CURRICULUM VITAE

Daniel Lord Smail
Frank B. Baird, Jr. Professor of History
Department of History
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
smail at fas.harvard.edu
617-496-0149

Academic employment, service, and activity

2006-          Professor, Department of History, Harvard University
1995-2005      Professor (Assistant to Full), Department of History, Fordham University

2016-18        Chair, Department of History
2014-15        Interim Chair, Department of History
2013-16        Bentley Prize Committee, American Historical Association
2012-14        Chair, Medieval Studies Committee
2008-2011      Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of History
2008-2011      J. Russell Major Prize Committee, American Historical Association
2006-09        Board of Editors, American Historical Review
2005-07        Editorial Board, French Historical Studies
2005-07        Council Member, Western Society for French History
2001-2004      Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of History, Fordham University
2001-2002      Co-Director, Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham University
2001-2005      Pinkney Prize Committee, Soc. for French Hist. Studies
2001-2002      Local Arrangements Committee, MAA Convention
2000          President’s Book Award Committee, Soc. Sci. History Association
1999-2000      Program Committee, Western Society for French History
1997-99        Board Member, Western Society for French History
1997          Program Committee, Western Society for French History

Education

Graduate        University of Michigan, Department of History; Ph.D. August 1994
1987-94        Dissertation: “Mapping Networks and Knowledge in Medieval Marseille 1337-62: Variations on a Theme of Mobility”

Undergraduate
1979-1984      University of Wisconsin, B.A. May 1984 in History and Philosophy

Grants, fellowships, and honors
Research and teaching interests

Material culture
History and anthropology of law and justice, 1200-1600
Urban history, southern France, Italy, Mediterranean
Historiography
Natural history and neurohistory

Research Networks

“The Documentary Archaeology of Later Medieval Europe” (Co-PI, with Gabriel Pizzorno). This project seeks to lay the ground for a documentary archaeology of late medieval Mediterranean through incorporating household inventories and other sources into a database of material culture.
http://dighist.fas.harvard.edu/projects/DALME/

“Laying Up Treasures” (Co-PI, with Andrew Shryock). This network explores patterns of collecting, storing, and hoarding in the human past from anthropological, historical, and biological perspectives.
http://dighist.fas.harvard.edu/projects/MOL/wordpress/

Monographs


Editions


Articles and book chapters
“Priorities of Law: A Conversation with Judith Scheele, Daniel Lord Smail, Bianca Premo, and Bhavani Raman.” Published online http://cssh.lsa.umich.edu/2017/07/05/priorities-of-law/


**Papers and Lectures**

Why do People Keep Things (including Manuscripts)?” Paper delivered at the Mellon-Sawyer Seminar, University of Iowa, April 2017


Discussant at an international conference “Faida: Feud and blood feud between customary law and legal process in medieval and early modern Europe,” University of Ca’ Foscari, Venice, June 2016. Invited speaker.

Discussant at an international workshop “Listes d’objets,” part of the program of studies
“Pouvoir des listes au Moyen Âge,” École française de Rome, June 2017. Invited speaker.


“The Documentary Archaeology of Late Medieval Europe.” Paper delivered to the faculty and fellows at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, March 2016.


“Law and the Uncertainty of Value in Late Medieval Marseille and Lucca.” Paper delivered at the conference “Ignorance, Nescience, Nonknowledge: Late Medieval and Early Modern Coping with Unknowns,” German Historical Institute, Paris, April 2015. Invited speaker.


“Beyond the Modernist Understanding of Consciousness,” University of Minnesota, February 2015. Invited speaker.


Comment, Dipesh Chakrabarty, Tanner Lectures, Yale Humanities Center, February 2015.


“Humans and Things in a Deep Historical Perspective.” Lecture at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. October 2014. Invited speaker.


“Hoarding and the Human Past.” Paper delivered at the University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, May 2013. Invited speaker. Also delivered at the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, June 2013, and the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, May 2014.


“Deep History.” Seminar at the University of York, York, United Kingdom, October 2011. Invited speaker.


“Sovereignty and Debt in Late Medieval Mediterranean Europe.” Paper delivered at the American Historical Association Convention, Boston, MA, January 2011.

“Comment” on Dipesh Chakrabarty, “Does Global Climate Change, Change History?” Delivered at the American Historical Association Convention, Boston, MA, January 2011.


“Is Culture Just a Drug? History, Neuroscience, and the ‘Great Transformation’.” Millercomm lecture delivered at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, April, 2009. Versions also delivered at the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada, March, 2009; the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, March, 2009; and the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, March 2010 (Burak Distinguished Lecturer). Invited speaker.


“In the Grip of Sacred History.” Seminar, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, January 2008.


“Violence and Predation in Marseille and Lucca (Fourteenth Century).” Paper delivered at the Eisenberg Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, November 2007. Invited speaker. Versions also delivered at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, May, 2008; the Midwest Medieval History Conference, Denison University, Granville, OH, October 2008; the New England Medieval Conferences, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, September 2009; the University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, January 2010. Written versions discussed at seminars at Yale University, New Haven, CT, February 2010; Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, March 2010.

“Western Civ, Medieval History, and the Idea of Paleolithic Dystopia.” Paper delivered at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, November 2006. Invited speaker.


“In the Margins of Danger: Sanctuary and Exile in Late Medieval Marseille.” Paper delivered at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, October 2001. Invited speaker.


Seminars, workshops, and forums


Boston Area French History Association, Boston, MA. Organized with Jeff Ravel. 2008-


Ph.D. students


Public history


Consultant to the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts High School History program (2011-).

http://www.historytoday.com/MainArticle.aspx?m=33355&amid=30283350


Radio interviews about On Deep History and the Brain
• KERA, November 26, 2007.

Presentation on history and deep time at “Beyond Belief 2.0,” organized by the Science Network at the Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, November 2007. Invited speaker.

Chatham High School (New York). Consulted with teachers and staff on teaching the natural history of homo sapiens in high schools and taught two classes of 11th and 12th grade students. April 2003.


*Professional memberships*

American Historical Association  
Medieval Academy of America  
Society for French Historical Studies  
Western Society for French History