

# CAS Associates and Fellows Noonhour Presentations

Bring your lunch for a noonhour exploration of some of the best scholarship produced at the University of Illinois.

**12:00 Noon**

Music Room

Levis Faculty Center, Suite 200

919 West Illinois Street, Urbana

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Free and open to the public.**

**[cas.illinois.edu](http://cas.illinois.edu)**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

**Stephanie Hilger**

Comparative & World Literature,  
Associate 2018–19

## **Liminal Bodies: Hermaphrodites in the Eighteenth Century**



*Liminal Bodies* examines the eighteenth-century fascination with sexually ambiguous bodies, so-called hermaphrodites, and argues that they became *the* symbol of an era in which

centuries-old ways of knowing were collapsing. These epistemological changes were due to an increasing focus on empirical science, professional specialization in the medical field, the expanding market for popular scientific literature, changing notions about generation and reproduction, and the exploration of foreign territories.