

Angela Catalina GHIONEA

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Education

- **PhD Candidate, Bilsland-Puskas Fellow, History Instructor and TA** at History Dept, Purdue University, College of Liberal Arts, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA. Grad student in History Dept since Fall 2007.
Major: European History. Advisor: Prof. James Farr. Dissertation: ***Alchemical Patterns in European Thought and the Occult Origins of Scientific Discoveries from the Carolingians to the Early Modern Period***. Committee: Professors James Farr, John Contreni, and Myrdene Anderson, Purdue University, and Anthony Grafton, Princeton University, Visiting Fellow at Merton College Oxford.
- **Masters** in “International Relations and European Integration, The National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania, (fall 2002-February 2004), **GPA: 10/10** with honors (A+)
- **Bachelors**, School of Political and Administrative Science, University of Bucharest (1997-2001), **GPA: 9/10**, Specialty: Political Science (all courses and exams in English), Thesis: “*Anti-Semitism and Theories of Nationalism in Romania in the 1918-1938 period*”
- **Bachelors**, Law School, “Titu Maiorescu” University (1997-2003), Bucharest, Thesis: “*The Reform proposed by the Nice Treaty regarding the European Parliament*” was ranked **10/10**

Pending publications

- **book under contract:**

Chief-editor, co-author:

Medicine, Alchemy, Science and the Occult in European Thought, (2012) Cambridge Scholars Publishing, UK.

- Chapter: *Alchemical Patterns in Western European Thought: The Origins and Evolution of Alchemical Symbols in Medicine, Science and Hermetic Texts*
- Chapter: *Kabalistic Concepts in Alchemy: The Divine Word and the Power of the Sound. A Short Survey of the Philosophers’ Stone in European, Judaic and Islamic Alchemical Texts from Antiquity to Early Modern Period*

- **abstract:**

Medieval Technology, Science and Art AVISTA Forum Journal

Vol. 20, No. 1/2, 2010, page 110.

- *The Non-Rational in the Rational: the Occult Origins of Science from Carolingians to Enlightenment*

Professional Development

- Main organizer of events:
 - Purdue Conference: **Science and the Occult from Antiquity through the Early Modern Period**, April 20, 2012, support of History Dept and Puskas-Bilsland Fellowship, Purdue Univ. <http://www.catalinaghionea.net/conference2012.html>
 - Purdue Symposium: **Science and the Occult in European History**, Oct 1, 2010, support of History Dept and Puskas-Bilsland Fellowship, Purdue University. My tasks: organizer, chair (session 1), and presenter (session 2). <http://catalinaghionea.net/Symposium.html>

- Pending Conferences:
 - **Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference of German Studies Association**
October 4-7, 2012 GSA, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Session: The German Occult: Representations of Magic and Witchcraft
Paper: *Decoding "The Book with Seven Seals," an Anonymous Alchemical Manuscript*
<https://www.thegsa.org/conference/current.html>
 - **Science and the Occult from Antiquity through the Early Modern Period**
April 20, 2012 Purdue University
Paper: *The Divine Word and the Power of Sound in Alchemical Recipes*
<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/history/scienceandtheoccult>

- Papers presented at Conferences:
 - **46th International Congress in Medieval Studies**
May 12-15, 2011 Western Michigan University
Session: Alchemy and the History of Science (sponsored by *Societas Alchemica*)
Paper: *Shamanic Methods in Western European Alchemy*
<http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/Assets/pdf/congress/Schedule11.pdf>
 - **Science and Magic: Ways of Knowing in the Renaissance**
April 29-30, 2011 Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey
Session: Alchemy beyond the Laboratory
Paper: *Alchemical Patterns and Symbols in European Thought (XVI-XVIII centuries)*
<http://www.princeton.edu/renaissance/events/waysofknowing/>
 - **Science and the Occult in European History**
October 1, 2010 Purdue University, History Dept.
Session: Magic and the Occult in Europe from Antiquity to Early Modernity
Organizer and Chair: Angela C. Ghionea (with support of *Bilsland-Puskas Fellowship*)
Paper: *Origins of Alchemical Patterns in European Thought*
<http://catalinaghionea.net/Symposium.html>
 - **45th International Congress on Medieval Studies**
May 7-10, 2010 Kalamazoo: Western Michigan University
Session: Magic and the Occult from Antiquity to Early Modernity
Organizer: Paul White
Paper: *The Non-Rational in the Rational: the Occult Origins of Science from Carolingians to Enlightenment* <http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/Assets/pdf/congress/Schedule10.pdf>

