

Benjamin S.W. Barootes

Pontifical Institute of Mediæval Studies
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Education

- McGill University, Montreal, Quebec** 2015
Ph.D., English Literature
Dissertation: "The Poetics of the Elegiac Dream Vision in Middle English Literature"
Supervisor: Michael Van Dussen
- Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia** 2007
M.A., English Literature
Governor-General's Gold Medal (best graduate thesis of the 2006–2007 academic year)
- Luther College, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan** 2006
B.A. (High Honours), English Literature

Recent Employment

- Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia** 2019
Harrison McCain Foundation Visiting Professor (non-stipendiary)
- Pontifical Institute of Mediæval Studies, Toronto, Ontario** 2018–2019
Mellon Fellow
Project: "Devotion to the Holy Name in the West Midlands, 1375-1425: The Material Evidence"

Publications

Journal Articles (peer-reviewed)

- "'In fourme of speche is chaunge': Final *-e* in *Troilus and Criseyde* II.22–28." *The Chaucer Review* 53.1 (2018): 102–11.
- "Your *eigning bert*: A Hapax Legomenon in *Cursor Mundi*, line 28339." *Neophilologus* 102.2 (2018): 279–84.
- "Number Symbolism in *Pearl*: Lines 720–21." *Studia Neophilologica* 89.1 (2017): 34–40.
- "'O perle': Apostrophe in *Pearl*." *Studies in Philology* 113.4 (2016): 739–64.
- "Whence the *buf*? Chaucer's Philological Burp." *Neophilologus* 98.3 (2014): 495–501.

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Book Chapters (peer-reviewed)

- “A Grieving Lover: The Work of Mourning in Charles’s First Ballade Sequence.” In *Charles d’Orléans’s English Aesthetic: The Form, Poetics, and Style of “Fortunes Stabiles”*, edited by R.D. Perry and Mary-Jo Arn. Woodbridge, Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer. Forthcoming.
- “Idleness, Chess, and Tables: Recuperating Fables in Chaucer’s *Book of the Duchess*.” *Chaucer’s Book of the Duchess: Context and Interpretations*, edited by Jamie C. Fumo, 29–50. Woodbridge, Suffolk: Boydell, 2018.
- “‘He chanted a song of wizardry’: Words with Power in Middle-earth.” *Tolkien in the New Century: Essays in Honor of Tom Shippey*, edited by John Wm. Houghton et al., 115–31. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2014.
- “Nobody’s Meat: Freedom through Monstrosity in Contemporary British Fiction.” *Monsters and the Monstrous: Myths and Metaphors of Enduring Evil*, edited by Niall W.R. Scott, 187–200. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2007.

Other publications (all by invitation)

- “Review: *Approaches to Teaching the Middle English Pearl*, edited by Jane Beal and Mark Bradshaw Busbee (MLA, 2017).” *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*. Forthcoming.
- “Review: *The Signifying Power of Pearl: Medieval Literary and Cultural Contexts for the Transformation of Genre*, by Jane Beal (Routledge, 2017).” *Speculum* 94.2 (2019): 500–2.
- “Elegy.” In *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Medieval British Literature*, edited by Siân Echard and Robert Rouse, 735–41. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2017.
- Interactions of Script and Print in the Nineteenth Century: A Digital Exhibition*. Co-curated with Tom Mole. Interacting with Print Research Group and McGill University Library, 2010.
<http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/isp/index.php>

Works in Progress

- “*et in calculo nomen novum scriptum: Pearl and the Holy Name of Jesus.*” Article in preparation.
- Opening the Beauchamp Missal: A Window on Intellectual Life in the Age of Chaucer*. Monograph in preparation.

