

Dr. Daniel L. Schwartz
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Education

Ph.D., History, 2009, Princeton University
M.A., History, 2003, Princeton University
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Classics, 2001, University of California, Los Angeles
M.A., Christian Thought, 1998, Trinity International University
B.A., Philosophy and Religious Studies, 1995, University of California, Santa Barbara

Academic Positions

Texas A&M University
2016-present, Associate Professor, Department of History
2015-2023, Associate Director, Center of Digital Humanities Research
2010-2016, Assistant Professor, Department of History
University of Oxford, 2009-2010, Andrew W. Mellon Post-doctoral Research Fellow
Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, 2008-2009, Research Fellow
Bryn Mawr College, 2007-2008, Instructor of Medieval History

Fields

Late Antiquity, Byzantine Empire, Roman Empire, Syriac History and Culture, History of Christianity, Medieval Mediterranean World, Digital Humanities

Courses Taught

The Bishop in Late Antiquity, Byzantium, the Crusades, Digital History, Digital Prosopography, Digital Syriac Studies, Early Christian Monasticism, the Emperor Constantine, History of Christianity, Roman Republic, Roman Empire, Syriac Language, World History

Awards and Honors

Highly Prestigious Award Recognition, Faculty Affairs and the College of Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M University, Spring 2024

Research and Publications

Monographs

- *Paideia and Cult: Christian Initiation in Theodore of Mopsuestia*. Washington D.C. and Cambridge, MA: The Center for Hellenic Studies and Harvard University Press, 2013. [A Russian translation of this monograph has also been produced. Translation by Z.A. Lurie. Russian introduction by V.K. Pichugina and Z.A. Lurie. Paideia Series. St. Petersburg: Publishing House of the RKhG, 2023.]

Co-Edited Volumes

- *Conversion in Late Antiquity: Christianity, Islam, and Beyond*. Edited by Arietta Papaconstantinou with Neil McLynn and Daniel L. Schwartz. Farnham: Ashgate, 2015.

Digital Humanities Scholarship (Editor, Co-Editor, or Co-Developer)

- Syriaca.org The Syriac Reference Portal. Since 2015, I have served as the Director of Syriaca.org, a collaborative linked open data project in the field of Syriac Studies. Link: <http://syriaca.org>.

- Winona Salesky, David A. Michelson, Daniel Schwartz, Jeanne-Nicole Mellon-Saint Lauren, and William L Potter, developers, *The Gaddel App (Srophe Software, 2024-present)*. *The Gaddel App* is an open-source application for TEI XML and RDF-based digital humanities and digital cultural heritage projects. Codebase: <https://github.com/srophe/gaddel>.
- Winona Salesky and David A. Michelson, and Daniel L. Schwartz, developers, *The Srophe App (Srophe Software, 2014-2024)*. *The Srophe App* is an open-source customization of eXist-DB for TEI XML-based projects focused on digital humanities and digital cultural heritage. The application is now used by more than 10 digital humanities projects. About: <https://srophe.app/>. Codebase: <https://github.com/srophe/srophe>.
- Sergey Minov and Daniel L. Schwartz, eds., *The Syriac Taxonomy*. Status: Beta release. Link: [Beta version](#); [RDF version](#). This project is a controlled vocabulary for the field of Syriac Studies containing nearly 1500 keyword concepts organized according to the standards of the SKOS (Simple Knowledge Organization System) vocabulary.
- Daniel L. Schwartz, General Editor, *SPEAR: Syriac Persons, Events, and Relations*. Status: Forthcoming April 2025. *SPEAR* is a prosopographical database providing data about persons and their relationships within the context of historical events.
- William L. Potter and David A. Michelson, eds., Daniel L. Schwartz, assoc. ed., Daniel L. Schwartz, technical editor, *The Syriac Gazetteer*. Status: Published 2014 (with Thomas A Carlson serving as co-editor), revised 2019. Link: <http://syriaca.org/geo>. Link: [TEI XML schema customization](#).
- David A. Michelson, Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, Nathan P. Gibson, and Daniel L. Schwartz, eds., Daniel L. Schwartz, technical editor, *The Syriac Biographical Dictionary (SBD)*. Status: Published 2014, revised 2019. Link: <http://syriaca.org/persons>. Link: [TEI XML schema customization](#).

