

# MICHAEL J. CLARK

## Curriculum Vitae

Northfield Mount Hermon School  
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(508) 813-8695

### **EDUCATION**

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PhD English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2022

BA English (with distinction), Colby College, 2011  
Minors: Italian Studies, Classical Civilization  
Honors: Presidential Scholar, Dean's List, Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude*

### **DISSERTATION**

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“Deceptive Medicine and (Dis)Trust in Renaissance Drama”

Director: Jessica Wolfe

Committee: Reid Barbour, Mary Floyd-Wilson, Jane Threlkill, Maggie Fritz-Morkin

Through comparative analysis of English, Italian, and French Renaissance comedies, I argue that dramatized interactions between patients and medical practitioners reveal a paradox of trust and distrust that characterizes transcultural attitudes toward Renaissance medicine. Building upon recent recovery work that has challenged the traditional view of charlatans, empirics, and wise women healers as fraudulent “quacks,” I clarify how deceptive and theatrical medical practices informed patient trust and influenced health during the medieval and early modern periods.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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2022-Present English Teacher, Northfield Mount Hermon School

2020-2022 Adjunct Instructor in Performing Arts, Elon University

2015-2020 Writing Coach, Writing Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2013-2022 Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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#### **RESEARCH**

2020 Howell-Voitle Award (for outstanding work on a dissertation in the Early Modern Period), Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2018 McLendon-Thomas Award in the History of Medicine, Paper title: “The *Fabrica*, the *Epitome*, and Issues of Accessibility in Early Modern Anatomy,” University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2015 Grant-in-Aid Award, “A Folger Introduction to Research Methods and Agendas” Seminar taught by Alan B. Farmer, Folger Shakespeare Library

## TEACHING

2022 Associate Level, Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2019 Erika Lindemann Teaching Award in Composition and Literature, Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2016 Literature Teaching Award, Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2016 Foreign Language Teaching Award, Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

## CONFERENCES

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### CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

2016 UNC-KCL Graduate Student Conference: Old and New Humanism(s): Studies in Medieval and Early Modern Culture. Co-organized with Mary Learner. Chapel Hill, NC.

### PAPERS PRESENTED

2022 “‘His Disease is nothing but imagination’: Hypochondria in Aphra Behn’s *Sir Patient Fancy*.” Northeast Modern Language Association. Baltimore, MD.

2021 “Maestro Simone and Giletta di Nerbona: (Un)Trustworthy Medical Practitioners in Boccaccio’s *Decameron*.” Renaissance Society of America. Virtual.

2019 “Expanding Multilingual Tutoring: Approaches for Supporting Students Writing in Foreign Languages.” International Writing Centers Association. Columbus, OH.

2019 “What is the Relationship between Author, Director, and Translator? Teaching Performance and Translation Studies through Luigi Pirandello’s *Six Characters in Search of an Author*.” American Comparative Literature Association. Washington, DC.

2017 “Diagnosing the Demonic and the Divine in the *Memoriale* of Angela da Foligno.” Carolina Conference for Romance Studies. Chapel Hill, NC.

2015 “Vesalius’ *De Humani Corporis Fabrica*: The Intersection of Art and Medicine in Renaissance Anatomy.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC.

2015 “An Actress Playing Twins: Performing Hermaphroditism in Andreini’s *Amor Nello Specchio* (1622).” Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures. Chapel Hill, NC.

2014 “Teaching Process-Oriented Writing: The Role of the Foreign Language Classroom in Writing Across the Curriculum.” Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures. Chapel Hill, NC.

## **CURATED EXHIBITS**

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2016 Rare Books Exhibition for Old and New Humanism(s) Conference, co-curated with Mary Learner, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2016 Digital Exhibition of Historical Medical Instruments, co-curated with Dawne Lucas, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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2020-2022 Peer Mentoring Committee Member, Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2016-2017 Furst Forum Coordinator, Comparative Literature and English Association of Graduate Students, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2015 Editor, *Tar Heel Writing Guide*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2014-2015 President for Comparative Literature, Comparative Literature and English Association of Graduate Students, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

## **LANGUAGES**

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Italian (near-native fluency)  
French (advanced reading)  
Spanish (intermediate reading and speaking)  
Ancient Greek (intermediate reading)  
Latin (intermediate reading)  
Old English (intermediate reading)  
Irish (intermediate reading)