Research and Teaching Interests

Medieval English literature; Middle English language; Geoffrey Chaucer and the Chaucerian tradition; the *Pearl*-poet; dream visions; elegy and genre studies; medieval liturgy; book history and print culture; heroic and chivalric literature; Arthurian romance; J.R.R. Tolkien; medievalisms

Teaching Experience

Sole Instructor:

Brock University, Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (St. Catharines, ON)

MARS 2P95: Reading the Middle Ages: The Heroic and the Chivalric

Winter semester 2016, 2018, 2019

Wilfrid Laurier University, Faculty of Liberal Arts (Brantford, ON)

ENGL 214: Medieval Poetry of the Fantastic

Autumn semester 2016

McGill University, Department of English (Montreal, QC)

ENGL 311: Poetics

Autumn semester 2012

Luther College, University of Regina (Regina, SK)

ENGL 110: Critical Reading and Writing II – Heroic Literature (2 sections)

Winter semester 2008

Teaching Assistant:

McGill University, Department of English (Montreal, QC)

ENGL 346: Sociology and Materiality of the Text (Winter 2012)

ENGL 358: Chaucer's Courtly Poetry (Autumn 2011)

ENGL 357: Canterbury Tales (Winter 2011)

ENGL 331: Romantics I (Autumn 2010)

ENGL 346: Sociology and Materiality of the Text (Winter 2010)

ENGL 316: Milton (Autumn 2009)

ENGL 203: Departmental Survey II: 1750 to mid-20th Century (Winter 2009)

ENGL 200: Non-Departmental Survey I: Beginnings to 1750 (Autumn 2008)

Acadia University, Department of English (Wolfville, NS)

ENGL 1406: Reading and Writing Critically (Autumn 2006)

Guest Lectures and Seminars

“‘Tee hee’: *The Miller's Tale*.” Guest lecture, ENGL 2173: Medieval Literature, *Canterbury Tales* (K. Whetter), Acadia University, Wolfville, NS. September 25, 2017.

“Archive Love: Making the Most of Research Trips.” Guest seminar, Graduate Pro-seminar (S. Johnston), University of Regina, Regina, SK. September 13, 2017.

“J.R.R. Tolkien's ‘Leaf by Niggle.’” Guest lecture, ENGL 438: The Literary Fairy Tale (D. Bray), McGill University, Montreal, QC. April 4, 2011; April 9, 2013; April 8, 2014.

“*Pearl*: Elegy and the Eucharist.” Guest seminar, ENGL 500: The *Gawain*-poet (J. Fumo), McGill University, Montreal, QC. February 13, 2013.

Presentations and Conference Activity

Recent Conference Papers

- “Some Known Men: The Affinity of William Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny (c. 1343–1411).” The 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 12, 2018. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “‘in fair and fresche atyre’: *The Squire’s Tale* as a Source for *The Kingis Quair*.” The 21st Biennial Congress of the New Chaucer Society. July 13, 2018. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON.
- “Enclosure and Release: Structural Mourning in Charles d’Orléans’ *Fortunes Stabilnes*.” The 53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 11, 2018. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “West Midlands Devotion and the Beauchamp Missal (Oxford, Trinity MS 8).” Material Matters: The 10th Annual Conference of the Atlantic Medieval Association. September 23, 2017. Dalhousie and St Mary’s Universities, Halifax, NS.
- “‘*et in calculo nomen novum scriptum*’: *Pearl* and the Holy Name of Jesus.” The 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 11, 2017. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “Chess and Fables: *Cursor Mundi* as a Source for Chaucer’s *Book of the Duchess*?” Making Early Middle English. September 25, 2016. University of Victoria, Victoria, BC.
- “‘He might have been a gallant knight of old’: Romancing *True Grit*.” The 15th Biennial Romance in Medieval Britain Conference. August 18, 2016. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.
- “‘Je ne sui pas Orpheüs’: Repetition and the Trap of Lyric in Chaucer’s *Book of the Duchess* and Froissart’s *Paradys d’amour*.” The 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 12, 2016. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “An Elf by Any Other Name: Naming, Language, and Loss in Tolkien’s *Legendarium*,” in “In Honor of Verlyn Flieger (A Roundtable).” The 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 12, 2016. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “The Hunt for Fixed Language in Dream Vision Elegies.” The 18th Biennial Congress of the New Chaucer Society. July 26, 2012. Portland State University, Portland, OR.
- “The Doul-Doungoun: Elegy and the Limits of Language in *Pearl*.” The 46th International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 14, 2011. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “Pre-packaged Medievalism in the Literary Annuals,” in “Teaching Medievalisms (A Roundtable).” The 46th Congress on Medieval Studies. May 14, 2011. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “The Genres of *The Hobbit*,” in “Teaching Tolkien (A Roundtable).” The 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 16, 2010. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “Fortune’s Quill: Tracing the Poet’s Development in *The Kingis Quair*.” The 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 14, 2010. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.

