

JANNA BIANCHINI

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
2115 FRANCIS SCOTT KEY
COLLEGE PARK, MD 20742

301-405-4326 W
301-314-9399 F
JCWB@UMD.EDU

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of Maryland, College Park 2007–present
Associate Professor, Department of History
Affiliate faculty, Departments of Classics, Religious Studies, and Women’s and Gender Studies

EDUCATION

Harvard University
Ph.D., History 2007
A.M., History 2003

Wellesley College
B.A. *summa cum laude* 1999

PUBLICATIONS

Books

(In progress.) *The Place of Women: The Infantazgo in León-Castile, c. 1100–1300*
A longitudinal study of the Infantazgo, lands that became the implicit property of Leonese-Castilian royal women. The Infantazgo offers insights not only into the gendered exercise of power, but also into sociability among ruling women.

The Queen’s Hand: Power and Authority in the Reign of Berenguela of Castile. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012.

Major reviews

Times Literary Supplement, no. 5733, February 15, 2013 (Simon Barton)

American Historical Review (December 2013): 1581–1582 (Grace E. Coolidge)

Speculum 89:2 (2014): 446–447 (Núria Silleras-Fernández)

Mélanges de la Casa de Velázquez 44:1 (2014): ix-xi (Charles Garcia)

The Medieval Review 13.04.15 (Teofilo F. Ruiz)

<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/17808/23926>

PUBLICATIONS, cont.**Articles**

“At the Command of the Infantas’: Royal Women at Las Huelgas in the Thirteenth Century.” In *The Sword and the Cross: Castile-León in the Era of Fernando III*, ed. Edward L. Holt and Teresa Witcombe. Leiden: Brill, 2020. Pp. 165–192.

“A Mirror for a Queen? Constructions of Queenship in Thirteenth-Century León-Castile.” *Journal of Medieval History* 45:4 (2019): 432–456.

“The Infantazgo in the Reign of Alfonso VIII.” In *King Alfonso VIII of Castile: Government, Family, and War*, ed. Miguel Dolan Gómez, Kyle Lincoln, and Damian J. Smith. New York: Fordham University Press, 2019. Pp. 59–79.

“Daughters, wives, widows, lords: Dynastic identity and affective bonds among infantas in twelfth-century León-Castile.” In *Reginae Iberiae: El poder regio femenino en los reinos medievales peninsulares*, ed. Miguel García-Fernández and Silvia Cernadas Martínez. Santiago de Compostela: Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, 2015. Pp. 11–30.

“Foreigners and Foes in the Leonese Succession Crisis of 1230.” In *The Emergence of León-Castile, c. 1065–1500: Essays Presented to J.F. O’Callaghan*, ed. James J. Todesca. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2015. Pp. 47–67.

“The Distribution of Tenancies in León, c. 1200–1250: Charter Evidence for a History of Power.” *Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies* 5:1 (Spring 2013): 33–46.

“Re-defining Medieval Spain.” *English Historical Review* 126:52 (2011): 1167–1179.

(As Janna Wasilewski.) “The ‘Life of Muhammad’ in Eulogius of Córdoba: Some Evidence for the Transmission of Greek Polemic to the Latin West.” *Early Medieval Europe* 16:3 (August 2008): 333–353.

Book reviews

Jean-Pierre Jardin, José Manuel Nieto Soria, Patricia Rochwert-Zuili, and Hélène Thieulin-Pardo, eds., *Cartas de mujeres en la Europa medieval: España, Francia, Italia, Portugal (siglos XI–XV)*. *Speculum* 95:2 (April 2020): pp. 575–576.

[*Imperial Ladies of the Ottonian Dynasty: Women and Rule in Tenth-Century Germany*, by Phyllis G. Jestice. *Medieval Feminist Forum* 55:2 \(2020\): pp. 195–197.](#)

[*The Apple of His Eye: Converts from Islam in the Reign of Louis IX*, by William Chester Jordan. *Al-Usur al-Wusta: The Journal of Middle East Medievalists* 27 \(2019\).](#)

Rulers and Realms in Medieval Iberia, 711–1492, by Timothy M. Flood. *The Medieval Review* 19.08.02 (2019).

