



CURRICULUM VITAE

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Born in Reykjavík, Iceland, on 19 January 1959.

EDUCATION

- University of Iceland: BA in history and sociology in 1980.
- University of Bergen, Norway: mellomfag in history, Fall 1978.
- Université de Paris I. Sorbonne: French and history, 1980–1983.
- University of Iceland: Cand.mag. in history in 1985.
- École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris: Social and demographic history, 1985–1986.
- University of Iceland: Dr.Phil. in history in 1993.

WORK

1987–1990. Journalist, foreign news, Icelandic State Radio.
1995–1998. Forskningslektor at the Arnamagnæan Institute, University of Copenhagen, on a grant from Carlsbergfondet.
1998 and onwards. Professor of history at the University of Iceland.
2000–2002 and 2010–2012. Head of Section, Department of History and Philosophy.
2006–2009. Director of the Institute of History, University of Iceland.
Spring 2015. Fellow at Center of Advanced Study (CAS) at the Academy of Sciences, Oslo.

SUPERVISION

Five doctoral dissertations (2006, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2021) and 20 MA-dissertations.

PUBLICATIONS

Books and editions

Blóðskömm á Íslandi 1270–1870. Reykjavík 1993. [doctoral thesis on the history of incest]
Árni Magnússon. Ævisaga. Reykjavík 1998. [a biography of ÁM (1663–1730), collector of manuscripts]
Dulsmál 1600-1900: fjórtán dómar og skrá. Reykjavík 2000. [on infanticide, edition of texts and a study]

- Til merkis mitt nafn. Dómabækur Markúsar Bergssonar sýslumanns Ísafjarðarsýslu 1711–1729.* Reykjavík 2002. [text edition of verdicts in a provincial court]
- Jónsbók. Lögbók Íslendinga.* Reykjavík 2004. [text edition of a medieval code of law, promulgated in 1281]
- Guðs dýrð og sálnanna velferð. Prestastefnudómar Brynjólfs biskups Sveinssonar 1639–1674.* Reykjavík 2005. [text edition of ecclesiastical court verdicts]
- Járnsíða og kristinréttur Árna Þorlákssonar.* Reykjavík 2005. [text edition of medieval church law, promulgated in 1275, with Haraldur Bernharðsson and Magnús Lyngdal Magnússon]
- Í nafni heilagrar guðdómsins þrenningar. Prestastefnudómar Jóns biskups Vídalíns árin 1698-1720.* Reykjavík 2006. [text edition of ecclesiastical court verdicts, with Skúli S. Ólafsson]
- Eftir skyldu míns embættis. Prestastefnudómar Þórðar biskups Þorlákssonar árin 1675–1697.* Reykjavík 2008. [text edition of ecclesiastical court verdicts, with Gunnar Örn Hannesson]
- Galdrar og siðferði í Strandasýslu á síðari hluta 17. aldar.* Hólmavík 2008. [text edition of witchcraft trials from a region in Iceland in the years 1654–1691]
- Arnas Magnæus Philologus (1663–1730).* Viking Collection 20. University of Southern Denmark Press: Odense 2012.
- Johann Anderson, *Frásagnir af Íslandi ásamt óhróðri Göries Peerse og Dithmars Blefkens um land og þjóð.* Translators and editors Gunnar Þór Bjarnason and Már Jónsson. Reykjavík: Sögufélag 2013. [translation of *Nachrichten von Island* of 1746, with introduction]
- Hvítur jökull, snauðir menn. Eftirlátmar eigur alþýðu í efstu byggðum Borgarfjarðar á öðrum fjórðungi 19. aldar.* Reykholt: Snorrastofa 2014. [text edition of probate inventories from a small region in Borgarfjörður in the period 1820–1850, with introduction]
- Sterbúsins fémunir framtöldust þessir. Eftirlátmar eigur 96 Íslendinga sem létust á tímabilinu 1722–1820.* Reykjavík: Háskólaútgáfan 2015. [text edition of a small selection of probate inventories from all the districts of Iceland in the period, with introduction]
- Bréf Jóns Thoroddsens.* Reykjavík: Sögufélag 2016 [text edition of the extant letters of the poet and writer Jón Thoroddsen (1818–1868), with introduction]
- Fyrirfundnir fémunir í Vestmannaeyjum á fjórða áratug 19. aldar.* Vestmannaeyjar: Þekkingarsetur og Safnahús 2017. [text edition of probate inventories from the island Heimaey in Vestmannaeyjar in the years 1833–1840, with introduction]
- Jón Thoroddsen, *Piltur og stúlka.* Selfoss: Sæmundur 2018. [edition of the first modern novel in Icelandic, first published in 1850, with introduction]
- Undur yfir dundu. Frásagnir af Kötlugosum 1625–1860.* Vík í Mýrdal: Katla jarðvangur 2018 [writings on eruptions of the volcano Katla, with introduction]
- Þessi sárfátæka sveit. Lausafjäreign í Grindavík og Krísuvík árin 1773–1824.* Grindavík: Grindavíkurbær 2018. [text edition of probate inventories from the Grindavík and vicinity, with introduction]
- Draumadagbók Sæmundar Hólm.* Már Jónsson bjó til prentunar. Selfoss: Sæmundur 2019. [the noctuary of Revd. Sæmundur Hólm in the years 1794–1795, with introduction]
- Reisubók séra Ólafs Egilssonar og aðrir textar um Tyrkjaránið 1627.* Selfossi: Sæmundur 2020. With Kári Bjarnason. [the captivity narrative of Revd. Ólafur Egilsson and other writings on the Turkish raid in Iceland in 1627]
- Galdur og guðlast á 17. öld. Dómar og bréf.* Two vols. Reykjavík: Sögufélag 2021. [an edition of all extant verdicts on witchcraft cases in Iceland]

