

Susanna Laing Drake
Graduate Program in Religion
Duke University, Box 90964
Durham, NC 27708
(919) 452-8190
susanna.drake@duke.edu

Education

Duke University, Durham, NC, 2003-present
Doctoral Student in Religion (Early Christianity)
Preliminary Examination Fields: Early Christianity, New Testament, Art History

Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA, 2000-2003
M.T.S. awarded June 2003

Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, 1996-2000
B.A. (honors) in Philosophy awarded June 2000
Interdisciplinary Concentration in Gender and Women's Studies

Dissertation

"Sexing the Jew: Early Christian Constructions of Jewishness"
Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Clark

Honors and Fellowships

Duke University
James B. Duke Fellowship, 2003-present
John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute Dissertation Working Group Fellowship, 2007
Robertson Scholars Collaboration Grant, (Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill), 2007

Harvard University
Rev. Mary S. Vanderbilt Scholarship

Grinnell College
Phi Beta Kappa
Joseph Wall Scholarship
Rupert Hawk Scholarship

Publications

"Images of Jewishness in Origen's *Letter to Africanus*," submitted to *Studia Patristica*.

"Melania the Elder" and "Melania the Younger." Entries in the *Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*, Daniel Patte, ed. (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).

Conference Presentations

“Images of Jewishness in Origen’s *Letter to Africanus*.” (Seminar paper). The Fifteenth International Patristics Conference, Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom. August 11, 2007.

"Desiring Monasticism: A Response to Naomi Koltun-Fromm and Derek Krueger." Issues of Sexuality in Late Antiquity mini-symposium. Duke University, Durham, NC. March 2005.

“‘The Safe Fortress’: Plato’s *Khora* and Female Virginitly in Early Christianity.” The Second Annual Christina Conference, University of Helsinki, Finland, March 2005.

“Towards a Feminist Methodology for the Study of Asceticism.” Harvard University’s Forum on Gender, Harvard Graduate School of Education, April 2002.

“‘The Safe Fortress’: Architectural Images in Gregory of Nyssa’s Writings on Virginitly.” North American Patristics Society (NAPS) annual meeting at Loyola University, Chicago, May 26, 2001.

“Ideas of Freedom in the Historiography of Christian Women’s Asceticism.” Co-authored with Kathleen Roberts Skerrett, American Academy of Religion (AAR) annual meeting, November 19, 2000.

“Ideas of Freedom in Isaiah Berlin and Michel Foucault.” Philosophy Honors Thesis, presented to the Philosophy Department, Grinnell College, May 21, 2000.

“The Artist’s Cruelty: Strategic Subjects in Friedrich Nietzsche and Judith Butler.” Nietzsche Symposium, Grinnell College, May 12, 2000.

Accepted Papers

“Sexing the Jew: How Origen Reads Jewishness.” Early Christian and Jewish Relations section of the Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, San Diego, November 2007.

“Violence against Women and the Discourse of Alterity in Early Christianity.” Violence and Representations of Violence among Jews and Christians section of the Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, San Diego, November 2007.

Teaching Experience

Duke University, Department of Religion

Instructor, Gospels and Heresies, Spring 2007

Instructor, Christian Identity and the Politics of Antisemitism, Summer 2006

Teaching Assistant, Women and Sexuality in the Christian Tradition, Fall 2005

Duke Divinity School

Teaching Assistant, Modern European Church History, Spring 2005, 2006

Teaching Assistant, Early and Medieval Church History, Fall 2004

Duke University, Department of Political Science

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Political Philosophy, Spring 2005

Work Experience

Duke University

Research Assistant for Elizabeth Clark, 2003-2007

Harvard University

Office Assistant, Women's Studies in Religion Program, 2001-2003

Research Assistant for François Bovon, Spring 2003

Family Program Assistant, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Summer 2002

Grinnell College

Mentored Advanced Project with Kathleen Skerrett, Religious Studies Department, 1999

Research Assistant, Religious Studies Department, 1999-2000

Research Assistant, Philosophy Department, 1999

Professional Membership

American Academy of Religion

Society of Biblical Literature

North American Patristics Society

Professional Service

American Academy of Religion Student Liaison, 2006-present

Graduate Student Association in Religion representative, 2007

Society of Duke Fellows, Co-President, 2005-2007

Center for Late Ancient Studies, Committee member, 2006-2007

Religion and Theory Reading Group, Convener, 2006-present

Co-organizer of "*In Medias Religiones: A Student Conference on Religion, Media, and Material Culture*," Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill, February 2008.

Organizer of the symposium on "Social Transformation in Durham: Women and the Black Freedom Movement," Duke University, April 2007

Organizer of the symposium on "Violence in Late Antiquity," Center for Late Ancient Studies, Duke University, February 2007

Languages

Modern: French and German

Ancient: Greek, Latin, Syriac