

# CURRICULUM VITAE

---

## KELLY L. WATSON, PHD

WATSON.KELLY.LEA@GMAIL.COM  
HTTP://WWW.KELLYLWATSON.COM

---

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

West Virginia University – Morgantown, WV  
Assistant Director / Service Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies,  
Fall 2020 – Present

Avila University – Kansas City, MO  
Associate Professor of History, 2018 – 2020  
Director of the Honors Program, 2019 – 2020  
Director of Study Abroad Programs, 2019 – 2020  
Affiliate Faculty in Women's and Gender Studies, 2012 – 2020

Avila University – Kansas City, MO  
Assistant Professor of History, 2012 – 2018

Saint Mary's College – Notre Dame, IN  
Visiting Assistant Professor of History and Women's Studies, 2011 – 2012

### EDUCATION

2010      Bowling Green State University – Bowling Green, OH  
            Ph.D. in American Culture Studies  
            Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies  
            Graduate Certificate in Ethnic Studies

2006      Bowling Green State University – Bowling Green, OH  
            M.A. in American Culture Studies

2002      University of Maryland, Baltimore County – Baltimore, MD  
            B.A. in American Studies and Ancient Studies

### PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

#### Monographs:

*Insatiable Appetites: Imperial Encounters with Cannibals in the North Atlantic World.* New York University Press, *Early American Places* series. Hardback: April 2015. Paperback: April 2017.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles:

“Mary Kittamaquund Brent, ‘The Pocahontas of Maryland:’ Sex, Marriage and Diplomacy in the 17<sup>th</sup> century Chesapeake.” *Early American Studies*. Accepted for publication (anticipated publication in 2021).

Chapters in Edited Volumes:

“Sex and Cannibalism: The Politics of Carnal Relations between Europeans and American ‘Anthropophagites.’”

*To Feast on Us as Their Prey: Cannibalism in the Early Modern Atlantic* edited by Rachel Herrmann. University of Arkansas Press, February 2019.

Other Peer-Reviewed Publications:

“Cannibalism.” *Oxford Bibliographies* in "Atlantic History." Edited by Trevor Burnard. New York: Oxford University Press, 28 November 2018.  
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199730414/obo-9780199730414-0307.xml>

“The Enigmatic Spinster.” Essay published on the peer-reviewed blog *Nursing Clio*. October 12, 2017. <https://nursingclio.org/2017/10/12/the-enigmatic-spinster/>

Book Reviews:

Tortorici, Zeb. *Sins Against Nature: Sex and Archives in Colonial New Spain*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2018.

*The Journal of American History* (forthcoming)

Yaremko, Jason. *Indigenous Passages to Cuba*. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 2016

*The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Latin American History*, vol. 75, no. 2 (April 2018).

Davies, Surekha. *Renaissance Ethnography and the Invention of the Human: New Worlds, Maps and Monsters*. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

*Journal of Jesuit Studies*, vol. 5, issue 1 (2018).

Curtis M. Hinsley and David R. Wilcox, eds. *Coming of Age in Chicago: the 1893 World's Fair and the Coalescence of American Anthropology*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2016.

*Journal of American History* vol. 103, no. 3 (December 2016).

Githire, Njeri. *Cannibal Writes: Eating Others in Caribbean and Indian Ocean Women's Writing*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2015.

*New West Indian Guide*, vol. 90, Issue 3-4 (2016).

Eustace, Nicole. *Passion is the Gale: Emotion, Power, and the Coming of the American Revolution*. Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 2008.

*Journal of American Studies*, vol. 44, issue 1 (February 2010).

Miller, Christopher L. *The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2008.

*Atlantic Studies: Literary, Cultural, and Historical Perspectives*, vol. 6, issue 1 (April 2009).

Weaver-Hightower, Rebecca. *Empire Islands: Castaways, Cannibals, and Fantasies of Conquest*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2006.

*Atlantic Studies: Literary, Cultural, and Historical Perspectives*, vol. 5, issue 1 (April 2008).

**Research/Publications in Progress:**

“The Inheritance of ‘Princess’ Mary Kittamaquund Brent: Piscataway Matrilineality and Tayac Succession in a Cross-Cultural Context.” Article in preparation.

“‘Margaret Brent, Spinster:’ Marital Status, Catholic Identity, and Power in Colonial Maryland.” Article in preparation.