- **MARS Workshops**
November 16, 2009 Indiana: Purdue University
Session: European Renaissance
Organizer: Michael Ryan
Paper: *Occult Origins of Science*
Program: <http://www.cla.purdue.edu/mars/events/marsmondays.html>
- **44th International Congress on Medieval Studies**
May 7–10, 2009 Kalamazoo: Western Michigan University
Session: Alchemy
Organizer: Nancy L. Turner
Paper: *Voynich has a Meaning: Alchemy and Exotic Plants in the Most Mysterious Manuscript in the World*
Program: <http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/Assets/pdf/congress/Schedule09.pdf>
- **MARS Workshops**
April 6, 2009 Indiana: Purdue University
Session: European Renaissance
Organizer: Michael Ryan
Paper: *New Herbs from Americas and their Use in the Renaissance Italian Medicine*
Program: <http://www.cla.purdue.edu/mars/events/marsmondays.html>
- **CSAS 2009 Conference**
April 2-5, 2009 Urbana-Champaign, Illinois: University of Illinois campus
Session: "Body, Culture and Society"
Organizer: Myrdene Anderson
Paper: *The Role of Human Prints and Divine Traces in Persuasive Rituals*
Program: <http://courses.missouristate.edu/mbuckner/CSAS09PrelimProgram.htm>
Abstract: <http://courses.missouristate.edu/mbuckner/CSAS%2009%20Paper%20Abstracts.htm>
- **Congreso Internacional Chymia. Ciencia y Naturaleza en la Europea Moderna (1450-1750)**
September 2008, El Escorial, Madrid (attended)
- **HGSA 2008 Conference**, Purdue. Paper: "*Voynich Manuscript and its Genuine Alphabet*" (12 April 2008)
- **OAH 2008 Annual Meeting**, New York, (Hilton Hotel). Paper: "*Understanding the "Voynich", the Most Mysterious Manuscript in the World. American Shamanism and Exotic Plants*" (29 March 2008)
- **MARS Conference** (Medieval and Renaissance Society, Purdue) Paper: "*New Contributions to Voynich Manuscript's Mystery*" (24 March 2008)
- **Purdue students workshop** Paper: "*Voynich Manuscript is not a Hoax. Uncovering New Evidence*" (29 January 2008)
- Other accepted papers:
 - Paper: *The Alchemical Playground During Early Modern Scientific Experiments*
Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association Annual Conference 2011, Philadelphia, PA

- Paper: *The Power of the Occult and Alchemy during Carolingians*
Third Annual Graduate Student Conference on Power and Struggle, 2011 U. of Alabama
<http://bama.ua.edu/~gha/conference.html>
- Paper: *Handprints, Footprints and Representations of Human Body in Magical Rituals*
North Central Sociological Association 2009 Conference; 2009 Michigan
Session on "Body, Culture and Society" <http://www.ncsanet.org/meetings/index.html>
- Paper: *Products of American Arid and Semi-arid Lands in European Renaissance: Trading Medicine knowledge, Herbs, and Drugs*
SCÉR (Congrès de la Société Canadienne d'Études de la Renaissance); 2009 Ottawa
Session: De Fabrica Artis Medicinae: the parts of medicine in Early Modern Times.
<http://www.crrs.ca/csrs-scer/conferences/cong-09.pdf>
- Paper: *The Role of Irrational in the Rationality of Early Modern Europe*
SCSC 2009 (The Sixteenth Century Society and Conference); 2009 Switzerland: Geneva
Session: The Supernatural in Early Modern European Society
<http://www.sixteenthcentury.org/2009GenevaProgramv2.pdf>
- Paper: *Products of American Arid and Semi-arid Lands in the Italian Renaissance: Trading Knowledge, Herbs, Food, and Drugs*
Collecting East and West, 2009 Italy, Florence Univ. of Arts & British Institute of Florence
Session: The West: New Worlds of Knowledge

