

**KAREN A. WINSTEAD**

**Department of English  
The Ohio State University  
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**Degrees**

Ph.D. Indiana University, 1989 (Dissertation: "Changing Ideals of Sainthood in Late Medieval Virgin Martyr Legends")

M.A. Indiana University, 1985

B.A. Brown University, 1982, *magna cum laude*, honors in Comparative Literature

**Professional Experience**

The Ohio State University, Department of English:

Professor, 2007-Present

Associate Professor, 1998-2007

Assistant Professor, 1992-1998

Occidental College, Adjunct Assistant Professor, 1990-1992

Fullerton College, Instructor, 1989

**Selected Publications**

**Monographs**

*Fifteenth-Century Lives* (forthcoming from University of Notre Dame Press)

*The Oxford History of Life Writing, Vol. 1: The Middle Ages*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

*John Capgrave's Fifteenth Century*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007.

*Virgin Martyrs: Legends of Sainthood in Late Medieval England*, Cornell University Press, 1997.  
Forthcoming from Cornell as an e-book in 2018.

**Editions and Translations**

*The Life of Saint Katherine by John Capgrave*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2011. (translation)

*Chaste Passions: Medieval English Virgin Martyr Legends*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2000 (translations/editions). Forthcoming from Cornell as an e-book in 2018.

*The Life of Saint Katherine by John Capgrave*. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications, 1999 (edition).

### Selected Essays

“Exhuming the Living Dead: The *Anchoresses* of Chris Newby and Robyn Cadwallader,” *Studies in Medievalism* 29 (2019): 77-103.

“Medieval Life Writing and the Strange Case of Margery Kempe of Lynn (ca. 1373-ca. 1440).” In *On Life Writing*. Ed. Zachary Leader. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015. 142-60.

“John Lydgate’s ‘Mumming at Windsor’: Clothilda, Women’s Steadfastness, and Lancastrian Rule,” *Chaucer Review* 49.2 (2014): 228-43.

“Osbern Bokenham’s ‘englische boke’: Re-forming Holy Women,” in *Form and Reform: Reading the Fifteenth Century*, ed. Shannon Gayk and Kathleen Tonry. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press, 2011.

“Visualizing the *South English Legendary*,” in *Rethinking the South English Legendaries*, ed. Heather Blurton and Jocelyn Wogan-Browne. Manchester, UK: University of Manchester Press, 2011. 347-80.

“Hagiography after Arundel: Expounding the Trinity,” in *After Arundel: Religious Writing in Fifteenth-Century England*, ed. Vincent Gillespie and Kantik Ghosh. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2011. 478-502.

“Chaucer’s *Parson’s Tale* and the Contours of Orthodoxy,” *Chaucer Review* 43 (2009): 239-59.

“Saintly Exemplarity,” in *Twenty-First Century Approaches to Literature: Middle English*. Ed. Paul Strohm. Oxford University Press, 2007. 335-51.

“Fear in Late-Medieval Martyr Legends.” In *More than a Memory: The Discourse of Martyrdom and the Construction of Religious Identity in the History of Christianity*, ed. Johan Leemans (Peeters, 2005): 201-21.

“Saint Katherine’s Hair.” *Saint Katherine of Alexandria: Texts and Contexts in Western Medieval Europe*. Ed. Jacqueline Jenkins and Katherine J. Lewis. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2003. 171-99.

“Vulfolaic the Stylite: Orientalism and the Performance of Holiness in Gregory’s *Histories*.” *East of West: Crosscultural Performance and the Staging of Difference*. Ed. Claire Sponsler and Xiaomei Chen. New York: Palgrave, 2000. 63-73.

“John Capgrave and the Chaucer Tradition.” *Chaucer Review* 30 (1996): 389-400.

“‘I am al othir to yow than yee weene’: Hoccleve, Women, and the *Series*.” *Philological Quarterly* 72 (1993): 143-55. Rpt. in *Literature Criticism from 1400-1800* 75 (2002): 81-86.

“Saints, Wives, and Other ‘Hooly Thynges’: Pious Laywomen in Middle English Romance,” *Chaucer Yearbook* 2 (1995): 137-54.

“Capgrave’s Saint Katherine and the Perils of Gynecocracy.” *Viator* 25 (1994): 361-76.