Her Father's Daughter: Gender, Power, and Religion in the Early Spanish Kingdoms, by Lucy K. Pick. American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain, http://aarhms.wildapricot.org/New_Book_Reviews/6387192, July 18, 2018.

The Wise King: A Christian Prince, Muslim Spain, and the Birth of the Renaissance, by Simon R. Doubleday. *The Catholic Historical Review* 103:3 (Summer 2017): 576–577. doi: 10.1353/cat.2017.0125

From She-Wolf to Martyr: The Reign and Disputed Reputation of Johanna I of Naples, by Elizabeth Casteen. *The Catholic Historical Review* 102:4 (Autumn 2016): 832–833. doi: 10.1353/cat.2016.0219

The Queens Regnant of Navarre, by Elena Woodacre. *Medieval Prosopography* 31 (2016): 229–232.

Imperator Hispaniae: Les idéologies impériales dans le royaume de León (IX^e-XII^e siècles), by Héléne Sirantoine. American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain, http://aarhms.wildapricot.org/New_Book_Reviews/3473442, August 10, 2015.

Alfonso VI y su legado: Actas del Congreso Internacional (Sahagún, 29 de octubre al 1 de noviembre 2009), IX Centenario de Alfonso VI (1109–2009). *Speculum* 89:2 (April 2014).

Spain, 1157-1300: A Partible Inheritance, by Peter Linehan. *English Historical Review* 125:515 (2010): 963–964.

Berenguela of Castile (1180-1246) and Her Family: Political Women of the High Middle Ages, by Miriam Shadis, and *The King's Other Body: María of Castile and the Crown of Aragon*, by Theresa Earenfight. Newsletter of the American Association of Research Historians of Medieval Spain (Winter 2010), pp. 7–11.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations

“Reino, poder y cultura. Reinas, reyes e infantas para la historia de Iria y Compostela en los siglos XII–XIII. Las infantas de Portugal y su presencia galaica.” Ciclo Internacional de Conferencias: De Iria a Compostela, Sociedad y cultura en la Galicia medieval. A Coruña, Spain, November 19, 2019.

“Between Sacred and Secular Power: How León-Castile’s Royal Women Became Nuns.” Gender Powers Sovereignty. University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany, September 30–October 2, 2019.

“The Case of the Broken Dam: Violence, Justice, and Queenly Authority in León-Castile.” Goddesses, Queens, Valkyries, and Other Women in the Viking Age: A Celebration of Prof. Emerita Jenny Jochens’ Scholarship and Teaching, Towson University, Towson, MD, October 15–16, 2015.

“The Infantazgo in the Reign of Alfonso VIII.” St. Louis University Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis, MO, June 16–18, 2014.

"Plural Monarchy in Practice: Berenguela of Castile as a Reigning Queen, 1217–1230." Catholic University of America History Department Colloquium, March 14, 2012.

Conference presentations

"Royal Women and the Problem of Inalienable Possessions." Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, May 28–31, 2020. (*Canceled due to COVID-19*).

"The Infantes in the Church: Sacrality, Gender, and Royal Power in Thirteenth-Century León-Castile." Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, San Francisco, CA, March 26–28, 2020. (*Canceled due to COVID-19*).

"Duplicate Monarchy?: Kings Confirming Royal Women's Gifts in León-Castile." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 10–13, 2018.

"Uncovering the 'Truth' in the Testimony of Thirteenth-Century Ecclesiastical Witnesses: Social Status, Power, and Gender." Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, Atlanta, GA, March 1–3, 2018.

"The Case of the Broken Dam: Violence, Justice, and Queenly Authority in León-Castile." Annual Meeting of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, Baltimore, MD, March 19–22, 2015.

"Conflict and Collusion: Affective Relationships among Twelfth-Century Royal Women in León-Castile." Poster presented at "Reinas e Infantas en los Reinos Medievales Ibéricos," Santiago de Compostela, Spain, May 21–23, 2014.

"Networks of Power: Royal Women and Noble Men in the Infantazgo." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 8–11, 2014.

"A Mirror for a Queen? Constructions of Queenship in Lucas of Tuy and Rodrigo Jiménez de Rada." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 10–13, 2012.

"Infantas and Infantazgo in the Twelfth Century: The Cases of Elvira Alfonso and Sancha Raimúndez." Annual Meeting of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, Boston, MA, March 22–25, 2012.