*Spinsters and Bachelors: Opting Out of Sex in Early America*. Book project in progress

“Masculinity and Anti-Indian Violence on the Appalachian Frontier” Article in progress

## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS**

Hall Center for the Humanities at the University of Kansas, Visiting Regional Humanities Faculty Fellowship, 2020 (\$5,000)

Avila University Distinguished Scholar for 2017-2018

Avila University Competitive Faculty Scholarship Grant, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 (\$1,200 - \$1,500)

Avila University Provost’s Research Travel Grant, 2017 (\$900)

Avila University History Department Travel Grant, 2015 (\$1,000)

Bowling Green State University, Program in American Culture Studies nominee for Dissertation of the Year, 2010

Bowling Green State University Distinguished Dissertation Fellow, Fall 2009 – Summer 2010

Bowling Green State University Graduate Assistantship, Fall 2004 – Spring 2009

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### Introductory Undergraduate

Early American History Survey

Avila University, Fall 2012 – (2020)

Saint Mary's College, Fall 2011

Bowling Green State University, Spring 2009

Bowling Green State University (co-taught with Ed Danziger), Fall 2008

Modern American History Survey

Avila University, Spring 2013 – Spring 2015 and Spring 2017 – Spring 2020

Saint Mary's College, Spring 2012

Introduction to Women's Studies

Saint Mary's College, Fall 2011 and Spring 2012

Cultural Pluralism in the United States

Bowling Green State University, Fall 2010

African American History

Owens Community College, Fall 2010

### Advanced Undergraduate

American Slavery and the Slave Trade

Avila University, Fall 2012, Spring 2015, Spring 2018, and Spring 2020

Bowling Green State University, Spring 2011

Images and Realities of Gender (co-taught with Dr. Leslie Dorrough Smith,  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies)

Avila University, Spring 2014 – Spring 2020

Senior Thesis

Avila University, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Fall 2018, and Spring 2020

Sex and Sexuality in America

Avila University, Fall 2017 and Fall 2019

Historical Research

Avila University, Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2017, and Fall 2019

Revolutionary America to 1815

Avila University, Fall 2012, Spring 2016, Spring 2019

American Women's History

Avila University, Spring 2013, Fall 2015, and Fall 2018

American Frontiers

Avila University, Spring 2014 and Spring 2017

American Empires

Avila University, Fall 2016

Race, Sex, and Gender in the Americas, 1400-1800

Saint Mary's College, Spring 2012

Latin America Before Independence

Bowling Green State University, Fall 2010

### Graduate

Scholarship and Professional Development

Bowling Green State University, Spring 2010

Online

Frontiers in American Culture  
Bowling Green State University, Summer 2009  
Cultural Pluralism in the United States  
Bowling Green State University, Summer 2007

**PRESENTATIONS**

Invited Talks

“The Specter of Cannibalism: Mechanisms of Imperialism and Power in English Captivity Narratives” at William Woods University in Fulton, MO – October 19, 2018

“Cannibalism and the Process of Othering in North America.” Annual Humanities Lecture. Invited Presentation at Graceland University in Lamoni, IA – March 30, 2017

Presentation and Discussion of *Insatiable Appetites* with Upper School Students at the Barstow School in Kansas City, MO – November 10, 2016

Selected Recent Conference Presentations

Eighteenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders and Sexualities – Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore, MD – (May 2020, Conference Cancelled)

Panel Organizer: Agency, Exploitation, and Assimilation: Marriage and Women’s Power in Early North America  
Presentation: Negotiating Land and Power in Piscataway Country: Contextualizing the 1644 Marriage of Mary Kittamaquund and Giles Brent

Twenty-Fourth Annual Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Conference – College of William and Mary. Williamsburg, VA – June 2018

Panel Organizer: Sex, Spinsters, and Scandal: Marriage and Power in the Greater Chesapeake  
Presentation: Margaret Brent, Spinster: Marital Status, Catholic Identity, and Power in Colonial Maryland.

(En)Gendering the Atlantic World – New York University. New York, NY – April 2018

Presentation: Mary Kittamaquund’s Body: Negotiating Sex, Diplomacy, and Religion in Early Colonial Maryland

Pocahontas and After – Eccles Center for American Studies at the British Library. London UK – March 2017

Presentation: Sexual Diplomacy and Anglo-Indian Relations in Early Colonial Maryland: Mary Kittamaquund and the Brent Family

Cannibalism in the Early Modern Atlantic – University of Southampton.  
Southampton, UK – June 2015

Presentation: Sex and Cannibalism: The Politics of Carnal Relations  
between Europeans and American ‘Anthropophagites’

1619: The Making of America – Norfolk State University. Norfolk, VA – September  
2013

Presentation: Cannibalism in Jamestown: Fascination, Fantasy, Fiction,  
and Fact

Race, Gender, and Sexualities in the Atlantic World – Carolina Lowcountry in the  
Atlantic World Program at the College of Charleston. Charleston, SC – March 2012

Presentation: An Examination of Gender, Sex and Empire in the  
Discourse of Cannibalism in the Late 15th and Early 16th  
Century Caribbean

Tenth Annual Ohio Latin Americanist Conference – Bowling Green State  
University. Bowling Green, OH – February 2011

Presentation: Discursive Constructions of Cannibalism and Sodomy in the  
Conquest of Mexico

Latin American/Latino Studies Conference – Bowling Green State University.  
Bowling Green, OH – March 2009

Presentation: The Cannibal and the Conquistador: Gendered Anxieties  
and Anthropophagy in the Conquest of Mexico

The Chimalpahin Conference 2008: Colonial and Post-Colonial Remembering and  
Forgetfulness (III), Special Session on Gendered Empires – Mexico City, MX –  
October 2008

Presentation: ‘I Laid My Hands on a Gorgeous Cannibal Woman:’  
Cannibalism, Gender, and Sex, in the ‘Discovery’ of the  
Americas

The Four Corners of the Atlantic, 1500-2000, Interdisciplinary Atlantic Studies  
Workshop – University of Michigan and Michigan State University. Ann Arbor &  
Lansing, MI – May 2007

Presentation: Representing the Cannibal: Gender and Cannibalism in  
the New World

#### Media and Community Presentations

Co-moderated online discussion of *To Feast on Us as Their Prey: Cannibalism and  
the Early Modern Atlantic* (with Rachel Herrmann, Cardiff University). Reddit Ask  
Historians (r/AskHistorians) “Ask Me Anything (AMA),” March 11, 2019.  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/azt0aa/im\\_dr\\_rachel\\_herrmann\\_i  
ll\\_be\\_back\\_today\\_march/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/azt0aa/im_dr_rachel_herrmann_i_ll_be_back_today_march/)

Public Reading for Corpus Verbum Performance Series in Kansas City, MO – July 1,  
2018

Public Reading for Corpus Verbum Performance Series in Kansas City, MO – August 18, 2017

Podcast Interview by James Esposito with New Books Network (sponsored by Amherst College Press) – Available at <http://newbooksnetwork.com/kelly-watson-insatiable-appetites-imperial-encounters-with-cannibals-in-the-north-atlantic-world-nyu-press-2015/>

#### Selected Campus Presentations

“‘Things which seame incredible’: Cannibalism in Jamestown, 1609-1610.” Keynote Lecture for Student Scholar Day – Avila University – April 2019

"Embodied Encounters between Europeans and Native Americans in the Early Modern Atlantic World." Distinguished Scholar Presentation – Avila University – April 2018

“Women and Gender in Genre Fiction.” Roundtable discussion – Avila University – November 2017

“Sexual Diplomacy and Anglo-Indian Relations in Early Colonial Maryland: Mary Kittamaquund and the Brent Family” – Presentation to College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Faculty Scholarship Workgroup – February 2017

“Cannibalism and Imperial Power in Colonial North America” – Avila University, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Scholarship Spotlight – November 2015

#### Events/Talks/Workshops Organized

Women’s History Month Film Screening and Discussion of *Seeing Allred*. Avila University – March 2019 (co-organized with Ashley Fansher and Leslie Dorrough Smith).

Hope House and MOCSA (Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault) Workshop on Victim’s Services. Avila University – October 2018 (co-organized with Hope House, MOCSA, and Sara Eckinger).

Women’s History Month Lecture. “What Does it Mean to Be a Life Unworthy of Living? Gender, Sterilization, and Nazi Germany” by Rachel Dean-Ruzicka (Georgia Institute of Technology). Avila University – March 2018 (co-organized with Leslie Dorrough Smith and Kelly Minerva).

“Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” Event. Avila University – Fall 2017 (Assisted senior history major Jade Calloway).

Women’s History Month Film Screening and Discussion of *The Price of Sex*. Avila University – March 2017 (co-organized with Leslie Dorrough Smith and Kelly Minerva. Guest Speaker Sara Eckinger).

