

2023 Sally A. Miller Humanities Lecture

**“Scandal in the Reformation:
How to Shock your Neighbor in 16th-century Geneva”**

Dr. Karen E. Spierling



What scandalizes us in 2023, in the age of social media? And how do our current ideas of what is scandalous or publicly shocking shape the way that we read historical records? In this talk, Dr. Spierling will explore how peeling away our 21st-century assumptions about how scandal works is vital for understanding how the 16th-century residents of the newly independent republic of Geneva (today a part of Switzerland) navigated the religious and social changes of the Protestant Reformation.

Dr. Karen E. Spierling is Professor of History and Inaugural John and Heath Faraci Endowed Professor at Denison University in Granville, OH. Her current book project, *Seeing Women in Reformation Geneva: Honor, Scandal, and Daily Life in the Consistory Records*, is the first monograph to focus on women’s experience of the Genevan Reformation.

**Wednesday, March 8th
5:30pm – Simmons Hall 111**

Free and Open to the Public
Refreshments will be served