

## Alexander D'Alisera, Ph.D.

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2025–pres. Visiting Assistant Professor, Boston College, History Department
- 2024–25 Charles W. Maus Graduate Research Fellow in Karst Studies, Cave Conservancy Foundation
- 2023–25 Senior Thesis Advisor, Harvard University, Department of the History of Science
- 2023–24 Summer Instructor, Boston College, History Department
- 2023–24 Teaching Assistant, Harvard University, Department of the History of Science
- 2020–24 Teaching Assistant, Boston College, History Department

### EDUCATION

- 2025 Ph.D., History, Boston College
  - Dissertation*: “Real and Imagined Caves in Early Medieval Britain, c. 400–1100 CE”
  - Committee*: Robin Fleming (advisor), Robert Stanton, Carolyn Twomey
  - Fields* (passed with distinction): medieval history, Old English literature, museum studies
- 2022 Cert., Digital Humanities, Boston College
- 2017 M.A., Religion, Yale University, Yale Divinity School
- 2015 B.A., History & Classics, Bard College

### ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2024 Certificate in College Teaching, Boston College, Center for Teaching Excellence
- 2023 Digital Course Design Training, Boston College, Center for Digital Innovation in Learning
- 2022 Digital Palaeography Summer School, University of Göttingen, Institute for Digital Humanities

## Publications

### BOOK PROJECT

*Medieval Cave People: A North Sea Speleology, c. 400–1200* (in progress).

### EDITED BOOKS

- In prep. *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Stone and Society from Prehistory to the Middle Ages*. (with Duncan Berryman, Aisling Reid, and Christina Cowart-Smith).

### ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

- In prep. “Medieval Caves, Michael the Archangel, and the End of the World.” Invited for publication in *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques*, 53, no. 1 (2027).
- In press “Teaching the Climate Catastrophe with an Early Medieval Poem” in *A Historian’s Handbook for Saving the World: Responding to the Global Climate Emergency*, ed. Alexandra Hui and Emily Pawley (MIT Press, in press).
- 2025 “Durrow’s Lion: Irenaeus, Pictish Stonescapes, and the Book of Durrow’s Non-Hieronymian Evangelical Symbols,” in *Ì Chaluis Chille: Interdisciplinary Studies on Iona and Columba on the 1500th Anniversary of the Birth of the Saint*, ed. Sofia Evemalm-Graham (Clò Gàidhlig Oilthigh Ghlaschu, 2025), 208–233.
- 2024 “Speluncar Slumber and the Medieval Time Traveler: Unearthing the Imagined Cave of the Old English Seven Sleepers.” *postmedieval* 15, no. 4 (2024), 969–989.
- 2023 “*The Dream of the Rood: A New Translation and Introduction*,” in *New Testament Apocrypha: More Noncanonical Scriptures*, vol. 3, ed. Tony Burke (Eerdmans, 2023), 110–129. (with Samuel Osborn).

## BOOK REVIEWS

- 2023 David Ceri Jones et al., *A History of Christianity in Wales* (University of Wales, 2022). In *Reading Religion* 8, no. 9 (American Academy of Religion, 2023).
- 2020 Jordan Zweck, *Epistolary Acts: Anglo-Saxon Letters and Early English Media* (University of Toronto, 2018). In *Reading Religion* 5, no. 7 (American Academy of Religion, 2020).

## SMALLER PROJECTS

- 2021 Translation of *Beowulf*, lines 151-165, in *Beowulf by All*, ed. Jean Abbott, Elaine Treharne, and Mateusz Fafinski (Arc Humanities, 2021).
- 2020 Bibliography entry, *The Dream of the Rood. e-Clavis: Christian Apocrypha*. North American Society for the Study of Christian Apocryphal Literature. (with Samuel Osborn)
- 2014 Translation of Catullus, “V and VII,” in *Sui Generis* (Bard College, Spring 2014), 66-67.

## Teaching & Advising

### BOSTON COLLEGE, HISTORY DEPARTMENT

#### Visiting Assistant Professor

- 2025-pres. The History of the End of the World; Modern History I (pre-1800); Modern History II (post-1800)

#### Summer Instructor

- 2023-24 Modern History I (pre-1800, online asynchronous)

#### Teaching Assistant

- 2020-24 Europe in the World I; Europe in the World II; Asia in the World I; Asia in the World II; America and the World II; U.S. Foreign Policy, 1945-present

