

Carolynn Van Dyke received her B.A. from Grinnell College in 1969 and her PhD from Yale in 1973. Having started teaching at Grinnell and Case Western University, she moved to Lafayette from 1980 through the 2016. She was hired as an Assistant Professor of English, moved to the Computer Science department in 1984 and was tenured as an Associate Professor of Computer Science in 1987, and returned to her former department in 1990. Beginning in 2003, she was the Francis A. March Professor of English. She taught courses in Computer Literacy, programming (BASIC, Pascal, and COBOL), and Computers and Society; in English, she taught Chaucer, medieval literature, literary questions, introduction to linguistics, and composition. She also enjoyed teaching a First-Year Seminar called "Animal Voices." As one of the early founders of Lafayette's women's studies program, she taught Introduction to Women's Studies from 1982 to 1996. Since retiring, she has continued to attend scholarly conferences and write papers, primarily on the role of animals in medieval literature.