Digital Humanities Scholarship (Technical Editor)

- David A. Michelson and William L. Potter, eds. Daniel L. Schwartz, technical editor, *Syriac Manuscripts in the British Library: A New Digital Edition of Wright's Catalogue*. Status: Beta public release. Link: <https://bl.syriac.uk/index.html>. Link: [TEI XML schema customization](#).
- James Walters, General Editor. Editorial board: David G.K. Taylor, Aaron Butts, Muriel Debié, Kristian S. Heal, George A. Kiraz, David A. Michelson, Daniel L. Schwartz, Dorothea Weltecke. *Digital Syriac Corpus*. Published 2018. Link: <https://syriaccorpus.org/>.
- *Gorgias Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage: Electronic Edition (eGEDSH)*. Print edition editors: Sebastian Brock, George A. Kiraz, Lucas Van Rompay, and Aaron Butts. Technical editors for the digital edition David A. Michelson, Ute Possekkel, Daniel L. Schwartz. Link: <https://gedsh.bethmardutho.org/>. *eGEDSH* published 2018.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- “Modeling a Born-Digital Factoid Prosopography using the TEI and Linked Data.” (Co-written with Nathan P. Gibson and Katayoun Torabi). *Journal of the Text Encoding Initiative* (2022), <https://journals.openedition.org/jtei/3979>.
- “From Manuscript Catalogues to a Handbook of Syriac Literature: Modeling an Infrastructure for Syriaca.org.” Nathan P. Gibson, David A. Michelson, and Daniel L. Schwartz. *Journal of Data Mining and Digital Humanities*, Special Issue on Computer-Aided Processing of Intertextuality in Ancient Languages (May 2017), <http://jdmhd.episciences.org/1395>
- “Religious Violence and Eschatology in the *Syriac Julian Romance*.” *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 19.4 (2011), 565-87. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/earl.2011.0051>

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- “Discourses of Religious Violence and Christian Charity: The Christianization of Syria in Jacob of Sarug’s *On the Fall of the Idols*,” in *Motions of Late Antiquity: Essays on Religion, Politics, and Society in Honor of Peter Brown*, edited by Jamie Kreiner and Helmut Reimitz. Turnhout: Brepols, 2016.
- “Keeping Secrets and Making Christians: Catechesis and the Revelation of the Christian Mysteries.” In *Revelation, Literature and Community in Late Antiquity*, edited by Philippa Townsend and Moulie Vidas, 131-51. *Texts and Studies in Ancient Judaism*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2011.

Published Conference Proceedings

- “Syriaca.org: New Digital Tools for the Study of the Medieval Middle East.” (Co-written with David A. Michelson.) In *Исторический Опыт Мировых Цивилизаций И Россия: Материалы IV Международной Научно-Практической Конференции 13 Ноября 2015 Г.*, edited by И. К. Лапшина and О. В. Захарова, 19–23. Владимир: Владимирский государственный университет, 2016. [In *Historical Research in World and Russian Civilizations: Papers of the IV International Conference of Scholars and Practitioners 13 November 2015*, edited by I. K. Lapshina and O. V. Zakharova, 19–23. Vladimir: Vladimir State University, 2016.]

Entries in Reference Works

- “Conversion,” “Fasting,” “Godparenthood,” “Kinship, spiritual,” “Sermons, Late Antiquity,” and “Theodore of Mopsuestia” in *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, edited by Roger Bagnall, et al. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.
- “Basil of Caesarea,” “Gregory of Nazianzos,” and “Gregory of Nussa,” (with G. Karamanolis); in *The Encyclopedia of Ancient Natural Scientists: The Greek Tradition and Its Many Heirs*. Edited by Paul T. Keyser & Georgia L. Irby-Massie. New York: Routledge 2008.

Book Reviews

- Review of Philip Michael Forness, *Preaching Christology in the Roman Near East: A Study of Jacob of Serugh*. Oxford Early Christian Studies. (Oxford: University of Oxford Press, 2018), *Church History* 89, no. 4 (December 2020): 909–11. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009640721000159>.
- Review of Nathan Witkamp, *Tradition and Innovation: Baptismal Rite and Mystagogy in Theodore of Mopsuestia and Narsai of Nisibis*. *Vigiliae Christianae*, Supplements 149. (Leiden: Brill, 2018), *Church History* 88, no. 2 (June 2019): 482–84. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009640719001318>.

Scholarly Blogs

- “Blog CXXVI (126): Eight Questions: Ancient History,” *In the Service of Clio: Essays on Career Management in the Historical Profession* (blog), 27 July 2012, <http://sarantakes.blogspot.com/2012/07/blog-cxxvi-126-antiquity.html>.

