

COLIN F. WILDER

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POSITIONS HELD

- 2016-present Assistant Professor, History Department
University of South Carolina
- 2016-present Associate Director, Center for Digital Humanities
University of South Carolina
- 2012-2016 Assistant Director (library faculty), Center for Digital Humanities
University of South Carolina
- 2011-2012 Solmsen Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities
University of Wisconsin–Madison
- 2010-2011 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Political Science Department
Brown University
- 2008-2009 Von Holst Lecturer in European Civilization
University of Chicago

EDUCATION

- 2010 Ph.D. in History, *University of Chicago*
- 2003 M.A. in History, *University of Chicago*
- 1997 B.A. in Philosophy, *Yale University*

BOOKS

- in progress *‘The Presumption of Natural Freedom’: The Development of Civil Liberty in the German Enlightenment* (book manuscript)
- 2020 *New Technologies in Medieval and Renaissance Studies* (NTMRS), Volume III. Co-editors: Matthew Davis, Colin Wilder. University of Toronto Press.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

- 2021 (submitted) “Snowvision: Segmenting, Identifying, and Disseminating Stamped Curve Patterns from Fragments of Pottery.” *International Journal of Computer Vision*. Co-authors: Y. Lu, J. Zhou, S. McDorman, C. Zhang, D. Scott, J. Butkus, C. Wilder, K. Smith, and S. Wang.

- 2021 (in prep.) “A Topographical Survey of Authorship and Publishing in European Books, 1500-1800, using 9 Million Records.” Co-authors: C. Wilder, S. Riley, S. Comandur, V. Madrid, E. Bryer, T. Rhujittawiwat, M. Brashears, V. Money, and J. Rose.
- 2021 (in prep.) “Development of a Spelling-Based Ranked Clustering Algorithm to Clean Book Title Data [Dictionary PPE Clustering].” Co-authors: E. Bryer, T. Rhujittawiwat, S. Comandur, V. Madrid, C. Wilder, and J. Rose.
- 2021 (in prep.) “Automated Longitudinal Genre-Mapping in Early Modern Books via K-Means Clustering.” Co-authors: S. Comandur, V. Madrid, E. Bryer, C. Wilder, and J. Rose.
- 2021 (in prep.) “Automated Keyword Discovery in Early Modern Books via Latent Semantic Mapping.” Co-authors: T. Rhujittawiwat, E. Bryer, S. Comandur, V. Madrid, C. Wilder, and J. Rose.
- 2021 (in prep.) “Conscience and Political and Ecclesiastical Authority in the Work of Martin Luther and Early Lutherans.”
- 2021 “Analysis of Clustering Algorithms to Clean and Normalize Early Modern European Book Titles.” International Conference on Software Engineering and Information Management, January. (Conference papers are double-blind peer-reviewed in full upon submission and effectively double as journal articles in this field.) Co-authors: E. Bryer, T. Rhujittawiwat, S. Comandur, V. Madrid, S. Riley, J. Rose, C. Wilder.
- 2020 “Snowvision: The Promise of Algorithmic Methods in Southeastern Archaeological Research.” *Polish Journal of American Studies*. Special Issue on Digital Humanities, 2020. Co-authors: C. Wilder, S. McDorman, J. Zhou, A. King, Y. Lu, K. Smith, S. Wang, and W. M. J. Simmons.
- 2020 “TL;DR: An experimental application of text analysis and network analysis to the study of historical library collections, in particular the title catalogs of four libraries in the western Holy Roman Empire in the period 1606-1796, accompanied by some methodological speculations and ideas for further research.” Submitted for publication in *New Technologies in Medieval and Renaissance Studies* (NTMRS), a series edited by Ray Siemens and William Bowen. Refereed series.
- 2019 “A Framework for Identifying Designs from Incomplete, Fragmented Cultural Heritage Objects using Curve Patterns”. PEARC 19 conference. Refereed conference paper. (Refereeing is standard for computer science conferences and the equivalent of refereed journal publications in other fields, i.e. the gold standard of scholarship.) Co-authors: Jun Zhou, Haozhou Yu, Karen Smith, Colin Wilder, Hongkai Yu, and Song Wang. Best Paper in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence track at the conference.

