

# Brian W. Ogilvie

Department of History, Herter Hall  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
161 Presidents Drive  
Amherst, MA 01003-9312

Tel. (413) 545-1599  
Fax (815) 550-1415  
ogilvie@history.umass.edu  
<http://people.umass.edu/ogilvie/>

## **EDUCATION**

### University of Chicago

Ph.D., History, June 1997, with distinction; M.A., History, December 1992; B.A., History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Science and Medicine, December 1990, with honors

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

### University of Massachusetts Amherst

Associate Professor of History, 2003-present  
Graduate Program Director, History Department, 2007-present  
Assistant Professor of History, 1997-2003

### Miami University of Ohio

Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, January-August 2000 (courtesy appointment)

### University of Chicago

Undergraduate Preceptor, October 1994-June 1995  
Lecturer, January-March 1994

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

### After graduate school

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2003 (fellowship period 2004-05)  
Fellow, Columbia University Institute for Scholars at Reid Hall, Paris, affiliated with the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 2004-05  
Research Stipend, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, June 2003  
American Philosophical Society General Research Grant, 1999  
University of Massachusetts Amherst Faculty Research Grant, 1999-2001

### Graduate school

Mellon Foundation-University of Chicago Dissertation-Year Fellowship, 1996  
Predoctoral Fellowship, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, 1995-96  
Mellon Summer Research Fellowship (History Dept., U. of Chicago), 1994  
Mellon Fellow in the Humanities, 1991  
National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow, 1991  
University of Chicago Century Fellow, 1991

### Undergraduate

National Endowment for the Humanities Younger Scholar, 1989

## **BOOK**

*The science of describing: Natural history in Renaissance Europe* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006).  
Received Honorable Mention (2nd place) in the History of Science category of the Association of American Publishers' 2006 Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division Awards for Excellence.  
Hardcover printing sold out; paperback edition forthcoming in spring 2008.

## **ARTICLES, CHAPTERS, AND ESSAYS**

"Leonhart Fuchs: The value of illustrations," in *The great naturalists*, ed. Robert Huxley, 48-58 (London: Thames & Hudson in association with the Natural History Museum, 2007).

- “Natural history, ethics, and physico-theology,” in *Historia: Empiricism and erudition in early modern Europe*, edited by Gianna Pomata and Nancy G. Siraisi, 75-103 (Boston: MIT Press, 2005).
- “Science,” in *Palgrave advances in Renaissance historiography*, edited by Jonathan Woolfson, 241-269 (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004).
- “The many books of nature: Renaissance naturalists and information overload,” *Journal of the History of Ideas* 64 (2003): 29-40.
- “Image and text in natural history, 1500-1700,” in *The power of images in early modern science*, ed. Wolfgang Lefèvre, Jürgen Renn, and Urs Schöpflin, 141-166 (Basel: Birkhäuser Verlag, 2003).
- “Encyclopædism in Renaissance botany: From *Historia* to *Pinax*,” in *Pre-modern encyclopædic texts: Proceedings of the Second COMERS Congress, Groningen, 1-4 July 1996*, ed. Peter Binkley, pp. 89-99 (Leiden: Brill, 1997).
- “Travel and natural history in the sixteenth century,” in Brian W. Ogilvie, Anke te Heesen, and Martin Gierl, *Sammeln in der Frühen Neuzeit*, pp. 3-28 (Berlin: Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Preprint No. 50, 1996).

#### REVIEW ESSAYS

- “Renaissance culture: Up close from a distance.” Essay review of *The impact of humanism; Courts, patrons and poets; Challenges to authority; The Renaissance in Europe: An anthology; and The Renaissance in Europe: A reader*, by Peter Elmer, et al., H-W-Civ, H-Net Reviews, June 2001, URL: <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=16008998324339>.
- “Renaissance and Humanism in the English-language scholarly literature, 1998-2000,” *Pirckheimer-Jahrbuch für Renaissance- und Humanismusforschung* 15/16 (2000/01): 300-318. [7,000-word review article]
- “Renaissance and Humanism in the English-language Scholarly Literature, 1988-1998,” *Pirckheimer-Jahrbuch für Renaissance- und Humanismusforschung* 13 (1998): 141-163. [8,000-word review article]

