

Tovah Bender, Ph.D.

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Department of History, DM 391C
Miami, FL 33186

Current Position:

Instructor in Premodern European History; Florida International University Fall 2012-present
Promotion to Senior Instructor Fall 2019

Education:

University of Minnesota; Minneapolis, MN

Ph.D. in History July 2009
Dissertation: *Negotiating Marriage: Artisan Women in Fifteenth-Century Florentine Society*
Concentration: Medieval Europe Supporting Area: Comparative Women's History
Advisors: Ruth Mazo Karras and Kathryn Reyerson

Fordham University; Bronx, NY

MA in History Aug. 2004
Thesis: *Overlaying in Later Medieval England: A Second Look at the Sources*
Concentration: Medieval Europe
Advisors: Daniel Lord Smail and Maryanne Kowaleski

University of Michigan; Ann Arbor, MI

BA, High Honors and Distinction May 2001
Majors: Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Anthropology
Honors Thesis: *A Poor Girl's Dilemma: Servanthood in Renaissance Florence*

European University Institute, Italy

Visiting Doctoral Student December 2007 – July 2008

Selected Publications:

- Review of Glenn Burger's *Conduct Becoming: Good Wives and Husbands in the Later Middle Ages* for the Medieval Feminist Forum (forthcoming)
- "A Journey into Late Medieval Italy with *The Inferno*" *The Once and Future Classroom: Resources for Teaching the Middle Ages* 12:2 (2016)
- "Family and Household" in *A Cultural History of the Home in the Medieval Age*, ed. Katherine French (London: Bloomsbury Academic). Forthcoming, fall 2020.
- "Their Fathers' Daughters: Women's Social Identities in Fifteenth-Century Florence." *Journal of Family History* 38:3 (2013).
- "The Case of the Missing Girls: Sex Ratios in Fifteenth-Century Tuscany." *Journal of Women's History* 23:4 (2011).

Selected Conference Papers and Panels:

- "Dante as a Journey into the Renaissance" Roundtable discussion, *Innovative Approaches to Teaching Dante* at the International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo MI, May 2014.
- "Becoming a Man in Quattrocento Florence: Emancipation, Household, and Marriage." New College Conference of Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Sarasota, FL. March, 2012.
- "No More the Lone Woman: The Importance of Women's Social Networks in Graduate School & Beyond." Roundtable discussion at the Social Science History Asso., Vancouver. Nov. 2012.
- Warwick-Newberry Seminar "Family Values: Locating the Family in the Early Modern Italian Workshop." July 19-30, 2010. Venice, Italy. (Invited conference)

- Mediterranean Identities, a conference organized by Institute for Advanced Study Mediterranean Collaborative and Center for Medieval Studies at the University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. April 2011. (Invited presenter)

Selected Awards and Grants:

FIU's Office of Research and Economic Development (\$2000) 2019-2020

FIU's Office of the Provost's Research Support in the Humanities (\$2000) 2019-2020

Grant received with H. Blatt (English) and E. Scarborough (philosophy) to support a year-long interdisciplinary initiative, Beyond the Barista: Interdisciplinary Career Preparation in the Humanities, designed to improve the career readiness of FIU humanities students by exposing them to the wide range of career opportunities available to them and preparing them to successfully apply for those jobs.

FIU Faculty Senate Teaching Award 2017

Recipient of two Writing Across the Curriculum Grants Spring 2015

- An individual grant for revision of writing instruction in upper-level history seminars.
- A group grant for reorganization and standardization of the seven lower-level (core) history courses that fulfill FIU's Writing in the Humanities requirement in order to:
 - bring them in line with best practices for teaching writing
 - better serve, retain, and prepare FIU students for college
 - reaccrediting the courses according to the new state standards
 - Involved collaboration with seven faculty in the history department, including adjunct, instructors, and tenure track.

Center for Advancement of Teaching, Faculty Fellow Fall 2015

Fulbright Fellow to Italy 2007-2008

Service related to Pedagogy and Community Outreach:

MDC/ FIU Humanities Edge Faculty Summer Institute May 2019

MDC/FIU Curriculum Alignment Project - Public History May 2019

Worked with a small team from MDC and FIU to align public history teaching efforts at the two institutions, as part of the MDC/FIU Humanities Edge program, funded by the Mellon Foundation.

Gateway Institute for English Literature May 2019

Invited speaker to English Literature faculty working to improve their gateway courses.

Gateway Inquiry Institute for Student Success Spring 2019

In collaboration with departments from across the university, identified evidence-based areas for improvement in our department's gateway courses.

Project THINC Community of Inquiry and Practice Spring 2019

A Mellon Foundation grant funded project to bring innovation to the humanities at FIU

Global Learning Committee 2019-20

Chair, Spring 2020

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|---|------------------------|
| SIPA Curriculum Committee | 2018-19 |
| Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honors Society, Faculty Advisor | Fall 2015-Spring 2017 |
| Writing Fellows Program, Partner | Spring 2013-present |
| Dual Enrollment Program, Mentor and Liaison for History | March 2013-Spring 2017 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work directly with history teachers at Felix Varela, Doctor's Charter, Morgan, Southridge, Westland Hialeah, and Hialeah Gardens High Schools. • Serve as a participant in the pilot for the online collection of evaluative materials • Coordinate the efforts of all History mentors and teachers, at 19 different high schools across Miami-Dade and Broward, including planning the semi-annual meeting | |
| CAS Student Success Committee, Member | Fall 2014 |
| SACS accreditation coordinator for History | September 2014-present |
| History Undergraduate Committee, Member | Sept. 2012-present |
| Writing Consultant, Center for Writing, UMN | Sept. 2005-May 2006 |
| Mystic Seaport Museum. Program Director and Educator | June 2002-August 2003 |

Previous Academic Positions Held:

- Hanover College, Hanover IN; Visiting Assistant Professor of History 2011-2012
- Agnes Scott College, Decatur GA; Visiting Assistant Professor of History 2009-2011
- St. Olaf College, Northfield MN; Instructor of Record January 2007
- University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN; Instructor of Record Fall 2006-Summer 2009
- Editorial Assistant, Center for Early Modern History, UMN Jan. 2006-May 2007

Languages:

Spanish Reading – Excellent; Spoken – Good; Written - Good

Italian Reading – Excellent; Spoken – Good; Written – Good

French Reading – Excellent; Spoken – Good; Writing – Fair

Latin Reading – Good