### HARVARD UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

#### Senior Thesis Advisor

- 2023-25 *Theses Advised*: “A ‘School of Experience’: *Fin-de-Siècle* Institutional Reform at the *École Coloniale* in Paris, France, 1887-1912”; “Sweet, Deadly Paradox: The Biopolitical Reality of Diabetes in the Bahamas”
- Theses Graded*: “The Body Restored: Constructions of the Patient in the Cult of Asclepius”; “Empire of Nature: The Boston Society of Natural History and the Building of Empire in the Nineteenth Century United States”; “Mood Swings: The Impact of the French Revolution on the Conception and Treatment of Mental Illness”; “Holiness to Wholeness: Restoring Late Medieval Surgery to its Religious Cultural Context”

#### Teaching Assistant (duties equivalent to rank of Teaching Fellow)

- 2023-24 Science in Popular Culture; Humans in Space: Past, Present, Future; Mental Health in Crisis: From War Neurosis to Covid-19

## Presentations

### CONFERENCES

- 2026 “Cliffside Caves and Death Ritual in Rural Medieval Britain.” 101st Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting. Amherst, MA, USA.
- 2026 “Speluncar Eschatology in Early Medieval England.” Architectures of the Apocalypse Conference & Workshop. Boston, MA, USA.

- 2024 “New Phenomenological Approaches to Underground Stonescapes in Early Medieval Britain and Ireland.” 30th European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting. Rome, Italy.
- 2024 “Apophatic Archaeology: The Materiality, Phenomenology, and Textuality of Caves in Early Medieval Britain.” 89th Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA, USA.
- 2023 “Deer, Stone, and Death-Life Simultaneity at Early Medieval Dog Hole Cave.” 29th European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting. Belfast, N. Ireland.
- 2022 “Living and Dying Underground: Lived Religion in the Caves of Roman and Post-Roman Britain.” 28th European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting. Budapest, Hungary.
- 2022 “Irish Undergrounds: Surveying the Human Use of Caves in Early Medieval Ireland.” *Comhfhios: Other Irelands*, An Irish Studies Conference. Boston, MA, USA.
- 2021 “An Atmosphere of Pictish Ambience: Assessing the Relationship between the Book of Durrow’s Non-Hieronymian Tetramorph and Pictish Stonework.” *Ì Chaluim Chille: Colabhairt Eadar-dhreuchdail / Columba and Iona: An Interdisciplinary Conference*. Glasgow, Scotland.
- 2021 “‘I, brother scribe, questioned her...’: New Media Theory and a Reassessment of Brother A.’s Compositional Presence in Angelia of Foligno’s *Memorial*.” 20th Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies. Madison, WI, USA.
- 2020 “The Tree’s Terror: Theological Horror and Eschatological Incertitude in *The Dream of the Rood*.” 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, USA. (*cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- 2020 “Self, Poetic Form, and the Benedictine Economy of Obedience in Saint Anselm’s Devotional Prayers.” 19th Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies. Hartford, CT, USA. (*cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- 2016 “The Old English Poetry of Heresies in *The Dream of the Rood*.” 2nd Conference of the International Society for Heresy Studies. New York, NY, USA.
- 2016 “The Sin of Creation in *Frankenstein*: New Testament Undercurrents and the Fatalistic Turn of Mary Shelley.” *The Modern Prometheus; or, Frankenstein*. Clinton, NY, USA.
- 2016 “Performative Christology in *The Dream of the Rood*.” 8th Annual Medievalists at Penn Conference. Philadelphia, PA, USA.

#### CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- 2026 Session organizer, “Interdisciplinary Medieval Eco-Studies.” 101st Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting. Amherst, MA, USA.
- 2024 Session co-organizer (with Christina Cowart-Smith), “The Experience of Stone II: Sculpting Comparative Phenomenologies.” 30th European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting. Rome, Italy.
- 2023 Session main organizer (with Christina Cowart-Smith), “The Experience of Stone: Materiality, Landscape, Expression.” 29th European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting. Belfast, N. Ireland.
- 2022 Panel co-organizer (with Andrew Bair, Rachel Brody, Avner Goldstein, and Trevor Wiley), “Wither Ireland(s)?: Imagining the Material Geographies of the Premodern Irish Milieu.” *Comhfhios: Other Irelands*. Boston College.
- 2020 Conference co-organizer (with Chance Bonar), New Testament and Early Christian Studies Conference. Boston College & Harvard University. (*cancelled due to COVID-19*)

## INVITED LECTURES

- 2026 “Medieval Caves and the End of the World.” History Department Spring Lecture Series. Boston College.

## GUEST LECTURES

- 2025 “Premodern Atlantic Globalization.” Globalization I (Prof. Caitlin Barker). Boston College.
- 2023 “*E quindi uscimmo a riveder le stelle...*”: Premodern Imaginations of Outer Space.” Humans in Space: Past, Present, Future (Prof. Matthew Hersch). Harvard University.
- 2023 “Globalization before Globalization; or, the Global Middle Ages.” Europe in the World I (Prof. Eric Grube). Boston College.
- 2021 “The Body of Christ in Old English Literature.” The Living and Dead Body in Medieval Literature and Culture (Inst. Sharon Wofford). Boston College.
- 2021 “John the Evangelist, Pictish Lion.” Early Medieval Art in Ireland and Britain (Prof. Nancy Netzer). Boston College.
- 2016 “The Consolation of Christology?” Religion Colloquium (Prof. Bruce Chilton). Bard College.

