

# RACHEL C. MIDURA

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.**, Early Modern European History, Stanford University, Stanford, CA June 2020

- Mabelle Mcleod Lewis Memorial Fund Fellow (2019-2020)
- G. J. Piggot Scholar Fellow (2018-2019)
- Department nominee, Gerald J. Lieberman Fellowship for teaching and service (2018-2019)

**M.A.**, Early Modern European History, Stanford University, Stanford, CA March 2016

**B.A.**, Distinguished Major in History and Italian Studies with Highest Honors, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA May 2013

- Bernard Peyton Chamberlain Memorial Prize for Best Thesis in European History (2013)
- Lola Pelliccia Essay Prize for Best Essay in Italian (2013)
- Kate Cabell Claiborne Cox History Scholarship Prize for Outstanding Fourth-Year (2012)

**RBS-UVa Fellow, Rare Book School**, Charlottesville, VA Summer 2012

### Dissertation

**Masters of the Post: Northern Italy and the European Communications Network, 1530-1730** June 2020

- Cultural and institutional history of the Spanish, Imperial and Venetian postal systems
- Committee composed of Paula Findlen (Advisor), Filippo de Vivo (External Member; University of London, Birkbeck), Laura Stokes, David Como

### Teaching Fields

Qualifying exams passed with highest distinction May 2016

- Early Modern Italy (1200-1800)
- Early Modern Central and Habsburg Europe (1100-1800)
- Early Modern Britain (1450-1800)
- Ottoman Empire (1200-1800)

## DIGITAL HISTORY

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### Positions & Projects

**Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis**, Stanford University 2018-Present

- Teaching, evaluating and improving Digital Humanities Graduate Fellowship as Senior Graduate Fellow, funded by the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning
- Managing undergraduate research assistants for *Early Modern Mobility* and *Grand Tour* Projects

**Early Modern Mobility: Knowledge, Communication and Transportation, 1500-1800**, Stanford University 2017-Present

- Receiving \$100,000 Stanford-UPS Endowment Grant for two-year multi-university research group and workshop development on early modern travel and exchange

2017-2019

**Digital Project Consultation**, CESTA, Stanford University

- Dr. Alessandra Celati (University of Verona) *Medicine, Heresy and Freedom of Thought in Sixteenth-Century Italy*: Providing data structure and initial visualizations for article and digital project
- Dr. Sarah Goldsmith (Cambridge University) *Masculinity on the Grand Tour*: Facilitating data collection, exploration and analysis for book project

**The Grand Tour Project**, Stanford University

2015-Present

- Building database of thousands of British travelers to Italy, 1700-1800
- Translating biographical dictionary and related scholarship to digital environment
- Guiding scholars and students in uses and interpretations of early modern data

**The Galileo Correspondence Project**, Stanford University

2013-2016

- Designing annotated database model for correspondence collection
- Training team of expert readers in digital annotation

Training**Networking Archives**, Oxford & Cambridge Universities

2019-Present

- Receiving funding from U.K. Arts and Humanities Research Council
- Attending training schools and completing collaborative projects with the Oxford *Cultures of Knowledge* and QMUL *Networking Archives* groups

**Workshop for Articles on Digital History**, Journal of Social History and Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University

2019-Present

- Receiving funding from Mellon Foundation
- Attending three session workshop culminating in special issue of journal

**Network Analysis**, Early Modern Digital Agendas 2017, Folger Institute, Washington, D.C.

2017-2018

- Receiving funding from National Endowment for the Humanities
- Attending three session institute on network analysis of early modern datasets

**Digital Humanities Summer Institute**, University of Victoria, B.C., Canada

Spring 2016

- Receiving tuition scholarship from DHSI
- Attending one week of digital humanities coursework and related workshops

**PUBLICATIONS**Co-Editor and Contributor

“**The British Arrival in Italy**” in Giovanna Ceserani and Rachel Midura, ed.s, *The Grand Tour Explorer Digital Companion* (2019)

Forthcoming

- Peer-reviewed digital volume of contributed essays utilizing *Grand Tour* dataset and tool

Author

“**Itinerated Europe: Early Modern Spatial Networks in Printed Itineraries, 1545-1747**” in *the Journal of Social History* (2020)

Under consideration

- “Policing in Print: Social Control in Spanish & Borromeo Milan, 1535-1584”** Forthcoming  
in Nina Lamal, Helmer Helmers, ed.s, *Print and Power in Early Modern Europe* (Brill: 2019)
- “Publishing the Baroque Post”** in *Renaissance of Letters*, Paula Findlen and Suzanne Sutherland, ed.s, (Routledge Press: 2019) Forthcoming
- “Conceptualizing Knowledge Networks: Agents and Patterns of ‘Flow’”** in 2018  
Paula Findlen, ed., *Empires of Knowledge* (Routledge Press: 2018)

## CONFERENCE PAPERS & PANELS

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### Co-Organizer & Presenter

- Early Modern Mobilities: Knowledge, Community, Communication, and Infrastructure, 1500-1800**, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford, CA Spring 2020  
· Organizing two-day workshop of international speakers sponsored by Early Modern Mobility Group
- Cultures of Bureaucracy Panel Series**, *Renaissance Society of America 2019 Annual Conference*, Toronto, CA October 2019  
· Organizing full day of four panels sponsored by the Warburg Institute, University of London

### Presenter

- “Itinerated Europe: Early Modern Place & Space in Printed Itineraries, 1545-1747,”** *Sixteenth Century Society & Conference 2019*, St. Louis March 2019
- “Publishing the Post,”** *Reconstructing Historical Networks Digitally*, German Historical Institute, Washington D.C. Oct. 2018
- “Policing in Print: Social Control in Spanish & Borromeo Milan,”** *Print & Power: History of the Book Conference*, St. Andrews University, U.K. June 2018
- “Digital Humanities Pedagogy Roundtable” & “Bergamo Between the Venetian and Imperial Post,”** *Renaissance Society of America 2018 Annual Conference*, New Orleans March 2018
- “The Waylaid Courier: The Real and Imagined Seventeenth-Century Post,”** *Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies Workshop*, Stanford University April 2017
- “Travel Infrastructure & The ‘Long View’ of the Grand Tour, 1650-1780,”** *Digitizing the Grand Tour Workshop 2*, Stanford Humanities Center Sept. 2017
- “Publishing the Post: Building a Seventeenth-Century Postal Database,”** Capstone Presentation for the Certificate in Digital Humanities, CESTA, Stanford University April 2017
- “Digital Humanities Roundtable,”** in *Digitizing the Grand Tour: A Workshop on the Worlds and Lives of Eighteenth-Century Travelers to Italy*, Stanford Humanities Center March 2016

Outreach

- Interview**, “Delivering the Digital Humanities: A Conversation with Rachel Midura” in the *Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis Newsletter*, Stanford Spring 2017
- Panelist**, “Technology in the Classroom,” *2016 Academic Technology Xpo*, Office of Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, Stanford University Oct. 2016

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Instructor of Record

- Mapping the Grand Tour: Digital Tools for Historical Data**, Stanford Winter 2019
- Designing course teaching research skills with database of 18<sup>th</sup> century travelers
  - (8 students)
  - Guiding students in production of public-facing projects to be featured with release of *Grand Tour Explorer* web tool
  - Participating in Co-Teaching Pilot Program in the Humanities and receiving Teaching Innovation grant from Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning
  - Providing model and core course for redesigned Digital Humanities Minor
- Censorship & Propaganda: From Renaissance to Revolution**, Stanford Autumn 2017
- Designing and teaching Sources & Methods seminar focused on source analysis and historical writing techniques (6 students)
  - Covering ethics of media production (1400-1800), integrating musical, architectural, and theatrical sources
  - Receiving Best Graduate Teaching of Undergraduate Seminar award from department for excellence in syllabus design and high student satisfaction

Guest Lecturer

- “Cyphers and Early Modern Code-breakers,”** in *The History of Information*, Dr. Tom Mullaney, Stanford University Spring 2017
- Contextualizing modern cryptography practices in history of state secrets
- “Historical Networks: Data Management and Palladio Visualizations,”** in *Humanists on the Move*, Dr. Elizabeth Honig, University of California, Berkeley, CA Spring 2017
- Consulting with instructors to design collaborative research project for students on travels of early humanist scholars
  - Visiting class to teach students and interested faculty in uses of Palladio tool
- “Coffeehouse and Commodity Culture,”** in *Global History: The Early Modern World*, Dr. Laura Stokes, Stanford Winter 2016
- Using coffee trade to explore early modern themes of unstable markets, rising consumer demand, and developing public sphere
  - Prompting students to critically consider sensory experience and associated cultural rituals with provided coffee

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- History of Information** with Dr. Thomas Mullaney (31 students) Spring 2017
- Leading discussion section of majority Science, Technology and Society majors
  - Curating hands-on explorations at Stanford Rare Books and Special Collections

- The United States in the Twentieth Century** with Dr. Jennifer Burns (92 students) Spring 2016
- Leading two discussion sections of majority American Studies majors
  - Guiding 5 credit students in writing independent research papers
- Global History: The Early Modern World** with Dr. Laura Stokes (24 students) Winter 2016
- Leading two discussion sections for diverse enrollment
  - Designing series of assignments culminating in student papers on chosen cities

## PUBLIC HISTORY

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- Teaching Assistant and Group Leader**, Massive Multiplayer Humanities 2016-2018
- Training graduate and faculty instructors in leading flipped-classroom source explorations in public history institutions
- Administrative Intern**, Gori Art Collection, Pistoia, Italy 2013
- Supervising digital archiving of institutional document holdings and working with programmer to improve custom database connecting artwork and archive of documentation
- Collections Management Intern**, Greene County Historical Society, Stanardsville, VA 2013
- Designing and implementing new database system using FileMaker Pro 12 and working independently to treat and catalog over 700 new acquisitions
- Photograph Conservation Intern**, Smithsonian Institution Archives, D.C. 2010
- Designing and implementing cataloging system for broken glass plate negative collection
  - Writing for Smithsonian Institution Archives Blog (“The Bigger Picture”)

## RESEARCH AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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- Mabelle McLeod Lewis Memorial Fund Fellowship** 2019-2020
- Full scholarship grant and stipend for dissertation completion
- Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation Research Grant** 2018
- Travel grant to support research in archives in Venice and former empire
- Vittore Branca Research Center Residency**, Fondazione Giorgio Cini 2018
- Admission to specialist research library in Venice and residence
- Lane Research Grant** in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, History of Science Department, Stanford University 2017-2018, 2018-2019
- Two travel grants to support research in Spain and the U.K.
- Pigott Scholar Fellowship**, School of Humanities & Sciences, Stanford 2017-2018
- Full tuition and stipend funding. with additional research funds
- Anglo-California/Stanksy Grant**, History Department, Stanford University Fall 2016
- Travel grant to support research in the U.K.
- Graduate Research Grant**, School of Humanities & Sciences and The Europe Center Fall 2016- Spring 2019
- Five small grants awarded over course of dissertation to support research travel

**LANGUAGES & SKILLS**

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English, Italian, Spanish. Reading comprehension in German, Latin, Turkish.  
Knowledge of Python, R, Palladio, Gephi, Tableau.