

Karla Mallette is Professor of Italian in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and Professor of Mediterranean Studies in the Department of Middle East Studies at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *The Kingdom of Sicily, 1100-1250: A Literary History* (2005), *European Modernity and the Arab Mediterranean* (2010), and a monograph in press, *Lives of the Great Languages: Latin and Arabic in the Medieval Mediterranean*; she co-edited *A Sea of Languages: Rethinking the Arabic Role in Medieval Literary History* (2013). She has also written numerous articles on medieval literature and Mediterranean Studies. She is director of the Global Islamic Studies Center at Michigan.