## OTHER ENGAGEMENTS

- 2026 Faculty respondent. 5th Graduate Student Voices Conference. Boston College.
- 2025 Panel moderator. 11th History and Science Senior Thesis Conference. Harvard University.
- 2024 Panel moderator. 10th History and Science Senior Thesis Conference. Harvard University.
- 2023 Invited panelist. Research for the Common Good. Presentation to the Board of Regents. Boston College.
- 2023 Invited panelist. Collaborating with Non-Human Partners. Faith and Ecological Justice Program, School of Theology. Boston University.
- 2023 “Deer and Death in a Cumbrian Cave.” Medieval Lunch Series. Yale University.
- 2022 Panel respondent. Remembering / Forgetting Pandemics Conference. Boston College.
- 2019 “The Internationalism of Medieval Catholicism: Lessons for the Global Catholic Church Today.” St. John the Evangelist Church. Cambridge, MA, USA.
- 2016-17 Co-founder and co-organizer of Divinity Colloquium (with N’Kosi Oates). Yale Divinity School.
- 2016 “An Ethical Breaking of the Ranks: Thomas Aquinas’s Fraternal Correction and the Soldier’s Doctrine of Disobedience.” Medieval Lunch Series. Yale University.
- 2015 “A Reading from and Commentary upon Cicero’s *Pro Archia Poeta*.” Baccalaureate Ceremony. Bard College.

## **Awards, Funding & Prizes**

- 2024-25 Charles W. Maus Graduate Research Fellowship in Karst Studies, Cave Conservancy Foundation
- 2023 GSA Conference and Research Grant, Boston College
- 2022 CARA Summer Scholarship, Medieval Academy of America
- 2022-24 History Department Summer Funding, Boston College
- 2021 Institute for the Liberal Arts Summer Internship Funding, Boston College
- 2020 Institute for the Liberal Arts Minor Grant, Boston College
- 2016 Mary Cady Tew Prize, Yale University
- 2015-17 Henry Hallam Tweedy Scholarship, Yale University

- 2015-17 Marquand Scholarship, Yale University
- 2015 President Leon Botstein Prize, Bard College
- 2015 Cristina Duarte Prize, Bard College
- 2014 Mary and Richard Sugatt Scholarship, Bard College
- 2013 Center for Civic Engagement Community Action Award, Bard College
- 2013 Harry J. Carman Scholarship, Bard College
- 2012 Book Award for Excellence in Latin, Bard College
- 2012, 14 George I. Alden Trust Scholarship, Bard College
- 2011-15 Excellence and Equal Cost Scholarship, Bard College

### Other Experience & Memberships

#### RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Old English, Latin, French

#### PUBLISHING, EDITORIAL & MUSEUM WORK

- 2021 Exhibition Research & Planning Intern. McMullen Museum of Art, Boston, MA, USA.
- 2020 Indexer. Robin Fleming, *The Material Fall of Roman Britain, 300-525 CE* (University of Pennsylvania, 2021).
- 2018-19 Copy Editor. Harvard Medical School, Alumni Association. Boston, MA, USA.
- 2018 Acquisitions Editor for Religion, History, Music. Academic Studies Press. Boston, MA, USA.
- 2017-18 Editorial Assistant for Linguistics and Cognitive Science. Wiley. Medford, MA, USA.
- 2016-18 Editor in Chief. *Glossolalia*, Yale Divinity School. New Haven, CT, USA.
- 2015-17 Editorial Assistant. *Yale Law Report*, Yale Law School. New Haven, CT, USA.
- 2013 Indexer. Herodotus, *Histories*, ed. J. Romm, trans. P. Mensch (Hackett, 2014).

#### MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2023 Podcast interviewee, "Special Episode: American Alternative Comics." *The Terrace: The McMullen Museum of Art's Student Publication*. <https://theterracebc.com/2023/03/23/special-episode-american-alternative-comics-with-mcmullen-intern-graduate-students>.
- 2021 Profiled in "Discernment at the Doctoral Level: Internship Program at BC's Institute for the Liberal Arts Supports Career Exploration for Ph.D. Students," by Sean Smith. *Boston College Chronicle* 29, no. 4. <https://issuu.com/bcchronicle/docs/bcchronicle10142021>.

#### CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

- 2021-pres. Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
- 2020-pres. Medieval Academy of America