ABRAM C. VAN ENGEN

Washington University in St. Louis
Department of English

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor, Washington University in St. Louis, 2026-
Stanley Elkin Professor in the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis, 2023-2026
Professor, John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, WashU in St. Louis, 2026-
Professor, Department of English, Washington University in St. Louis, 2021-
Associate Professor, Department of English, Washington University in St. Louis, 2016-2021
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Washington University in St. Louis, 2012-2016
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Trinity University, January 2011 – May 2012.

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Northwestern University, English, 2010
M.A.	Northwestern University, English, 2005
B.A.	Calvin College, English and Philosophy, 2003

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Word Made Fresh: An Invitation to Poetry for the Church (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2024).

Winner of 2024 Culture, Poetry, and the Arts Book Award from *Christianity Today*

City on a Hill: A History of American Exceptionalism (New Haven: Yale UP, 2020).

Winner of the Peter J. Gomes Memorial Book Award, Massachusetts Historical Society
Winner of the Pelikan Award, Yale University Press

Sympathetic Puritans: Calvinist Fellow Feeling in Early New England (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015)

Edited Collections

The Oxford Handbook of Anne Bradstreet (New York: Oxford University Press, under contract). Co-edited with Mary Eyring.

Anne Bradstreet Now: Modern Poets Respond (New York: Oxford University Press, 2026). Co-edited with Mary Eyring.

Feeling Godly: Religious Affection and Christian Contact in Colonial North America (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2021). Co-edited with Caroline Wigginton.

A History of American Puritan Literature (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020). Co-edited with Kristina Bross.

Special Issues

"Marilynne Robinson after *Jack*." Special issue of *Christianity and Literature* 71.2 (June 2022). Co-edited with Caleb Spencer.

"Post-Exceptionalist Puritanism." Special issue of *American Literature* 90.4 (December 2018). Co-edited with Sarah Rivett and Cristobal Silva.

Digital Projects

The City on a Hill Archive. A searchable database of the phrase "city on a hill" and its variants in American culture, intended to aid research in American exceptionalism. [https://sites.wustl.edu/americanexceptionalism/]

Exploring Anthologies of Early American Literature. A database tracking every author and title included in every edition of the *Norton* and *Heath* anthologies of early American literature to enable explorations of diversity and inclusion among authors, as well as the changing canon of early American literature. Two journal articles so far produced. [https://talus.artsci.wustl.edu/revised_anthology_graph/index.html]

Podcast

Poetry for All (https://poetryforall.fireside.fm/)
A resource to introduce all kinds of poetry to a very broad audience.
As of October 2026, 117 episodes released with over 350,000 downloads.
Nominated for an Ambies Award by the Podcast Academy
Winner of a SPEED grant from Washington University in St. Louis
Winner of a Washington University Arts & Sciences Public Scholarship Prize
Transcripts published in *Spoon River Poetry Review*

Articles

"Forum: Poetry in/for the Church—Response," *Christianity and Literature* 74.1 (2025): 121-125. Response to a forum on my book *Word Made Fresh*.

"Resisting Puritans," *American Literary History* 37.1 (Spring 2025): 94–109.

"Wonder and Care: A Christian Poetics for the Present Day," *Christianity & Literature* 71.4 (December 2022): 513-521.

"Della's Rage: Race and Religion in Marilynne Robinson's *Jack*," *Christianity and Literature* 71.2 (2022): 172-189.

"Archives: Exploring Early American Literature Anthologies," co-authored with Tim DeCelle, *Early American Literature* 56.3 (2021): 845-862. [From the DH project.]

"Reimagining Early American Literature," a special forum in *Resources for American Literary Study* 42.2 (2020). I organized it and wrote the introduction. Essays from Michael Cody Amos, Wendy Roberts, and Hannah Wakefield. [From the DH project.]

"American Origins: Political Divides in U.S. Collective Memory," *Memory Studies* 15.1 (February 2022). Advanced copy published online. Co-authored with Jeremy Yamashiro (first author) and Henry L. Roediger, III (last author).

"Pursuing the 'True History' of America: American Exceptionalism and the Making of the Massachusetts Historical Society." *Massachusetts Historical Review* 21 (2020): 75-101.

"The Last Cleric: Ann Douglas, Intellectual Authority, and the Place of *Feminization* at Forty." *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* 7.1 (2019): 185-208. Co-authored with Kevin Pelletier and Claudia Stokes.

"Introduction: Postexceptionalist Puritanism" (co-authored with Sarah Rivett), *American Literature* 90.4 (2018): 675-692.