Funding and Awards

- **Bilsland-Puskas Fellowship**: Sole recipient in university wide competition (won twice):
Aug. 2011 – July 2012.
Aug. 2009 - July 2010.
- **Paul and Reed Benhamou Graduate Scholarship** (2012)
- **Teaching Assistantships**, Purdue University:
 - History Dept Jan. 2008 – May 2009 and Aug. 2010 – May 2011;
 - French Dept. Aug. 2006 – Dec. 2007;
 - Italian Dept. teaching offer for 2008-2009, replaced by History funding.
- Honorary Award (October 2003 – February 2004, merit-based, for outstanding students) granted by Romania's Ministry of Education, through The National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania.
- Awarded free tuition, Masters Program in "International Relations and European Integration", The National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania, (Fall 2002 - February 2004), daily courses.

Non-academic work experience

- Lawyer, *Bucharest Bar* (2003-2005)

Teaching

- **Adjunct Faculty** **H114 History of Western Civilization II** IUN, Spring 2012.
Department of History, Philosophy, Political Science and Religious Studies,
Indiana University Northwestern,
- I design and teach **two courses** (2 classes) on same topic and level, H114, focused on European and World History from Renaissance to the present.

- **Instructor** **Hist. 302** *History of Alchemy* August 2011, Purdue.
 - I taught my proposed course

- **Instructor** **Hist. 302** *Occult Origins of Science* Spring 2010, Purdue.
 - Taught and organized entirely my proposed course for advanced undergraduate level.
 - Audience: undergraduate and some graduate students.
 - Tasks: lecturing, review sessions, office hours, proctoring multiple exams, grading, and creating entirely an original course material given the lack of such textbook on the market:
 - Compiling a course **textbook**, in electronic format, by carefully selecting 81 texts such as significant articles and chapters from academic books in the field. All material has been scanned, converted and made available on the course' webpage.
 - creation of PowerPoint lectures; selection of audio-visual materials.
 - creation of all exams and homework's content.
 - creating the website for the course (on "Purdue Blackboard")
 - Methodology: class participation and assignments (homework, quizzes, finals, and extra-credit assignments).
 - Offering support to students who expressed interest in participating with paper presentations for a symposium on the History of Science and the Occult at Purdue.
 - Skills: critical thinking, analysis of primary sources, comprehending and recognizing alchemical symbols in texts and art, short essays writing.

- **Instructor** **Hist.104** *Intro to Modern World* Summer 2009, Purdue.
 - Taught the entire intensive/concentrated course.
 - Audience: undergraduate students.
 - Tasks: lecturing, review sessions, office hours, proctoring exams, grading, organizing and creating some of the course material:
 - creating the website for the course (on "Purdue Blackboard")
 - selected primary sources (available on the course' webpage.)
 - creation of PowerPoint lectures; selection of audio-visual materials on World History.
 - creation of all exams and homework's content.
 - Methodology: in class participation and assignments (daily homework, weekly quizzes, midterm, final, and extra-credit assignments), in class showing artistic movie.
 - Skills: critical thinking in history, short essays writing.

- **TA** **History** February 2008-May 2011, Purdue.
 - Supportive role involving grading, review sessions, proctoring exams, office hours, and course preparations:

<u>Course</u>	<u>/Title</u>	
▪ History 103	/ Introduction to Medieval Europe (taught for recitation)	Spring 2011
▪ History 104	/ Introduction to Modern World	Fall 2010
▪ History 104	/ Introduction to Modern World	Spring 2009
▪ History 104	/ Introduction to Modern World	Fall 2008
▪ History 103	/ Introduction to Medieval Europe	Spring 2008

- **Other Lecturer** French Spring 2006-Fall 2007, Purdue.
 - Taught entirely several intensive introductory level courses.
 - Audience: undergraduate and some graduate students.
 - Tasks: lecturing, partial creation of course material (PowerPoint and audio), proctoring multiple exams, grading, review sessions, labs, office hours and preparing lesson plans.

