

ALEX FAIRBANKS-UKROPEN

Department of Literature, Language, and Arts
Texas A&M University–San Antonio

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Lecturer of English, Fall 2026 - Present
Texas A&M University–San Antonio

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ph.D. in English, with a minor in Latin (2026)

Dissertation: “A Land of Saints: Sacred Territory in Early Medieval English Literature”

Committee: Dr. Martin Foys, Dr. Lisa Cooper, Dr. Jordan Zweck, and Dr. Alex Dressler

University of New Mexico

M.A. in English, with a concentration in Medieval Studies (2018)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

B.A. in English and Rhetoric (2013)

PUBLICATIONS

Chapters

“Aldhelm’s *Enigmata* and the Commentaries from the Canterbury School: A Monastic Curriculum in Play,” in *Pleasure and Leisure in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Age: Cultural-Historical Perspectives on Toys, Games, and Entertainment*, edited by Albrecht Classen. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter, 2019

Peer-Reviewed Editions

Contributing Editor, [*Old English Poetry in Facsimile 2.0*](#) (Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2019-): over 90 editions as sole or contributing editor, including *Aldhelm’s Preface*, *Andreas*, *Christ III (Judgment Day)*, *Daniel*, *Genesis A/B*, *5 Exeter Book Riddles*, and *5+ Paris Psalms*, among others (for full list, see oepoetryfacsimile.org)

- *OEPP* is a Medieval Academy of America [Medieval Digital Resource](#), peer reviewed and formally recommended by members of the [Speculum Review Board](#) and the Medieval Academy of America’s [Digital Humanities and Multimedia Studies Committee](#)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Sacred Bodies and a Land in Turmoil: The Symbiotic Relationship between Saints and the Environment in Bede’s *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*,” sponsored by the Centre for Medieval & Renaissance Research, University of Winchester. The International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 2024

“Bede’s Version of the English Landscape: Saints’ Bodies and Sacred Environments in the *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*,” sponsored by the *Old English Newsletter*. The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 2024

“Rethinking Biblical Exile in Early Medieval England: Bestial Transformation and the Rationality of Conversion in the Old English *Daniel*,” sponsored by *Mediaevalia: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Medieval Studies Worldwide*. The International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 2021

“Gigantic Bodies in the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* and *The Travels of Sir John Mandeville*.” The 15th Annual Graduate Conference on Language and Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (MadLit), University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 2019

“Didactic Functions of Play in Aldhelm’s *Enigmata*.” The 15th International Symposium on Medieval and Early Modern Studies, University of Arizona, Tuscan, AZ, 2018

“Aldfrith’s Golden Age: The Restoration of English and Irish Relations After the Synod of Whitby.” 2018 Joint Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association / Medieval Association of the Pacific Conference, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV, 2018

TEACHING

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

As Instructor

Intersectional Shakespeare (2026)

Composition I (2026)

University of Wisconsin-Madison

As Instructor

Intro to College Composition (2021, 2022)

As Teaching Assistant

Literature and Culture II: from the 18th Century to the Present (2024, 2025)

Literature and Culture I: to the 18th Century (2022, 2023, 2025)

Global Science Fiction (2021)

Literature and Medicine (2020)

Literature and Popular Culture: *Beowulf* to Tolkien (2020)

Ethnic and Multicultural Literature: Performing Race in America (2019)

As Writing Center Tutor

UW-Madison Writing Center Instructor (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)

UW-Madison Writing Center Outreach Member (2023)

University of New Mexico

As Instructor

From Utopia to Dystopia: Exploring Political and Cultural Anxieties in Science-Fiction (2018)

Composition II (2016, 2017)

Composition I (2015, 2016)

As Teaching Assistant

Viking Mythology (2016)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

English Department Dissertator Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Fall 2024

Student Research Grants Competition Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Summer 2024

Department of English Graduate Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2018

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Vice President, Graduate Association of Medieval Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 2021-May 2022

Treasurer, Graduate Association of Medieval Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 2020-May 2021

Medieval Outreach Program Member, The Institute for Medieval Studies, University of New Mexico, 2016-2018

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Medieval Academy of America

Modern Language Association

READING PROFICIENCY

Old English, Latin (classical and medieval)

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST