

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Drew B. Thomas

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### EDUCATION

- 2018 PHD University of St Andrews, School of History  
2012 MTS Harvard University, Divinity School  
2010 BA Saint Louis University, College of Arts and Sciences

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2022-Present University College Dublin, School of History  
Taighde Éireann – Research Ireland Pathway Programme Research Fellow  
2021-2022 University of St Andrews, School of History  
Postdoctoral Research Assistant  
2019-2021 University College Dublin, School of History  
Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
2017-2019 University of St Andrews, School of History  
Postdoctoral Research Assistant

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

*The Industry of Evangelism: Printing for the Reformation in Martin Luther's Wittenberg* (Leiden: Brill, 2021).

#### Edited Volumes

*Print Culture at the Crossroads: The Book in Central Europe*, eds. Elizabeth Dillenburg, Howard Louthan and Drew Thomas (Leiden: Brill, 2021).

#### Articles and Chapters

“Automating Iconclass: LLMs and RAG for Large-Scale Classification of Religious Woodcuts”, *Digital Humanities Quarterly* (forthcoming 2025).

“Michael Lotter und der Buchdruck in Magdeburg zur Zeit der Reformation” in *Großstadt und Reformation*, ed. Christoph Volkmar, Magdeburger Schriften, (Halle: Mitteldeutscher Verlag, forthcoming 2025).

“Provenance and Deception: Tracking Counterfeit Luther Pamphlets in Wittenberg”, *Reformation*, 30:1 (in press, 2025).

“The Business of Bibles in Reformation Printing” in *Bestsellers in the Pre-Industrial Age*, eds. Warren Boutcher and Shanti Graheli (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming 2025).

“A Crowded Field in Luther’s Wittenberg: Collaboration and Sub-Contracting in the Reformation Book Trade” in *The Book World of Early Modern Europe: Essays in Honour of Andrew Pettegree*, vol. 2, eds. Arthur der Weduwen and Malcolm Walsby (Leiden: Brill, 2022), pp. 36-50.

“The Lotter Printing Dynasty: Michael Lotter and Reformation Printing in Magdeburg” in *Print Culture at the Crossroads: The Book in Central Europe*, eds. Elizabeth Dillenburg, Howard Louthan and Drew Thomas (Leiden: Brill, 2021), pp. 245-268.

“Selling Luther: Printing Counterfeits in Reformation Augsburg” in *Communities of Print: Books and their Readers in Early Modern Europe*, eds. Rosamund Oates and Jessica Purdy (Leiden: Brill, 2022), pp. 17-38.

“Circumventing Censorship: The Rise & Fall of Reformation Print Centres” in *Negotiating Conflict and Controversy in the Early Modern Book World*, eds. Alexander Wilkinson and Graeme Kemp (Leiden: Brill, 2019), pp. 13-37.

“Cashing in on Counterfeits: Fraud in the Reformation Print Industry” in *Buying and Selling: The Business of Books in Early Modern Europe*, ed. Shanti Graheli (Leiden: Brill, 2019), pp. 276-300.

“Reconstructing Broadsheet Production in Wittenberg” in *Broadsheets: Single-sheet Publishing in the First Age of Print*, ed. Andrew Pettegree (Leiden: Brill, 2017), pp. 114-137.

### **Book Reviews**

Review of Justyna Kiliańczyk-Zięba and Magdalena Komorowska, *Early Modern Catholicism and the Printed Book: Agents—Networks—Responses* (Leiden: Brill, 2024), *Church History*, forthcoming 2025.

Review of Jonas Nordin, Gustavs Strenga and Peter Sjökvist, *The Baltic Battle of Books: Formation and Relocation of European Libraries in the Confessional Age (c. 1500-1650) and Their Afterlife* (Leiden, Brill, 2023), *Journal of Jesuit Studies*, forthcoming 2024.

Review of Avner Shamir, *Incombustible Lutheran Books in Early Modern Germany* (Routledge, 2021), *Theological Librarianship*, 15, no. 1 (2022), pp. 19-21.

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“From Image to Identity: Using AI to Uncover the Anonymous Printers of the Protestant Reformation”, article currently in progress; writing phase.

“Unveiling Provenance: Did Collectors Know Their Luther Editions Were Counterfeit?”, article currently in progress; writing phase.

