

Curriculum Vitae
Michael Ostling

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University of Queensland
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Citizenship: United States

EDUCATION

- 2008 PhD. Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto.
 Dissertation: "Imagining Witchcraft in Early Modern Poland."
2000 MA. Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto.
1998 BA. Religious Studies, Reed College.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2012-2015 Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. Centre for the History of European Discourses.
 University of Queensland.
2008-2012 Visiting Assistant Professor. Philosophy and Religion Department. Central
 Michigan University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2011 *Between the Devil and the Host. Imagining Witchcraft in Early Modern Poland.*
 Past and Present Publications Series, Oxford University Press.
 Reviewed in *Acta Poloniae Historica; American Historical Review; Common*
 Knowledge; Choice; Church History; English Historical Review; Folklore; Journal of
 Ecclesiastical History; Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft; Polin; Renaissance Quarterly;
 Slavic Review; Times Literary Supplement.

Edited Volumes

- Under contract *Unbridled Passions: Emotions in the History of Witchcraft* (co-edited with Laura
 Kounine). Palgrave Studies in the History of Emotions, Palgrave Macmillan,
 2016.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2014 "Myth, Religion, and the Man Behind the Curtain." *Journal of Religion and Popular*
 Culture vol. 26 no. 3 pp. 275-286.

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- 2014 “Goblins Owles and Sprites’: Discerning Early Modern English Preternatural Beings through Collocational Analysis” (with Richard Forest). *Religion* vol. 44 no. 4 pp. 547-572.
- 2014 “Witches’ Herbs on Trial.” *Folklore* vol. 125 no. 2 pp. 179-201.
- 2013 “The Wide Woman: A Neglected Motif in the *Malleus Maleficarum*.” *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* vol. 8 no. 2 pp. 162-170.
- 2013 “Poison and Enchantment Rule Ruthenia.’ Witchcraft, Superstition, and Ethnicity in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.” *Russian History / Histoire Rus* vol. 40 no. 3-4 pp. 488-507.
- 2005 “Konstytucja 1543 r. i początki procesów o czary w Polsce” [The parliamentary decree of 1543 and the beginnings of witch-trials in Poland]. *Odrodzenie i Reformacja w Polsce* [Renaissance and Reformation in Poland] vol. 49 pp. 93-103.
- 2005 “Nieznany proces o czary i świętokradztwo w Lublinie, 1643” [An unknown trial for witchcraft and theft of the Eucharist in Lublin, 1643]. *Lud* [Folk] vol. 89 pp. 191-204.
- 2003 “Harry Potter and the Disenchantment of the World.” *Journal of Contemporary Religion* vol. 18 no. 1 pp. 3-24.
- 2001 “Be Kind to the Antichrist. Millenarianism and Tolerance in the Edict of Pskov.” *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* vol. 30 no. 3-4 pp. 261-276.

Book Chapters

- forthcoming “Imagined Crimes, Real Victims: Hermeneutical Witches and Jews in Early Modern Poland.” In E. M. Avrutin, J. Dekel-Chen, and R. Weinberg eds., *The Worlds of Ritual Murder: Culture, Politics, and Belief in Eastern Europe and Beyond*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- 2013 “Witchcraft in Poland: Milk and Malefice.” In B. Levack ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe and Colonial America* pp. 318-333. New York: Oxford University Press.

Conference Proceedings

- 2002 “The Politics of Representation and the Ethics of the ‘Burning Times’ Myth.” *CSR Graduate Symposium Papers*, vol. 2.
- 2001 “Lucien Lévy-Bruhl and the Psychic Unity of Humankind.” *CSR Graduate Symposium Papers*, vol. 1.

Book Reviews

- forthcoming Francis Young, *English Catholics and the Supernatural, 1553-1829*. In *Preternature* (Winter 2015).
- forthcoming Tamar Herzig, *Christ Transformed into a Virgin Woman: Lucia Brocadelli, Heinrich Institoris, and the Defense of the Faith*. In *The American Historical Review* (Fall 2015)
- forthcoming Julian Goodare ed., *Scottish Witches and Witch-Hunters*. In *History* (Summer 2015).
- forthcoming Valerie Kivelson, *Desperate Magic: The Moral Economy of Witchcraft in Seventeenth-Century Russia*. In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* (Summer 2015).