- 2017 “Identifying Designs from Incomplete, Fragmented Cultural Heritage Objects by Curve-Pattern Matching.” *Journal of Electronic Imaging*. Refereed journal. Co-authors: Jun Zhou, Haozhou Yu, Karen Smith, Colin Wilder, Hongkai Yu, and Song Wang.
- 2015 “‘The Rigor of the Law of Exchange’: Freedom, Power and Responsibility in the German Law Merchant, 1654-1776.” *Zeitschrift für Historische Forschung*. Heft 4/2015. Refereed journal.
- 2012 “Teaching Old Dogs New Tricks: Four Motifs of Legal Change from Early Modern Europe.” *History and Theory*, Vol. 51, February. Refereed journal.

INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS TO ESSAY COLLECTIONS

- 2012 “Ursprünge und Anfänge, immer wieder. Zu unterschiedlichen Formen der Historizität in der deutschen Rechtsgeschichte des 18. Jahrhunderts.” *Geschichtskulturen um 1700*, edited by Thomas Wallnig. DeGruyter. This is a translation of the following article from 2011.
- 2011 “The Importance of Beginning, Over and Over: The Idea of Primitive Germanic Law.” *Intersections*, Vol. 25, edited by Minou Schraven and Maarten Delbeke. Brill Publishers.

REVIEWS

- 2014 “DECIMA: The Digitally-Encoded Census Information and Mapping Archive.” *Spenser Review*, Vol. 44, Spring-Summer. Refereed journal.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH INTERESTS

Emergence of political, legal, economic liberalism in early modern Europe
 Computational methods for historical research – text analysis, network analysis, etc.
 Conceptual histories of freedom, equality and justice
 Capitalism & political economy in early modern Europe
 Law, natural law and philosophy in the German Enlightenment
 Methodology of intellectual history; history and theory

FUNDED DIGITAL RESEARCH AND EDITING PROJECTS (SELECT)

Board of Directors and Technical Lead, *Victorian Lives and Letters Consortium (VLLC, vllc.org)* and *Carlyle Letters Online (<https://carlyleletters.dukeupress.edu/home>)*. With Brent Kinser, David Sorensen, Marion Thain and Francis O’Gorman. Funded by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), 2013-2021.

Principal Author and Architect, *The Whole Earth Book Catalog*. Co-designed with Matthew Brashears and John Rose (2019-2021). Funded by the Office of the Vice President for Research, USC, 2019-2020. Earlier called *The Dirty History Metacrawler* (2013-2015), in collaboration with Manton Matthews and Jinjing Liu.

Co-Project Director, *Snowvision: Developing Pattern Recognition Software to Reconstruct Prehistoric Native American Pottery Designs* (worldengraved.org). Funded by successive grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), National Science Foundation (NSF), and National Park Service (NPS) Preservation Technology and Training Grant, 2016-2021.

Co-Project Director (2014-2015), *Plants and Planter: Henry William Ravenel and the Convergence of Science and Agriculture in the Nineteenth-Century South* (<https://plantsandplanter.org/>). With Kate Boyd, Herrick Brown, Henry Fulmer, and John Nelson. Funded through a major Digital Humanities grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Co-Project Director (2012-2015), *Paragon: Automated Digital Text Comparison* – With David Miller and Song Wang. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), 2012-2014.

Project Director, *Index Iuris: Meta-Archive for Digital Texts from Ancient and Medieval Law*. With Abigail Firey. Funded by the Office of the Vice President for Research, USC, 2015.

Principal Architect, *The Republic of Literature* – Funded by Office of Provost, USC, 2013.

Co-Project Director (2012-2014), *Lone Woman and Last Indians*. PI: Sara L. Schwebel. Funded by multiple internal and external grants, 2013-2015.

SOFTWARE

- 2017 *Text Networks*. A set of python modules for computational text analysis which takes a string of text of any given length, removes (English) stop words from it, creates a dictionary of frequencies of all bigrams, and finally creates node and edge files suitable for graphing in Gephi. Available at <https://github.com/ColinWilder/textNetworks>. Based loosely on the Programming Historian.
- 2017 *Latin Phrase Processor*. Lemmatizes Latin phrases stored in CSV form. Available at <https://github.com/ColinWilder/latinPhraseProcessor>. Based in part on code and suggestions from Kyle Johnson of CLTK, Patrick Burns of Disiecta Membra, and others.

INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND ACADEMIC HONORS

- 2019-2020 ASPIRE II Grant, U. of South Carolina, for “The Whole Earth Book Catalog”
- 2015 ASPIRE I Grant, University of South Carolina, for “Libri legales [Index Iuris]”
- 2013 Provost’s Grant, University of South Carolina, for “Republic of Literature”
- 2012 American Philosophical Society Franklin Research Grant
- 2011 University of Nebraska Digital Workshop Award
- 2010 Visiting Scholar, National Endowment for the Humanities Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities at the University of California at Los Angeles
- 2009 Von Holst Prize Lectureship, University of Chicago
- 2008 German Historical Institute, Transatlantic Doctoral Seminar, Berlin

- 2006-2007 Fulbright Fellowship
 2003-2006 Phoenix-Cate Fellowship, University of Chicago

INVITED TALKS

- 2018 Invited to give talk at Florida State University's Digital Scholars Discussion Group, January 2018 (declined).
- 2018 Invited to give talk at “Reconstructing Historical Networks Digitally: New Approaches, Opportunities and Epistemological Implications of Social Network Analysis”, the third annual international conference on digital humanities and digital history at the German Historical Institute Washington, October 25-27, 2018 (declined due to conflict).
- 2017, 2018 Invited to give talk at conference “Translation Studies and/in the Digital Humanities”, Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 12-13, 2017 (declined).
- 2015 “Philippina: Model, Design and Topography of Early-Modern Author-Text Networks”. Invited paper at “(Re-)Building Networks” conference, Graduate School Field Committee in Medieval & Early Modern Studies, University of Maryland-College Park.
- 2013 “Developments in Digital Humanities Between Library and Classroom.” Addestone Library / Lowcountry Digital Library, College of Charleston.
- 2011 “Republics of Literature.” Nebraska Digital Workshop, Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

CONFERENCE PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

- 2020 “Big Data: Historical Bibliometrics and European Book History, 1500-1800. University of South Carolina History Department Works In Progress Workshop. Columbia, South Carolina (virtual), October 28. With Stephanie Riley.
- 2017 Organizer of “Early Modern Digital Humanities” sequence of 4 panels, with own paper, q.v., at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 26-28.
- 2017 “A Tool for Computational Text Analysis and Text Network Graphing, Demonstrated Through a Study of the Semantics of Natural Law Texts.” Paper delivered at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 27.
- 2017 “Studying Library Collections in Early Modern Germany with Computational Methods.” Paper presented at Digitizing Enlightenment 2, Radboud University, Nijmegen (Netherlands), June 17.

