

May 15, 2024

Brent M. Purkaple
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Grand Valley State University
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EDUCATION:

Ph.D., History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, 2022
M.A., History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, 2015
M.A., Biblical Exegesis, Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, 2009
B.A., Biblical Languages, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, 2007

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI, August 2022–Present.
Graduate Research Assistance, History of Meteorology Oral History Project, funded by NEH grant, January 2022–May 2022.
Graduate Lecturer, History of Science Department, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, August 2019–December 2020.
Graduate Research Assistant to Curator, History of Science Collections, University of Oklahoma Libraries, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, July 2013–June 2019.
Teaching Assistant, History of Science Department, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, Spring 2014.
Middle School and High School Teacher, Veritas Classical Academy, Oklahoma City, OK, 2009–2013.

AWARDS, GRANTS, PRIZES, AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Provost's Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, University of Oklahoma, Spring 2020.
Derdeyn-CMRS Graduate Student Research Travel Scholarship, University of Oklahoma, Fall 2019.
Robberson Research Grant, University of Oklahoma, Fall 2019.
Robberson Conference Presentation and Creative Exhibition Travel Grant, University of Oklahoma, Spring 2019.
Linda Hall Library Short-term Travel Fellowship, Kansas City, MO, Fall 2018.
Vatican Film Library Mellon Fellowship, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, Summer 2018.

College of Arts and Science Travel Grant, University of Oklahoma, Spring 2018.
DeGolyer Travel Fellowship, University of Oklahoma, Spring 2018, Summer 2018.
Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant, 2017–2018.
Michael Ruby History of Physics Scholarship, University of Oklahoma, 2017–2018,
2018–2019, 2019–2020.
Graduate Student Senate Research Grant, University of Oklahoma, Fall 2017, Spring
2018, Spring 2019.
Graduate Student Senate Conference Grant, University of Oklahoma, Fall 2016, Spring
2018, Fall 2019.
Outstanding Graduate Assistant, University of Oklahoma Libraries, 2015–2016.

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS:

Articles and Book Chapters (peer reviewed)

- “Shifting Perspectives: Changing Optical Theory in the Printed Works of Jean-François Nicéron,” in *Customized Books in Early Modern Europe and the Americas, 1400–1700* (Leiden: Brill, 2024), 452–474.
- “Appealing to Ahas: The Jesuits and the Sundial of Ahas in the era of Copernican Astronomy,” in *Manipulating the Sun: Picturing Astronomical Miracles from the Bible in the Early Modern Era* (Leiden: Brill, 2024), 101–140.
- “A New Manuscript of Ockham’s *Brevis summa libri Physicorum*: Saint-Omer, Bibliothèque d’Agglomération, MS 317,” co-authored with Steven J. Livesey, *Scriptorium* 72 (2018): 276–292.

Reviews

- Review of *Naturalism in the Christian Imagination: Providence and Causality in Early Modern England*, by Peter N. Jordan. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022. Published in *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* 75, no. 2 (2023): p. 133–134.
- Review of *Of Popes and Unicorns: Science, Christianity and How the Conflict Thesis Fooled the World*, by David Hutchings and James C. Ungureanu. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2022. Published in *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* 75, no. 1 (2023): p. 65–66.
- Review of *The Science and Myth of Galileo between the Seventeenth and Nineteenth Centuries*. Edited by Massimo Bacciantini. Florence: Leo S. Olschki, 2021. Published in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 53, no. 3 (2022): p. 830–832.
- Review of *On the Life of Galileo: Viviani’s Historical Account and other Early Biographies*. Edited by Stefano Gattei. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019. Published in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 53, no. 2 (2022): p. 563–565.
- Review of *Francisco Suárez (1548-1617): Jesuits and the Complexities of Modernity*, edited by Robert Aleksander Maryks and Juan Antonio Senent de Frutos. Leiden: Brill, 2019. Published in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 52, no. 1 (2021): p. 160–162.
- Review of *Reform Catholicism and the International Suppression of the Jesuits in Enlightenment Europe*, by Dale K. Van Kley. New Have, CT: Yale University Press, 2018. Published in *Fides et Historia* 50, no. 2 (2018): p. 177–179.

Review of *Measuring Shadows: Kepler's Optics of Invisibility*, by Raz Chen-Morris. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2016. Published in *Early Science and Medicine* 22 (2017): p. 387–389.

Digital Publications

“William of Ockham, *Brevis summa libri Physicorum*: A transcription of Saint-Omer, Bibliothèque d'Agglomération, MS 317, 44^{RA}-61^{VB},” completed September 2018, co-edited with Steven J. Livesey, doi.org/10.15763/11244/299775.

Galileo's World Exhibit Guide, published by the University of Oklahoma Libraries, August 2015, 2016, and 2017, co-produced with Kerry V. Magruder. Available in the Apple Books store.

Exhibitions

Galileo's World, August 2015 – July 2016; co-curator along with Kerry V. Magruder, David Davis, and James Burnes. See galileo.ou.edu for more information.

Digital Projects

“The Sky Tonight: Cultural Archaeology and Geography of the Stars” (2019–ongoing) co-edited and co-developed with Kerry V. Magruder and Aja Tolman, skytonight.org.

