RACHEL C. MIDURA

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POSITION

Assistant Professor of Digital and Early Modern European History, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA   2020 - Present

- History Department Undergraduate Review Committee (2020-2021)
- History Department Research Committee (2021-2022)
- Committee member of M.A. thesis (2021-)

<u>First Book Project</u>

Princes of The Post: Power, Publicity, and Communications Revolution in Early Modern Europe

Adapting dissertation awarded the Reinerman Prize by the Society for Italian Historical Studies for the best unpublished manuscript in Italian history (2020)

EDUCATION

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)

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

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

PUBLICATIONS

<u>Peer-Reviewed</u>

"Itinerating Europe: Early Modern Spatial Networks in Printed Itineraries, 1545-1700" in *the Journal of Social History* 54/4 (2021), 1023-1063   July 2021

"Policing in Print: Social Control in Spanish & Borromean Milan, 1535-1584" in Nina Lamal, Helmer Helmers, ed.s, *Print and Power in Early Modern Europe* (Brill: 2021), 21-46   2021

"Messengers and Couriers" in Kristen Poole, ed., *The Routledge Encyclopedia of the Renaissance World* (Routledge: 2023)   Forthcoming

"They Hide from Me, Like the Devil from the Cross": Counter-Espionage and Transalpine Postal Routes, 1600-1660." Invited contribution to special issue of *History: The Journal of the Historical Association*   Under review

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"For Your Eyes Only: Detecting Intercept Letters in the British State Papers." Co-authored with Ruth Ahnert (Queen Mary University London) and Sebastian Ahnert (Cambridge University; Alan Turing Institute). Invited contribution to special issue of *Huntington Library Quarterly* — Accepted

Publications Cont.

Review of Francesca Trivellato, *The Promise and the Peril of Credit* in the *Sixteenth Century Journal* (2021) — 2021

"Publishing the Baroque Post" in *Renaissance of Letters*, Paula Findlen and Suzanne Sutherland, eds., (Routledge Press: 2019) — 2019

"Conceptualizing Knowledge Networks: Agents and Patterns of 'Flow'" in Paula Findlen, ed., *Empires of Knowledge* (Routledge Press: 2018) — 2018

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

Co-Organizer & Presenter

Early Modern Mobilities: Knowledge, Community, Communication, and Infrastructure, 1500-1800, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford, CA — Spring 2021
- Organizing two-day workshop of international speakers sponsored by Early Modern Mobility Group including panels on infrastructure, mobility politics, and global exchange
- Presenting "Professionalizing the Post" as part of panel "Making Mobility Infrastructure"

Cultures of Bureaucracy Panel Series, *Renaissance Society of America 2019 Annual Conference*, Toronto, CA — October 2019
- Organizing four panels sponsored by the Warburg Institute, University of London
- Presenting "The Postmistress and the Spy" as part of panel "Information and Communication"

Presenter

"Condutrix & Administratrix: Tassis Postmistresship across the German and Swiss Alpine Passes," *Infrastructures of Mobility in Transalpine Europe (1450-1750)*, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento, Italy (Online) — Sept. 2021

"Early Modern Digital Itineraries (EmDigIt): Networks of European Space, 1545-1761," Lunch Seminar Series, Historical Network Research Group, Luxembourg (Online) — May 2021

"Shooting the Messenger: Assaults on Couriers and Extraterritoriality," *Virtual Renaissance Sociation of America Annual Conference 2021* (Online) — March 2021

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"For Your Eyes Only: Intercept Letters in the British State Papers," *Networking Archives Colloquium*, Oxford University, U.K. (Online)	Sept. 2020
"Early Modern Digital Itineraries: Modeling European Place and Space, 1545-1747," *Virtual Digital Humanities Conference 2020* (Online)	July 2020
"A Tale of Three Roads: Networking Across Europe's Wars of Religion," Virginia Tech & College of Charleston History Departments (February 2020)	Feb. 2020

Panels & Outreach

Interview, "Interview with Virginia Tech Professor at work on Postal History," (trans. from Italian), *Il Monitore della Toscana, the Journal of the Association for the Study of Tuscan Postal History*	May 2021
"Sealed Secrets: Renaissance Spies and Europe's Postal Services," Invited Talk, Smithsonian National Postal Museum	Spring 2021
Expert consult, "A Letter Sealed for Centuries Has Been Read- Without Even Opening It," Sarah Castellanos, *The Wall Street Journal* (2 March 2021)	Winter 2021
Panelist, "Perspectives on Publishing Argument-Driven Digital History," American Historical Association Conference 2020 (Canceled due to COVID-19)	Winter 2021

DIGITAL HISTORY

Networking Archives, Oxford & Cambridge Universities	2019-2021

- Participating in three digital humanities training schools relating to early modern correspondence collections
- Collaborating with Oxford *Cultures of Knowledge* and QMUL *Networking Archives* groups to produce articles for special issue of *Huntington Library Quarterly*

Early Modern Mobility: Knowledge, Communication and Transportation, 1500-1800, Stanford University	2018-2021

- Receiving $100,000 Stanford-UPS Endowment Grant for two-year multi-university research group and workshop development on early modern travel and exchange
- Organizing three-day *Early Modern Mobilities* conference with 50+ virtual participants and attendees

Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford University	2016-2020

- Completing digital humanities certificate and graduate research fellowship
- Hired to further develop and improve graduate fellowship program as senior graduate research fellow
- Regularly attending and leading digital humanities research seminars and workshops

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<u>Recent Training</u>

Data Carpentry: Geospatial Data in R, Virginia Tech Libraries	2021
Text Analysis Pedagogy (TAP) Institute, JSTOR Labs	2021
GIS Mapping for Historians, Renaissance Society of America Digital Humanities Workshop	2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<u>Course Design & Instructor of Record</u>

Digital History, Virginia Tech	Spring 2022
History of Espionage and Surveillance, Virginia Tech (Online & In-Person)	Spring 2021, 2022
The Era of the Reformation, Virginia Tech	Autumn 2021
Critical Reading/Analysis in History: Global Empires, Virginia Tech	Autumn 2021
The Renaissance, Virginia Tech (Online)	Autumn 2020
Mapping the Grand Tour: Digital Tools for Historical Data, Stanford University	Winter 2019
Censorship & Propaganda, Stanford University	Winter 2017

RESEARCH AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Virginia Tech College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences   2020-2021
- Library Collaboration Grant in the Digital Humanities: $4000 for work on Early Modern Digital Itineraries
- Global Partnership Project Grant: $3175 for purchase of 1 year subscription to Gale-Cengage British State Papers
- Niles Grant: $5000 for 1 course release in Spring 2021
- Mentoring Program for New Faculty: $1,500 to work with Dr. Margaret Meserve (Notre Dame University)

Mabelle McLeod Lewis Memorial Fund Fellowship   2019-2020
- Full scholarship grant and stipend for dissertation completion

Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation Research Grant   2018
- Travel grant to support research in archives in Venice and former empire