

Seth Strickland

 buzzcauldron |  sethjstrickland |  buzzcauldron.github.io
 strickland@cmu.edu |  +16072882604

Academic Appointments

Proofs & Reasons

May 2026 – Present

Researcher

Carnegie Mellon University

- Combines recent advances in natural language processing with CMU’s growing leadership in digital humanities to provide the first window onto the long-timescale development of mathematical imagination and the ways calculational techniques hybridize with a broader spiritual and mystical imaginary.

Carnegie Mellon University

Aug 2023 – Present

Lecturer – Writing and Communications

Pittsburgh, PA

- **Courses Taught:** 76-106: Poetry for Programmers – novel course design that unites philosophy of computer science and poetics.
76-101: Hunger: Interpretation and Argument – developing markdown files to aid student critical engagement with corporate AI tools.
76-270: Writing for the Professions.
- **Service:** Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group.

Cornell University

Aug 2022 – May 2023

Joseph F. Martino '53 Lecturer in Undergraduate Teaching

Ithaca, NY

- **Courses Taught:** Erotic Ecologies I & II; Medieval Dreams and Modern Insomnia.

Cornell University

Aug 2017 – Dec 2021

Instructor of Record

Ithaca, NY

- **Courses Taught:** Writing and Community Engagement; American Voices; Games and Contests (Writing about Place/Motion); Collecting Evidence (Mystery Stories).
- **Teaching Assistant:** Medical Humanities (Spring 2019).
- **Service:** President, Medieval Studies Graduate Organization; Graduate Policy and Liaison Committee Member.

Saint Louis University

Aug 2014 – May 2016

Instructor of Record

St. Louis, MO

- **Courses Taught:** Advanced Strategies in Rhetoric and Research.
- **Co-Founder:** Text Mining Initiative, Walter J. Ong, S.J., Center for Digital Humanities.
- **Service:** EGSO Event Planner and Treasurer; EGSO Committee Member; Graduate Student Association Representative for English.

Education

Cornell University

2022

Ph.D., Medieval Literature

Ithaca, NY

- Dissertation: “Rewrite this Book: Compilation and Experimental Literary Practices in *Piers Plowman* and Late Medieval English Book Culture”

M.A., Medieval Literature

2019

Saint Louis University

St. Louis, MO

M.A., English

2016

- Thesis: “Double Vision: *Piers Plowman* and the Medieval Miscellany”

Hillsdale College

Hillsdale, MI

B.A., Classics and English Literature

2012

Digital Humanities & Public Scholarship

Research Party

2025 – Present

Creator & Developer

Pittsburgh, PA

- Designed and launched [Research Party](#), a digital humanities platform dedicated to revealing social networks and bias in bibliographies.
- Offers the possibility for expansion of bibliographies after analysis is complete.

Digital Humanities Lab

2025 – Present

Co-Founder

Pittsburgh, PA

- Establishing a working group for researchers in CMU’s English department and beyond focused on practical digital and computational solutions to real research problems.

Computational Humanities Research Group

2025 – Present

Department Coordinator

Pittsburgh, PA

- Coordinating events for CMU’s English department in coordination with the Posner Center and CMU Libraries to give local digital humanities researchers a public platform.

Issuing Citations

2025 – Present

Chair and Co-Founder

Pittsburgh, PA

- Established and coordinated a meeting space for graduate students to present WIP to peers from other disciplines.

Glyph Machina

2023 – Present

Medievalist & Technical Liaison

Remote

- Updated an .xml visual editor and wrote software to expand Latin abbreviations automatically.
- Transcribed manuscripts to .xml format and corrected transcriptions in VS Code.
- Authored approved SBIR Pre-application documents and internal technical documentation.

Public Works

2022 – 2023

Co-Founder

Ithaca, NY

- Co-founded and maintained an interdisciplinary lecture series aimed at connecting academic speakers with public audiences. (www.publicworks.info).

Text Mining Initiative

2014 – 2016

Co-Founder

St. Louis, MO

- Co-founded a digital humanities working group aimed at genre identification through distant reading practices.

Consulting

Gilliam Writers Group
Faculty

2023 – Present
New York, NY

- Consult with creative and academic writers to bring writing projects to completion and to market.

Publications & Creative Work

Academic Publications

Zhang, Michael, Elise Wang, Charlotte Whatley, **Seth Strickland**, and Dylan Bannon (May 2026). *Democratizing the medieval English legal tradition*. arXiv: 2605.00977 [cs.CV]. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2605.00977>.

Strickland, Seth (May 2025b). “III Middle English: Langland”. In: *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 104.1.

— (2025c). “Review of Elise Wang, The Making of Felony Procedure in Middle English Literature”. In: *Law and History Review*.

— (May 2024c). “III Middle English: Langland”. In: *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 103.1. URL: <https://academic.oup.com/ywes/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ywes/maae005/7679460?searchresult=1>.

— (July 2023a). “III Middle English: Langland”. In: *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 102.1, pp. 171–263. URL: <https://academic-oup-com.cmu.idm.oclc.org/ywes/article/102/1/171/7220008>.

— (July 2022a). “III Middle English: Langland”. In: *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 101.1, pp. 185–282. URL: <https://academic-oup-com.cmu.idm.oclc.org/ywes/article/101/1/185/6646567>.

— (2022c). “Review of Arvind Thomas, Piers Plowman and the Reinvention of Church Law in the Late Middle Ages”. In: *Recherche littéraire / Literary Research* 38.1, pp. 203–208. URL: <https://www.peterlang.com/document/1275890>.

Creative Works

Strickland, Seth (2024a). “[My father didn’t see the possum trundling]”. In: *The Pierian*.