#### REVIEWS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Review of *A New World of Animals: Early modern Europeans on the creatures of Iberian America*, by Miguel de Asúa and Roger French, forthcoming in *Renaissance Quarterly*, spring 2008.
- Review of *Curiosity and wonder from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment*, edited by R. J. W. Evans and Alexander Marr, forthcoming in *Isis*.
- Review of *Emblematic monsters: unnatural conceptions and deformed births in early modern Europe*, by A. W. Bates, forthcoming in *Medical History*.
- Review of *Languages and communities in early modern Europe*, by Peter Burke, *Central European History* 40.1 (2007): 144-46.
- Review of *Four Centuries of the Word Geology: Ulisse Aldrovandi 1603 in Bologna*, ed. Gian Battista Vai and William Cavazza, *Isis* 97.4 (2006): 738-739.
- Review of *Ambroise Paré (1510-1590): Pratique et écriture de la science à la Renaissance*, ed. Évelyne Berriot-Salvadore and Paul Mironneau, *Renaissance Quarterly* 58.4 (2005): 1406-1408.
- Review of *The world in a box: The story of an eighteenth-century picture encyclopedia*, by Anke te Heesen, *Isis* 95 (2004): 297-298.
- “In Galileo’s orbit.” Review of *The eye of the lynx: Galileo, his friends, and the beginnings of modern natural history*, by David Freedberg, *American Scientist* 91, no. 3 (May-June 2003): 256-259. (Lead review in this general-interest science magazine.)
- Review of *Linnaeus: The compleat naturalist*, by Wilfrid Blunt, *Journal of the History of Biology* 36 (no. 2, 2003): 426-428.
- Review of *Pristina medicamenta: Ancient and medieval medical botany and Herbs and herbalism in the Middle Ages and Renaissance*, by Jerry Stannard, *Isis* 94 (2003): 362-364.
- Review of *Utopia’s garden: French natural history from Old Regime to Revolution*, by E. C. Spary, *Metascience* 11 (no. 1, 2002): 122-126.
- Review of *The Ambonese curiosity cabinet*, by Georg Rumphius, ed. and trans. Erik Beckman, *Journal of the History of Biology* 34 (2001): 211-212.
- Review of *Everything connects: In conference with Richard H. Popkin: Essays in his honor*, ed. James E. Force and David S. Katz, *Sixteenth Century Journal* 31 (no. 4, 2000): 1103-1106.
- Review of *Commerce with the classics: Ancient books and Renaissance readers*, by Anthony Grafton, *Journal of Modern History* 72 (2000): 499-501.
- Review of *Method and order in Renaissance philosophy of nature: The Aristotle commentary tradition*, ed. Daniel DiLiscia, Eckhard Kessler, and Charlotte Methuen, *Annals of Science* 57 (2000): 203-205.

- Review of *The great herbal of Leonhart Fuchs: De historia stirpium commentariū insignes, 1542 (Notable Commentaries on the History of Plants)*, by Frederick G. Meyer, Emily Emmart Trueblood, and John L. Heller, *Journal of the History of Biology* 33 (2000): 407-409.
- Review of *The Longman companion to Renaissance Europe, 1390-1530*, by Stella Fletcher, H-W-Civ, H-Net Reviews, March 2000, URL: <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=20041952036243>.
- Index to Robert Chambers, *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation and other evolutionary works*, ed. James A. Secord (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994).
- Review of *Fundamentalisms observed*, edited by Martin E. Marty and R. Scott Appleby, *Zygon* 28 (1993): 103-106.
- Review of *The politics of evolution: Morphology, medicine, and reform in radical London*, by Adrian Desmond, *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 29 (1993): 158-160.

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- With Bridget M. Marshall: “There shall be a wonder in Hadley!’ Mary Webster’s ‘hideous witchcraft.’” (Completed, under review as part of an edited volume on the 350th anniversary of the settlement of Hadley, Mass.)
- “Description and persuasion in seventeenth-century entomological illustration” (journal article).
- “Friendship and sincerity in the sixteenth-century Republic of Letters” (journal article).
- “Reading history from coins: History and antiquarianism in the sixteenth century” (journal article).
- Ezechiel Spanheim and the learned culture of seventeenth-century Europe* (book project).
- The designed world: A cultural history from the ancient world to the twenty-first century* (book project).

#### INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- “Nature’s Bible; or, Insects in seventeenth-century European art and science,” seminar on “Nature’s Unnatural History: Humanistic Perspectives on Nature and Science,” University of Oslo, Norway, December 7, 2007.
- “Nature’s Bible; or, Insects in seventeenth-century European art and science,” seminar on “Prints and the Production of Knowledge,” Harvard University, November 29, 2007.
- “Ezechiel Spanheim’s metallic archive,” symposium on “The Rebirth of Antiquity,” Princeton University, November 9, 2007.
- “Late Renaissance natural theology: Between natural history and apologetics,” New England Renaissance Conference, Brown University, October 20, 2007.
- “Stoic natural theology in the works of Leonard Lessius (1552-1623),” international conference on “Late humanism and political ideology in northern Europe, 1580-1620,” Trinity College, Cambridge, and Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (CRASSH) at Cambridge University, 10-11 July 2007. (Invited; in preparation)
- “Wind and weather: Nature’s rugged passages in early modern natural theology,” international conference on “Wind und Wetter. Die Ikonologie der Atmosphäre/Il Vento e il tempo. Iconologia dell’atmosfera,” Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence, Italy, 21-24 June 2007.
- “Nature’s Bible; or, Insects in seventeenth-century European science,” History Department, Binghamton University, November 16, 2006.
- “Ezechiel Spanheim’s metallic archive,” Seminar on Ancients and Moderns, Department of History and Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, April 20, 2006.
- “Révolution de la place des plantes et des animaux exotiques dans l’histoire naturelle de la Renaissance,” Séminaire sur l’histoire naturelle, Centre Alexandre Koyré, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales/Muséum nationale d’Histoire naturelle, Paris, France, May 18, 2005. (Presented in French.)
- “Description and persuasion in seventeenth-century entomological illustration,” Cabinet of Natural History, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University, May 2, 2005.
- “Aristote et Salomon fondateurs de l’histoire naturelle: l’invention d’une discipline à la Renaissance,” Séminaire sur l’histoire naturelle, Centre Alexandre Koyré, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales/Muséum nationale d’Histoire naturelle, Paris, France, April 20, 2005. (Presented in French.)
- “Description and persuasion in seventeenth-century entomological illustration,” workshop on “Seeing Science: Image, text, and nature, 1500-1800,” Department of History and Program in History and Philosophy of Science, Princeton University, March 25-26, 2005.

- “‘Philosophy, Physick and Antiquity’: Natural history, cultural history, and sense of place in the seventeenth century,” interdisciplinary conference on Antiquarianism and the Early Modern Age: Perspectives on Europe and China, Bard Graduate Center, New York, N.Y., March 25-27, 2004.
- “Natural history, ethics, and theology: How a new discipline transformed the didactic and theological uses of plants and animals in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries,” Working group on *Historia* and early modern empiricism, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, June 2-29, 2003.
- “Witchcraft in England and Europe,” Conference on Hadley, Mass., in the Seventeenth Century, Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst, May 3, 2003.
- “Collection, conviction, and contemplation; or, Picturing coins in early modern books, ca. 1550-1700,” workshop on “Print Culture and the Transmission of Knowledge,” Center for the Study of Books and Media, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., February 14-15, 2003.
- “Triangulating the witch in Tudor and Stuart England,” Conference on Witchcraft in the Old and New Worlds, Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst, September 29, 2001.
- “Travel and trade in the making of European decorative art, 1400-1700,” lecture in conjunction with traveling exhibit of Renaissance decorative art from the Flagg Collection of the Milwaukee Art Museum, delivered at Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Mass., February 9, 1999.

