

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Jeff Persels  
Associate Professor of French

Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208  
Messages (803) 777-4881 Fax (803)777-0454  
E-Mail perselsj@sc.edu

333 Waccamaw Ave  
Columbia, SC 29205-3056  
(803) 933-9195  
(803) 361-1858

### EDUCATION

- 1991 Ph.D. in French Literature. Major field of concentration: Renaissance. University of Virginia.  
1986 Master of Arts in French Literature. University of Virginia.  
1984 Bachelor of Arts. Major: French Literature. Minor: Latin. University of California, Davis.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

#### Anthologies and Collective Volumes

*Itineraries in French Renaissance Literature. Essays for Mary B. McKinley.* Edited by Jeff Persels, Kendall Tarte & George Hoffmann. *Studies in Medieval and Reformation Traditions 208.* Leiden: Brill, 2018.

<http://www.brill.com/products/book/itineraries-french-renaissance-literature>

FLS 39. *The Environment in French and Francophone Literature and Film.* Rodopi, 2013.

EMF *Early Modern French Studies 13. Spectacle.* Guest-edited. Rookwood Press, 2010.

*Fecal Matters in Early Modern Literature and Art. Studies in Scatology.* Co-edited with Russell Ganim. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate, 2004.

#### Book Chapters

“Blasons, seigneurie du cul,” in *Anatomie d'une anatomie. Nouvelles recherches sur les blasons anatomiques du corps féminin.* Coordination éditoriale de Julien GOEURY, Thomas HUNKELER. Cahiers d'Humanisme et Renaissance, No. 154. Geneva: Droz, 2018. 361-69.

“Bearding the Pope, circa 1562.” In *Itineraries in French Renaissance Literature. Essays for Mary B. McKinley.* 228-44. Edited by Jeff Persels, Kendall Tarte & George Hoffmann. *Studies in Medieval and Reformation Traditions 208.* Leiden: Brill, 2018.

“Teaching Rabelais’s Backside” in *Approaches to Teaching the Works of François Rabelais.* Ed. Todd W. Reeser and Floyd Gray. The Modern Language Association of America, 2011. 110-14.

“‘The Mass and the Fart are Sisters’: Scatology and Calvinist Rhetoric against the Mass, 1560-63,” in *Fecal Matters in Early Modern Literature and Art*, ed. Jeff Persels and Russell Ganim. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate, 2004: 38-55.

#### Journal Articles

“Through a Glass Darkly: Dominion and the French Wars of Religion,” *French Ecocriticism. From the Early Modern Period to the Twenty-First Century.* Vol. 1, No. 1. 2016. Ed. Daniel A. Finch-Race and Stephanie Posthumus 25-41.

“Boucher et le premier *Sermon de la simulée conversion* (1594)” *Œuvres & Critiques*, XXXVIII, 2 (2013): 71-81.

“A Curious Case of Ethnographic Cleansing: The First French Interpretations of the Japanese, 1552-1555” *Esprit créateur* 48.1 (2008):45-57.

“Stefan Zweig and Montaigne,” *Montaigne Studies* 20.1-2 (2008): 5-15.

“Taking the Piss out of Pantagruel: Urine and Micturition in Rabelais” in *Meaning and Its Objects: Material Culture in Medieval and Renaissance France* (Yale French Studies N°110), ed. Margaret Burland, David Laguardia and Andrea Tarnowski, 2006: 137-51.

### **RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS / INVITED LECTURES**

- “Reducing French Classics for the Stage: Molière, Perrault, Voltaire” Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC (USA). October 26, 2018
- “Domain and Dominion : The Environment and the French Wars of Religion” (Invited Keynote address) Seiziémistes of the Mid-Atlantic. Washington College, Chestertown, MD. December 9, 2017
- “Blasons, Farces and the Body Politics of Farting” Renaissance Society of America. Chicago, IL. April 1, 2017
- “Through a Glass Darkly: *Le Miroir des François* and Reflections on a French State in Disarray (circa 1582).” Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. Lexington, KY. April 23, 2015.
- “Froumentau’s Death Map of France, circa 1580.” Sixteenth Century Society and Conference. New Orleans, LA. Oct. 18, 2014.
- “Saints, Millers, Faith and Farce in Andrieu de la Vigne’s *Mystère de Saint Martin*.” Renaissance Society of America. New York, NY. March 29, 2014.
- “*Tableaux vivants, tableaux parlants* : Using Art as Inspiration for French-Language Classroom Dramaturgy.” Southern Conference on Language Teaching. Memphis, TN. March 14, 2014.

