

Alexandra Montero Peters
Curriculum Vitae

Contact

Department of History
Texas State University
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Academic Positions

Texas State University

Assistant Professor of History 2023-present

Bowdoin College

Visiting Assistant Professor of History 2022-2023

Education

The University of Chicago

Ph.D. in History with distinction August 2022

Dissertation: “Representations of Power: Alfonso X, the *Book of Games*, and the Islamic Tradition”
Committee: David Nirenberg (chair), Jonathan Lyon, and Laura Fernández (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

Exam Fields: Medieval Iberia with David Nirenberg, Islamic Origins with Fred Donner,
Renaissance Italy with Ada Palmer

The University of Chicago

M.A. in History June 11, 2016

The University of Chicago

Bachelor of Arts in History with honors June 14, 2014
Bachelor of Arts in Medieval Studies with honors

Non-Degree Programs

Spring semester 2019 as student and independent researcher at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, funded by an Erasmus+ grant.

Middlebury Summer Language Immersion in high intermediate Arabic, 2016.

Fellowships and Awards

RaceB4Race Mentorship Network	2023-2024 cohort
Faculty Development Committee grant, <i>Bowdoin College</i>	Spring 2023
AAUW American Dissertation Fellowship	Academic year 2021-2022
CAS Graduate Student Research Grant, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	Spring 2021
Graduate Studies Innovation Grant, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	Autumn 2020
Erasmus+ Scholarship, <i>La Universidad Complutense de Madrid</i>	Spring 2019

Graduate Student Enhancement Grant, <i>SSRC-Mellon Mays</i>	Summer 2018
Cochrane Travel Grant, <i>The University of Chicago</i>	Summer 2018
Predoctoral Research Development Grant, <i>SSRC-Mellon Mays</i>	Winter 2017
FLAS Summer Language Grant for Arabic	Summer 2016
Phi Beta Kappa	Inducted Spring 2014
St. Margaret of Scotland Prize for best B.A. on a medieval topic	Awarded May 2014
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship	Awarded May 2012

Scholarship

Submitted:

Article entitled, “Race, Chess, and Thirteenth-century Court Culture in the Western Mediterranean.”

In preparation:

Monograph entitled *Representations of Power: Alfonso X, the Book of Games, and the Islamic Tradition*.

With Dr. Laura Fernández Fernández (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), “Esos curiosos jugadores de ajedrez en Sevilla. La escena del folio 20v del *Libro del axedrez, dados e tablas* (RBME T-1-6),” in Antonio Garcia Espada and Bruno de Nicola, eds., *Mongoles en el Oeste. Noticias de la integración euroasiática en los reinos ibéricos* (Brill, forthcoming).

Conferences and Talks

May 9-11, 2024

59th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University

Paper delivered to sponsored session *Global Culture: “Chess, Power, Race, and Thirteenth-Century Court Culture in the Western Mediterranean.”*

Presided over the panel “Holy Iberians: Holy People and Hagiography in Medieval Iberia.”

March 14-16, 2024

Medieval Academy of America, University of Notre Dame

Paper delivered: “Imagining India, Imagining Race: Arabic Geographies and Castilian Histories as Sources for Medieval Muslim-Christian Intellectual Exchange.”

September 23, 2023

Texas Medieval Association 33rd Annual Conference, Southern Methodist University

Paper delivered: “The *Qiyān* in the *Libro de los juegos* (RBME Ms. T-I-6) of Alfonso X *el Sabio*: Castilian Connections with Muslim Courts in the Thirteenth Century.”

June 12-14, 2023

Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies, part of the Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis University

Paper delivered: “North Africa and its Peoples in the Book of Games by Alfonso X: Reimagining Thirteenth-Century Court Culture in the Western Mediterranean.”

May 16-18, 2023

“Mongoles en el Oeste. Noticias de la integración euroasiática en los reinos ibéricos,” CSIC, Madrid.