"Three Questions for American Literature and Religion," *Journal of American Studies* 51 (2017): 220-226.

"Eliza's Disposition: Freedom, Pleasure, and Sentimental Fiction." *Early American Literature* 51.2 (2016): 297-331.

"Origins and Last Farewells: Bible Wars, Textual Form, and the Making of American History." *The New England Quarterly* 86.4 (December 2013): 543-92. Whitehill Prize Winner.

"Advertising the Domestic: Anne Bradstreet's Sentimental Poetics." *Legacy* 28.1 (2011): 47-68.

"Puritanism and the Power of Sympathy." *Early American Literature* 45.3 (Fall 2010): 533-564.

"Shifting Perspectives: Sin and Salvation in Julian's *A Revelation of Love*." *Literature and Theology* 23.1 (March 2009): 1-17.

"Reclaiming Claims: What English Students Want from English Profs." *Pedagogy* 5.1 (January 2005): 5-18.

Book Chapters

"Literacy and Print Culture in Anglo-America," in *Print Culture and Communication in the Stuart World*, ed. Kirsteen MacKenzie. Forthcoming.

"Puritanism and National Identity," in *Oxford Handbook of Puritanism*, ed. Francis Bremer, Ann Hughes, and Greg Salazar (Oxford University Press, 2026), 491-501.

"Psalm 137, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Function of Poetic Form," *Art Seeking Understanding*, ed. David Lyle Jeffrey and Robert C. Roberts (Waco: Baylor UP, 2024), 157-174.

"City on a Hill: Pilgrims, Puritans, and the Origin of America." In *National Memories: Constructing Identity in Populist Times*. Ed. Henry L. Roediger III and James V. Wertsch. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.

"Introduction," co-written with Kristina Bross, *A History of American Puritan Literature*.

"Prologue" and "Afterword," both in *A History of American Puritan Literature*.

"The Puritan Culture of Letters." *A Companion to American Literature*, vol. 1, ed. Susan Belasco and Theresa Strouth Gaul (Blackwell, 2020), 51-72.

"Claiming the High Ground: Puritans, Catholics, and the City on a Hill." In *American Literature and The New Puritan Studies*. New York: Cambridge UP, 2017.

"The Salem Witch Trials." In *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature*. 2016.

"Puritanism." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History*. Ed. Trevor Burnard. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.

Review Essays

"Axioms of Religion and Literature for All," *American Literature* 98.2 (2026): 299-311. Books Reviewed: Thomas Ferraro, *Transgression and Redemption in American Fiction* (Oxford UP, 2020); Ashley Reed, *Heaven's Interpreters: Women Writers and Religious Agency in Nineteenth-Century America* (Cornell UP, 2020); Jerome Tharaud, *Apocalyptic Geographies: Religion, Media, and the American Landscape* (Princeton UP, 2020).

"Puritanism in Transatlantic Perspective: A Discussion of David D. Hall's *The Puritans a Transatlantic Perspective*," *Journal of Early American History* 11.1 (2021): 48-55.

"Generosity for Our Own Good," *Patheos* (November 19, 2020), review of Alan Jacobs, *Breaking Bread with the Dead: A Reader's Guide to a More Tranquil Mind* (Penguin, 2020).

"New England Anew," *New England Quarterly* 93.2 (June 2020), 221-227, review of Mark Peterson, *The City-State of Boston: The Rise and Fall of an Atlantic Power, 1630–1865* (Princeton UP, 2019).

"Fear, Anger, and Finding Another Way," *Comment Magazine* (Oct. 24, 2018), review of Martha Nussbaum, *The Monarchy of Fear: A Philosopher Looks at Our Political Crisis* (Simon and Schuster, 2019).

"Slow Down, You Move Too Fast" *Arc Magazine* (May 6, 2025), review of Nichoalas Carr, *Superbloom* (Norton, 2025).

"The Law and the Gospel," *Common-place.org* 17.3 (Summer 2017), review of Baird Tipson, *Hartford Puritanism: Thomas Hooker, Samuel Stone, and Their Terrifying God* (Oxford UP, 2015).

"A Medieval Puritan Welcomes the Early American Enlightenment: What Bible Commentaries Can Offer Post-secular and Literary Studies," *EAL* 52.2 (2017): 423-441.
Books Reviewed: Cotton Mather, *Biblia Americana: America's First Bible Commentary; a Synoptic Commentary on the Old and New Testaments*, volume 5: *Proverbs-Jeremiah*, ed. Jan Stievermann (Tubingen: Mohr-Siebeck, 2015); Jan Stievermann, *Prophecy, Piety, and the Problem of Historicity: Interpreting the Hebrew Scriptures in Cotton Mather's Biblia Americana* (Tubingen: Mohr-Siebeck, 2016).