#### **PAPERS PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES AND EXTERNAL COLLOQUIA**

- “Ezechiel Spanheim’s metallic archive,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif., March 23-25, 2006.
- “The past on the page: Image and text in early modern antiquarian treatises,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 8-11, 2004.
- “*Respublica literaria* and *République des lettres*: Latin and French in the scholarly works of Ezechiel Spanheim (1629-1710),” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Toronto, March 27-29, 2003.
- “Spanheim and the Sun King: Politics, Ethics and Scholarship in the France of Louis XIV,” Court Studies Seminar, North American Society for Court Studies and Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies, Amherst, Mass., April 18, 2002.
- “Exemplarity and the use of antiquity in Erasmus,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 29-31, 2001.
- “The Many Books of Nature: How Renaissance botanists created and responded to information overload,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, November 2-5, 2000.
- “Petrarch’s historicism and the purpose of philosophy,” 35th International Medieval Congress, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Mich., May 4-7, 2000.
- “Botany at 1600: Changing styles in Renaissance botany,” paper in session on “Fin-de-siècle botany,” International Botanical Congress, St. Louis, Mo., August 1-8, 1999.
- “Weak women? Contradictory ideals of femininity in Leone Battista Alberti’s *Della Famiglia*,” New England Historical Association Spring Meeting, Rivier College, Nashua, N.H., April 17, 1999.
- “The Republic of Letters and the early modern scientific community,” Second Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär International Conference, Duke University, Durham, NC, April 16-18, 1998.
- “Image and text in natural history, 1500-1700,” Workshop on the Emergence of the Scientific Image, 1500-1700, European Science Foundation Network on the Visual Image, 1500-1800, held at the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, September 19-21, 1997.
- “The social world of natural history, 1530-1630,” Department of History, University of California, Davis, January 16, 1997; also presented at the Department of History, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, February 19, 1997.
- “Travel in Renaissance natural history,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 7-10, 1996.
- “Encyclopedism in Renaissance botany: From *historia* to *pinax*,” International Congress on Pre-Modern Encyclopedic Texts, Center for Classical, Oriental, Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Netherlands, July 1-4, 1996.
- “The wonders of the north: Olaus Magnus’s *Carta marina* and *Historia de gentibus septentrionalibus* and their reception among European naturalists,” 14th Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference, Barnard College, New York, N.Y., December 3, 1994.
- “Observation and experience in Niccolò Leonicensi’s criticism of Pliny,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, October 13-16, 1994.
- “Reading Roman antiquities: The hermeneutics of objects in the sixteenth century,” Historical Epistemology international workshop, University of Toronto, October 29-November 3, 1993.

“Darwin’s use of domesticated animals in his early species theorizing,” International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology, Evanston, Illinois, July 11-14, 1991.

#### **PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNAL SEMINARS AND COLLOQUIA**

- “Wind and weather: Nature’s rugged passages in late Renaissance natural theology,” Five College Faculty Seminar in Renaissance Studies, March 29, 2007.
- “The Renaissance invention of natural history,” Renaissance Wednesdays series, Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies, University of Massachusetts, March 14, 2007.
- “Who was Ezechiel Spanheim?” History Department Colloquium, University of Massachusetts Amherst, September 28, 2005.
- “Collection, conviction, and contemplation; or, Picturing coins in early modern books, ca. 1550-1700,” Five College Faculty Seminar in History, December 4, 2003.
- “Natural history, ethics, and physico-theology,” Five College Faculty Seminar in Renaissance Studies, October 2, 2003.
- “Truth or consequences? Petrarch on knowledge, virtue, and antiquity,” Department of History, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, March 7, 2000.
- “The Republic of Letters and the early modern scientific community,” Five College Faculty Seminar in History, March 26, 1998.
- “The social world of natural history, 1530-1630,” Joint Workshop in the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Chicago, February 28, 1997.
- “Travel and natural history in the sixteenth century,” Abteilungskolloquium (Abt. II), Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, January 24, 1996.
- “The wonders of the north: The Arctic regions in early modern natural history,” Workshop on the Cultures of Early Modern Europe, University of Chicago, May 8, 1995.
- “On numismatics and antiquarian method in the sixteenth century,” History of the Human Sciences Workshop, University of Chicago, May 28, 1993.

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

- Interview by Ivar Grydeland, Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, for the “Verdt å vite” (Worth Knowing) science program; interview broadcast January 14, 2008. (Podcast available, with questions in Norwegian and responses in English.)
- Presentations on “Learning on the job” and “Engaging students” in workshop on “Academic careers at research universities,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Chicago, May 5, 2006.
- Presenter on personnel committee procedures and issues at the Personnel Committee Workshop, Massachusetts Society of Professors, University of Massachusetts Amherst, September 29, 2005.
- Presenter on developing one’s tenure file from the perspective of a recently tenured faculty member at the “Preparing for Tenure Seminar” sponsored by the Center for Teaching and the Office of the Provost, University of Massachusetts Amherst, June 4, 2004.
- Presenter and moderator of session on “Teaching Writing in the Humanities,” Second Junior Year Writing Conference: “New Directions for Teaching Writing in the Disciplines,” University of Massachusetts Amherst, October 1, 2003.
- Commentator and chair, session on “Classification in early modern Europe,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 7-10, 2002.
- Presentation on “Liberal arts in the large lecture course” at conference on “Lessons from new faculty,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Chicago, May 12, 2001.
- Session chair, “Bodily knowledge: Narrating the epistemology of experience,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, January 4-7, 2001.
- Session organizer, “Rethinking Renaissance representations of women,” New England Historical Association Spring Meeting, Rivier College, Nashua, N.H., April 17, 1999.
- Session organizer, “Practices of experience in early modern natural history,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 7-10, 1996.

