

## **Samuel A. Claussen**

Associate Professor of History, California Lutheran University  
60 West Olsen Road #3900 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
[sclaussen@callutheran.edu](mailto:sclaussen@callutheran.edu) 575-202-2891

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., History, University of Rochester, 2015. Advisor: Richard Kaeuper. Dissertation Title:  
Honor, Courage, and Blood: An Elite Ideology of Violence in Trastámara Castile, 1369-  
1474  
M.A., Historical Studies, University of Wales – Aberystwyth, 2008  
B.A., Magna Cum Laude, History and Political Science, Western State College of Colorado,  
2006

### **PUBLICATIONS**

*Chivalry and Violence in Late Medieval Castile*. Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2020.

“Vengeance and Coming of Age in the Late Medieval Mediterranean World” with  
Peter Sposato in *Confluences Méditerranée*, n. 131, Winter 2024-25, pp. 119-129.

“Chivalric Deaths in Battle in Late Medieval Castile”, *Nuova Antologia Militare*, Anno 5, n. 17  
(Feb., 2024): 383-407.

“Royal Punishment and Reconciliation in Trastámara Castile” in *Treason: Medieval and Early  
Modern Treachery, Betrayal and Shame*, ed. Larissa Tracy. Leiden: Brill, 2019, 100-  
118.

“Chivalric Violence” with Peter Sposato in *Companion to Chivalry*, ed. Robert Jones and Peter  
Coss. Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2019, 99-117.

“Chivalric and Religious Valorization of Warfare in High Medieval France” in *Prowess, Piety,  
and Public Order in Medieval Society: Studies in Honor of Richard Kaeuper*, ed. Craig  
Nakashian and Daniel Franke. Leiden: Brill, 2017, 199-217.

### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

“Places of Honor: Andalusian Cities in Chivalric Memory”, *Journal of Medieval Military  
History*, Forthcoming April 2025.

“Culture of War – High and Popular”, in *Cultural History of War*, ed. Cliff Rogers  
(Bloomsbury Academic), Forthcoming 2025.

*Knights of the New World: Chivalry and Violence in the Early Global Spanish Empire*, in  
Progress.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

“War as an Act of Vengeance: Chivalry, Masculinity, and War in Fifteenth-Century Castile.”  
60<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 9, 2025.

- “‘Great and Dangerous Undertakings’: The Virtue of Active Military Service in *Amadís de Gaula*.” 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, March 20, 2025.
- “‘What a Fearful Undertaking It Is’: The Fear of Death in Early Spanish Overseas Conquest.” 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, March 20, 2024.
- “‘Impelled by Honor and Vengeance’: Chivalry and Empire According to Alonso de Ercilla’s *La Araucana*.” 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, March 9, 2023.
- “A Challenging Empire: Chivalry and Disorder in the Conquest of the Canary Islands.” Southeastern Medieval Association Conference – The Body and the Human, Nov. 12, 2022.
- “Chivalry, Violence, and Empire in Medieval Spain”. *Historias: The Spanish History Podcast*, September 1, 2022. <https://historiaspodcast.org/author/brett826/>
- “‘I leave behind my virtue’. Death and Remembrance in Castilian Border Wars.” International Medieval Congress, July 6, 2022.
- “‘She Wanted to Trample the Land of Her Enemies’”: Queen Isabel of Castile as a Model of Chivalry.” 57<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 12, 2022.
- “Anger, Honor, and Conquest in the Canary Islands.” 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, April 1, 2022.
- “The Fury of God: Fernando de Antequera’s Aggressive Strategy against Granada, 1406-10.” New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, March 5, 2022.
- “Loyal Rebels: Self-Fashioning Lordship after Late Medieval Castilian Civil Wars.” 56<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 10, 2021.
- “From Fear to Anger: Responses to the Fear of Death in Early Renaissance Spanish Chivalry.” 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, April 22, 2021.
- “The Home Front: Noncombatant Resistance to War in Medieval Castile.” 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Medieval Association Conference – Medieval Gateways: Threshold, Transition, Exchange, Nov. 15, 2019.
- “Exporting Chivalric Violence in Late Medieval Castile.” 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, June 17, 2019.

- “‘The Blood of Your Innocent Lambs is Shed’: Chivalric Ideology and the Drumbeat of Holy War in Trastámara Castile.” 54<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 10, 2019.
- “Castile, Chivalry, and Overseas Conquest in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.” 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Medieval Association Conference – Diaspora: Identity, Migration, and Return, Nov. 9, 2018.
- “‘The War Was Opened’: Chivalric Violence as a Cause of War in Trastámara Castile.” 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 10, 2018.
- “Female Chivalric Violence in Late Medieval Castile.” Force, Resistance, and Mercy: Medieval Violence and Nonviolence, hosted by the Medieval Studies Institute at Indiana University, April 6, 2018.
- “A Tale of Two Cids.” 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies. June 19, 2017.
- “Rocking Gibraltar: Chivalry, Violence, and Tuna in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.” 52<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 12, 2017.
- “Familial Honor and Physical Space on the Castilian Frontier in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.” Renaissance Society of America, Mar. 31, 2017.
- “Places of Honor: Physical Space and Honor in the Late Medieval Castilian Holy War.” 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Medieval Association Conference – Place and Power, Oct. 7, 2016.
- “‘I will be dead or revenged on those Moors’: Personal and Corporate Honor and Vengeance in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century Castilian Reconquista.” 51<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 13, 2016.
- Roundtable – “Sources of Chivalry in the Middle Ages.” Third Annual Symposium of Medieval and Renaissance Studies, June 16, 2015.
- “A Soothing Holy War: Chivalric Ideology and Castile’s Granada Policy at the Turn of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.” 50<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 16, 2015.
- “‘Quánta gloria y magnifiçençia’: An Ideology of Warfare Against Christians in Late Medieval Castile.” Second Annual Symposium of Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Jun. 16, 2014.
- Roundtable Organizer and Chair – “Manifestations of Honor in the High and Late Middle Ages.” Second Annual Symposium of Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Jun. 16, 2014.
- “‘To Suffer Great Affronts and Evils and Damages’: Chivalric Destabilization in Trastámara Castile.” 49<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 10, 2014.
- “‘Making Damage in All The Land’: The Destructive Elements of Chivalry in Late Medieval

Castile.” New York State Association of European Historians: 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, Oct. 5, 2013.