Fellowships and Research Grants

Nationally Competitive Grants and Fellowships

- \$349,067 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, “Linking Texts and Data from the Medieval Middle East: Next-Generation Discovery and Access Tools for Syriac Cultural Heritage,” PI: Daniel L. Schwartz, 36 month project, 2023-2026
- \$300,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, “Syriaca.org: Advanced Reference Resources for Middle Eastern History,” PI: Daniel L. Schwartz, 28 month project, 2015-2017

- \$249,711 (sub-contract PI share, \$39,498) from the National Endowment for the Humanities, “The Syriac Reference Portal: New Access to Sources for the History of the Middle East,” PI: David A. Michelson, Vanderbilt, 36 month project, 2012-2014

Competitive College and University Grants and Fellowships, Texas A&M University

- \$15,000 from the Arts and Humanities Fellowship, 2022-25
- \$1,500 from the College of Liberal Arts for International Travel Support, 2019
- \$1,700 from the Southeastern Conference Visiting Faculty Travel Grant, 2019
- \$1,500 from the College of Liberal Arts for International Travel Support, 2016
- \$5,250 from the College of Liberal Arts Cluster Advancement and Success Award, “Controversies over Evaluating Digital Work: Implications for Career Development in Academia,” 2015 (with Laura Mandell)
- \$15,000 from the Arts and Humanities Fellowship, 2015-2018
- \$15,000 from the College of Liberal Arts Seed Grant Program, 2014
- \$1,700 from the Southeastern Conference Visiting Faculty Travel Grant, 2014
- \$1,250 from the Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture, Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Scholarship, 2013
- \$15,000 from the College of Liberal Arts Strategic Development Fund, “Classical Transformations at TAMU,” 2011 (with Federica Ciccolella, Craig Kallendorf, Justin Lake, Steve Oberhelman, and Ada Palmer)

Select Presentations

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings

- “Modeling Cultural Heritage Information on the Medieval Middle East,” 2020 LD4 Conference on Linked Data in Libraries, virtual meeting due to COVID-19, 20 July 2020
- “Syriac Persons, Events, and Relations: A Linked Open Factoid-based Prosopography,” The Association of Digital Humanities Organizations, Utrecht, Netherlands, July 2019.
- “Leveraging Core Data for the Cultural Heritage of the Medieval Middle East,” part of the workshop on “Shaping Humanities Data: Use, Reuse, and Paths Toward Computationally Amenable Cultural Heritage Collections,” part of Association of Digital Humanities Organizations 2017, Montréal, Canada, August 2017
- “SPEAR: Syriac Persons, Events, and Relations,” The International Syriac Symposium, Rome, Italy, August 2016
- “Linked-Open Data and the Promise of a Syriac Prosopography,” The American Society of Church History/American Historical Association, New York, January 2015
- “Networks beyond Borders: The Potential of a Syriac Prosopography,” The North American Patristics Society, Chicago, IL, May 2014
- “Preaching with their Feet: Liturgical Procession as a Means of Lay Participation in Christianization,” The American Society of Church History/American Historical Association, Washington, DC, January 2014
- “Religious Violence and Care for the Poor in Jacob of Sarug’s *On the Fall of the Idols*,” International Syriac Studies Symposium: Syriac in its Multi-Cultural Context, Mardin Artuklu Üniversitesi, Mardin, Turkey, April 2012
- “Teaching the Faith in Theodore of Mopsuestia’s Catechetical Orations,” Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies Conference, Villanova University, October, 2007
- “Disciplina Arcani: Catechesis and the Revelation of the Christian Mysteries,” Workshop on Revelation, Literature & Community in Antiquity, Princeton, NJ, January 2007

- “Catechesis and Conversion in Late Antiquity,” International Byzantine Congress, London, U.K., 21-26 August 2006
- “Liturgy and Christian Paideia in Theodore of Mopsuestia’s Catechetical Homilies,” Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Georgia, Athens, October 2005

Conference Panel Participant

- “What Is (Late Antique) Digital Prosopography?,” Connecting Late Antiquities Conference, Bonn, Germany, February 2025