*Visualizing Faith: Print, Piety and Propaganda*, monograph currently in progress; research and writing phase. Sections of this work have been presented at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference and Digital Humanities Congress, among others.

## GRANTS, AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Google Cloud Education Program (€5,000)
- 2024 Enterprise Ireland Feasibility Grant (€15,000)
- 2022 Long list, Reformation Research Consortium (REFORC) Book Award
- 2021 Science Foundation Ireland/Irish Research Council, University College Dublin  
Pathway Programme Research Fellowship (€477,454)
- 2020 Emory University, Pitts Theology Library  
Kessler Reformation Research Fellowship (\$5,000)
- 2019 Irish Research Council, University College Dublin  
Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (€91,850)
- 2019 Folger Shakespeare Library (\$7,500)
- 2019 Reformationsgeschichtliche Forschungsbibliothek, Wittenberg (€5,000)
- 2019 John Rylands Research Institute and Library, University of Manchester (£2,800)
- 2017 Economic History Society, University of St Andrews (£500)
- 2015 Printing Historical Society, University of St Andrews (£1,700)
- 2015 Bibliographical Society, University of St Andrews (£1,700)

## INVITED TALKS

- 2025 “Beyond Object Detection: Transforming Reformation Image Studies with LLMs, Vector Search, and Graph Databases”, Université Jean Monnet Saint-Étienne, 19-20 June
- 2025 “From Text to Image: Visual and Multimodal AI in the Digital Humanities”, Italian-German Historical Institute, Trento, Italy, 29 April
- 2024 Intermediality and Computational Humanities Hackathon, University of Vienna, 14-15 November
- 2024 “Early Reformation Printing in Magdeburg,” Landeshauptstadt Magdeburg Stadtarchiv, 26-28 June
- 2024 “Multi-Modal Insights into Early Modern Religious Visual Culture,” Computing the Page in Early-Modern Europe, University of Oxford, 15 March
- 2023 “Visual Communication During the Reformation: Applying Computer Vision to the Ornamento Image Corpus,” Université Jean Monnet Saint-Étienne, 6-7 April
- 2022 “Using artificial intelligence to study religious identity and propaganda during the Protestant Reformation,” Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, 23 May

- 2021 “Ornamento Europe: An Atlas of the Visual Geography of the Renaissance Book,” University of Venice, 1 October
- 2020 “Research in the Collections: A Kessler Conversation,” Emory University, 19 November
- 2019 “The Business of Bibles in Reformation Printing,” University of Glasgow, 23-24 May
- 2019 “Decorating Books in the Holy Roman Empire in the First Age of Print,” University College Dublin, 1 April
- 2018 “Early European Books: A Researcher’s Perspective,” Tel-Aviv University, 19-20 November
- 2017 “The Reformation and Popular Print: Production, Counterfeits, and the Role of Fraud in Spreading Luther’s Message,” European Dimensions of Popular Print Culture, University of Manchester, 16-17 November
- 2016 “Medieval Manuscript Digital Projects: The Programmer’s Perspective,” University of Pennsylvania, 17-19 November

## CONFERENCES

### Conferences Organized

- 2017 The Printed Book in Central Europe, University of St Andrews, 29 June-1 July

### Papers Presented

- 2024 “Leveraging Computer Vision and Multi-Modal Language Models to Understand the Visual Media of the Protestant Reformation,” Digital Humanities & Artificial Intelligence, University of Reading, 17 June
- 2022 “Fabricated Origin Stories: Disguising Counterfeits in the Reformation Book Trade,” Renaissance Society of America virtual conference, 30 November-3 December
- 2022 “Investigating Visual Communication During the Reformation and Counter-Reformation with Computer Vision,” Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, 27-30 October
- 2022 “Applying Machine Learning and Image Recognition to the Visual Culture of the Protestant Reformation,” Digital Humanities Congress, 8-10 September
- 2022 “Using AI to Study Visual Communication During Times of Religious Persecution,” Digital Humanities 2022 Tokyo, 25-29 July
- 2021 “Collecting Luther’s Counterfeits: The Undetected Migration of False Imprints Across Centuries and Collections,” Migrations of the Book Conference, Texas A&M University, 14-15 October
- 2019 “Fraud and Authenticity in Reformation Printing,” Faking It: Forgery and Fabrication in Early Modern and Late Medieval Culture, University of Gothenburg, 15-17 August

