

Ellen B. Wurtzel

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Academic Employment:

Oberlin College, Assistant Professor of History, 2009-2016; Associate Professor of History 2016-present

Columbia University, Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, 2007-2008

Barnard College, Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, Spring 2008

Education:

Columbia University, New York, NY

Ph.D. , **M.Phil.**, **M.A.** in European History

Dissertation topic: 'Legal Space and Urban Identity: the shaping of the city of Lille from 1384 to 1667' *Director:* Martha Howell

Bank Street College of Education, New York, NY

M.S. in Education

Area of Concentration: Professional Development in Early Adolescence

Duke University, Durham, NC

B.A. in History, Cum Laude

Recent Awards:

Mellon Faculty Development grant, Food Studies Initiative, 2024

Research Status, Oberlin College, 2024-2025

Teaching Residency, Allen Memorial Art Museum, 2023

Grant-in-Aid, Oberlin College, 2019

Distinguished Teaching Award, Oberlin College 2017

H. H. Powers Travel Grant, Oberlin College 2016

HHMI Curriculum Development Grant, Oberlin College, 2015

Eisenberg Institute of Historical Study Residential Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2012-2013

OKUM faculty project award, Oberlin College 2012-2013

Publications:

"Passionate Encounters, Public Healing: medieval urban bathhouses in northern France" *French Historical Studies*, vol. 46 no. 3, August 2023. 331-360. Koren Prize Committee favorite.

"The Joyous Entry of Albert and Isabella in Lille: history, conquest and the making of Belgium," *Royal Studies Journal*, December 2016.

"Roundtable Reflection: The Past and Future of French Urban History," with Jeff Horn, Michael Vann and Catherine Clark, *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*, 2015.

“Territorial jurisdiction in late medieval and early modern Lille,” in *The Power of Space: Cities in Italy and Northern Europe during the late medieval and early modern period*, ed. Marc Boone and Martha Howell, Studies in Urban History, (1100-1800). Brepols, 2013. 29-42.

“Defense, Authority, and City Limit: the fortifications of Lille in the late Middle Ages,” *Jaarboek voor Middeleeuwse Geschiedenis*. Uitgeverij Verloren BV, 2011. 150-182.

Book Reviews:

Erik De Bom, Randall Lesaffer, and Werner Thomas, eds., *Early Modern Sovereignities. Theory and Practice of a Burgeoning Concept in the Netherlands* Legal History Library (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2021) for *The Low Countries Historical Review* (BMGN) (2022)

Bram Caers, Lisa Demets, Tineke Van Gassen, eds. *Urban History Writing in Northwest Europe (15th-16th centuries)*. (Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2019) for *The Renaissance Quarterly* (2021)

Bruno Blondé, Marc Boone, Anne-Laure Van Bruaene, eds. *City and Society in the Low Countries, 1100-1600* (Cambridge University Press, 2018) for *The Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History* (2019)

Thierry Dutour, *Sous l’empire du bien. “Bonnes gens” et pacte social (XIIIe-XVe siècle)* (Classique Garnier, 2015) for *H-Net France* (2017)

Anngret Simms and Howard E. Clarke, eds. *Lords and Towns in Medieval Europe: The European Historic Towns Atlas Project* (Ashgate, 2015) for *The English Historical Review* (2016)

Exhibits:

“Class, Colonialism and (Over)consumption.” Allen Memorial Art Museum, 2023-2024. Created with students in HIST 412. Lords, Peasants, and Pigs on Trial

“Science on Display: Cultural Experiments in Early Modern Medicine.” Allen Memorial Art Museum. On view Spring 2025. Created with students in HIST 208. Of Miracles and Microscopes

Professional Service:

Program Committee, French Historical Studies, 2023-2024

Book Review intake editor, H-France (2017-present)

Governing Council, Western Society for French History 2012-2015

Reviewer for the *Journal of Urban History*

Reviewer for a special issue of the *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, Medieval and Early Modern Artisan Culture vol. 43.3 (Fall 2013)

Academic Presentations:

“Single Sex Sociability in Late Medieval France.” Sixteenth-Centuries Studies Conference. Toronto. October 2024.

“Institutions, Environments, and Mobility in Medieval Francophone World. I-II” Organizer of two panels and comment on one. French Historical Studies. Long Island. March 2024.

“Bathhouse keeping: women’s work and women’s wealth in fifteenth and sixteenth-century Paris.” Paper presented at Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference. Baltimore. October 2023

“Heating the baths, serving the public: the métier of estuveuer in late-medieval Paris.” Paper presented at the WSFH-SFHS conference. Detroit. March 2023.

“Pleasure, Passion and Purgation: Bathing Together in the Middle Ages.” Paper presented at the Western Society for French History. Bozeman. October 2019.

“Making people clean in sixteenth-century France: bath houses and the Household economy.” Paper presented at Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference. Albuquerque, November 2018.

“A good investment? Parisian bathhouses in the late Middle Ages.” Paper presented at the Society for French Historical Society. Pittsburgh. March 2018.

“New Walls and Old Rivalries.” Paper presented at the Renaissance Society of America. Boston. March 2016.

“Silencing the Past: tableaux vivants and the Joyous Entry of Albert and Isabella, 1600.” Paper presented at Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference. Vancouver, BC. October 2015.

“‘Immutable mobiles’- early modern cities in cartographic form.” Paper presented at the Renaissance Society of America. New York. March 2014.

“Cities in Motion, Cities in History: a roundtable discussion of French and Francophone urban history.” Session organizer and presenter at the Western Society for French History. Atlanta. October 2013.

“*Lieux cloz et fermez*”: religious performance, ritual display, and order within city walls in the sixteenth century. Paper presented at *Ritual, Religion, and Performance in the Renaissance*. Oberlin College, Allen Memorial Art Museum. April 2013.

Languages:

Reading and speaking fluency in French.
Translation competence in Latin

Memberships:

American Historical Association
Society for French Historical Studies
Sixteenth-Century Studies Association