- Methodology: class participation, demonstration, role-game, assignments (homework, quizzes, midterm, finals, in class showing artistic movie, and extra-credit assignments).
- Skills: reading comprehension, speaking, listening comprehension, writing skills.

<u>Course</u>	<u>/ section</u>		
▪ French 101	/ 2	Fall	2007
▪ French 101	/ 4	Fall	2007
▪ French 103	/ 401	Spring	2007
▪ French 103	/ 201	Fall	2006
▪ French 103	/ 301	Fall	2006

- **Guest lecturer:**

- **History lectures** at Purdue:
 - "The Perception of the Other during the Medieval Crusades" (Hist.103, Spring 2008)
 - "Napoleonic Wars" (Hist. 104-1, Fall 2008)
 - "Metternich's Diplomacy" (Hist. 104-1, Fall 2008)
 - "The Age of Religious European Wars" (Hist. 104-2, Spring 2009)
 - "Spain: Golden Age, Decline and Fall" (Hist. 104-2, Spring 2009)
 - "Bismarck, Unification of Germany and Italy" (Hist. 104-2, Spring 2009)
- **French:**
 - 201, for Replacement Teaching occasions
 - Invited to teach multiple culture sessions in French, levels 101-103, among them: Latin origins of French language, Purdue.
- **Other:**
 - Taught a session on Latin language (Latin 101), Fall 2007, Purdue.
 - Taught a session on "Romanian Revolution" for undergraduate level, International Relations class, Spring 2006, Purdue.
 - Taught several sessions on "Italian Culture and Policy" for Prof. Dr. Aurora Martin, (Professor of International Relations, in the School of Political Sciences, University of Bucharest, Romania).
 - Taught several sessions on "European Crusades in Middle East" for Prof. Aurora Martin (Professor of International Relations, School of Political Sciences, University of Bucharest, Romania).

- **Teaching demonstrations:** taught numerous sessions during each of the following courses:
 - Seminar in Teaching (POL 603): grade **A+**
 - Teaching College French (FR 519): grade: **A+**
- Attended **Center for Instructional Excellence** Workshops and Seminars, fall 2005-2009.
- **Certified** to conduct research using human subjects at Purdue University, by The Committee on the Use of Human Research Subjects (commonly known as IRB), after the completion of Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) Course, 2005.

Teaching Interests

- History of Alchemy
- European History
- Early Modern History
- Medieval History
- World History
- History of Romania
- Intellectual History
- History of Science

Professional Memberships and Other Activities

- Participated in various student conferences sessions (Bucharest, 1998-2005), where I presented research papers in the following fields: History of Political Ideas History of Diplomacy, International Relations Theories, European Union History, Political Culture, International Law and some Philology.
- Internship at Romanian Foreign Affairs Ministry, Bucharest, Summer 1999.
- Affiliations and Journals' subscriptions:
 - **HSS** (History of Science Society) → *Isis; Osiris*
 - **SHAC** (Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry) → *Ambix*
 - **SASM** (Society for Academic Study of Magic) → *Preternatural: Critical and Historical Studies on the Preternatural*
 - **SEHA** (Sociedad Espaniola de Historia de la Alquimia) → *Azogue*
 - **RSA** (Renaissance Society of America) → *Renaissance Quarterly*
 - **SM** (Societas Magica) → *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*
 - **AIA** (Archaeological Institute of America) → *American Journal of Archaeology*
 - **OAH** (Organization of American Historians) → *Journal of American History*
 - **AHA** (American Historical Association) → *American Historical Review*
 - **MARS** (Medieval And Renaissance Studies)
 - **HGSA** (History Graduate Students' Association)
- Other Journals' subscriptions:
 - *Early Science and Medicine*
 - *History of Religions*
 - *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism*

Languages

- Romanian: native
- English, French (near native)
- Spanish, Italian (fluent)
- Hebrew, Latin, German (good reading ability)
- Egyptian Hieroglyphs (good working knowledge)
- Classic Greek, Russian, Arabic (beginner)

References:

- James R. Farr, Professor
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