

Valerie L. Garver

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Education

Ph.D. University of Virginia, History, August 2003

M.A. University of York, United Kingdom, Medieval Studies with distinction, July 1997

B.A. University of Kansas, History with Highest Distinction and Departmental Honors, Phi Beta Kappa, May 1994

Academic Positions

Associate Professor of History, Northern Illinois University, 2010–present

Assistant Professor of History, Northern Illinois University, 2003–2010

Instructor, Department of History, University of Virginia, Summer 2000, Spring 2002

Instructor, Department of History and College of Continuing Studies, University of Nebraska – Omaha, Summers 1997–1999

Administrative Positions

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of History, August 2013 – present

Acting Director of Graduate Studies, Department of History, August 2012 – July 2013

Publications

Books

The Meanings and Uses of Clothing and Textiles in the Carolingian World (work in progress)
Women and Aristocratic Culture in the Carolingian World (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2009; paperback edition 2012).

Articles and Book Chapters

“Sensory Experiences of Low Status Textile Workers,” *Sense, Matter, and Medium: New Approaches to Medieval Material and Literary Culture*, ed. Fiona Griffiths and Kathryn Starkey, De Gruyter Press, under review, expected 2018.

“Work, Skill, and Technology,” *A Cultural History of Work: the Medieval Age (800-1450)*, ed. Valerie L. Garver, London: Bloomsbury Press, expected 2017 (work in progress, under contract)

- "Conceptions of Children and Youth in Carolingian Capitularies," in *Childhood in History: Perceptions of Children in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds*, ed. Reidar Aasgaard and Cornelia Horn, London: Routledge, forthcoming 2018, 209-223. (peer-reviewed)
- "Alcuin of York," in *Oxford Bibliographies in Medieval Studies*, ed. Paul E. Szarmach, New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2016. (peer-reviewed, 19 manuscript pages)
- "Material Culture and Social History in Early Medieval Western Europe," *History Compass* 12/10 (2014): 784-93. (peer-reviewed)
- "Textiles as a Means of Female Religious Participation in the Carolingian World," in *Ancient and Medieval Religion in Practice*, ed. Sari Katajala-Peltomaa and Ville Vuolante, Helsinki: Acta Instituti Romani Finlandiae, 2013, pp. 133-44. (peer-reviewed)
- "Girlandis and Alpais: Telling the Lives of Two Textile Fabricators in the Carolingian Empire," in *Writing Medieval Women's Lives*, ed. Charlotte Newman Goldy and Amy Livingstone, New York: Palgrave Press, 2012, pp. 155-72. (peer-reviewed)
- "Childbearing and Infancy in the Carolingian World," *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 21.2 (2012): 208-44. (peer-reviewed)
- "Weaving Words in Silk: Women and Inscribed Bands in the Carolingian World," *Medieval Clothing and Textiles* 6 (2010): 33-56. (peer-reviewed)
- "Faith and Religion," *A Cultural History of Childhood and Family in the Middle Ages*, ed. Louise Wilkinson, *A Cultural History of Childhood and Family*, vol. 2 (Oxford: Berg, 2010), pp. 145-60, 205-7.
- "Learned Women? Liutberga and the Instruction of Carolingian Women," in *Lay Intellectuals in the Carolingian World*, ed. Patrick Wormald and Janet L. Nelson (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), pp. 121-38.
- "Old Age and Women in the Carolingian World," in *Old Age in the Middle Ages and Renaissance*, ed. Albrecht Classen (Berlin and New York: de Gruyter, 2007), pp. 121-41.
- "The Influence of Monastic Ideals Upon Carolingian Conceptions of Childhood," in *Childhood in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance: the Results of a paradigm shift in the history of mentality*, ed. Albrecht Classen (Berlin and New York: de Gruyter, 2005), pp. 67-85.

Edited Volumes

- A Cultural History of Work: the Medieval Age (800-1450)*. London: Bloomsbury Press, expected 2017 (work in progress, under contract).
- Rome and Religion in the Medieval World: Essays in Honor of Thomas F. X. Noble*, co-edited with Owen M. Phelan (Farnham, UK: Ashgate Press, 2014).
- Re-Making the Classical. Essays in Medieval Studies* 29 (2013) (co-edited with Nicole Clifton) an issue focused on the re-use of the classical past in the Middle Ages)

Encyclopedia Entries

- "Everyday Life in Medieval Studies," "Alfons Dopsh," and "François-Louis Ganshof," in *Handbook of Medieval Studies: Terms, Methods, Trends*, ed. Albrecht Classen (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2010), 525-39, 2267-71, 2304-09.