- 2016 “Index Iuris: A Meta-Archive of Digital Medieval Legal History Sources”. Paper presented at the International Congress of Medieval Canon Law, Paris, July.
- 2016 “Index Iuris: A Meta-Archive of Digital Medieval Legal History Sources”. Paper presented at the 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 2016.
- 2015 “Using Network Analysis for the Study of Pre-Modern German Liberalism.” Southeastern German Studies Workshop, Davidson College, Davidson, North Carolina, February.
- 2015 “Origins of Inalienable and Imprescriptible Human Rights, 1625-1761.” History Center Work In Progress Workshop, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, January.
- 2014 Organizer of “Early Modern Digital Humanities” sequence of 8 panels and a poster session, with own paper entitled “Sub- and Supertextual Analysis of Library Holdings in Baroque Germany,” at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2013 Organizer of “Early Modern Digital Humanities” sequence of 5 panels, with own paper entitled “Social and Textual Complexes in the German Intelligentsia, 1500-1800,” at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2012 “Property and the German Idea of Freedom, 1648-1806.” Institute for Research in the Humanities, University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2011 Organizer of “Transalpine Humanist Networks in Early Modern Europe” panel, with paper entitled “Humanists Heading South, in Search of Law, Equity and Gainful Employment,” at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Ft. Worth, Texas.
- 2011 “Time Horizons and Entity Nesting: Considerations on Structuring Humanities Data for the German Enlightenment (and Beyond).” National Endowment for the Humanities symposium on Networks and Network Analysis, Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, UCLA, Los Angeles, California.
- 2011 “Legal Equality and the Rule of Law, from Old Regime to Modern Political Science: Germany, 1725-1834.” “What Equality?” (conference), Centre for Citizenship, Civil Society and the Rule of Law, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland.
- 2011 “Teaching Old Dogs New Tricks: Four Motifs of Legal Change in Early Modern Europe.” Medieval and Early Modern History Seminar, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.
- 2011 “German Studies and the Digital Humanities.” Round Table discussion, German Studies Association meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

- 2011 “The Hessian Social Network Project: Results, Tools and Problems from a Historical Social Network Analysis in progress.” Part of “Historical Social Network Analysis: A Practicum,” round table at the American Historical Association (AHA), Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2010 “Objectivity and Universality as Goals of Legal Reform in 16th-Century Germany: An Approach via the Study of Professional Networks in the Hessian Main-Rhine Region.” German Studies Association meeting, Oakland, California.
- 2010 “Analysis of Social Networks and Textual Citations among Legal Operators in the German Enlightenment.” Chicago Colloquium on Digital Humanities and Computer Science, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2010 “The Importance of Beginning, Over and Over: The Idea of Primitive Germanic Law.” Institut für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung (Institute for Austrian Historical Research), Vienna, Austria.
- 2010 “A Brief History of Inalienable Rights, from the French Royal Demesnes to the Rights of Man.” Midwest Political Science Association conference, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2010 “Before Law and Economics: What the Modern Natural Law Tradition Had to Say about Commercial Affairs.” Business History Association conference, Athens, Georgia.
- 2010 “The Genesis of Obligations: *Res merae facultatis* and Natural Rights in the work of Johann Georg Estor.” Europäisches Forum junger Rechtshistoriker (European Forum of Young Legal Historians), Frankfurt am Main (Germany).
- 2010 “Dynamism and Antagonism in the Law: Linear vs. Multipolar Models of Legal Tradition in Early Modern Europe.” Conference on “Dynamism and Change,” Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, Bielefeld (Germany).
- 2009 “The Origins of Inalienable and Imprescriptible Rights in Modern Natural Law Jurisprudence, 1622-1783.” History and Human Rights Group, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2009 “The Emergence of Individual Legal Autonomy in the Law Merchant (*Wechselrecht*) of Early Modern Hesse-Cassel (Germany).” Money and Markets Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Courses Taught

- 2019, 2020 The Origins of Capitalism in Europe (HIST 370, University of South Carolina)
- 2016-2021 Digital History: Methods and Professional Issues (alt. HIST 492, 599, and 700, University of South Carolina)
- 2018, 2021 Modern European History (HIST 102, University of South Carolina)

- 2017, 2020 Topics in History Research [a graduate research and writing seminar] (HIST 800, University of South Carolina)
- 2015 Business in Historical Perspective (HIST 377, University of South Carolina)
- 2014 Research Methods in Digital Humanities (ENGL 620, POLI 803, LING 505/805; co-taught with Stan Dubinsky (instructor of record) and Bill Davies)
- 2011 Prosperity and Poverty: The History, Ethics and Economics of National Wealth and Resources (Brown University)
- 2010 The Emergence of Capitalism in Early Modern Europe (Brown University)
- 2009 Law, Liberty and Property in European History (University of Chicago)
- 2008 Renaissance and Reformation (European Civilization I) (University of Chicago)

