

# Jesús R. Velasco

Professor of Iberian Studies, and  
Comparative Literature

Chair of the Department of Spanish &  
Portuguese

*¶academic life*

[updated, February 2021]

## Education

PhD Candidate in Law. École des Hautes  
Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris.

Doctoral research project admitted to candi-  
dacy in 2020, with the title “Science de l’âme,  
corps du droit: une généalogie”. Advisor,  
Emanuele Conte, University of Rome 3 and  
École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales.

PhD in Philology. University of Salamanca,  
Spain. 1995.

Advisor, Pedro M. Cátedra. University of Sala-  
manca. Co-advisor, Michel Garcia, University  
of Paris III, Sorbonne Nouvelle. My first book  
derived from this dissertation: *El Debate Sobre  
la Caballería en el siglo XV* (Salamanca, 1996).

M.A. in Philology. University of Salamanca,  
Spain. 1993.

The M.A. Thesis earned a grant for literary  
creativity from the Spanish Ministry of Cul-  
ture: “Dignidad, Prudencia y Cultura: Teoría  
de la Caballería.”

B.A. (Licenciado) in Philosophy and Letters.  
University of Valladolid, Spain. 1992.

## Full Time Appointments and Affiliations

Professor with Tenure, Yale University, 2020-

Adjunct Professor, Columbia Law School, 2014-2019

Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought,  
Affiliated Faculty 2014-

Joint Appointment at the Institute for Comparative Literature  
and Society, Columbia University, 2011-2020

Professor with Tenure, Columbia University, 2009-2020

Professor with Tenure, University of California, Berkeley,  
2008-2009

Associate Professor with Tenure, University of California,  
Berkeley. 2002-2008

Profesor Titular with Tenure, University of Salamanca,  
Spain. March 1997- July 2004

Profesor Titular interino (non-tenured), University of Sala-  
manca, Spain. December 1995- March 1997

Maître Assistant (Lecturer), École Normale Supérieure,  
Fontenay-aux-Roses. 1992-1993

I am currently the chair of the Department of Spanish & Portuguese at Yale University. I was chair of the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures at Columbia University (2013-2016). Upon being tenured at the University of Salamanca, I became departmental secretary (a vice-chair role), and ever since I have always been happy to serve in many roles, including Director of Undergraduate Studies at the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures (Columbia), and the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society (Columbia), or acting Director of Graduate Studies (Berkeley and Columbia)



## Visiting Appointments

Visiting Professor, Yale University, 2019-2020.

Distinguished Visiting Professor, Center for  
Medieval and Renaissance Studies, UCLA.  
Spring 2013

Professeur invité. École des Hautes Études en  
Sciences Sociales (Law), Paris, France, Spring  
2019.

Professor visitante. Università di Roma Tre,  
Facoltà di Giurisprudenza, Rome, Italy, May  
2016. (Doctoral school)

Professeur invité. École des Hautes Études en  
Sciences Sociales (Law), Paris, France, May  
2016.

Visiting Professor, Columbia University, 2008-  
2009

Professeur Invité, École Normale Supérieure –  
Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Lyon. Summer  
2006

Professeur Invité, University of Paris III, Sor-  
bonne Nouvelle. Fall 2001

Professeur Invité, University of Montpellier III,  
Paul Valéry. Spring 2001

Visiting Associate Professor. Emory University,  
Atlanta, Georgia. Fall 2000.

Visiting Professor (Erasmus Professorship),  
University of Szeged, Hungary. Spring 2000

I am and have been member of many academic  
associations. Currently I am also a member of  
the IEMIRhd (Instituto de Estudios Medieva-  
les y Renacentistas, University of Salamanca,  
Spain) and the Fond Yan Thomas, École des  
Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris.



## Books

*Dead Voice: Law, Philosophy, and Fiction in the Iberian Middle Ages.* University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020.

*Plebeyos Márgenes. Ficción, Industria del Derecho y Ciencia de la Literatura (siglos XIII-XIV).* Salamanca: Universidad de Salamanca - SEMYR, 2011.

*Order and Chivalry. Knighthood and Citizenship in Late Medieval Castile.* Philadelphia: U of Pennsylvania P, 2010.

*Ciudadanía, soberanía monárquica y caballería.* Madrid: Akal, 2009.

*La caballería y el mundo caballeresco.* Co-authored with Josef Fleckenstein and Thomas Zotz. Madrid: Siglo XXI, 2006.

*Creación y difusión del Baladro del sabio Merlín.* Co-authored with Pedro M. Cátedra. Salamanca: SEMYR, 2001.

*La caballería castellana: textos y contextos.* Edited with Carlos Heusch. Montpellier: U de Montpellier III, Paul Valéry, 2000.

