

Thomas Kealy

I am currently serving as the dean for the school of business and social sciences at Colby-Sawyer College in New Hampshire. In two years, I will return to my role as a professor of humanities at that institution, teaching courses in early modern literature. I earned my Ph.D. in literature at the University of Oregon focusing on the representations of nature in Spanish and English texts. I spent a year in Madrid on a Fulbright scholarship with CSIC's Centro de Estudios Históricos, and a summer program in Granada with the NEH.

I had the pleasure of attending a Mediterranean Seminar in 2015 hosted by Harvard University, and a "Reading Aljamiado" workshop in the summer of 2016 at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Teaching at a small liberal arts college which focuses on pre-professional degrees, I leverage my training in literatures and languages to prepare students from rural New Hampshire to engage with a diverse, changing, multicultural world. I also find the lessons learned from studying Mediterranean cultures of the Middle Ages to be useful as the inaugural dean of a school created with diversity as its core mission. Finding common ground between professors of business and sociology (for example) is my focus, and to move the school forward I consistently draw upon lessons learned from studying cultural contact in the Mediterranean.