Roundtable – “The Utility of Violence in the Middle Ages.” First Annual Symposium of Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Jun. 19, 2013.

“The Chivalric Combination of Religion and Warfare in High Medieval France.” University of Rochester Medieval Society, Mar. 22, 2012.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Roberta L. Krueger, ed., *The New Cambridge Companion to Medieval Romance* (Cambridge: University Press, 2023), for *Mediaevistik*, Forthcoming.

Alan V. Murray and Karen Watts, eds., *The Medieval Tournament as Spectacle: Tourneys, Jousts and Pas d'Armes, 1100-1600* (Woodbridge: Boydell, 2020), for the *Journal of British Studies*, July, 2022.

Timothy May, *The Mongol Art of War* (Pen and Sword Books, 2007), for *De Re Militari: The Society for Medieval Military History*, April, 2021.

Hilaire Kallendorf, ed., *A Companion to the Spanish Renaissance* (Leiden: Brill, 2018), for *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, 2020.

Laura Delbrugge, ed., *Self-Fashioning and Assumptions of Identity in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia* (Leiden: Brill, 2015), for the American Association of Research Historians of Medieval Spain, October, 2017.

Craig Taylor, *Chivalry and the Ideals of Knighthood in France during the Hundred Years War* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), for the *Journal of Military History*, vol. 81, no. 4 (Oct., 2017).

Matthew Bailey and Ryan D. Giles, eds., *Charlemagne and his Legend in Early Spanish Literature and Historiography* (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 2016), for *Mediaevistik*, March, 2017.

Sara Cockerill, *Eleanor of Castile: The Shadow Queen* (Stroud: Amberley, 2015), for *De Re Militari: The Society for Medieval Military History*, August, 2016.

Noel Fallows, tr. and ed., *The Twelve of England* (Wheaton, IL: Freelance Academy Press, Inc., 2013), for *De Re Militari: The Society for Medieval Military History*, April, 2016.

Jarbel Rodriguez, ed., *Muslim and Christian Contact in the Middle Ages: A Reader* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015), for *The Medieval Review*, October, 2015.

Laura Ashe and Ian Patterson, eds., *War and Literature* (Rochester, NY: D.S. Brewer, 2014), for *De Re Militari: The Society for Medieval Military History*, May 2015.

James Waterson, *Defending Heaven: China's Mongol Wars, 1209-1370* (Barnsley, Yorkshire: Frontline Books, 2013), for *De Re Militari: The Society for Medieval Military History*, October 2014.

Baker H. Morrow, trans. and ed., *A Harvest of Reluctant Souls: Fray Alonso de Benavides's History of New Mexico, 1630* (Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 1996), for *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, XLIV/2 (2013).

Elinore M. Barrett, *The Spanish Colonial Settlement Landscapes of New Mexico, 1598-1680* (Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2012), for *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, XLIV/2 (2013).

Martha K. Hoffman, *Raised to Rule: Educating Royalty at the Court of the Spanish Habsburgs, 1601-1634* (Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 2011), for *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, XLIII/3 (2012).

## TEACHING

### *Positions*

2022-Present, Associate Professor, California Lutheran University

2015-2022, Assistant Professor, California Lutheran University

2014, Adjunct Instructor, Rochester Institute of Technology

2013-2014, Instructor, University of Rochester

2013, Adjunct Instructor, University at Buffalo, State University of New York

2011-2012, Teaching Assistant, University of Rochester

### *Classes Offered*

Knights and Chivalry

Medieval Europe and the Mediterranean

Medieval Civilization I (400-1100)

Foundations of the Islamic World

The Vikings

The History of the Mongols

Age of Empires: The Ancient Mediterranean

Ancient Rome

Ancient Greece

Colonial Latin America

Treasures of Peru – Travel Seminar

World Civilizations To 1500

World Civilizations Since 1500

Arts and Civilization I: Theater and War

Arts and Civilization II: Violence, Gender,  
and Power

History of Modern China

History Capstone

Freshmen Seminar

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND PRIZES

2018, 2020, 2022-2024 – Hewlett Grant for Academic Travel and Research

2021 – Lorraine Kochanske Stock Grant for Innovation in Medieval Studies

2017-2018 – Experiential Learning Through the History of Food (California Lutheran University)

2017-2018 – Hewlett Grant for Academic Travel and Research

2016, 2020 – California Lutheran University's Faculty Research and Creative Work Grant

2015 – Lina and A. William Salomon Prize for Research in European Cultural and Intellectual History

2014 – Willson Coates Book Award

2013-2015 – Roy E. VanDelinder Fellowship in European History

2013 – Egon Berlin Prize for Research in European History

2013 – Elwitt Memorial Prize for Research in European History

## **LANGUAGES**

English – native

Spanish – Reading (advanced), Speaking (basic)

Old Castilian – Reading (advanced)

Middle English – Reading (advanced)

Old French – Reading (intermediate)

Latin – Reading (intermediate)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

2022-Present Society for Military History

2015-Present Phi Alpha Theta

2013-Present American Association of Research Historians of Medieval Spain

2013-Present New York Association of European Historians

2012-Present American Historical Association

2012-Present Medieval Academy of America