

Katharina Piechocki's main area of research and teaching is early modern European literature, with a particular focus on cartography, translation studies, gender studies, opera, and theater, as well as theories of world cinema. Working in ten linguistic traditions—Italian, French, Portuguese, German, Polish, Spanish, Latin, ancient Greek and (beginning) Arabic, besides English—Piechocki's research and teaching, interdisciplinary in nature, center on canonical texts alongside untranslated and/or less-studied authors.

At the center of Piechocki's work, supported by numerous national and international grants and fellowships, is the importance of spatial and poetic figuration embedded in a nuanced and deep analysis of early modernity's diverse linguistic, literary, and cultural manifestations, from ca. 1400 to ca. 1700. Her research explores the rise and transformation of new disciplines (cartography, philology, translation) and the emergence and translation of new interdisciplinary, predominantly performative, art forms (opera, ballet, revival of ancient theater) as they traveled across regions, nations, and continents. Together with Tom Conley, she is co-founder and co-chair of the Cartography Seminar at the Mahindra Humanities Center. In July 2019, Piechocki was the inaugural fellow at the newly founded Europe-Center at the University of Konstanz, Germany, where she discussed the role of Europe within the world in an international panel.