— (May 2024b). “[Nothing Can Express it]”. In: *Stink Eye Magazine*. URL: <https://stinkeyemagazine.com/seth-strickland/>.

— (2020). “A Certain Lie about the Phoenix”. In: *Goodbye, Mexico: Poems of Remembrance*. Ed. by Sarah Cortez. Texas A&M University Press.

— (2015). “Imagination”. In: *The Tower Light*.

Strickland, Seth (2012a). “[When you know what it is to suffer]”. In: *The Tower Light*.

— (2012b). “Garlic”. In: *The Tower Light*.

— (2012c). “Orion”. In: *The Tower Light*.

Invited Lectures (Selected)

The Beatrice Institute

Pittsburgh, PA

- “Reflections on Lucian Simon’s ‘Schola’ (1926)” Aug 2025
- “Romantic Poetry: The Theology of Blake’s Poison Tree” Mar 2025
- “Piers Plowman and Questions of Justice” Feb 2025
- “Old English Poetry: Dream of the Rood” Jan 2025
- “Reflections on Robert Gwathmey’s ‘Hoeing’” Aug 2024

University of Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, PA

- “The manuscripts of Piers Plowman” Sept 2023

International Poetry Forum

Pittsburgh, PA

- “Albertus Magnus as Guidance for Ethics and AI” (Poets-in-Person series) Nov 2024

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

Project & Proposals Award (\$2000)	American Society for Legal History
Provost’s Inclusive Teaching Fellowship (\$5000)	Carnegie Mellon University
Centre for Medieval Literature Graduate Student Bursary	SDU / York
Cornell University Conference Research Travel Grant	Cornell University
Sage Fellowship	Cornell University
Alan Young-Bryant Poetry Award	Cornell University
Truman Capote PhD Writer’s Award	Cornell University
President’s Fund Travel Grant	Cornell University
Vatican Film Library Research Grant (\$8000)	Saint Louis University
Donald Howard Travel Scholarship	New Chaucer Society
Saint Louis University Graduate Assistantship	Saint Louis University
Alan F. Hilfiker Endowed Graduate Scholarship	Saint Louis University
Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant	Newberry Library
University Writing Services Mentor of the Month	Saint Louis University

Conference Presentations

Bannon, Dylan, **Seth Strickland**, Elise Wang, Charlotte Whatley, and Michael Zhang (2025).

“Making the Law Legible: A Self-Correcting BERT-Like Transformer as Manuscript Transcription Aid”. The 27th Conference of the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities.

Strickland, Seth (2025a). “Divine Daughters in Law”. 27th Conference of the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities at Georgetown Law in Washington, D.C.

- Strickland, Seth (2025d). “The Brazen Head of Vector Analysis: Robert Grosseteste and Albertus Magnus as Technological Forerunners”. Twentieth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences | Minds and Machines: Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms, Ethics, and Order in Global Society.
- (2024d). “Reviewed for Publication: Heidi Wright’s Designing an Online Reading and Writing Course: Content, Caveats, and Accessibility”. Symposium on Second Language Writing. Tucson, AZ. November 15, 2024. URL: <https://oli.cmu.edu/courses/reading-to-write-research-articles-across-the-disciplines/>.
- (2023b). “The Last Medieval Scribe: John Colyns and Authorial Control”. Public Works. Ithaca, NY.
- (2022b). “Playing Chicken with Fate: Fortunate Dreams of the Body in Chaucer’s ‘The Nun’s Priest’s Tale’”. New Chaucer Society. Durham University.
- (2022d). “Your Own Personal Archive: Piers Plowman and Innovations of Abstraction”. Centre for Medieval Literature. The Danish Institute, Rome.
- (2019a). “‘Speke, Parrot’: Echoes of Romance in Harley 2252”. Leeds International Medieval Congress. University of Leeds.
- (2019b). “Death in Unity: Skepticism, Wounds, and Epistemic Crises in Piers Plowman B.20”. 7th International Piers Plowman Society Meeting. University of Miami.
- (2018). “Peace at Peace: Scales of Redemption in Piers Plowman”. New Chaucer Society Biennial Congress. University of Toronto.
- (2016). “Incest and the Grammar of the Gloss: Productive Omission in Pericles and Confessio Amantis”. IV International Congress of the John Gower Society. Apollonius and Pericles: Manuscripts, Rhetoric, Performance, and Desire. Durham University.
- Strickland, Seth**, Helen Davies, and Margaret Smith (2016). “Roundtable: Doing DH: Opportunities and Challenges for Graduate Students in the Digital Humanities”. 4th Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Saint Louis University.
- Strickland, Seth**, Jonathan Sawday, Lauren Kersey, and Geoffrey Brewer (2016). “Which Time Is It? Digital Queries and Early Modern Period Schemes”. The Walter J. Ong Symposium on Digital Humanities. Saint Louis University.

Service & Organization

- **Organizer:** 7th International Piers Plowman Society (Miami, FL); TMI Inaugural Conference (St. Louis).
- **Panel Organizer:** Activism I & II (IPPS); Slaughterhouse Vibes (SLU Symposium).
- **Session Chair:** Futures of Tradition (Cornell); Activism II (IPPS); Chaucerian Narratives (Illinois Medieval Association).

Skills & Languages

Research Languages:

- *Professional/Advanced*: Latin, Middle English, Old English
- *Intermediate/Reading*: French (B1), Old Norse, German
- *Basic*: Spanish, Italian, Old French, Attic Greek

Technical Skills:

- *Languages/Formats*: Python, Julia, HTML5, LaTeX, XML/TEI
- *Tools*: VS Code, Text Mining (Stylometry), Linux