CURRICULUM VITAE

Daniel Lord Smail
Frank B. Baird, Jr. Professor of History
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Academic employment and service
2006- Professor, Department of History, Harvard University
1995-2005 Professor (Assistant to Full), Department of History, Fordham University

2024 Visiting Professor, Università degli studi di Bergamo
2024 Visiting Professor, Université de Toulouse-Jean Jaurès
2020 Visiting Professor, Université de Paris I
2020 Visiting Professor, Università degli studi di Bergamo
2016-18 Chair, Department of History, Harvard Univ.
2014-15 Interim Chair, Department of History, Harvard Univ.
2013 Visiting Professor, École Normale Supérieure, Paris
2012-14 Chair, Committee on Medieval Studies, Harvard. Univ.
2008-2011 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of History, Harvard Univ.
2001-2004 Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of History, Fordham Univ.
2001-2002 Co-Director, Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham Univ.

Education
Graduate University of Michigan, Department of History; Ph.D. August 1994
1987-94 Dissertation: “Mapping Networks and Knowledge in Medieval Marseille 1337-62: Variations on a Theme of Mobility”

Undergraduate
1979-1984 University of Wisconsin, B.A. May 1984 in History and Philosophy

Grants, fellowships, and honors
2024 Lawrence Stone Lectures, Princeton University
2023 Doctor of arts honoris causa, Universiteit Antwerpen
2022 Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship, Harvard University
2021 Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship, Harvard University
2020 Fellow, Medieval Academy of America
2020 Distinguished Visiting Professor, Queen Mary University of London (canceled)
2020 Hood Fellowship, University of Auckland (canceled)
2019 Donald Bullough Fellow, University of St Andrews
2017 Walter Channing Cabot Fellow, Harvard University
2016 Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship, Harvard University
2016 Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
2015 Fellow, Neubauer Collegium, University of Chicago
2015 ACLS Digital Innovation Fellowship
2014 Everett Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring Award, GSAS, Harvard Univ.
2011-12 Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study
2008 Finalist, Los Angeles Times Book Award, for On Deep History and the Brain
2007 Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize, Harvard University
2006    John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship
2004    Law and Society Assn., James Willard Hurst Prize, for The Consumption of Justice
2001    NEH Fellowship
2000    AHA, Herbert Baxter Adams Prize, for Imaginary Cartographies
1999    Social Science Hist. Assoc., President’s Book Award for Imaginary Cartographies
1998    SFHS, William J. Koren Jr. Award, for “Telling Tales in Angevin Courts”
1997    ACLS Fellowship

Research and teaching interests
Material culture
History and anthropology of law and justice, 1200-1600
Urban history, southern France, Italy, Mediterranean
Historiography
Natural history and neurohistory

Editorial Boards and External Committee Service
2024-2026    Editorial Board, French Historical Studies
2015- present  Medieval Mediterranean: Peoples, Economies and Cultures, 400-1500 (Brill)
2020- present  Medieval Societies, Religions, and Cultures (Cornell University Press)
2010- present  Studies in the History of Daily Life (AD 800-1600) (Brepols)
2018-2020    Peter Gonville Stein Book Award Committee, Amer. Society for Legal History
2013-2016    Bentley Prize Committee, American Historical Association
2008-2011    J. Russell Major Prize Committee, American Historical Association
2006-2009    Board of Editors, American Historical Review
2005-2007    Editorial Board, French Historical Studies
2005-2007    Council Member, Western Society for French History
2001-2005    Pinkney Prize Committee, Soc. for French Hist. Studies
2001-2002    Local Arrangements Committee, MAA Convention
2000    President’s Book Award Committee, Soc. Sci. History Association
1999-2000    Program Committee, Western Society for French History
1997-1999    Board Member, Western Society for French History
1997        Program Committee, Western Society for French History

Monographs


Editions


Articles and book chapters


“The Postmortem Inventory of Astrug Mosse, a Jew of Marseille (1397).” Jewish Quarterly Review 111:3 (2021): 338-346


"Reflection: Special Issue 'Recycling, Revision, and Relocation in/of the Middle Ages'." *The Medieval Globe*, vol. 6, no. 1, 2020, 155-162. Project MUSE muse.jhu.edu/article/763985.


