

Erica Buchberger
Curriculum Vitae

University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley
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RESEARCH

My research centers on the relationship between ethnic and other identities in early medieval Europe and the Mediterranean and the ways these strategies of identification contributed to the development of new kingdoms and states. My 2017 monograph explored textual clues from sixth- and seventh-century Gaul and Spain of the shift that led Romans to adopt the Frankish and Gothic identities of their new rulers. My current book project, *The Afterlife of Gothic Identity: Religion, Ethnicity, and Legitimacy in Early Medieval Iberia*, extends this exploration into the eighth through tenth centuries, examining how Gothic identity changed, and was put to specific uses, in Iberia immediately following Arab conquest. I have also co-edited and contributed to a volume on inclusion and exclusion in the late antique and early medieval Mediterranean, and contributed to publications on medieval origin legends, local identities, and the Roman legacy in Visigothic Iberia.

EDUCATION

2013	D.Phil (History), University of Oxford
2009	M.St (Medieval History), University of Oxford
2001	B.A. (History, Education), Beloit College

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021-	University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, Department of History, Associate Professor of Ancient and Medieval History
2016-2021	University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, Department of History, Assistant Professor of Ancient and Medieval History
2013-2016	College of Charleston, Department of History, Visiting Assistant Professor

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Shifting Ethnic Identities in Spain and Gaul, 500-700: From Romans to Goths and Franks (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2017).

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters

"Ethnicity and *Imitatio* in Isidore of Seville," in *Rome and Byzantium in the Visigothic Kingdom: Beyond Imitatio Imperii*, ed. Damián Fernández, Molly Lester, and Jamie Wood (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2023 – in press).

"Crafting the Image of Pelayo: Identity and State-Building in Early Medieval Asturian Chronicles," *Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies* 15, no. 3 (2023), pp. 405-26, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17546559.2023.2236598>.

"Origin Legends of Visigothic Spain in Isidore of Seville's Writings," in *Origin Legends in Early Medieval Western Europe*, ed. Lindy Brady and Patrick Wadden (Leiden: Brill, 2022), pp. 25-45.

"Gothic Identity and the 'Othering' of Jews in Seventh-Century Spain," in *Inclusion and Exclusion in Mediterranean Christianities, 400-800*, ed. Yaniv Fox and Erica Buchberger (Turnhout: Brepols, 2019), pp. 199-216.

"Romans, Barbarians, and Franks in the Writings of Venantius Fortunatus," *Early Medieval Europe* 24, no. 3 (2016), pp. 293-307, <https://doi.org/10.1111/emed.12153> (winner of the Wiley-Blackwell Essay Prize, 2016).

Other Articles and Chapters

"The Growth of Gothic Identity in Visigothic Spain: The Evidence of Textual Sources," in *Identidad y etnicidad en Hispania: Propuestas teóricas y cultura material en los siglos V-VIII*, ed. Juan Antonio Quirós Castillo and Santiago Castellanos (Bilbao: Universidad del País Vasco, 2015), pp. 87-100.

Edited Volumes

Inclusion and Exclusion in Mediterranean Christianities, 400-800, ed. Yaniv Fox and Erica Buchberger (Turnhout: Brepols, 2019).

Reference Entries

Contributor to the *Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity*, ed. O. Nicholson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018). Entries: Alcaudete Sarcophagus; Arnulfings; Austrasia; Belgica Prima and Secunda; Burgundians and Burgundian Kingdom; Castulo; Clovis I; Clunia; feud, Germanic; feud, introduction; Germania Prima and Secunda; Hermenegild; Liber

Historiae Francorum; Lives of the Fathers of Merida; Masona of Merida; Maxima Sequanorum; Merida; Neustria; patricius, title; Reccopolis; Saxons; Teudemir; Thuringians and Thuringia; titles of honor, post-Roman; Tudmir.

Book Reviews

Review of Tamar Rotman, *Hagiography, Historiography, and Identity in Sixth-Century Gaul: Rethinking Gregory of Tours* (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2022), in *Church History* 92.2 (2023), pp. 415-17, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009640723001907>.

Review of Matthias Friedrich and James M. Harland (eds.), *Interrogating the 'Germanic': A Category and its Use in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2020), in *The English Historical Review* (Dec 2022), pp. 1793-95, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ehr/ceac220>.

Review of Eleonora Dell'Elicine and Céline Martin (eds.), *Framing Power in Visigothic Society: Discourses, Devices, and Artifacts* (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2020), in *The Medieval Review* (5 Nov. 2021), <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/33538/37093>.

Review of Michael Roberts (ed. and trans.), *Poems: Venantius Fortunatus* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2017), in *Journal of Roman Studies* 109 (2019), pp. 434-35, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0075435819000054>.

Review of Damián Fernández, *Aristocrats and Statehood in Western Iberia, 300-600 C.E.* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017), in *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* 96 (2019), pp. 528-29, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14753820.2019.1595821>.

Review of Christian Stadermann, *Konstruktion und Rezeption von Gotenbildern in narrativen Schriften des merowingischen Gallien* (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2017), in *Journal of Late Antiquity* 11.2 (2018), pp. 446-48, <https://doi.org/10.1353/jla.2018.0030>.