Articles in other languages than Icelandic

- ‘Defining Incest by the Word of God: Northern Europe 1520–1740.’ *History of European Ideas* 18 (1994), pp. 853–867.
- ‘Incest and the Word of God: Early Sixteenth Century Protestant Debates.’ *Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte* 85 (1994), pp. 96–118.
- ‘Scribal inexactitude and scholarly misunderstanding: a contribution to the study of Vatnshyrna.’ *Frejas Psalter. En psalter i 40 afdelinger til brug for Jonna Louis-Jensen*. Kaupmannahöfn 1997, pp. 119–127.
- ‘Arnas Magnæus Islandus. A visiting scholar in Leipzig, 1694–96.’ *Lias* 26 (1999), pp. 213–232.
- ‘Recent trends (or their lack) in Icelandic manuscript studies.’ *Gazette du livre médiéval* 36 (2000), pp. 11–16.
- ‘An Icelandic medieval manuscript in the Firestone Library: Princeton MS. 62.’ *The Princeton University Library Chronicle* 64:1 (Autumn 2002), pp. 163–174.
- ‘Guds ord og døden. Danske teologer og blodskam 1690–1730.’ *Kirkehistoriske Samlinger* 2003, pp. 63–80.
- ‘La faible participation des morisques expulsés dans la course barbaresque.’ *Revue d’histoire maghrébine* 32:119 (June 2005), pp. 7–16.
- ‘The expulsion of the Moriscos from Spain in 1609–1614: the destruction of an Islamic periphery.’ *Journal of Global History* 2 (2007), pp. 195–212.
- ‘¡Que salgan todos! The dire need for a political history of the expulsion of the moriscos.’ *Aljamía* 19 (2007), pp. 105–110.
- ‘Denmark-Norway as a Potential World Power in the Early Seventeenth Century.’ *Itinerario* 2009/2, pp. 17–27.
- ‘Manuscript Hunting and the Challenge of Textual Variance in Late Seventeenth-Century Icelandic Studies.’ *The Making of the Humanities*. Editors Rens Bod, Jaap Maat and Thijs Weststeijn. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2010, pp. 309–321.
- ‘Uses and Usability of Icelandic Medieval Books of Law.’ *Liber amicorum Ditlev Tamm. Law, history and culture*. Editors Per Andersen et al. Copenhagen: Djøf, 2011, pp. 149–157.
- ‘Døtres arvelod i perioden 1160–1860.’ *Arverettens handlingsrom. Strategier, relasjoner og historisk utvikling 1100–2000*. Editor Einar Niemi. Rapporter til det 27. nordiske historikermøte. Tromsø 2011, pp. 70–82. [on the inheritance of daughters vis-à-vis sons]
- ‘Tithe and Tribute in Thirteenth-Century Iceland.’ *Taxes, tributes and tributary lands in the making of the Scandinavian kingdoms in the Middle Ages*. Editor Steinar Imsen. Norgesveldet, Occasional Papers No. 2. Trondheim 2011, pp. 151–163. With Patricia Pires Boulhosa.
- ‘Arnas Magnæus Islandus (1663–1730). An Early Enlightenment Historian and Collector of Medieval Manuscripts.’ *The 18th Century and Europe*. Editor Elizaria Ruskova. Sofia: St. Kliment University 2013, pp. 229–239.
- ‘The Size of Medieval Icelandic Legal Manuscripts.’ *The Power of the Book. Medial Approaches to Medieval Nordic Legal Manuscripts*. Editors Lena Rohrbach and Patricia Pires Boulhosa. Berlin: Nordeuropa Institut 2014, pp. 25–38.
- ‘Securing inheritance. Probate proceedings in the Nordic countries 1600–1800.’ *Sjuttonhundratal. Nordic Yearbook for Eighteenth-Century Studies* 13 (2016), pp. 7–30.
- ‘Tómas Sæmundssons reise til Hellas og Tyrkia i 1833.’ *Opuscula* 17 (2019), pp. 9–38.
- ‘Probate Proceedings and Inheritance in Eighteenth-century Iceland.’ *Nordic Inheritance Law through the Ages. Spaces of Action and Legal Strategies*. Editors Marianne Holdgaard, Auður Magnúsdóttir og Bodil Selmer. Leiden and Boston: Brill 2020, pp. 210–230.
- ‘An Icelandic Noctuary of 1794.’ *Scripta Islandica* 71 (2020), pp. 123–153.