Invited Talks

- “Heart-Stretching Landscapes,” Roundtable on Peter Brown’s *Journeys of the Mind*, Nashville, TN, April 2024
- “Syriac Prosopography in the Digital Age” and “Digital Resources for the Study of Late Antiquity,” Workshop of Late Antiquity, University of Texas, March 2023
- “From Text to Data and Back Again: Modeling Syriac Heritage with TEI and Linked Data,” Cultural Heritage at Scale: Encoding Cultural Heritage at Scale, Vanderbilt University Libraries, Nashville, Tennessee, May 2019
- “Syriaca.org,” LinkSyr: Linking Syriac Data, a workshop sponsored by the Eep Talstra Centre for Bible and Computer (ETCBC), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, March 2018
- “Liturgical *Ekphrasis* in Theodore of Mopsuestia’s *Catechetical Homilies*,” Medieval and Renaissance Transformations of Antiquity, Villa Vergiliana, Cuma, Italy, September 2013
- “Coercion, Persuasion, and Belief: Understanding the Christianization of the Roman Empire” Late Roman Seminar, University of Oxford, 4 March, 2010

Invited Workshop Participant

- Repository Infrastructure for Prosopographic Data, Florida State University, virtual meeting due to COVID-19, 4-8 April, 2022
- Data Exchange Workshop, Communities of Knowledge/Wissensgemeinschaften (usaybia.net), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, virtual meeting due to COVID-19, 29-30 June 2020
- Vienna Prosopography Hackathon, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Universität Wien, 13-15 February 2019
- LinkSyr: Linking Syriac Data, a workshop sponsored by the Eep Talstra Centre for Bible and Computer (ETCBC), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 12-13 March 2018
- PeriodO: A Gazetteer of Periods for Linking and Visualizing Data, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 18-19 December 2017
- Standards for Networking Ancient Prosopographies: Data and Relations in Greco-Roman Names, University College London, April 2014

Session Chair or Commentator

- Chair, “Disaster, Disunity, and Dispersion: Theological and Ecclesiastical Challenges from Byzantium to Central Asia,” American Society of Church History, 6 January, 2013
- Moderator, “Politics, Religion, and Society,” Princeton University, 5-7 May, 2011

Public Humanities

- Shireen Korkzan, “Campus Notebook: Preserving Syriac heritage.” *National Catholic Reporter*, May 26, 2017. <https://www.ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/campus-notebook-preserving-syriac-heritage-plea-daca-students>.
- Mitch Teich, “As Turmoil Displaces Middle Eastern Christians, Scholars Work to Preserve Syriac Culture.” *WUWM Milwaukee Public Radio: NPR News in Milwaukee*, May 24, 2017. <https://www.wuwm.com/post/turmoil-displaces-middle-eastern-christians-scholars-work-preserve-syriac-culture#stream/0>.

- “In the Service of Clio: Blog CXXVI (126): Eight Questions: Ancient History,” *In the Service of Clio* (blog), July 27, 2012, <http://sarantakes.blogspot.com/2012/07/blog-cxxvi-126-antiquity.html>.

Select Professional Service

Service to the Department

- Executive Committee, June 2019-May 2023
- Graduate Student Committee, June 2012-May 2014
- Graduate Placement Director, June 2012-May 2014
- Executive Committee, June 2011-May 2013
- Diversity Committee, June 2011-May 2012

Service to the College and University

- Associate Director, Center of Digital Humanities Research, 2015-2023
- Co-Convener, Religion and Culture Working Group, Glasscock Center, 2014-2015
- Co-Convener, Religion and Culture Working Group, Glasscock Center, 2012-2013
- Co-Convener, Religion and Culture Working Group, Glasscock Center, 2011-2012

Service to the Profession

- Moderator, [BodoArXiv](#): Open Repository of Medieval Studies, 2019-2022
- Editorial Board, [The Digital Syriac Corpus](#), 2017-present
- Director, [Syriaca.org](#), 2015-present
- Advisory Committee for the Syriac Reference Portal Project, 2010-2012

Workshops Organized

- Mapping Ancient Lives and Social Networks, organized with David A. Michelson (Vanderbilt) and Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette), Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI 23-24 May 2017

Select Digital Humanities Experience

- “Advanced Digital Editing: Modeling the Text and Making the Edition,” NEH Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities, University of Pittsburgh, 2022
- “XPath for Document Archaeology and Project Management,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 2018
- “Linked Open Data and the Semantic Web,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 2018
- “Digital Humanities Pedagogy: Integration in the Curriculum,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 2016
- “Advanced TEI Concepts/TEI Customization,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 2016
- Participant in Workshop hosted by Standards for Networking Ancient Prosopographies: Data and Relations in Greco-Roman Names, University College London, April, 2014
- “Programming 4 Humanists,” Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture, Texas A&M University, certificate completed spring 2014
- “A Collaborative Approach to XSLT,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 2014

Digital Research Skills

- Knowledge architecture, Linked Open Data (LOD), Resource Description Framework (RDF), Schematron, Taxonomies, TEI XML, TEI customization, xQuery