Book Reviews

- Review of Sean Gilsdorf, *The Favor of Friends: Intercession and Aristocratic Politics in Carolingian and Ottonian Europe*. (Leiden: Brill, 2014), in *Medieval Prosopography* 31 (2016): 217-20.
- Review of Marianne Vedeler. *Silk for the Vikings*. Ancient Textiles Series, vol. 15. (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2014), in *The Medieval Review*, TMR 16.02.48, distributed via listserv on 26 February 2016 and available at <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/21172>.
- Review of Wolfgang Müller, *The Criminalization of Abortion in the West: Its Origins in Medieval Law*. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2012), in the *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 24.1 (2015): 167-9.

- Review of Stuart Airlie, *Power and Its Problems in Carolingian Europe*. Variorum Collected Studies Series, CS1010 (Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2012), *Mediaevistik* 27 (2014): 284-9.
- Review of Samuel W. Collins, *The Carolingian Debate Over Sacred Space* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2012), forthcoming in *Mediaevistik* 27 (2014): 293-5.
- Review of Judith M. Bennett and Ruth Mazo Karras, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Women and Gender in Medieval Europe* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), *The Medieval Review*, TMR 14.09.23, distributed via listserv on 18 September 2014 and available at <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/18947>.
- Review of Tara Hamling and Catherine Richardson, eds., *Everyday Objects: Medieval and Early Modern Material Culture and its Meanings* (Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2010), in *The Medieval Review*, TMR 12.06.20, distributed via listserv on 26 June 2012 and available at <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/3631>.
- Review of Karl Heidecker, *The Divorce of Lothar II: Christian Marriage and Political Power in the Carolingian World*, trans. Tanis M. Guest (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2010), *Early Medieval Europe* 19.3 (2011): 357-359.
- Review of Courtney M. Booker, *Past Convictions: The Penance of Louis the Pious and the Decline of the Carolingians*, The Middle Ages Series (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009), *Mediaevistik* 24 (2011): 495-498.
- Review of Stephen Baxter, Catherine E. Karkov, Janet L. Nelson, and David Pelteret, eds., *Early Medieval Studies in Memory of Patrick Wormald* (Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate, 2009), *The Medieval Review*, TMR 10.06.34, distributed via listserv on 27 June 2010 and available at <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/3631>.
- Review of Helene Scheck, *Reform and Resistance: Formations of Female Subjectivity in Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Culture* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2008), *Speculum* 84.4 (October 2009): 1108-9.
- Review of Alessandro Barbero, *Charlemagne: Father of a continent*, trans. Allan Cameron (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004), *Envoi* 11.2 (Fall 2006): 1-6.
- Review of *Queenship and Sanctity: the Lives of Mathilda and the Epitaph of Adelheid*, ed. and trans. Sean Gilsdorf (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University Press of America Press, 2004), *Biography: an Interdisciplinary Quarterly* 28.2 (2005): 300-302.
- Review of *Double Agents: Women and Clerical Culture in Anglo-Saxon England*, by Clare A. Lees and Gillian R. Overing (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001), *Early Medieval Europe* 12.2 (2003): 194-195.
- Review of Dhuoda, *Handbook for her Warrior Son, Liber Manualis*, ed. and trans. Marcelle Thiébaux (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998, *Cambridge Medieval Classics* 8), *Envoi* 8.2 (1999): 154-160.

Articles for Scholarly Association Publications

- (with Oliver B. Pollack) "Where the Jobs Are: Survey of Job Listings in the *Chronicle*," *Perspectives* (May/June 1997): 33-34.
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Academic Fellowships and Awards

National and International

Member, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, 2017
Bonnie Wheeler Fellowship, 2017
Pasold Research Project Grant, summer 2015
Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society, summer 2009
Solmsen Postdoctoral Fellowship, Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2008–9
Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame, Visiting Student Fellowship, fall 2002
Fulbright Fellowship, University of Vienna, Austria, 2000–01
University of Minnesota Center for Austrian Studies Austrian Travel Grant 2000–01 (declined)
Rotary Foundation International Ambassadorial Scholarship, University of York, U. K., 1995–96
Foreign Study Scholarship, University of Groningen, Netherlands, 1992–93