Lectures in other languages than Icelandic

- 21.11.2019. 'Capital Punishment in Early Modern Iceland.' Department of German, Nordic and Slavic University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 7.11.2019. 'Witchcraft and popular culture in Seventeenth Century Iceland.' English Department, Purdue University, Illinois.
- 11.10.2018. 'En islandsk drømmedagbok fra 1794.' Isländska sällskapet at The University of Uppsala [on diary of dreams written by an Icelandic priest].
- 22.5.2018. 'The Victims of Witchcraft in 17th century Iceland.' Early Modern and Mediterranean Worlds Workshop, University of Chicago.
- 29.11.2017. 'To skrivere, samme tekst: Njáls saga 1320 og 1642.' Institute for Linguistics and Nordic Studies, Oslo University. [on the manuscript tradition of Njáls saga]
- 26.1.2017. 'Creativity or clumsiness? Scribal discrepancy in 17th and 18th century Iceland.' Center for Medieval Studies, University of Iceland.
- 25.12.2015. 'När dödzfall tijmar. Nordisk skifterett 1683–1734.' Rettshistorisk seminar, Faculty of Law, Oslo University. [on Nordic probate law]
- 8.4.2015. 'Understanding inheritance: textual analysis and descriptive statistics.' Centre for Advanced Studies (CAS), Oslo.
- 25.5.2014. 'Probate Records in the Nordic Countries ca. 1600–1900: A Preliminary Survey.' Foundations and space of action in Nordic Inheritance law. Centre for Advanced Study (CAS), Oslo.
- 3.2.2012. 'Arnas Magnæus Philologus. Autour de la collection arnamagnéenne.' Journée d'études Kraham-Erlis, Université de Caen.
- 6.2.2012. 'La collection de manuscrits médiévaux en Islande au 17ème siècle.' Section of Icelandic Studies at Sorbonne IV in Centre Malesherbes, Paris.
- 14.8.2011. 'Icelandic witchcraft: recent research and future tasks.' Early Modern Witchcraft in the Nordic countries 1994–2011: Historiography and challenges. The 27th Congress of Nordic Historians, Tromsø.
- 13.5.2011. 'I kungens frånvaro. Formeringen av en isländsk aristokrati 1271–1387.' Historiska Institutionen, Göteborgs Universitet [opposition to a doctoral dissertation with that title by Sigríður Beck].
- 21.4.2011. 'Árni Magnússon (1663–1730). Sammler mittelalterlichen Handschriften.' Nordeuropa-Institut, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 20.4.2011. 'Witchcraft in Seventeenth Century Iceland.' Nordeuropa-Institut, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 14.4.2011. 'Die Zerstörung mittelalterlicher Handschriften in Island im siebzehnten Jahrhundert.' Historisches Institut, Universität Greifswald.
- 10.2.2011: 'Tithe and taxes in late thirteenth century Iceland.' Medieval Seminar, University of Iceland.
- 8.10.2010: 'Tax collection and tithes in thirteenth century Iceland.' The Realm of Norway and its dependencies as a political system c. 1270-1380. Visby, Gotland.
- 20.8.2010: 'The Size of Medieval Icelandic Lawbooks.' The Power of the Book. Medial Approaches to Medieval Nordic Legal Manuscripts. Nordeuropa-Institut, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 18.8.2010: 'Manuscript Mania: Árni Magnússon as collector and scholar.' Seventh summer school in manuscript studies. Det Arnamagnæanske Institut, Kaupmannahöfn.
- 12.2.2010. 'Citing the law in Medieval Norway and Iceland.' Learned Tools in Medieval Administration, University of Zürich.
- 22.10.2009: 'Nordische Handschriften des Mittelalters im grossen Brand von Copenhagen 1728.' Nordeuropa-Institut, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 9.10.2009: 'Baskisk hvalfangst ved Svalbard, Nord-Norge og Island i 1613–19.' Institutt for historie og religionsvitenskap, Universitetet i Tromsø, Norway. [on Basque whaling in the North-Atlantic]