Other Teaching Experience

- 2003-2004 Fulbright Austrian-American Teacher Exchange: Bundesgymnasium Perchtoldsdorf, and Handelsakademie Mödling, both in Vienna, Austria.
- 1999-2002 Cardinal Hayes High School, Bronx, New York
- 1999-2001 Excel Center, Chinatown, New York City (part time; middle school students)

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

- 1998-1999 Lionheart Group. MicroCap Value Investment Fund (hedge fund), New York, NY: Assistant Trader and Analyst
- 1997-1998 Hunton & Williams. Law firm, New York, NY: Paralegal

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2021- Editor, [Academia.edu](https://www.academia.edu)
- 2017- Advisory Board, *Early Modern Digital Review*
- 2017- Affiliate, Walker Institute, University of South Carolina
- 2016- Advisory Board, Digitorium: Annual Digital Humanities Conference of the University of Alabama (<https://apps.lib.ua.edu/blogs/digitorium>)
- 2015- Affiliate, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina
- 2015- Affiliate, German Studies Program, University of South Carolina
- 2015- Affiliate Fellow, "Reassembling the Republic of Letters, 1500–1800" (COST Action IS1310, <http://www.republicofletters.net/>)
- 2015-2018 Advisory Board, Renaissance Knowledge Network (ReKN, <http://rekn.itercommunity.org/>)
- 2015- Advisory Board, Digital U. S. South Initiative (digitalussouth.org)
- 2014-2019 Director, Digital Humanities Track, Sixteenth Century Society and Conference. General liaison for digital research in early modern studies for the SCSC scholarly community. Coordinate panels and sessions, serve as

- contact and matchmaker for Digital Humanities research, publication and other collaborations among the scholarly community of Renaissance and Reformation scholars.
- 2014, 2018 ASPIRE I grant proposals review committee, University of South Carolina
- 2013-2014 Humanities Research Computing Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, University of South Carolina
- 2013- Technical Director and Board Member, Victorian Lives and Letters Consortium (vllc.org)
- 2012-2015 Coordinator of “Future Knowledge” series of lectures and workshops at the Center for Digital Humanities at the University of South Carolina (with David Miller)
- 2009-2010 Representative, Graduate Student Affairs Committee—a mixed faculty-student committee which discusses student policy and procedures in the History Department at University of Chicago
- 2008-2009 Graduate Student Organizer, Chicago History and Human Rights Symposium, University of Chicago

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
 Association for Computing and the Humanities
 German Studies Association
 Sixteenth Century Studies Conference

LANGUAGES

German, French, Latin

PROGRAMMING, MARKUP AND DATABASE LANGUAGES

C++, Java, LISP, Python, SQL, TEI, UNIX command line, XSLT
 (basic to intermediate proficiency in each)

REFERENCES

- Constantin Fasolt Karl J. Weintraub Professor Emeritus of Medieval and Early Modern European History, Department of History, University of Chicago, chair of dissertation committee and adviser (icon@uchicago.edu, department (773) 702-8397)
- Julia Flanders Head, Digital Scholarship Group and Professor of the Practice of English, Northeastern University (j.flanders@neu.edu, office (617) 373-4540)
- Michael Geyer Samuel N. Harper Professor of German and European History, Department of History, University of Chicago, reader on dissertation committee (mgeyer@uchicago.edu, department (773) 702-8397)
- David Lee Miller Carolina Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and Comparative Literature at the University of South Carolina, director of the Center for Digital Humanities (dmill1951@gmail.com, department (803) 777-4203)

William Sewell

Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of History and Political Science, Departments of History and Political Science, University of Chicago, reader on dissertation committee (wsewell@uchicago.edu, department (773) 702-8397)