Women’s History Month Lecture. “From Roseanne to Amy Poehler: Comediennes, Memoirs, and Feminism” by Ina Seethaler (Coastal Carolina University). Avila

University – March 2016 (co-organized with Leslie Dorrough Smith and Abigail Lambke)

“The Work of the Archives” by Jennifer Audsley Moore (National Archives and Records Administration, Kansas City Branch). Talk and Discussion for History Majors and Minors. Avila University – October 2014 and February 2016.

“Online Curation” by Andria Stokes (formerly of Avila University). Talk and Discussion for History Majors and Minors. Avila University – November 2014 and March 2016.

Women’s History Month Film Screening and Discussion of *Feminist Insh’allah: A History of Arab Feminism*. Avila University – March 2015 (co-organized with Leslie Dorrough Smith and Amity Bryson).

Women’s History Month Lecture. ““Why Be An Earth When You Can Be A God?: Hip-Hop, Religion, and Gender” by Monica Miller (Lehigh University). Avila University – March 2014 (co-organized with Leslie Dorrough Smith and Amity Bryson).

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Faculty Research/Writing Support Group. Spring 2013 – Present (co-organized with Leslie Dorrough Smith and Ken Parsons).

“The Ex-Gay Files.” Film screening and discussion of *It’s Not Gay* and *One Nation Under God*. Bowling Green State University - April 2005 (co-organized with Molly Frendo, Chadwick Roberts, and VISION).

## **SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### Departmental and University Service – Avila University

Elected member of the Rank and Tenure Committee, Fall 2019 – Present

Member of Honor’s Program Task Force, Spring 2018 – Present

Co-writer (with Ashley Fansher) of the proposal for a new Honors Program (approved by Board of Trustees, September 27, 2019)

Women’s and Gender Studies Steering Committee. Spring 2013 – Spring 2020

Women’s and Gender Studies Advisory Council. Fall 2012 – Present

History Department Liaison to the School of Education. Spring 2014 – Present

Member of Promotion and Tenure Peer-Review Committee for Abigail Lambke (English) – Fall 2018



Appointed Member of the University Reorganization Taskforce, Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

History Content Area Supervisor for Social Studies Secondary Education Students. Spring 2014 – Present

History Department Academic Advisor. Spring 2013 – Present

Faculty Assembly. Fall 2012 – Present

Member of the Foundations Curriculum Revision Task Force

Member of First Year Seminar Task Force

Appointed Member of the Dean's Transfer Student Task Force. Fall 2015 – Spring 2016

Appointed Member of the University Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Task Force on Resources, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness. Fall 2015 – 2017

Elected Member of the Enrollment and Academic Progress Committee. Fall 2014 – Spring 2017

History Department Liaison to the Office of Marketing and Communications for the Departmental Website Redesign – 2013

#### Service to the Profession

Manuscript Reviewer for *Essays in History* (2019), *Journal of Early American History* (2018), *Journal of American History* (2017) and *New England Quarterly* (2016)

Member of the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture, 2017 – Present

Panel Moderator for “Decolonial Approaches” at the Pocahontas and After: Historical Culture and Transatlantic Encounters, University of London – March 2017

Panel Moderator for “Challenging the ‘British’ Atlantic” at the Cannibalism in the Early Modern Atlantic Conference, University of Southampton (UK) – June 2015

Member of the American Historical Association, 2009 – Present

Member of the Organization of American Historians, 2012 – 2017

Advanced Placement US History Exam Grader, 2011 – 2014

Panel Moderator for “Power and Gender in Latin America” at the Latin American/Latino Studies Conference at Bowling Green State University – Mar. 2009

Panel Moderator for “Death as/and Spectatorship” at the Beholding Violence: A Conference on Medieval and Early Modern Culture Conference at Bowling Green State University – Feb. 2008

Editorial assistant for Eithne Luibheid, Americas Editor for *Women’s Studies International Forum*. Bowling Green State University, Fall 2004 – Spring 2005

Other Consulting, Professional Development, and Experience

(Pro-bono) Historical Consultant for Deputy District Attorney of Riverside County, CA, 2019

Title IX Responsible Personnel Training. Avila University. Fall 2016.

Online Pedagogy Training at Saint Mary’s College. Spring 2012

Online Facilitation Training conducted by Interactive Distance Education for all Learners (IDEAL). Bowling Green State University, Spring 2007

Member of the professional development group “Writing Visual Culture” at the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society. Bowling Green State University, 2006 – 2008

Archaeological Lab Assistant, R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates (Frederick, MD)