- 8.10.2009: 'Forfølgelse av trollfolk på Island i perioden 1620–1720.' Institutt for historie og religionsvitenskap, Universitetet i Tromsø, Norway. [on witchcraft in Iceland]
- 21.8.2009: 'Medieval Icelandic and Norwegian books of law.' Sixth summer school in manuscript studies, Stofnun Árna Magnússonar, University of Iceland.
- 18.8.2009: 'Árni Magnússon as collector of Icelandic medieval manuscripts.' Stofnun Árna Magnússonar: Sixth summer school in manuscript studies. Árnagarður, University of Iceland.
- 16.6.2009: 'Meaningful Materiality of Medieval Law.' REUNA Evaluation Seminar: Legal History beyond the Edge of Europe, Kuressaare, Estonia.
- 6.6.2009: 'Torfæus, Thomas Bartholin and young Arnas Magnæus.' In *The Footsteps Of A Pioneer. The European Historian Tormod Torfaeus*. Conference held by Lærdómssetur á Leirubakka and Universitetet i Stavanger, Leirubakka við Hekklurætur, Iceland.
- 13.11.2008: 'Nunc primum in lucem prodit. The Rhetorics of Text Editions and Translations in Seventeenth Century Sweden, Denmark and Iceland.' *Rhetorik des Buches. Die Textualität und Materialität der skandinavischen Literaturen in der frühen Neuzeit*, Universität Basel, Basel.
- 11.11.2008: 'Objects of Arnamagnæan Desire.' The Árni Magnússon memorial lecture 2008. Det Arnamagnæanske Institut, Copenhagen.
- 25.10.2008: 'Manuscript Hunting and Philological Progress in the Seventeenth Century.' *The Making of the Humanities*, Amsterdam University, Amsterdam.
- 10.7.2008: 'Vatnsfjörður and literary culture 1100–1700.' Archeological fieldschool, Vatnsfjörður, Iceland.
- 4.12.2007. 'Islamic law in sixteenth century Spain.' REUNA Workshop 7: Legal History beyond the Edge of Europe, Copenhagen.
- 5.10.2007. 'Arnas Magnæus Islandus (1663–1730): An Early Enlightenment Historian and Collector of Medieval Manuscripts.' *The Eighteenth Century in the North*. Department of German and Scandinavian Studies, University of Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 26.4.2007. 'Legislation as State formation: Norway and its dependencies 1260-1320.' Centre for Medieval Studies, Universitetet i Bergen.
- 18.04.2007. 'Islandia medieval: Una sociedad sin rey.' Facultad de geografía y historia. Universitat de Valencia.
- 11.1.2007. 'Whales, Basques and Territorial Hegemony in the North-Atlantic: Danish Troubles 1614-1619.' *Global Cultural History - Nordic Perspectives on Colonialism*, Stiftsgården Åkersberg, Höör, Sweden.
- 7.10.2006. 'Manuscript Design in Medieval Iceland.' *Reykholt i text och materiell kultur*, Reykholt, Iceland.
- 5.5.2005. 'Piratas de Berbería en Islandia en 1614 y 1627.' Le XIIème Symposium International d'Études Morisques. Fondation Temimi, Tunis.
- 30.4.2005. 'A Nordic Model of Incest? The Danish Decree on Marriage and Fornication of 1637.' REUNA-Workshop 3. A Nordic Model? Law and Society in Legal History, Universitetet i Oslo.
- 22.5.2004. 'La preparación vacilante de la expulsión de los moriscos de los reinos de Castilla en 1609.' 1st Annual Convivencia Conference at Saint Louis University, Madrid Campus.
- 16.4.2004. 'The insertion of royal amendments into the Icelandic lawbook Jónsbók in the 14th century.' REUNA Workshop 1: Theoretical and methodological questions in legal history, Helsinki University.