Northern Illinois University

Undergraduate Research and Apprenticeship Program, “The Meanings and Uses of Textiles and Clothing in the Carolingian World, c. 715 - c. 915,” Northern Illinois University, 2013-14
Research and Artistry Grant, summer 2009
Undergraduate Research and Apprenticeship Program, “Women and Textile Production in the Carolingian World,” College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Northern Illinois University, 2007–8
Research and Artistry Grant, summer 2006
Undergraduate Research and Apprenticeship Program, “Early Medieval Women and Textile Production,” College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Northern Illinois University, Fall 2005
Research and Artistry Grant, summer 2004

Invited Talks

“Did Children Know a Carolingian World?” presented at the MARCO Institute on Carolingian Experiments, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, (25 March 2017)
“The Materiality and Immateriality of Low Status Female Textile Workers in the Carolingian World,” presented at the Berner Mittelalterzentrum, University of Bern, Switzerland (9 March 2017)
“Religious Textiles in the Carolingian World,” presented via Skype to Institute of Historical Research, San Marcos University, Peru (6 June 2016)
“Garments as Means of Communication Between Anglo-Saxon England and the Carolingian World,” presented at the workshop Nearness/Rift: Art and Time in the Textiles of Medieval Britain, at the invitation of the Departments of History and Art History, University of Chicago, 15 April 2016
“Women and Textiles in the Carolingian World,” presented at the public humanities event Charlemagne: the Father of Western Europe at the invitation of Humanities West, San Francisco, California (28 February 2015)
“The Power of Fashion at the Court of Charlemagne,” presented at the University of Nebraska–Omaha at the invitation of the Medieval/Renaissance Studies Program (16 September 2014)
“Carolingian Society,” presented via Skype to Institute of Historical Research, San Marcos University, Peru (10 April 2014)

- "The Handiwork of Queens: Carolingian Royal Wives, Textiles, and Clothing," presented at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois (31 March 2014)
- "To Beat Linen and To Wash Clothes': Low Status Women and Textile Work in the Carolingian World," presented at the invitation of the Medieval Studies Interdisciplinary Working Group, Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana (6 March 2014)
- "The Power of Cloth: The Roles of Clothing and Textiles at the Court of a Carolingian Ruler," presented as part of the 2013-2015 lecture series "The Materials of History" at the invitation of the Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (24 October 2013)
- "Flaunting Wealth in the Carolingian World: The Exchange of Textiles and Clothing Among the Lay Elite" presented as part of the lecture series "Exchange in the Pre-Modern West," at the invitation of the Universidad del País Vasco in Vitoria, Spain (28 February 2013)
- "Textiles and Sacred Space in the Carolingian World," presented at the Newberry Medieval Intellectual History Seminar, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, 1 December 2012
- "Gifts of Textiles and Clothing in the Carolingian World," presented at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Fall Medieval Studies Symposium at the invitation of the Program in Medieval Studies (6 November 2010)
- "Problems and Methods in the Study of Medieval Women: A Case Study of Carolingian Women," presented at Dominican University at the invitation of the Department of History and the Women and Gender Studies Program (12 February 2010)
- "Culture and Conversion in Anglo-Saxon England," presented at the University of Duisburg-Essen at the invitation of the Department of Anglophone Studies (1 July 2009)
- "The Clothing of a King: Charles the Bald and his Attire," presented at the University of Wisconsin-Madison at the invitation of the Medieval Studies Program (17 November 2008)
- "Carolingian Women and the Transmission of Knowledge," presented at the invitation of the London Medieval Seminar, Institute for Historical Research, London, U. K. (May 30, 2001)

Conference and Symposium Papers

- "Unfree Female Textile Workers in the Carolingian World," presented at the 2017 Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders and Sexualities, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY (1 June 2017)
- "Debating Vanity: Alcuin's Chastisements Concerning Clothing," presented at the 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (13 May 2017)
- "Robes, Tents, Silk, and Frisian Cloth: Textiles as a Means of Contact between the Carolingian and Islamic Worlds" presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, Boston, MA (26 February 2016)
- "Women as Agents through Creation of Textiles: A Comparative Approach," presented at the 34th Annual Haskins Society Conference, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota (7 November 2015)
- "Textiles at the Altar in West Francia," presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program Material Culture Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska (2 October 2015)
- "Carolingian Textiles and Social Bonds," presented at the 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (14 May 2015)
- "Spindle Whorls and Pin Beaters: Contextualizing Gendered Objects in the Carolingian World," presented at Medieval Materiality: a Conference on the Life and Afterlife of Things, University of Colorado – Boulder (25 October 2014)