"Anne Bradstreet in England." *Women's Studies* 43.3 (2014): 379-92.
Books Reviewed: Patricia Pender, *Early Modern Women's Writing and the Rhetoric of Modesty* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012); Gillian Wright, *Producing Women's Poetry, 1600-1730: Text and Paratext, Manuscript and Print* (Cambridge UP, 2013).

"The Good, the Bad, and the Puritans," review of Sarah Vowell, *The Wordy Shipmates* (Riverhead, 2008), in *Books&Culture* (2008).

"Teaching Life, with Restraint," review of Stanley Fish, *Save the World on Your Own Time* (Oxford UP, 2008), in *Books&Culture* (2008).

"Double Helix," review of David Maine, *Fallen* (St. Martin's Press, 2005), in *Books&Culture* (March/April, 2006).

"The Nature of Redemption," review of Steven Kellman, *Redemption: The Life of Henry Roth* (Norton, 2005), in *Books&Culture* (January/February, 2006).

"Insect Theodicy," review of Jeffrey Lockwood, *Locust: The Devastating Rise and Mysterious Disappearance of the Insect that Shaped the American Frontier* (Basic Books, 2004), in *Books&Culture* (June 21, 2004).

"Mystery and Message," review of Gregory Wolfe, *Intruding Upon the Timeless: Meditations on Art, Faith, and Mystery* (Square Halo Books, 2003), in *Books&Culture* (May 10, 2004).

Book Reviews

The Puritan Literary Tradition, edited by Johanna Harris and Alison Searle. *American Literary History* 38.3 (July 2026), 1–4.

Theologies of Pain: Literary Bodies and Afflicted Forms in Puritan New England, by Lucas Hardy. *Early American Literature* 61.2 (2026): 438-442.

Paradise Lost: A Biography, by Alan Jacobs. *Living Church Magazine* (Jan 8, 2026).

Unmoored: The Search for Sincerity in Colonial America by Ana Schwartz. *Modern Language Quarterly* 85.3 (2024): 368–371.

The Broadview Anthology of American Literature, Vol. A: Beginnings to 1820 ed. by Derrick R. Spires et al. *Early American Literature* 59.1 (2024): 233-238.

Cotton Mather's Spanish Lessons: A Story of Language, Race, and Belonging in the Early Americas by Kirsten Silva Gruesz. *William and Mary Quarterly* 81.1 (Jan 2024): 183-187.

The Elusive Everyday in the Fiction of Marilynne Robinson by Laura E. Tanner. *American Literary History*, 34.4 (Winter 2022): 1714–1717.

The Passion of Anne Hutchinson: An Extraordinary Woman, the Puritan Patriarchs, and the World They Made and Lost by Marilyn J. Westerkamp. *Journal of American History* 109 (2022).

They Knew They Were Pilgrims: Plymouth Colony and the Contest for American Liberty by John Turner. *Church History* 89.4 (2020).

Bible Culture and Authority in the Early United States by Seth Perry. *Journal of Religion* 100.1 (2020).

Hot Protestants: A History of Puritanism in England and America by Michael P. Winship. *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (May 31, 2019).

The Story Upon a Hill: The Puritan Myth in Contemporary American Fiction by Christopher Leise. *Studies in the Novel* 50.2 (2018): 309-310.

Female Piety and the Invention of Puritanism by Bryce Traister and *Cast Down: Abjection in America, 1700-1850* by Mark J. Miller. *American Literature* 89.2 (2017): 425-428.

Puritanism and the Pursuit of Happiness: The Ministry and Theology of Ralph Venning, c. 1621-1674 by S. Bryn Roberts. *Church History* 85.4 (2016): 856-858.

The Last Puritans: Mainline Protestants and the Power of the Past by Margaret Bendroth. *Church History* 85.2 (2016): 398-401.

Apocalyptic Sentimentalism: Love and Fear in U.S. Antebellum Literature by Kevin Pelletier. *Amerikanstudien/American Studies*.

Damnable Heresy: William Pynchon, the Indians, and the First Book Banned (and Burned) in Boston by David Powers. *New England Quarterly* 88.4 (December 2015): 715-717.