"Priorities of Law: A Conversation with Judith Scheele, Daniel Lord Smail, Bianca Premo, and Bhavani Raman." Published online: http://cssh.lsa.umich.edu/2017/07/05/priorities-of-law/


**Papers and Lectures**


“Perceiving Global Objects in Late Medieval Provençal Households.” Paper delivered at the Material Culture Forum, University of Cambridge, November 2023. Invited speaker.


“The Ontology of the Foreign: Perceiving Global Objects in Late Medieval Provençal Households.” Lecture delivered at Writing global medieval history: comparative and connected approaches, Summer School of the Turin Humanities Programme, September 2023. Invited speaker.

“Magdalena the Moneylender: Slavery and Female Pawnbroking in Late Medieval Marseille.” Paper delivered at Gender and Enslavement in Mediterranean Europe, 1250-1800, Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University, September 2023. Invited speaker.

“Slavery and the pursuit of freedom in later medieval Mediterranean Europe.” Precirculated paper discussed at the Johns Hopkins History Seminar, April 2023. Invited speaker.

“The Imagined Space of the Late Medieval Urban Household.” Master class delivered at the Universiteit Antwerpen on the occasion of induction as a Doctor of Arts honoris causa, March 2023.

“The Material Culture of the Jewish Kitchen in Medieval Provence.” Paper delivered at the Association for Jewish Studies Convention, Boston, December 2022.


“Searching for Magdalena, or, Why a Medievalist is Reading Saidiya Hartman and Other Notes from the Archive.” Lecture delivered at the Consortium for the Premodern World, University of Southern California, November 2022. Invited speaker.

“Slavery and the pursuit of freedom in later medieval Mediterranean Europe.” Precirculated paper discussed at the Center for Law, History and Culture, Gould School of Law, University of Southern California, November 2022. Invited speaker.

“Imaginary cartographies: landscape through written documents.” Paper delivered at the University of Bergamo, October 2022. Invited speaker.
“Searching for Magdalena, or, Why a Medievalist is Reading Saidiya Hartman and Other Notes from the Archive.” Lecture delivered at Hamilton College, New York, 2022. Invited speaker.

“The Space of Things in the Medieval Household.” Keynote address delivered at the conference “Passages from Antiquity to the Middle Ages VIII: Experiencing Space,” Tampere, Finland, August 2022. Invited speaker.


“Searching for Magdalena, or, Why a Medievalist is Reading Saidiya Hartman and Other Notes from the Archive.” Keynote address delivered at the Vagantes Conference, Cleveland, 2022.


Discussant (virtual) at the workshop “Citoyennetés au nord et au sud de la Méditerranée: Droits des choses, droits des personnes (XVIe-XXIe siècles),” Marseille 2021. Invited speaker.


“Things and Their Values in Late Medieval Europe: The Case of Marseille and Lucca.” Università degli Studi di Bergamo, February 2020. Invited speaker.


“Debt: A Natural History.” Lecture delivered at the Institute for Historical Studies, University of Texas at Austin University of Buffalo, October 2018. Invited speaker.

“Containers and Humans in Deep Time.” Lecture delivered at the University of Buffalo, October 2018. Invited speaker.


“Reading and Interpreting Household Inventories.” Led workshop at Universität Bamberg, June 2018. Invited speaker.


“(Medieval) Things in Motion.” Plenary lecture delivered at Movements of Objects and Textual Mobilities, Stanford Primary Source Symposium, Stanford University, November 2017. Invited speaker.

“Why do People Keep Things (including Manuscripts)?” Paper delivered at the Mellon-Sawyer Seminar, University of Iowa, April 2017


Discussant at an international conference “Faida: Feud and blood feud between customary law and legal process in medieval and early modern Europe,” University of Ca’ Foscari, Venice, June 2016. Invited speaker.