"Foreigners and Foes in the Leonese Succession Crisis of 1230." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Boston, MA, January 6–9, 2011.

"The Queen's Power and the Bishop's: Royal and Ecclesiastical Regency in the *Historia Compostellana*." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 7–10, 2009.

"'Her Virtue-Filled Breast': Berenguela of Castile as Woman and Ruler in the Writings of Her Bishops." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 8–11, 2008.

"Two Queens of León: Teresa of Portugal and Berenguela of Castile." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 10–13, 2007.

“Foreigners and Foes in the Leonese Succession Crisis of 1230.” Conference of Historians of Medieval Iberia, St. Andrews, Scotland, September 7-8, 2006.

“The Seat of Her Power: Valladolid in the Political Career of Berenguela of Castile (1180-1246).” Annual Meeting of the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, Lexington, KY, April 6-9, 2006.

“Taken from His Sister’s Power: Aristocrats and Allies in the Regency of Berenguela of Castile, 1214-1217.” Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, Boston, MA, March 30-April 1, 2006.

Chaired sessions

“New Approaches to Medieval Iberian Studies.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, New York, NY, January 3–6, 2020.

“‘International’ Religious Exchange in Thirteenth-Century Iberia.” Annual Meeting of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, Baltimore, MD, March 19–22, 2015.

Community presentations

“Savonarola: The Moral Dictator of Florence.” Smithsonian Associates, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, March 21, 2018.

“The Armed Pilgrimage: Understanding the Crusades.” Smithsonian Associates, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, June 25, 2016.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Scholarship

University of Maryland Research and Scholarship Award	2014
University of Maryland General Research Board Award	2008
Harvard Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2006
Medieval Academy of America Dissertation Grant	2006
Program for Cultural Cooperation Between Spain’s Ministry of Culture and United States Universities Research Grant	2006
Real Colegio Complutense Research Grant	2006
Medieval Academy of America Graduate Student Prize	2006
Fulbright/IIIE Doctoral Dissertation Research Award	2004

Teaching

Maryland Book Exchange Teacher Appreciation Award (student-nominated)

2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Maryland, College Park

- HIST 111 The Medieval World
- HIST 133/ “God Wills It!”: The Crusades in Medieval and Modern Perspectives
RELS 289D (*An I-series course*)
- HIST 289A Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Medieval Spain: Tolerance, Oppression, and the
Problematic Past (*An I-series course*)
- HIST 328G Heretics, Witches, and Slaves: Marginalized Communities in the Middle Ages
- HIST 330/ Europe in the Making: The Early Medieval West, A.D. 300–1000
RELS 340
- HIST 331/ Europe in the Later Middle Ages, A.D. 1000–1500
RELS 341
- HIST 408I Senior Seminar: The Twelfth-Century Renaissance
- HIST 408L Senior Seminar: Medieval Heresies
- HIST 495 Women in Medieval Culture and Society
- HIST 619Z Women and Gender in the Middle Ages

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Book review editor, American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain 2016–present

Manuscripts reviewed

Palgrave-Macmillan Press
Pennsylvania State University Press
Routledge Press
Anuario de Estudios Medievales
Catholic Historical Review
Journal of International History
Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies
National Women’s Studies Association Journal
Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History

Committee service

University of Maryland, College Park

Chair, Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses	2018–2019
University Senate	2016–2019

College of Arts and Humanities (University of Maryland)

Graduate Field Committee in Medieval and Early Modern Studies	Ongoing
Search Committee for the Chair of the Department of Philosophy	2017–2018
History and Social Science Review Board, College of Arts & Humanities	2015–2016

Department of History (University of Maryland)

Ancient Mediterranean Search Committee	2019–2020
Post-Tenure Review Committee	2019–2021
Undergraduate Committee	2007–2010, 2015–2019
Salary Committee	2013–2014
Chair, Late Antique Search Committee	2014
Standing Nominating Committee	2012–2013
Graduate Committee	2010–2013
Internal Review Committee	2009–2010
Executive Committee	2008–2010
Chair Review Committee	2009

LANGUAGES

Proficient

Latin, Spanish

Reading knowledge

Catalan, French, German, Italian, Portuguese

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain
 American Historical Association
 Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies
 Medieval Academy of America
 Royal Studies Network