

Dr. Christopher Carl Craun
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Education:

- 2000—2006 PhD in Medieval History, June 2006 from the Department of Medieval History, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland, UK. I successfully defended my dissertation entitled “A Contextualization of Hrabanus Maurus’ *Martyrologium*” during the autumn of 2005 after starting the program in 2000.
- 1999—2000 M. Phil. Candidate, Department of Medieval History, University of St. Andrews. After completing my taught coursework, I decided to fore-go completing the Master’s thesis and accepted an invitation to transfer directly into the Ph.D. program.
- 1998 BA in History, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Awards:

- 2015 UCA Veteran Instruction award from the Student Veterans of America
- 2012 EDGE UCA Learning Community–Faculty of the Year
- 2002 Research stipend, German Historical Institute, London, UK
(For study abroad in medieval libraries throughout Germany, Austria and Switzerland.)
- 2002 Russell Trust Award, University of St. Andrews
(For research in Germany.)
- 1990—1992 National Merit Scholar, University of Arkansas.
- 1990—1992 Governor’s Scholar, University of Arkansas.
- 1989 Arkansas Governor’s School alumnus.

Grants:

- 2017 NEH Grant to attend the teaching symposium, “Migration and Empire: the Roman Experience from Aurelius to Muhammad.”

- 2016 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Grant for program supporting Veteran nutrition and education.
- 2012 UCA University Research Committee Grant for digitization of the West Memphis civil rights newspaper, *Many Voices*.

Publications:

Review of *The Saxon War by Bruno of Merseburg*, translated by Bernard S. Bachrach and David S. Bachrach. *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, 31, no. 1 (Spring 2024): 111-114.

Review of *A Byzantine Monastic Office, 1105 AD*, by Catherine Jeffrey C. Anderson and Stefano Parenti. *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, 30, no. 2 (Fall 2023): 125-128.

Review of *Constructions of Feminine Identity in the Catholic Tradition: Inventing Women*, by Christopher Flavin. *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, 29, no. 2 (Fall 2022): 133-136.

Review of *Celtic Cosmology and the Otherworld: Mythic Origins, Sovereignty, and Liminality*, by Sharon Paice Macleod. *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, 28, no. 1 (Spring 2021): 149-152.

Review of *Violence and Belief in Late Antiquity: Militant Devotion in Christianity and Islam*, by Thomas Sizgoritch. *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, 26, no. 2 (Fall 2019): 175-178.

“Covering the Daily Life of Pre-Modern People in History Classes,” *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, 22, no. 1 (Spring 2015): 87-99.

“Three Studies of Medieval Christianities; Problematic Grand Narratives and Illuminating Details.” *History: Reviews of New Books*, 41, no.1 (Spring 2013): 1-4.

Pauly, Roger and Chris Craun, eds. *A Textual Journey Through the Pre-Modern World from Origins to 1500 CE*. Plymouth, MI: Hayden McNeil Press, 2011.

Multiple entries in *Encyclopedia of Medieval Literature*, edited by Jay Ruud. New York, NY: Facts on File Press, 2005.

“Matronly Monks: Sexual Imagery in the *Historia Religiosa* of Theodoret of Cyrrhus” in *Holiness and Masculinity*, edited by Patricia Cullum and Katherine Lewis, 43-57. Cardiff, UK: University of Wales Press, 2004.

“The Legacy of the Depression: A Conglomerate of Experiences.” *Flashback*, Journal of the Washington County (AR) Historical Society, 48, no. 1 (Spring 1998): 26-42.

Conference Papers:

- April 2022 “Narrative Voice and Differing Concepts of Evil in the Published *Silmarillion*.” Presented at the annual Tolkien in Vermont Conference, Burlington, VT.
- May 2010 “The Impact of Bede’s Reputation upon Historical Analysis of his Historical Martyrology’s Impact on the Continent and Vice-Versa.” Presented at the International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Mar. 2007 “Re-Reading the Historical Martyrology.” Presented at Theorizing the Early Middle Ages, Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR.
- Oct. 2004 "The Development of Early Martyrologies." Presented at the annual conference of the Arkansas Association of College History Teachers, Hot Springs, AR.
- June 2002 “The Gift that Keeps on Giving, Sources for Relic Depositions in Fulda and S. Riquier.” Presented at the International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK.
- May 2002 “The Discourse of Angilbert’s Relic Depositions in S. Riquier c. 800.” Presented at the International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Dec. 2001 “Geographic Emphasis in Hrabanus Maurus’ *Martyrologium*.” Presented at the Texts and Identities Annual Conference, University of Cambridge, UK.
- June 2001 “Matronly Monks: Sexual Imagery in Theodoret of Cyrrhus’ *Historia Religiosa*.” Presented at the Holiness and Masculinity Conference, University of Huddersfield, UK.

Courses Recently Taught at UCA:

- HIST 1310 Mummies to Mongols—World History from Ancient Times to the Early Modern Period
- HIST 1375 FYS Diversity in History—Three Technologies that Changed How We See the World and Each Other.
- HIST 1375 FYS Diversity in History—Tolkien’s *Silmarillion* as a model Medieval Text (forthcoming)
- HIST 2390 The Historian’s Craft
- HIST 3320 History of Christianity 1
- HIST 3351 Ancient Civilization—Survey of the Ancient Mediterranean

- HIST 3390 Historiography: Reading and Writing History
- HIST 4334 Topics—various, including: Byzantium, The Crusades, Female Spirituality in Early Christianity, Readings in Greco-Roman History, and Carolingian Civilization
- HIST 4360 The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity, 300 - 900 AD
- HIST 4361 The Mediterranean World in the Medieval Period, 900 - 1400 AD
- HIST 4390 Roman Civilization

Academic Interests

Manuscript Transmission	The Christian Cult of Saints
Medieval Martyrologies	Early Christian Spirituality
Asceticism	Carolingians
Byzantium	Donatism in North Africa
Technological Impacts on Early World Societies	

Academic Career History:

- 2013 - Present: Tenured Assistant Professor of History, UCA
- 2007-2013: Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of History, UCA
- 2005-2007: Visiting Assistant Professor of History, UCA
- 2004-2005: Emergency Hire Adjunct Professor, UCA

Personal Notes:

I am a native Arkansan and the product of a small public school in Southwest Arkansas (Mineral Springs). My parents lived at the end of a dirt road—where sleeping dogs expect you to swerve around them. I grew up hunting, fishing, floating, and playing football. We owned a small bait-shop on Millwood Lake, and I sold cigarettes with a gun under the counter when I was twelve. I was a minority in my school and am better off because of it. A love of reading, particularly J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis inspired me to become an academic, but it was never a straight path. After dropping out of university and marrying at the age of twenty, I later went back and finished my BA in 1997. Then, I took my family to St. Andrews, Scotland to get a PhD. If I can finish college in a non-traditional way, you can too!

I am a Christian, but not a fan of denominations. I truly love Scotland, but I still adore the south Arkansas swamps. My wife and I have five adult kids between us. We enjoy hiking, traveling, and going to ball games. My favorite city is Paris, France. Bow-hunting remains one of my favorite activities. The one car that I wish I'd never sold was a Triumph TR3. Music is my therapy—I play guitar, banjo, and mandolin (though I don't claim to play them well). Occasionally, I play Dungeons and Dragons, but I prefer Rolemaster. Fantasy literature is my passion, and I'm working on my own novel. I'm also the proud owner of a Petersons from Dublin. The most important thing that Academia has taught me is that I am never the smartest person in the room.