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- forthcoming Edward Bever, *The Realities of Witchcraft and Popular Magic in Early Modern Europe: Culture, Cognition, and Everyday Life*. In *Preternature* (Summer 2015).
- 2014 Lyndal Roper, *The Witch in the Western Imagination*. In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* vol. 9 no. 1 pp. 101-104.
- 2009 Ronald Hutton, *Blood and Mistletoe: The History of the Druids in Britain*. In *History Today* vol. 59 no. 11 pp. 58-59.
- 2009 Owen Davies, *Grimoires: A History of Magic Books* and S.A. Smith and Alan Knight eds., *The Religion of Fools?: Superstition Past and Present*. In *History Today* vol. 59 no. 8 p. 60.
- 2005 Christine D. Worobec, *Possessed: Women, Witches and Demons in Imperial Russia*. In *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* vol. 39 nos. 2-3 pp. 292-294.
- 2003 J.C. Laursen ed., *Religious Toleration: "The Variety of Rites" from Cyrus to Defoe*. In *Radical Philosophy Review* vol. 6 no. 1 pp. 71-73.
- 2002 Jerzy Kłoczowski, *History of Christianity in Poland*. In *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* vol. 36 nos. 1-2 pp. 212-214.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- in prep. Guest editor: "How (and Why) Did Witches Fly?" Special issue of *Magic, Ritual, & Witchcraft*, 2016.
- in prep. "Babyfat and Belladonna: Flight Ointment and the Contestation of Reality." For *Magic, Ritual, & Witchcraft*, 2016.
- in prep. "'Because I Loved That Husband of Mine.' Witch Trials and the History of Affection." In M. Ostling and L. Kounine eds., *Unbridled Passions: Emotions in the History of Witchcraft*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.
- in prep. *The Polish Witch-Trial Database*. Expected to go online April 2015.
- in prep. *Small Gods: Fairies, Demons and Nature Spirits at the Margins of Christendom*. For submission to Palgrave Historical Studies in Witchcraft and Magic series.

Other Publications

- forthcoming "A Polish Witch-Trial at Lublin, 1644" (editor and translator). In Brian P. Levack, ed., *The Witchcraft Sourcebook*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge (2015).
- forthcoming Several short contributions to D. Poole, M. Mowrey and D. Linton eds., *Read this Before You Teach: A Handbook of Reflections on Learning and Teaching at CMU*. Mount Pleasant: Central Michigan University (2015).
- 2013 "Teaching Trends: A Guide for the Perturbed." Commissioned in-house report, Philosophy and Religion Department, CMU. Online at: <https://www.cmich.edu/colleges/chsbs/conferences/TLC/Documents/Teaching-Trends--A-Guide-for-the-Perturbed.pdf>.
- 2009 "In the Year of Whose Lord?" *History Today* vol. 59 no. 10 pp. 6-7.

HONORS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Awards and Honors

- 2012 Honorable Mention, Early Slavic Studies Association Book Prize.
2008 Gold Medal, Office of the Governor General of Canada (dissertation prize).
2000 National Graduate Essay Award, Canadian Society for the Study of Religion.

Grants and Fellowships

- 2013 Early Career Researcher (ECR) Grant for project "Imagined Crimes, Real Communities: Witchcraft and Blood Libel in Early Modern Poland." University of Queensland.
2010 Faculty Research and Creative Endeavors (FRCE) Research Grant. Central Michigan University.
2010 FRCE Premier Display Grant. Central Michigan University.
2008 FRCE Premier Display Grant. Central Michigan University.
2006-2007 Zoltan Simo Graduate Fellowship in the Humanities. Humanities Centre, University College in the University of Toronto.
2004-2005 Dissertation Fellowship. American Council of Learned Societies.
2003-2004 Fulbright Fellowship. Polish-American Fulbright Commission.
2002-2003 Flavelle Fellowship. Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Toronto.
1999-2003 Connaught Fellowship. University of Toronto.
1999-2003 Ontario Graduate Scholarship. University of Toronto.

CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND INVITED TALKS

Invited Talks

- 2014 "A pretty kind of little Fiends or Pigmey-Devils': Classifying the Fairies in Early Modern Europe." Division of Late Medieval and Reformation Studies, University of Arizona. November 21.
2014 "Imagined Crimes, Real Communities: Witchcraft and Blood Libel in Early Modern Poland." The Strange World of Ritual Murder international symposium, Program in Jewish Culture and Society, University of Illinois. October 13.
2014 "Where've All the Good People Gone? Motifs and Motivations of Fairy Vanishing." Early Modern Circle, University of Melbourne. June 16.
2013 "Poisson and Enchantment Rule Ruthenia. On the Uses of Ethnicity in Polish Demonology." Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, UC Berkeley. October 22.
2013 "Witches' Herbs on Trial." Sonoma State University, Department of History. October 18.
2011 "Translating the Devil." Department of History, University of Michigan. March 17.
2010 "Why Comparative Religion?" Faculty of Theology, Huron University College. March 28.

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- 2010 "Reading the Polish Witch-Trials." Humanities Center, University of Michigan. March 10.
- 2009 "The Devil at Baptism." Religion Department, University of Manitoba. January 19.

Panels Organized

- 2015 "Troublesome Things: Goblins, Fairies and Mermaids at the Edges of Christianity." Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval & Early Modern Studies Biennial International Conference, Brisbane, Australia. July 14-20.
- 2014 "How (and Why) Did Witches Fly?" Sixteenth Century Society and Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana. October 16-19.
- 2012 "If Ever a Wiz There Was: *The Wizard of Oz* and the Study of Religion." North American Association for the Study of Religion, Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois. November 22-24.

Conference Papers

- 2015 "Disenchantment Reconsidered: Reformations of the Fairies." Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval & Early Modern Studies Biennial International Conference, Brisbane, Australia. July 14-20.
- 2014 "Babyfat and Belladonna: Witch-Ointments and the History of Reality." Sixteenth Century Society Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana. October 16-19.
- 2014 "Teaching Trends and the Need for Skeptical Curiosity." 4th Annual Teaching and Learning Collective Conference, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. February 7.
- 2013 "'People Bless All Sorts of Herbs.' Healing and Harming in the Informal Economy." Sixteenth Century Society Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico. October 24-27.
- 2013 "'Because I Loved That Husband of Mine.' Early Modern Witch Trials as Sources for the History of Affection." Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval & Early Modern Studies Biennial International Conference, Melbourne, Victoria. February 12-16.
- 2012 "True Lies and the Man Behind the Curtain." North American Association for the Study of Religion Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois. November 22-24.
- 2012 "What the Puck? Discerning Demons and Fairies through Corpus Analysis" (With Richard Forest). International Conference of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 10-13.
- 2012 "Of Chalk and Cheese. Should We Adapt to Students' Expectations or Should Students Adapt to Ours?" (with Cristen Vernon). Great Lakes Conference on Teaching and Learning, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. May 9-11.
- 2011 "The Open Creative Project in Humanities Pedagogy: Risks and Rewards." Great Lakes Conference on Teaching and Learning, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. May 11-13.

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- 2011 “Adrift in Academe: What the Research Says about Student Achievement and What We Can Do about It” (with Cristen Vernon and Clinton Burhans III). Great Lakes Conference on Teaching and Learning, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. May 11-13.
- 2010 “Piety in the Torture Chamber: Hearing Christianity in the Confessions of Accused Polish Witches.” American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. October 30-November 1.
- 2008 “‘Spoken in the Devil’s Honor.’ Superstition, Demon-Worship and the Classification of Persons in the *Czarownica powołana*.” The Devil in Society in Premodern Europe Symposium; Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, Toronto, Ontario. October 12-14.
- 2008 “‘Deluded Old Women.’ On the History and Historiography of the Melancholy Witch.” American Society of Church History annual meeting, Washington, D.C. January 4-6.
- 2006 “Devil in the Details. Of Polish and Estonian Devils, with Comments on Method.” Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies 20th Annual Conference, Washington, DC. June 26-28.
- 2005 “Of Woman Wailing for Her Demon Lover. Sex, the Demonic Pact, and Folk Belief in the Polish Witch-Trials.” American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 19-22.
- 2005 “Stealing the Sacred. The Eucharist in Polish Witch-Trials.” American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting, Montreal, Quebec. May 3-4.
- 2003 “Who Chooses Which Witch?” Canadian Society for the Study of Religion annual conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia. May 29-31.
- 2002 “Rokosz. Ritual Rebellion in Early Modern Poland.” Canadian Society for the Study of Religion annual conference, Toronto, Ontario. May 25-28.
- 2002 “The Devil from Krzemień.” American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting, Ottawa, Ontario. April 25-27.
- 2001 “Harry Potter and the Disenchantment of the World.” American Academy of Religion National Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado. November 17-20.
- 2001 “Salvage Anthropology and the Ethics of the ‘Burning Times’ Myth.” ‘Intertextual Interrogations’ Symposium, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec. May 18-19.
- 2000 “Be Kind to the Antichrist. Millenarianism and Tolerance in the Edict of Pskov.” American Academy of Religion Eastern International Regional Conference, Syracuse, New York. April 24-25.
- 2000 “Lucien Lévy-Bruhl and the Psychic Unity of Humankind.” Graduate Student Symposium, Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto. March 15.

Responses and Round-Tables

- 2015 “Witchcraft and the Emotions in Early Modern Europe.” Renaissance Society of America Conference, Berlin. March 26-28.

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- 2013 Withcraft and the Emotions.” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico. October 24-27.
- 2008 “Ritual and Resistance: Discourses of Religious Violence and Non-Violence.” Graduate Student Symposium, Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto. April 18.
- 2007 David Frankfurter, “‘Evil in Our Own Community.’ Patterns in ‘Cult’ Conspiracy Fears, from Roman Times to Recent Satanism Panics.” Humanities Centre Distinguished Visitor lecture series, University of Toronto. May 7.
- 2007 “Roundtable: The Past, Present, and Future of Religious Studies at the University of Toronto.” Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto. March 30.
- 2002 “Have We Gone Too Far? Religion and *Memento*.” Canadian Society for the Study of Religion annual conference, Toronto, Ontario. May 25-28.

Campus and Departmental Talks

- 2015 “A pretty kind of little Fiends or Pigmey-Devils’: Classifying the Fairies in Early Modern Europe.” CHED Public Seminar, University of Queensland. March 12.
- 2012 “The Witch of Edmonton.” Renaissance Literature Circle, ARC Centre for Excellence in the History of Emotions, University of Queensland. November 9.
- 2012 “Myths of Atheism.” Dogma-Free Society, Central Michigan University. April 26.
- 2012 “What is College For?” Teaching and Learning Collective, Central Michigan University. March 23.
- 2009 Roundtable: “Sex, Drugs, Rock ‘n’ Roll...and Religion”. Religion Club, Central Michigan University. October 27.
- 2004 “Polish Christianity, Polish Witchcraft. A Tale of Two Trees.” Fulbright Junior Fellows Colloquium Series, Lublin, Poland. June 14.
- 2001 “Pushed to the Peripheries. On the Historiography of Witch-Trials in Early Modern Poland.” Early Modern History Colloquium, University of Toronto. January 13.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Queensland, Department of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics

- 2014 History of Western Magic (2nd-year course). 1 semester

Central Michigan University, Department of Philosophy and Religion

- 2011-2012 Christianity (3rd-year course). 2 semesters
- 2009-2012 Witchcraft and Magic (3rd-year course). 5 semesters
- 2008-2012 World Religions, an Introduction (1st-year course). 8 semesters
- 2008-2012 Myth and Meaning (3rd-year course). 4 semesters
- 2009-2011 Religion Senior Seminar (4th-year capstone course). 3 semesters
- 2011 Religion and Ethnobotany (4th-year independent study). 1 semester
- 2010 Religion and Film (3rd-year course). 1 semester

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2009 Rites of Passage (3rd-year course). 1 semester

Wilfrid Laurier University, Department of Religion and Culture

2008 Love and Its Myths (1st-year online course). 1 semester

2008 Apocalypticism (3rd-year course). 1 semester

2007 Religion and Violence (3rd-year course). 2 semesters

2007 Evil and Its Symbols (1st-year course). 1 semester

University of Toronto, Department for the Study of Religion

2008 Rites of Passage (3rd-year course). 1 semester

2008 Religion and Film (2nd-year course). 1 semester

2006-2007 Anthropology of Religion (2nd-year 2-semester course). 2 semesters

University of Toronto, School of Continuing Studies

2002 Religious Tolerance and Intolerance (later-life-learner course) 1 semester

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Peer Review

2014 *Journal of Contemporary Religion* (1 article review)

2014 *Renaissance Quarterly* (1 article review)

2013-2014 Ashgate (2 book chapter reviews)

2013-2014 *Preternature* (2 article reviews)

2013-2014 *Slavic Review* (2 article reviews)

2012 *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (2 article reviews)

SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT/UNIVERSITY

Organizational

2014-2015 Coordinator, Summer Scholars Program, Centre for the History of European Discourses, University of Queensland.

2014 Convener and Co-Organizer, CHED/History Public Seminar Series, "History Between Art and Science," University of Queensland. 2nd semester 2014.

2013 Convener and Organizer, CHED Work in Progress seminars, University of Queensland. 1st semester 2013.

2011-2012 Faculty Search Committees, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Central Michigan University.

2003 Graduate-Student Representative on Faculty Search Committee, Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto.

2001-2003 President, Student Association, Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto.

2000-2002 American Academy of Religion Graduate Student Liaison, University of Toronto.

1999-2001 Vice President, Student Association, Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto.

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Supervisory

- 2014-2015 Summer Scholars Supervisor, Centre for the History of European Discourses, University of Queensland.
- 2013-2015 Doctoral Dissertation Associate Supervisor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Queensland.
Dissertation supervised:
Sheilagh O'Brien, "Finding Witches in 'a world turn'd upside down': The East Anglia Witch Trials, 1645-1647."
- 2009-2012 Senior Thesis Advisor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Central Michigan University.
Senior Thesis papers advised:
Sarah Turner: "Surviving the Fad: Teen Witches Getting Older."
Adam Walker: Lost in Translation: Conservative Catholics and the NAB."
David Dale: "Religion in Place: A Smithian Critique of Timothy Fitzgerald."
Joshua Rorick: "Exorcism in the Context of Catholic Healthcare."
Mary Skiba: "Feminist and Neo-Pagan Appropriation of the Witch Label."
Matthew Wozniak: "Catholic Confirmation in the 21st Century."
- 2009-2012 Academic Advisor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Central Michigan University.

EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2012 Conference Mentor, CMU student delegation to the Clement S. Stacey Memorial Undergraduate Research Conference, Purdue University Calumet, March 2012.
- 2012 Faculty Co-Adviser, Learning Roots (student organization dedicated to grass-roots tertiary-education reform).
- 2011-2012 Faculty Advisor, Dogma-Free Society (student organization for atheists and agnostics).
- 2011-2012 Steward, Union of Teaching Faculty, Central Michigan University.
- 2009-2012 Organizer, Religion Movie Night, Central Michigan University.
- 2001-2003 Editor, *CSR Symposium Papers*.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion
Australian Historical Association
Sixteenth Century Society
Societas Magica
Teaching and Learning Collective

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REFERENCES

Philip Almond
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Department of History
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David L. Smith
Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy and Religion
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Michel Desjardins
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