Review of David Nirenberg, *Neighboring Faiths: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism in the Middle Ages and Today* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2014), in *Medieval Perspectives* 30 (2015).

Works in Progress

"When Ethnicity's Not the Point: Religion and Local Identity in the Lives of the Fathers of Mérida," under review for a special issue of *Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies*.

"Translating the Kingdom: Creating a New Holy, Royal City at Oviedo," journal article under research, planning to submit to *al-Masaq*.

The Afterlife of Gothic Identity: Religion, Ethnicity, and Legitimacy in Early Medieval Iberia,
monograph under research.

AWARDS AND HONORS

2023	Texas Learn OER Exploratory Grant, UTRGV Textbook Affordability Project
2022	Faculty Development Leave Grant, Office of Faculty Success and Diversity, UTRGV
2022	Course Development Grant, Office of Student Success, UTRGV
2022	Minority-Serving Institutions Faculty Research Grant, University of Texas-Austin Center for European Studies
2022	Faculty Seed Research Grant, Office of Faculty Success and Diversity, UTRGV
2022	Research Travel Grant, Office of Faculty Success and Diversity, UTRGV
2019	Travel Award, History Department, UTRGV
2017	Wiley-Blackwell Essay Prize, <i>Early Medieval Europe</i>
2014	Travel Award, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Charleston
2014, 2015	Travel Award, History Department, College of Charleston
2013	Awarded Associate Fellowship in the UK's Higher Education Academy (AFHEA), now AdvanceHE
2012	Old Members' Trust Graduate Travel Grant, University College, University of Oxford
2012	Royal Historical Society Travel Award, Royal Historical Society
2011-2012	Bryce Research Studentship, History Faculty, University of Oxford
2011	Colin Matthew Fund Travel Award, History Faculty, University of Oxford
2010	Scatcherd European Scholarship, University of Oxford

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2022	"Civic Identity, Religion, and Ethnicity in the Lives of the Fathers of Mérida," Lecture Series: Cities and Societies, RomanIslam Center for Comparative Empire and Transcultural Studies, University of Hamburg, December 14.
2022	"When Ethnicity's Not the Point: Religion and Local Identity in the Lives of the Fathers of Mérida," Act Here, Think Community: Local Identities Between Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages, University of Granada, Spain, September 29-30, as a session keynote speaker.

- 2019 “Visigothic Ethnicity and *Imitatio Imperii*: A Question of Agency,” Rome, Byzantium, and the Visigothic Kingdom of Toledo, Princeton University, May 3-4.
- 2016 “Identifying Others in the *Life* of Caesarius of Arles,” After Rome Seminar, University of Oxford, June 9.
- 2013 “Gothic Identity in Early Medieval Spain,” University of Exeter, May 8.
- 2012 “Romans in a Frankish World: Gregory of Tours, Venantius Fortunatus, and Ethnic Identities,” Earlier Middle Ages Seminar, Institute for Historical Research, London, October 10.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2024 “The Many Meanings of ‘Goth’ in Early Medieval Asturias,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo, May 9-11.
- 2022 “Religion and Local Identity in the Lives of the Fathers of Mérida,” Texas Medieval Association Conference, University of Dallas, October 21-22.
- 2022 “Negotiating Ethnicity and Religion in a 9th-Century Borderland: Pelayo in the Asturian Chronicles,” International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 4-7.
- 2020 “Defining Peoplehood: Isidore of Seville’s Adaptation of Roman Ethnic Terms,” Texas Medieval Association Conference, University of North Texas, October 3-4.
- 2020 “Negotiating Ethnicity and Religion in a Ninth-Century Borderland: Pelayo in the Asturian Chronicles,” International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 6-9. [Cancelled due to Covid-19]
- 2019 “*In linguam nostram tectum*: Isidore’s Etymology and the Origins of the Goths,” Texas Medieval Association Conference, Texas State University, October 18-19.
- 2018 “Crafting the Image of Pelayo of Asturias in Early Medieval Spanish Chronicles,” Texas Medieval Association Conference, Texas Tech University, October 26-28.

- 2018 Respondent and co-organizer, Inclusion and Exclusion in the Late Antique and Early Medieval Mediterranean, Dickinson College, April 23.

- 2017 "Translating the Kingdom: Creating a New Holy, Royal City at Oviedo," Southeastern Medieval Association Conference, College of Charleston, November 16-18.

- 2016 "Gothic Identity and the 'Othering' of Jews in Seventh-Century Spain," Inclusion and Exclusion in the Late Antique and Early Medieval Mediterranean, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, November 15-16.

- 2016 "The Many Meanings of 'Roman' in the *Life* of Eligius," International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 4-7.

- 2015 "'*Numquam tu, Romane*': The *Life* of Eligius on Roman Identity in Seventh-Century Francia," International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo, May 14-17.

- 2015 "Gothic Identity and the Othering of Jews in Seventh-Century Spain," Medieval Academy of America meeting, University of Notre Dame, March 12-14.