Paper delivered with Dr. Laura Fernández Fernández (UCM): “Esos curiosos jugadores de ajedrez en Sevilla. La escena del folio 20v del *Libro del axedrez, dados e tablas* (RBME T-1-6).”

March 28, 2022

History Department, Bowdoin College

Invited talk: “Representations of Power: Alfonso X, the *Book of Games*, and the Islamic Tradition.”

March 4, 2022

The Islamic Studies Workshop, The University of Chicago

Paper delivered: “The Wisdom of Kings: India, Games, Race, and the Alfonsine Definition of Intellectualism”

January 26, 2022

Early Modern and Mediterranean Worlds Workshop, The University of Chicago

Paper delivered: “In the Defense of Games: Comparing the Islamic Tradition on Leisure to *The Book of Games* of Alfonso X of Castile-León”

November 22-24, 2021

Alfonso X y el poder de la literature. Congreso internacional at the University of Salamanca, Spain

Invited paper, “Las *qiyān* en el *Libro de los juegos* de Alfonso X: una conexión con las cortes islámicas.”

Recorded May 2021, released February 2022. *Medievalists.net* Graduate Student Podcast

Invited interview, “Medieval Chess: Alfonso X’s *Book of Games*.”

<https://www.medievalists.net/2022/02/medieval-chess-alfonso-xs-book-of-games/>

May 15, 2021

International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University

Paper delivered, “Bangles, Lutes, and Chess: The Muslim Women of the *Libro de los juegos* and the Representation of Wise Kingship.”

November 9, 2018

Jornada Alfonsí: Reflexiones en torno a Alfonso X el Sabio, the UNAM, México

Paper delivered, “Las representaciones de los musulmanes en la obra alfonsí.”

May 11, 2018

International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University

Organized panel titled, “Nature and the Unnatural in the Middle Ages: New Perspectives.”

May 30, 2014

The Medieval Studies Workshop at the University of Chicago, B.A. Theses Presentations

Paper delivered: “Evolution through Edits, Erasures, and Emendations: Alfonso X, the *Estoria de Espanna* Manuscripts, and the Creation of a Political Ideology in Thirteenth-century Castile-León”

Teaching Fields and Experience

Fields

Medieval Mediterranean		Medieval and Early Modern Iberia		Premodern Race and Gender
Early Islamic History		The Craft of Historical Research		Renaissance Italy
Intellectual History		Manuscript Studies (Codicology)		Muslim-Christian-Jewish Relations

Texas State University (2023-present):

Instructor. “Western Civilization to 1715.”
Instructor. “Reframing Medieval Power: Rulers of the Mediterranean World.”

Bowdoin College (2022-2023):

Instructor. “Race Before Modernity: Crafting Sameness and Difference in the Middle Ages.”
Instructor. “Reframing Medieval Power: Rulers of the Mediterranean World.”
Instructor. “Medieval Europe: 500-1500.”
Instructor. “Spain of the Three Religions: Islam, Christianity, and Judaism in Medieval Iberia.”

University of Chicago (2018-2021):

Preceptor and Instructor. “MMUF Summer Research Training Program.”
Teaching Assistant. “Dracula: History and Legend.”
Teaching Assistant. “Censorship, Information Control & Revolutions in Information Technology from the Printing Press to the Internet.”
Teaching Assistant and Spanish Language Research Advisor. “The Italian Renaissance.”
Teaching Assistant. “History of Skepticism.”
Teaching Assistant. “King Arthur in Legend and History.”

University Service

Member, Library Committee

Selected Employment History

June 2017-June 2018
Medieval Studies Workshop Coordinator, *University of Chicago*

Jul. 2014-Aug. 2022
Research Assistant, *University of Chicago*

Aug. 2014-June 2015
Communications Assistant, *The Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, University of Chicago*

Languages

Spanish: near-native fluency
Modern Standard Arabic: reading, intermediate speaking and writing
Latin, Portuguese, Classical Arabic, French, and Catalan: reading

Professional Affiliations

American Historical Association
Medieval Academy of America
American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain
Mediterranean Seminar
Texas Medieval Association