### **RECENT COURSES**

- EURO 300. Introduction to European Studies.
- FREN 209. Reading and Written Expression. *Intermediate composition course and grammar review based on Gilles Paris’s Autobiographie d’une courgette and film adaptation. Uses only e-materials.*
- FREN 309. Reading French Texts. Reformulated reading and writing course based on the popular writings of Pierre Bellemare.
- FREN 330 The French Theatre Experience. *Most recently, 2013 production of original fairy tale adaptation, Il était une fois..., 2014 production of Ionesco’s Exercices de conversation & de diction pour étudiants américains, 2015 production of Grand-Guignol radio theatre, 2017 production of a Cabaret Bénabar*
- FREN 400. La Civilisation française. *Survey from « Nos ancêtres les Gaulois » to the French Revolution.*
- FREN 501. La France contemporaine. *Political, social cultural institutions and critical events of the Fifth Republic.*
- FREN 595. Special Topics: Le Beau & le laid. *Chronological survey of French canon focusing on representations of beauty.*
- FREN 595. Special Topics: La Grande Guerre sur grand écran. *Seminar on major World War I accounts and works of fiction including nine films from 1919-2017.*
- FREN 795. Pièce et Anti-Pièce. *Survey of French Theatre from La farce du pet to Le Père Noël est une ordure. MA-level seminar.*
- SCHC 363S How the French Discovered America. Honors College seminar on 16<sup>th</sup>-century French travel narrative.

### **RECENT UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- Director of European Studies, November 2006-2013
- French Program Director, June 2014-2015, 2018
- Faculty Senate Standards and Petitions Committee, 2005-2008, Chair 2007-8
- Faculty Senate Bookstore Committee, Chair 2005-6
- French Study Abroad Advisor, 2004-present
- French Undergraduate Major Advisor, 2007-present

Fulbright Faculty Advisor, 2003-2004 & 2009-present  
French Graduate Advisor, 2002-2003  
University Committee on Courses and Curricula, 1999-2002, Chair 2001-2002  
USC Faculty Senate Steering Committee, 2001-2002 and 2007-2008  
USC in Tours, France, Director, 2000, 2002, 2008, 2012.  
French Program Web Coordinator, 2000-present

## **RECENT COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH**

French Theatre Performances, with the Columbia Chapter of the Alliance Française, for which I also serve as Executive Vice-President. Full-scale annual productions. *Knock, ou le triomphe de la médecine* (2007, actor); *Le bal des voleurs* (2008, actor and co-director); *Le bourgeois gentilhomme* (2009, director and actor), *Candide* (2010, adapter, director and actor), *La cantatrice chauve* (2011, director), *Une Soirée Théâtre de Boulevard* (2012, director and actor), *Tableaux vivants, tableaux parlants* (2013, co-author, director, actor), *Le dîner de cons* (2014, director, actor), *Molière 2.0* (2015, author, director, actor); *Farces médiévales* (2017, adaptation, direction, acting); Original adaption of La Fontaine's fables (2019, author, director, actor). See my website: [amateurfrenchtheatre.org](http://amateurfrenchtheatre.org)

French Day at USC Director, 1998-2015. Coordination of annual USC-sponsored event for an average of 100 SC high school students and their teachers. Includes workshops, lunch and performance of annual French Play.

French puppet show. *Le petit chaperon rouge* (2005 & 2010), *Les trois petits cochons* (2006 & 2011), *Boucle d'or et les trois ours* (2007), *Les trois boucs bourrus* (2008), *Anansi le fûté et la roche à barbe* (2009). Numerous performances in SC elementary and middle schools, workshops in South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

CinéCola and Tournées Film Festivals. Grant-funded fall festivals of recent French-language cinema. Co-director since 2008.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Sixteenth Century Society and Conference  
Renaissance Society of America  
Société Française d'Etudes du Seizième Siècle  
Alliance Française