- 2018 “Big Books, Big Money: Rethinking Reformation Printing in Wittenberg,” Renaissance Society of America Conference, 22-24 March
- 2017 “Der Bibeldrucker: Hans Lufft and the Importance of Bibles to the Wittenberg Print Industry,” German History Society Conference, 30 August-1 September
- 2017 “The Reformation & the Digital Humanities: Overcoming Barriers of Accessibility for the Crawford Collection,” CILIP Library and Information Association Conference, 1 July
- 2017 “Luther and the Media: Wittenberg and Beyond,” Luther in Italy Conference, Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom and the Biblioteca Casanatense, 22-24 February
- 2016 “Printing Luther: Re-analyzing the Reformation Print Trade,” Reformation Colloquium, 14-16 September
- 2016 “Developing New Bibliographic Tools for the Digital Age: Distribution of German Books by Sheets in Early Modern Germany,” Digital Humanities Congress, 8-10 September
- 2016 “Cashing in on Counterfeits: Fraud in the Reformation Print Industry,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, 18-20 August
- 2016 “Circumventing Censorship: The Rise & Fall of Reformation Print Centres,” Conflict & Controversy: The 9th Annual St Andrews Book Conference, University of St Andrews, 16-18 June

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University College Dublin**

#### *Undergraduate*

The Making of Modern Europe, 1500-2000  
Introduction to the Digital Humanities

#### *Masters*

Renaissance Europe  
Introduction to the Digital Humanities  
Research Collaboration Module

### **University of St Andrews**

#### *Undergraduate*

The Early Modern Western World  
Print, Progress and Public Opinion  
Vertically Integrated Project: Media Transformations

#### *Masters*

Directed Reading in Modern History

## Material Bibliography

### SERVICE TO PROFESSION

- 2024 Peer reviewer for special edition of *Religions*, “The Swiss Reformation 1525–2025: New Directions”
- 2024 Peer reviewer for *Journal on Computing and Cultural Heritage*
- 2023 External reviewer for European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant Call
- 2023 Peer reviewer for *Playing it by The Book: Printed and Manuscript Materials as a Vehicle for Play in Early Modernity* (Brill)

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/OUTREACH

- 2025 Guest speaker for Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, USA, 5 January
- 2024 Guest speaker for World Stride Tours, Erfurt, Germany, October 7
- 2024 Guest speaker for “Großstadt und Reformation: Metropolen als Innovationsräume,” Stadtarchiv Magdeburg, Ev. Kirchenkreis Magdeburg, und Historische Kommission für Sachsen-Anhalt, June 26-28
- 2021 Guest Curator for “Der gefälschte Luther. Taschung im Buchhandel der Reformationszeit,” Reformationsgeschichtliche Forschungsbibliothek, Wittenberg, Germany, September 17-December 22
- 2021 Guest Curator for online exhibition “Reformation Counterfeits: How 16<sup>th</sup> Century Printers Counterfeited the Works of Martin Luther,” Pitts Theology Library, Emory University
- 2017 Guest Curator for “Popular Print of the Protestant Reformation,” The John Rylands Research Institute and Library, University of Manchester, November 16

### MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2024 Web interview for “Diaries from the Digital Humanities & Artificial Intelligence Conference,” University of Reading, August 6
- 2022 Podcast Interview for UCD Institute for Discovery, University College Dublin, 8 November
- 2021 ‘Luther gefälscht!’, *Mitteldeutsche Zeitung*, 16 September
- 2021 ‘Uncovering Hidden Identities: Using Artificial Intelligence to Identify Counterfeit Printers’, *Reformation Notes*, 57 (Summer 2021), Emory University
- 2020 ‘Research in the Collection: Kessler Conversation with the 2020-2021 Research Fellows’, online web series, Pitts Theology Library, Emory University, November 19

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

MS Access, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL, Python  
Coursera certificates in Convolutional Neural Networks; TensorFlow Developer  
Specialization; and Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning

**LANGUAGES**

German (good, can read with dictionary)  
Latin (good, can read with dictionary)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS OR AFFILIATIONS**

Royal Historical Society, FRHistS  
Bibliographical Society  
Economic History Society  
German History Society  
Print History Society  
Renaissance Society of America  
Sixteenth Century Society