#### **SUMMER COURSES AND STUDY ABROAD**

Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, Germany

Participant, 19. Internationaler Wolfenbütteler Sommerkursus, August 1-27, 1994: “Aristoteles-Kommentare in der Renaissance.”

University of Cambridge (England), Trinity College

Senior year abroad, October 1989-June 1990, Department of History and Philosophy of Science

**UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT**

University of Massachusetts Amherst

*Undergraduate courses: introductory*

Western Thought to 1600

Introduction to World Religions

Western Science and Technology I: From the Greeks to the Scientific Revolution

*Undergraduate courses: advanced*

Italian Renaissance

Northern Renaissance and Reformation Era

Renaissance and Reformation Europe

European Witchcraft in Comparative Perspective (honors)

Witchcraft, Magic, and Science (honors)

European Expansion to 1750 (writing seminar)

Renaissance Humanism (writing seminar)

Renaissance Humanism and Science (writing seminar)

*Graduate courses*

Introduction to the Study of History

European Historiography to the Enlightenment

Scientific Revolution: The Problem of Knowledge in Early Modern Europe

Philosophy of History

Independent studies on Pre-modern European Expansion and Global History, History of Early Modern Science, Early Modern Intellectual History, Church and State in Early Modern Europe, and Religion and Science

University of Chicago

HiPSS 191, Humanism and Science, 1450-1600

History 199, B.A. Essay Seminar

**PH.D. DISSERTATION SUPERVISED**

Thomas Rushford, "Burnings and blessings: The cultural reality of the supernatural across early modern European spaces," 2007.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

University of Massachusetts Amherst

*Current activities - departmental*

Graduate Program Director, 2007-2010

Graduate Studies Committee, 2006-07; *ex officio* 2007-2010

Website Committee, 2005-

Language examiner: French, German, Dutch, Italian (as needed, since 1999)

*Current activities - college and university*

Acting Director, Religious Studies Certificate Program, 2007-08

Academic Advisory Board, Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies, 1998-

Judicial Hearing Officer, 2003-

Undergraduate Education Council, 2006-

Faculty Senator, 2006-2009

*Past activities - departmental*

History Department Personnel/Executive Committee: Chair, 2003-04 and 2006-07; member, 1998-2000

Department Honors Coordinator and Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2002-04

Chair, Ad Hoc Search Committee (Medieval Europe/History of Christianity), 2006-07

Ad Hoc search committee for office manager, 2006

Ad Hoc Search Committee (Medieval Europe), 2001-02

Ad Hoc Search Committee (Medieval Middle East), 2000-01

History Department Library Faculty Liaison, 1997-2004  
Editor, History Department annual newsletter, 1998, 1999  
WWW designer & webmaster, 1997-2005

*Past activities – college and university*

Director, Religious Studies Certificate Program, 2001-04  
Chair, Five-College Faculty Seminar in History, 2001-04  
University Writing Committee, 2000-03 (co-chair, 2001-03)  
General Education Council, 2003-04  
Faculty Senator, 1998-2001, 2002-04

New England Historical Association

Book Prize Committee, 2004

Fellowship and grant reviews

American Council of Learned Societies (Early Career Fellowships)  
National Science Foundation (USA)  
Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research)  
Herzog-August-Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, Germany  
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (evaluator, MacArthur Fellowships)

Tenure and promotion reviews

Colgate University  
University of California, Merced  
Yeshiva University

Manuscript reviews

Cambridge University Press  
Harvard University Press  
Houghton Mifflin Co.  
Red Line Editorial (children's book packager)  
University of Chicago Press  
*Eighteenth-Century Thought*

University of Chicago

History Department Placement Committee member, 1996-97  
Editor, Fishbein Center Newsletter, January 1994-June 1995

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association  
Renaissance Society of America  
History of Science Society  
International Society for Cultural History (founding member)  
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion  
American Academy of Religion  
Sixteenth Century Society and Conference  
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies  
Society for the History of Natural History  
Schweizerische Gesellschaft für die Geschichte der Medizin und der Naturwissenschaften  
International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology  
Society for Italian Historical Studies  
New England Historical Association  
New England Renaissance Conference

**LANGUAGES**

French (fluent); German (speaking); Dutch, Italian, Latin (reading); Classical Greek, Spanish (basic)

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request.