- "Conceptions of Children and Youth in Carolingian Capitularies," presented at the Origins of Western Childhood Workshop, University of Oslo, Norway (21 May 2014)
- "Did Children Have an Early Middle Ages?" presented at the 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (8 May 2014)
- "Material Culture, Pleasure, and Early Medieval Queenship," presented at the International Medieval Congress, Leeds, United Kingdom (2 July 2013)
- "Silk for Saints: Wrappings for Relics in the Carolingian Empire," presented at the 127th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, New Orleans, LA (5 January 2013)
- "Clothing Saints in Carolingian Hagiography," presented at the 47th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (10 May 2012)
- "Charges of Abuse and Motherhood in the Carolingian World" presented at the 2011 Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (11 June 2011)
- "Keeping up Appearances: Clothing and the Carolingian Lay Aristocracy," presented at the 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (13 May 2010)
- "Girlanda and Alpais: Telling the Story of Two Textile Fabricators in the Carolingian Empire," presented at the 124th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, San Diego, CA (9 January 2010)
- "Dressing Correctly: Male Clothing in Carolingian Texts," presented at the 48th Midwest Medieval History Conference, University of Notre Dame (26 September 2009)
- "Women's Provision of Liturgical Textiles in the Carolingian World," presented at the Passages from Antiquity to the Middle Ages IV Conference, University of Tampere, Finland (22 August 2009)
- "Gendering Garments and Cloths in Carolingian Poetry," presented at the 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (10 May 2009)
- "Clothing Saints in the Carolingian World," presented at the Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin–Madison (a two–part presentation on 30 and 31 March 2009)
- "Dress and Gender in the Carolingian World," presented at the international conference, "Theorizing the Early Middle Ages," at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon (28 March 2008)
- "Religious Textiles and Relics in the Carolingian World," presented at the 42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 10, 2007)
- "Adornment as an Obstacle to Virtue: Clerical Views of Laywomen's Vanity in Carolingian Lands," presented at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 4, 2006)
- "Old Age and Women in the Carolingian World," presented at an international symposium on "Old Age in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Age," at the University of Arizona (April 28, 2006)
- "No One Should Refuse a Roof': Hospitality and Women in the Carolingian World," presented at the 49th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska (March 2, 2006)
- "Female Identity in West Francia (c.870–c.930)," presented at the 40th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 7, 2005)
- "Daughters Creating Family Identity: the Case of the Unruochings," presented at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Illinois Medieval Association at Southern Illinois University–Carbondale (February 26, 2005)
- "The Influence of Monastic Ideals upon Carolingian Conceptions of Childhood," presented at an international symposium on "Childhood in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Age," at the University of Arizona (April 30, 2004) and at the 39th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 6, 2004)
- "Teaching Carolingian Women," 38th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 10, 2003)

- “Artisans accomplished in extraordinary methods’: Carolingian women, textile work, and beauty as a reflection of female virtue,” International Medieval Congress, Leeds, U. K. (July 10, 2002)
- “*Prudentia* and Carolingian Aristocratic Women,” German Historical Institute Medieval Seminar, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (October 26, 2001)
- “Intellectual Women? Liutberga and the Education of Carolingian Women,” 35th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 6, 2000)
- “Promoting the Idea of Empire: Imperial Iconography at the Court of Charlemagne,” 41st Annual Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska (March 12, 1998)