- 2014 "Catholic Goths and the Jewish Problem in Seventh-Century Spain," Southeastern Medieval Association Conference, Clayton State University, October 16-18.

- 2014 "Romans, Barbarians, and Burgundians in Early Medieval Burgundian Law," International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo, May 8-11.

- 2012 "From a Roman to a Frankish World: The Evidence of Seventh-Century Saints' Lives," International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 9-12

- 2012 "Rhetoric of a Roman World in the Writings of Gregory of Tours," The Study of Language in the Medieval West, Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford, June 16

- 2012 "Gothic Identity in Spain Before and After the Arab Conquest," International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo, May 10-13

- 2011 "Ethnic Identity in the Poetry of Venantius Fortunatus," International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 11-14

- 2011 "Gothic Identity Before and After 711," 711: Reassessing the Arab Conquest of Spain, Institute of Archaeology, University of Oxford, June 17
- 2011 "Urban versus Ethnic Identity in the *Histories* of Gregory of Tours," Princeton-Oxford-Vienna Graduate Conference, Princeton University, March 31-April 2
- 2010 "Ethnicity in the Visigothic Kingdom Through Written Sources," Methodological Approaches to Early Medieval Spain, Institute of Archaeology, University of Oxford, June 1
- 2010 "Ethnic Identity in John of Biclar's *Chronicle*," Medieval Graduate History Conference, University of Oxford, March 17

DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2013 "Romans, Barbarians, and Burgundians in Early Medieval Burgundian Law," After Rome Seminar, Trinity College, University of Oxford, April 25.
- 2012 "Romans in a Frankish World: Gregory of Tours, Venantius Fortunatus, and Ethnic Identities," Medieval History Seminar, All Souls College, University of Oxford, November 12.
- 2011 "Ethnicity as a Rhetorical Tool in the Poems of Venantius Fortunatus," Medieval Church and Culture Seminar, Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford, November 8.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

World History I (Fall 2016-, most semesters)
 Ancient Greece and Rome (Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Spring 2023)
 Ancient Greek History (Fall 2016)
 Ancient Roman History (Spring 2017)
 Medieval Europe (Fall 2017, Spring 2018-, every spring)
 History of Spain (Spring 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2021, Fall 2023)
 Historiography and Methods (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019)
 Late Antiquity (graduate reading seminar Fall 2017, Spring 2021)
 Medieval Spain (graduate reading seminar Fall 2020, Fall 2023)

Supervisions

Late Antique and Byzantine Gender and Religion (graduate readings Fall 2018)
 Sephardic Jews and Crypto-Judaism (graduate readings Spring 2020)
 The Rise and Fall of Empires (graduate readings Spring 2020)
 Roman Reception of Greek Gods (undergraduate independent study Spring 2021)

College of Charleston

Premodern History: Constructing Identities in the Premodern World (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2015)
 Premodern History: Ancient and Medieval Empires (Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016)
 The Historian's Craft (Spring 2014, Spring 2016)
 Late Antiquity (graduate reading seminar Fall 2014)
Supervision: Roman Identity in Tacitus' Germania (undergraduate independent study Spring 2015)

University of Oxford

General History I, 370-900: The Transformation of the Ancient World (2011, 2012)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2022-	Faculty Senator, UTRGV
2022-	Executive Committee Member, Texas Medieval Association
2021-2022	Co-organizer of sponsored sessions for the International Medieval Congress in Leeds, U.K., July 2022, for the American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain and the Texas Medieval Association
2021	Peer reviewer for <i>Studies in Late Antiquity</i> journal (1 article reviewed)
2020	Member of Prize Committee, Texas Medieval Association
2020	Peer reviewer for <i>Early Medieval Europe</i> journal (1 article reviewed)
2019-2020	Co-organizer of sponsored sessions for the International Medieval Congress in Leeds, U.K., July 2020, for the American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain and the Texas Medieval Association
2019	Participant in Safe Zone Ally training on supporting LGBTQ+ students

2018	Peer reviewer for University of Pennsylvania Press (1 monograph reviewed)
2018	Participant in Dream Zone training on supporting undocumented students, UTRGV
2016-2018	Judge for National History Day, UTRGV
2016-2018	Co-organizer of workshops on Inclusion and Exclusion in the Late Antique and Early Medieval Mediterranean, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Nov. 2016, funded by the Israel Science Foundation) and Dickinson College (April 2018, funded by the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation)
2014	Participant in a week-long classroom technology institute, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Technology, College of Charleston
2011-2012	Admissions Interviewer, University College, University of Oxford
2010-2012	Co-convenor of graduate training sessions on Giving Oral Presentations, History Faculty, University of Oxford

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2019-	American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain
2018-	Texas Medieval Association (on Executive Committee 2022-)
2014-	Society for the Medieval Mediterranean
2011-	American Historical Association
2008-	Medieval Academy of America
2014-2018	Southeastern Medieval Association

LANGUAGES

Spanish (reading, conversational speaking)
 Portuguese (reading)
 French (reading, some speaking)
 German (reading, some speaking)
 Latin (classical and medieval) (reading)

REFERENCES

available on request