*Guía para el estudio de la literatura Románica Medieval.* 2 vols. Salamanca: U de Salamanca, 1998.

*El debate sobre la caballería en el siglo XV: La tratadística caballeresca castellana en su marco europeo.* Salamanca: Junta de Castilla y León, 1996.

With José Rabasa (Harvard), introduction and eds. “Examining the Heretical Thought: Rethinking medieval heresy in Latin American and Iberian Cultures”, a monographic issue of *Romanic Review*, 103.1-2 (2012).

With articles by Solange Alberro, Enrique Gavilán, Carlos Heusch, Michael Horswell, Alfonso Mendiola, Anna More, and Irene Silverblatt.

*Daurel y Betón. Cantar de gesta occitano del siglo XIII.* [study with translation (from Provençal) and notes]. Valladolid: U de Valladolid, 2000.

*Castigos para celosos, consejos para juglares.* [with translation of several Provençal texts; a general study and notes]. Madrid: Gredos, 1999.

Garci Rodríguez de Montalvo, *Amadís de Gaula.* Ed. and intro. Jesús Rodríguez Velasco. Biblioteca Castro, 2 vols. Madrid: Turner, 1997.

I have just finished my new book, *Microliteratures: Marginal Writing, Networking, and Political Conflict in Medieval and Early Modern Spain*, and I have secured a contract. I am currently working on my PhD Dissertation, “Science de l’âme, corps du droit: une généalogie”, which will certainly become a book. I have almost finished another piece in my research project on marginal writing, a clearly theoretical book based on the concept of *Extraction* (also, the title of the book). My next book-length project’s tentative title is *Overgrown Customs*, and examines the manuscripts and the writing of medieval and early modern customs and local charters. ¶¶¶

## A few articles from the last ten years

“Lex animata.” PoliticalConcepts.org. 2020.

“Microbiographies.” *New Literary History*. 50.3 (2019): 473-481.

“Manuscripts Revenants.” *Histoires, Femmes, Pouvoirs*. Paris: Garnier, 2018: 619-639.

“Knightly Fables, Visual Concepts. On the Affinity Between Chivalry and Bourgeoisie” *MLN* 131.2 (2016): 301-319.

“City Knights: Urban Networking and City Life in Late Medieval Iberia.” *La Construcció d’Identitats Imaginades. Literatura Medieval i Ideologia*. Ed. Julián Acebrón, Isabel Grifoll, and Flocel Sabaté. Lleida: Pagès, 2015: 187-216.

“Epílogo”. José Calvo González. *Marginalias jurídicas en el ‘Smithfield Decretals’*. Valencia: Tirant Humanidades, 2015: 109-117.

“Diego de Valera, artista microliterario.” Cristina Moya, ed. *Diego de Valera*. Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 2015.

“Voz Muerta.” *Studi Ispanici. Special issue on Law and Literature*. 39 (2014): 21-39.

“Diabólicos Quirógrafos.” *El Cronista del Estado Social y Democrático de Derecho*. 40 (2013)

“Political Idiots and Ignorant Clients.” *Digital Philology* 2.1 (2013): 86-112.

“Manuscrito electrónico, alfabetización electrónica.” Bénédicte Vauthier and Jimena Gamba Corradine (eds.), *Crítica genética y edición de manuscritos hispánicos contemporáneos*. Salamanca: Universidad de Salamanca, 2012.

“Atomic Trinity.” *Essays in Honor of E. Michael Gerli*. Newark, Delaware: Juan de la Cuesta, 2011: 309-325.

I have published many articles in several languages, although I prefer to write books. Some of those articles have received awards, including the John K. Walsh Award (2010) for “La Urgente Presencia de las Siete Partidas” (2010). I have published, as well, chapters and dictionary entries for companions, the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, and others. Furthermore, I have been happy to publish reviews, delivered papers (over 130, but who’s counting?), etc.



## Teaching

I have taught at many institutions in many languages. I have always liked co-teaching, and I have done it frequently with Bernard Harcourt (Columbia) and Claudio Lomnitz (Columbia). My courses and seminar include “Torture and Confession” (with Harcourt), the 13/13 series (with Harcourt, including Foucault, Critiques of Nietzsche, and Uprisings), “On Friendship” (with Lomnitz), “The End of the World” (the first time I taught it, it was featured on NPR, Leonard Lopate’s Show), “Inquisitions”, “Microliteratures”, “Medieval Iberian Cultures Outside the Box”, and many others.

## I founded and run the online project

Iberian Connections: Medieval and Early Modern Studies, and Contemporary Critical Thought  
<https://iberian-connections-yale.edu>