PRESENTATIONS:

“The Ascension of Jesus, Armies in the Air, and other optical tricks: The curious interests of the Jesuits in natural magic in the early modern period,” invited presentation at Illinois State University, 03/18/2024.

“The Society of Jesus and the Confessionalization of Early Modern Optics,” brownbag presentation for the Department of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, University of Oklahoma, 4/28/22.

“Anamorphic Perspectives: A Comparison of the Printed Works of Jean François Nicéron,” invited presentation as part of the *Lovis Corinth Colloquium XI: Customized Books in Early Modern Europe, 1400–1700*, 10/15/2021.

“Historicizing T. F. Torrance's engagement with the History of Science: A Case Study of John Philoponus” T.F. Torrance Theological Fellowship 2020 Virtual Workshop-Retreat, 08/01/2020.

“Global Optics: A Perspective on Jesuit Sundials,” Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, St. Louis, MO, 10/19/2019.

“Science or Christianity, which is true?” interdisciplinary panel discussion between history, theology, and science, at Lithuania Christian College, Klaipeda, Lithuania, 09/16/2019.

“The Optics of Ahaz's Sundial within the Optical Literature of the Jesuit Order,” invited presentation as part of the workshop *Manipulating the Sun: Picturing Astronomical Miracles from the Bible in the Early Modern Era*, Wuppertal, Germany, 08/21/2019.

- “The Archaeology of the Night Sky,” co-presented with Kerry V. Magruder, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies public lecture, Pioneer Library, Norman, OK, 05/03/2019.
- “Anamorphosis in the printed works of Jean François Nicéron, Midwest Junto for the History of Science, Kansas City, MO, 04/13/2019.
- “Jokes of Nature, Jokes of Theology: The Jesuits, Natural Magic, and Optical Illusions,” Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and Medieval Association of the Pacific Joint Conference, Phoenix, AZ, 02/08/2019.
- “Collaboration Strategies for Educators, Libraries and Museums,” co-presented with Kerry V. Magruder, Southwest Association for Science Teacher Education, Norman, OK, 10/13/2018.
- “Renaissance Optical Illusions,” presentation at Southern Oaks Public Library for K-12 students, Oklahoma City, OK, 07/18/2018.
- “‘For now we see in a mirror dimly’: Optical Illusions and Natural Theology in the Jesuit Order,” Midwest Junto for the History of Science, Minneapolis, MN, 04/15/2018.
- “The Religious Experience of Optics,” Newberry Graduate Student Conference, Chicago, IL, 01/27/2018.
- “Historic Star Atlas Stories,” invited presentation, co-presented with Kerry V. Magruder as part of the lecture series *Postcards of the Universe*, Sam Noble Museum, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, 01/25/2018.
- “Report on the T. F. Torrance Bibliography Project,” co-presented with Kerry V. Magruder, The T. F. Torrance Theological Fellowship annual meeting, held in conjunction with the American Academy of Religion annual conference, Boston, MA, 11/17/2017.
- “Sky Tonight” traveling educational program for Oklahoma City area libraries and schools, 4 presentations, Summer/Fall 2017.
- “#GalileosWorld demonstrates the way @OU_Libraries is using @OUHOSCollection to transform the public domain,” co-presented with Kerry V. Magruder, a booth at the Domains 2017 conference, Oklahoma City, 06/05/2017.
- “An Introduction to Leonardo da Vinci,” invited presentation for the monthly meeting of the Oklahoma City Astronomy Club, Oklahoma City, OK, 11/11/2016.
- “The Role of Proclus in Shaping Renaissance Mathematics,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 11/4/2016.
- “Galileo Roadshow: Art and Astronomy in the World of Galileo.” A joint presentation with the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art education director, Melissa Ski; primarily K-12 school groups in the Norman, OK area; 30 presentations, Spring 2016.
- “The Impact of Women in the World of Galileo,” invited keynote presentation for the University Women's Association Spring Luncheon, Norman, OK, 04/30/2016.
- “The Role of Proclus within Sixteenth-Century Debates over the Ontology of Mathematics,” Midwest Junto for the History of Science, Norman, OK, 04/2/2016.
- “Galileo's World Exhibition Site – An Open Educational Experience,” co-presented with Twila Camp, University of Oklahoma Academic Tech Expo, Norman, OK, 01/15/2016.
- “The Open Educational Resources of Galileo's World,” K20 Innovative Learning Institute, Norman, OK, 12/3/2015.

“Libraries as makers of OER: A Pilot Project,” co-presented with Kerry V. Magruder, OpenEd 2015, Annual Conference, Vancouver, B.C., 11/19/2015.

“What is the History of Science,” “Should the History of Science be Rated X?” “What is Gravity?” invited sequence of presentations for the Oklahoma Baptist University, MSP K-12 Workshop, Shawnee, OK, July 2014.

COURSES TAUGHT:

Grand Valley State University

HST 101: World Civilizations

HSC 201: The Scientific Revolution

HSC 202: The Technological Revolution

HST 370: History of Medicine and Health

The University of Oklahoma

HSCI 1113: Science, Nature, and Society (online)

HSCI 1113: Science, Nature, and Society, (co-taught with Kerry V. Magruder)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

The University of Oklahoma

Graduate Studies Committee, History of Science Department, Graduate Student Member,
Fall 2015 – Spring 2016.

Galileo’s World, Core Team, Fall 2014 – Spring 2015.