Discussant at an international workshop “Listes d’objets,” part of the program of studies “Pouvoir des listes au Moyen Âge,” École française de Rome, June 2017. Invited speaker.


“The Documentary Archaeology of Late Medieval Europe.” Paper delivered to the faculty and fellows at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, March 2016.


“Law and the Uncertainty of Value in Late Medieval Marseille and Lucca.” Paper delivered at the conference “Ignorance, Nescience, Nonknowledge: Late Medieval and Early Modern Coping with Unknowns,” German Historical Institute, Paris, April 2015. Invited speaker.


Comment, Dipesh Chakrabarty, Tanner Lectures, Yale Humanities Center, February 2015.


“Humans and Things in a Deep Historical Perspective.” Lecture at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. October 2014. Invited speaker.


“Hoarding and the Human Past.” Paper delivered at the University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, May 2013. Invited speaker. Also delivered at the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, June 2013, and the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, May 2014.


“Deep History.” Seminar at the University of York, York, United Kingdom, October 2011. Invited speaker.


“Sovereignty and Debt in Late Medieval Mediterranean Europe.” Paper delivered at the American Historical Association Convention, Boston, MA, January 2011.

“Comment” on Dipesh Chakrabarty, “Does Global Climate Change, Change History?” Delivered at the American Historical Association Convention, Boston, MA, January 2011.


“Is Culture Just a Drug? History, Neuroscience, and the ‘Great Transformation’.” Millercomm lecture delivered at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, April, 2009. Versions also delivered at the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada, March, 2009; the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, March, 2009; and the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, March 2010 (Burak Distinguished Lecturer). Invited speaker.


“In the Grip of Sacred History.” Seminar, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, January 2008.


“Violence and Predation in Marseille and Lucca (Fourteenth Century).” Paper delivered at the Eisenberg Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, November 2007. Invited speaker. Versions also delivered at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI May, 2008; the Midwest Medieval History Conference, Denison University, Granville, OH, October 2008; the New England Medieval Conferaence, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, September 2009; the University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, January 2010. Written versions discussed at seminars at Yale University, New Haven, CT, February 2010; Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, March 2010.

“Western Civ, Medieval History, and the Idea of Paleolithic Dystopia.” Paper delivered at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, November 2006. Invited speaker.


“In the Margins of Danger: Sanctuary and Exile in Late Medieval Marseille.” Paper delivered at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, October 2001. Invited speaker.


“Exceptions: Affection and Antipathy as Seen through Late Medieval Roman-canon Procedural Law.” Paper delivered at the conference “Rhetorics of
Culture,” Ann Arbor, MI, September 1999. Invited speaker.


“Merchant Disputes and Fractional Allegiance in Medieval Marseille.” Paper delivered at the Western Society for French History convention, Charlotte, NC, October-November 1996.


Seminars, workshops, and forums

(2021), with Susan Alcock, Gojko Barjamovic, Philip Deloria, Aja Lans, and David Wengrow, September 2022. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njDIh_1PVM0


Boston Area French History Association, Boston, MA. Organized with Jeff Ravel. 2008-


Ph.D. students


Public history and media

“**Asking good questions.**” *The Immanent Frame*, August 2022.


Consultant to the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts High School History program (2011-).

http://www.historytoday.com/MainArticle.aspx?m=33355&amid=30283350


“**When Does History Begin?**” Online essay for Powells.com.  

Radio interviews about *On Deep History and the Brain*

Presentation on history and deep time at “Beyond Belief 2.0,” organized by the Science Network at the Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, November 2007. Invited speaker.

Chatham High School (New York). Consulted with teachers and staff on teaching the natural history of homo sapiens in high schools and taught two classes of 11th and 12th grade students. April 2003.

Professional memberships

American Historical Association
Medieval Academy of America
Society for French Historical Studies
Western Society for French History