“Lydgate’s Lives of Saints Edmund and Alban: Martyrdom and *Prudent Pollicie*.” *Mediaevalia* 17 (1994): 223-41.

“The Conversion of Margery Kempe's Son.” *English Language Notes* 32 (1994): 9-13.

“Piety, Politics, and Social Commitment in Capgrave’s *Life of St. Katherine*.” *Medievalia et Humanistica* ns 17 (1990): 59-80.

“The Transformation of the Miracle Story in the *Libri historiarum* of Gregory of Tours.” *Medium Aevum* 59 (1990): 1-15.

“The *Beryn*-Writer as a Reader of Chaucer.” *Chaucer Review* 22 (1988): 225-33.

### Contributions to Reference Works

“John Capgrave” and “Hagiography” for the *Encyclopedia of Medieval British Literature* (Wiley-Blackwell), 2017.

“John Capgrave” for Oxford Bibliographies (<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com>): Medieval Studies.

“Medieval Saints’ Lives,” *Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature*, ed. David Scott Kastan (Oxford UP, 2006).

“Medieval Hagiography,” in *International Encyclopaedia for the Middle Ages-Online. A Supplement to LexMA-Online*. Turnhout: Brepols Publishers, 2007, in Brepols Medieval Encyclopaedias <<http://www.brepolis.net/bme>> [Accessed 22 August 2007]

### Reviews

Over thirty reviews for *Anglia*, *Church History*, *The Historian*, *JEGP*, *Journal of Religion*, *Prose Studies*, *Review of English Studies*, *Rhetorica*, *Speculum*, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*, *The Medieval Review*, *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature*,

### Selected Recent and Forthcoming Presentations

“Beyond Magic: Maladies and Remedies in Geoffrey of Monmouth’s *Vita Merlini*,” Leeds International Medieval Congress, July 3, 2019.

“Testing the *Clerk’s Tale*: Walter and/as God.” 54<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University. Kalamazoo, MI. May 10, 2019.

“*Beowulf* Redux: Robert Zemeckis’s *Beowulf* and Maria Dahvana Headley’s *The Mere Wife*.” Medievalism and All that: Researching, Teaching and Learning the Middle Ages Through Popular Culture. Accademia Europea di Firenze. Florence, January 17-18, 2019.

“George R. R. Martin and the Virgin Martyr: Misogyny, ‘faux feminism,’ and the (ab)uses of the past,” International Conference on Medievalism, October 12, 2018.

“Misogyny, ‘faux feminism,’ and the (Ab)Uses of the Past,” 21<sup>st</sup> Biennial International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, Toronto, Canada, July 12, 2018.

“Critical Fiction: Reading *Seinte Marherete* through Robyn Cadwallader’s *The anchoress*,” 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 10, 2018.

“From Golden to Leaden Legend: The *Legenda aurea* in Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-Century England.” 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans, LA, March 24, 2018.

“Radical Mysticism and Virtual Piety: Douce 114, *The Book of Margery Kempe*, and the Kempe Extracts.” 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, March 1, 2018.

### Selected Grants, Honors, and Awards

English Undergraduate Organization Professor of the Year, 2016, 2019  
National Endowment for the Humanities, Fellowship, 2008-09  
Ohio State University Seed Grant, 2007-9

### Courses Taught at The Ohio State University

**Undergraduate**

**Department of English**

Honors Composition and Literature  
British Literature Survey to 1800  
Introduction to Fiction  
Introduction to Shakespeare  
Special Topics in Popular Culture: Vampires  
Special Topics in Film and Literature: Monsters Without and Within  
Critical Writing for English Majors  
Honors Seminar in the Middle Ages  
Special Topics in Women and Literature: Medieval Women  
Introduction to Medieval Literature  
Introduction to Middle English Literature  
Introduction to Chaucer  
Topics in Poetry: Medieval Poetry  
Topics in Drama: Medieval Drama

**Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies**

Arthurian Legends  
Medieval Women Writers  
Lives of the Saints and Medieval Women's Religious Culture

**Other**

London Honors

**Graduate, Department of English**

Introduction to Graduate Studies in the Middle Ages and seminars on Medieval Women, Women and Hagiography, Lives of Saint Katherine, Fifteenth-Century East Anglia, Saints and Culture in Late Medieval England, and Thomas Malory