on Book History, "Researching the Archive" dissertation seminar, taught by Jean E. Howard and Pamela Smith, October 24, 2014.

Columbia University, New York, N.Y., 1998–2005

The Writing Center at Columbia University, 2003–2005

Director of the Writing Center, 2004–2005
Graduate Writing Fellow, 2003–2004

Graduate Instructor, 1998–2002

Introduction to British Literature
Logic and Rhetoric
Introduction to Logic and Rhetoric
College Composition I

Barnard College, New York, N.Y., 2003–2004

Reinventing Literary History: Legacy of the Mediterranean I: Origins to Enlightenment
Reinventing Literary History: Legacy of the Mediterranean II: Reformation to Modernism

GRADUATE DISSERTATION ADVISING

Advisor

Justin Kuhn, current.

Ben Moran, current.

Manual Jacquez, current.

Matthew Vadnais (Theatre), June 2012. Co-advisor with Jennifer Schlueter (Theatre). Currently Assistant Professor, Beloit College (Beloit, WI).

Committee Member

Daniel Knapper, current.

Mira Kafantaris, August 2014. Currently Senior Lecturer, Ohio State University (Columbus, OH).

Erin McCarthy, May 2012. Currently Post-Doctoral Researcher, Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, National University of Ireland, Galway (Galway, Ireland).

Anne-Marie Schuler, October 2011. Currently Assistant Professor, Central State University (Wilberforce, OH).

Rachel Clark, August 2011. Currently Assistant Professor, Wartburg College (Waverly, IA).

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS ADVISING

Advisor

Carli Leone, English, May 2010. Selected as 2010 Best Senior Thesis in the English Department.

Casey Geist, English, May 2008.

Allison Bressi, English, May 2008. Co-advisor with David Brewer.

Committee Member

Emily Ennis, History, April 2016.

Sophie Stokes, English, April 2015.

John Bills, English, May 2012.

Lauren Christensen, Psychology, May 2009.

Teresa Nelson, English, May 2009.

Emily Rock, Political Science, May 2008.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 2005–present

University

University Fellowship Review Committee, 2014, 2015

College of Arts and Sciences

Job Search Committee, Tenured Professor in Computational Humanities, 2015–2016, Autumn 2016.

Stand-Up for Shakespeare, Teacher Training Workshop Participant. Stratford-upon-Avon, UK. June 22–28, 2014.

Professor in “Experience Arts and Sciences Recruitment Day”: Led class on “Experiencing multiple interpretations of Hamlet’s ‘To be or not to be’ speech,” February 15, 2014

Shakespeare Innovation Group, 2011–2014.

English Department

Executive Committee, 2006–2008, 2010–2011, 2014–2016

Head of Nominations and Awards Subcommittee, 2015–2016

Co-Head of Nominations and Awards Subcommittee, 2014–2015

Data Keeper, 2011–2012, 2013–present

Job Search Committee, Assistant Professor in History of the English Language, 2011–2012

Ad-Hoc Semester Conversation Committee, 2009–2010

Ad-Hoc Program Review Committee, 2008–2009
Renaissance Dissertation Seminar Faculty Coordinator, 2006–present

History of the Book Group

Coordinator, Summer 2007–Winter 2010, Autumn 2013–present

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Folger Shakespeare Library Consortium representative, 2016–present

Advisory Committee, 2006–2012

Committee for Howe Research Grants, 2012

Reader for Stanley J. Kahrl Awards for Outstanding Student Essays, 2007

Sigma Tau Delta (Undergraduate English Honors Society)

Faculty Advisor, 2008–2009

Fulbright Scholarship Committee

Interviewer, Autumn 2007

Professional

Modern Language Association: Committee on the New Variorum Edition of Shakespeare, 2015–present

Folger Shakespeare Library: Scholarly Advisory Committee for *Digital Anthology of Early Modern English Drama*, 2015–present

Book Practices & Textual Itineraries (Interdisciplinarité dans les études Anglophones, Université de Lorraine): Editorial Board member, 2013–present

Shakespeare Association of America: Open Paper Committee, 2012–2013

Reviewer of manuscripts for Cambridge University Press, Fordham University Press, University of Toronto Press, Continuum Books, *Studies in English Literature, Shakespeare, Literature Compass*, and *Early Modern Literary Studies*.