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Invited Talks

- “My dreame is turned al amis’: Dream Visions in Medieval Literature.” Brock University Medieval and Renaissance Society. Brock University, St. Catharines, ON. March 22, 2018.
- “in the ston a newe nam writen’: Devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus in Late-Medieval England.” September 8, 2017. Campion College, Regina, SK.
- “Lyric and Narrative Tensions in Chaucer’s *Book of the Duchess*.” McGill Medievalists Works-in-Progress Lecture Series. February 26, 2014. McGill University, Montreal, QC.
- “These Fading Days: Language, Loss, and Recovery in Tolkien’s Legendarium.” The Tolkien Society’s inaugural Christine Davidson Memorial Lecture. *The Return of the Ring: Celebrating Tolkien in 2012*. August 19, 2012. Loughborough University, Loughborough, United Kingdom.

Conference and Conference Sessions Organised

- “The Provincial Aristocratic Household in Late-Medieval England.” The 53rd and 54th International Congresses on Medieval Studies. May 13, 2018; May 9–12, 2019. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “Charles d’Orléans: Form and Genre.” (Co-organised with Boyda Johnstone, Fordham University.) The 53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 11, 2018. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “*Ihesu dulcis*: Devotion to the Holy Name in Medieval Europe.” The 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 11, 2017. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “The Consolations of Philology.” The 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 13, 2016. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.

Select Academic Honours, Awards, and Fellowships

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Mellon Foundation (Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies) \$40,000	2018–2019
Visiting Professor Fellowship, Harrison McCain Foundation (Acadia University) \$9,375	2018–2019
Research Travel Bursary, Society for the Study of Medieval Languages and Literature (Oxford) £700	2017
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada \$81,000	2016–2018
CGS Doctoral Scholarship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada \$105,000	2009–2012
Arts Insight Research Grant, Interacting with Print Research Group, McGill University \$4,000	2009
McGill Entrance Awards (Department-, Faculty-, and University-level), McGill University \$39,600	2008
CGS Masters Scholarship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada \$17,500	2006–2007

Other Previous Employment

University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Medieval Studies Project: “ <i>In nomine meo</i> : The Texts and Contexts of Oxford, Trinity College MS 8”	2016–2018
Fire & Ash Publishers, Toronto, Ontario Managing Editor	2014–2016

Service

Service to the Scholarly Community

President. International <i>Pearl</i> -poet Society	2019–2021
Peer Reviewer. Tolkien 2019: 50 th Anniversary Conference of the Tolkien Society	2019
Vice-president. International <i>Pearl</i> -poet Society	2017–2019
Peer Reviewer. <i>JLAS: Journal of the International Arthurian Society</i>	2017
Postdoctoral applications mentor. Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto	2016
Webmaster and assistant organiser. McGill Medievalists. McGill University	2012–2014

Committee Service

Bursary Committee, Tolkien Society	2018–Present
Curriculum Committee, Department of English, McGill University	2011–2012
Nominating Committee, Department of English, McGill University	2009–2011
Department of English Representative, Graduate Students Association, Acadia University	2006–2007
Graduate Representative, Senate Graduate Studies Committee, Acadia University	2006–2007

Professional Affiliations

Atlantic Medieval Association; Canadian Society of Medievalists; International Arthurian Society; International *Pearl*-poet Society; New Chaucer Society; Society for the Study of Medieval Languages and Literature (Medium *Ævum*); Tolkien Society

Languages of Research

Middle English; Old English
Modern French; Middle French; Old French (Anglo-Norman)
Latin