Conference Sessions Organized or Chaired or Acted as Respondent

- “Reflecting on the Early Middle Ages,” Respondent, 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (13 May 2016)
- “Prosopography and the World of Late Medieval England” and “Medieval Prosopography” Organizer, 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (12 May 2016)
- “Early Medieval Europe III,” Presider, 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (16 May 2015).
- “Women and Power to 1100,” Presider, 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (14 May 2015)
- Medieval Prosopography* sponsored sessions (2) and roundtable, Organizer, 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (14-17 May 2015)
- “Religion and Monarchy,” Chair and Respondent, Seventh Annual NIU History Graduate Student Association Conference, Northern Illinois University (7 November 2014)
- “Preaching to Persuade,” Chair, 31st Annual Illinois Medieval Association Conference, University of Illinois–Chicago (21 February 2014)
- “Varieties of Conflict in Medieval Religious Communities,” Respondent, Southern Historical Association Meeting, St. Louis (1 November 2013)
- “Creating and Controlling Monastic Religious Experience in the Early Middle Ages,” Chair, 30th Annual Illinois Medieval Association Conference, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL (16 February 2013)
- Sessions in Honor of Thomas F. X. Noble I–III, Organizer, 47th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 10–13, 2012).
- “Early Medieval Europe III,” Presider, 47th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May 12, 2012).
- “Medieval Women and Society,” Discussant, 53rd Annual Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska (4 March 2010)
- “Normans, Teachers, and Theory,” Chair, 48th Annual Midwest Medieval History Conference, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana (25 September 2009)
- “Crucibles of Gender: Women and Men Defined in Society,” Respondent, Second Annual Northern Illinois University History Graduate Student Conference, DeKalb, Illinois (2 October 2009)
- “Medieval History,” Chair and Respondent, 52nd Annual Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska (5 March 2009)
- “Education and Politics in Europe,” Chair and Respondent, 52nd Annual Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska (6 March 2009)
- “Old Models and New Conceptions in the Early Middle Ages,” Chair, Midwest Medieval History Conference, University of Evansville, Indiana (October 14, 2006)

Conferences Organized

The Material World of the Early Middle Ages, Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR, 7-9 October 2016 (co-organized with Lynda Coon, University of Arkansas and Martha Rampton, Pacific University)

29th Annual Illinois Medieval Association Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, 17–18 February 2012 (co-organized with Nicole Clifton, Dept. of English, NIU)

Participation in Conference Roundtables

“Sources and Methodologies for Tomorrow’s Historian,” Ninth Annual NIU History Graduate Student Association Conference, Northern Illinois University (4 November 2016)

“Art of Narrative Roundtable,” Seventh Annual NIU History Graduate Student Association Conference, Northern Illinois University (7 November 2014)

Courses Taught

Courses taught at Northern Illinois University

HIST 110 Western Civilization to 1500
IDSP 225 Introduction to Medieval Society and Culture
HIST 305 Early Middle Ages
HIST 306 Later Middle Ages
HIST 319 Early Islamic World
HIST 407/507 Medieval Women
HIST 408/508 Medieval Everyday Life
IDSP 425 Seminar in Medieval Studies
HIST 490B Knights and Samurai
HIST 490B *Game of Thrones*, Television and Medieval History
HIST 630A/B Material Culture in Ancient and Medieval History
HIST 630A/B Reading Seminar on the History of Childhood in the West
–640A/B
HIST 710–770 Research Seminar on Material Culture and History

Courses taught at the University of Virginia

Court Culture in the Middle Ages (topical capstone course for history majors)
Western Civilization I

Courses taught at the University of Nebraska at Omaha

World Civilizations I
England to 1688

Member of Thesis Committees

Scott Kirk, MA Department of Anthropology, spring 2013

Service in Regional and National Organizations

Submissions Editor of the journal *Medieval Prosopography*, 2013–present
NIU Representative to the Illinois Articulation Initiative History Panel (Fall 2013-present)
Past President, Illinois Medieval Association, 2013–2014
President, Illinois Medieval Association, 2012–2013
Vice President, Illinois Medieval Association, 2011–2012
Program Director of the Midwest Medieval History Conference, 2005–6.

Languages

Highly proficient: Latin, German, Dutch, Old English
Proficient: French
Reading knowledge: Italian

Archeological Excavation Experience

Anglo–Viking Settlement, Yorkshire, U.K., September 1996 (director: Julian Richards)
Dolforwyn Castle, Wales, U.K., July 1993 (director: Lawrence Butler)
Frisian Village of Wijnaldum-Tjitsma, Netherlands, June 1993 (director: Jurjen Bos)

Professional Affiliations

Medieval Academy of America
American Historical Association
Conference of Midwest Medieval Historians
Illinois Medieval Association
Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship