

Lawrence M. Principe, Ph.D.

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Lawrence Principe was an undergraduate at the University of Delaware, where he received a B.S. in Chemistry and a B.A. in Liberal Studies in 1983. During this time, he developed his interest in the history of science, particularly the history of alchemy and early chemistry. He then entered the graduate program in Chemistry at Indiana University, Bloomington, where he worked on the synthesis of natural products. Immediately upon completing the Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry (1988), he reentered graduate school, this time in the History of Science at Johns Hopkins University, and earned a Ph.D. in that field in 1996.

Since 1989, Professor Principe has taught Organic Chemistry at Johns Hopkins University. In 1997, he earned an appointment in History of Science and began teaching there as well. Currently, he enjoys a split appointment as professor between the two departments, dividing his teaching equally between the two at both graduate and undergraduate levels. He also enjoys annoying safety inspectors by performing alchemical experiments in his office.

In 1999, Professor Principe was chosen as the Maryland Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation, and in 1998, he was the recipient of the Templeton Foundation's award for courses dealing with science and religion. He has also won several teaching awards bestowed by Johns Hopkins.

Professor Principe's interests cover the history of science of the early modern and late medieval periods and focus particularly on the history of alchemy and chemistry. His first book was entitled *The Aspiring Adept: Robert Boyle and His Alchemical Quest* (1998), and he has since collaborated on a book on seventeenth-century laboratory practices (*Alchemy Tried in the Fire*) and on a study of the image of the alchemist in Netherlandish genre paintings (*Transmutations: Alchemy in Art*). He is currently at work on a long-term study of the chemists at the Parisian Royal Academy of Sciences around 1700.