Jeremiah's Scribes: Creating Sermon Literature in Puritan New England by Meredith Neuman. *Prose Studies* 36.2 (2014): 159-162.

Other Writings / Public Scholarship

"A World for Wonder," *Arc: Religion, Politics, Etc.* (October 8, 2026).

"A City on a Hill?" *Plough Magazine* (June 10, 2026).

"Discerning Our Place in History: The Challenge of the Christian's Call to Remember," *Comment Magazine* (Spring 2025): 95-103.

"The Lizard Theory of Higher Ed" *Arc Magazine* (March 20, 2025).

Substack Columns:

1. *A Rich Life* (co-authored with Peter Boumgarden and Daryl Van Tongeren)
2. *Poetry For All* (co-authored with Joanne Diaz)
3. Various columns on poetry at *Rabbit Room Poetry*

Transcripts of *Poetry For All* regularly published in *Spoon River Poetry Review*.

"The Sense of an Ending," *Character and…* Vol. 10, *Inevitability* (2024).

"Through the Rent, Eternity Enters: A Conversation with Marilyn Nelson and Christian Wiman," *Hedgehog Review* (May 22, 2024).

"The Honest Critic: A Conversation with Gerald Early," *Image* 122 (2024).

"Doing Theology with Poetry," *Dappled Things* (Summer 2022).
"Poetry and the Art of Naming," *Reformed Journal* (June 6, 2022):
"The Pilgrims and the History of American Origin Stories," *Berkley Forum*, Georgetown University (11/17/2021).
"Poetry's Mad Instead," *Reformed Journal* (Sept. 13, 2021):
"A city on a hill? The Bible and 'Christian America,'" *Christian History* 138 (2021): 6-10.
"Democrats are trying to reclaim American exceptionalism. Will it work?" *Washington Post* (1/5/2021).
Carver Connections 2021: "The Just Man Justices," "A Small Good Thing," and "Answering the Why" – see https://www.carverstl.org/connections-2021
Carver Connections 2020: "Made For Fellowship," "A Gathering of Stories," "Abide With Me," "Maundy Thursday Memorial," "Entering into Darkness," "Lost and Found," and "Stand and Wait" – see https://www.carverstl.org/connections2020
"Poetry For All," Center for the Humanities (9/15/20).
"In Praise of Classrooms," *Avidly / LA Review of Books* (May 2020), co-written with Peter Boumgarden.
"White Evangelicals and the New American Exceptionalism of Donald Trump," *Religion and Politics* (9/29/20).
"Dangerous Christian Nationalism? A conversation between Abram Van Engen and Os Guinness," *Patheos* (8/20/20).
"Os Guinness, Eric Metaxas, and Their Dangerous Myths of American History," *Patheos* (7/23/20).
"'City on a Hill' and the Making of an American Origin Story," *Religion & Politics* (2/18/20).
"How America Became 'A City Upon a Hill,'" *Humanities: The Magazine of the National Endowment for the Humanities* 41.1 (Winter 2020).
"What Does Thanksgiving Have to Do with the Impeachment Hearings?" *LARB* (11/28/19).
"Painting New Pictures," Center for the Humanities (2/26/18).
"American Exceptionalism and America First," *Religion & Politics* (1/9/18).
"Reagan called America a 'city on a hill' because taxpayers funded the humanities," *The Conversation* (3/16/17), republished in *Salon*. Another version of this op-ed was republished in *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch* as "Saving History" (5/11/16).
"Advancing God's Kingdom: Calvinism, Calvin College, and Betsy DeVos," *Religion and Politics* (1/30/17)
"Freedom and/of/from Guns," *Avidly / LA Review of Books* (October 11, 2016).
"Clinton's American exceptionalism puts a new twist on an old idea," *The Conversation* (Sept. 7, 2016).
"Legacies." *Common-Place* 15.2 (Winter 2015). Online at www.common-place.org.
"Dispatches from Paternity Leave," *Avidly / LA Review of Books* (Nov. and Dec., 2013).

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Culture, Poetry, and the Arts Book Award, *Christianity Today*, for *Word Made Fresh*, 2024
Pelikan Award for Best Book in Religion, Yale University Press, *City on a Hill*, 2022
Arts & Sciences Faculty Leadership Award, Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2022
Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2021
Peter J. Gomes Memorial Book Award, Massachusetts Historical Society, *City on a Hill*, 2020
National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholars Fellowship, Spring 2018
National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, 2016-2017
Huntington Library Conference Grant, "Religious Affections in Colonial North America," 2017 [$25,000 to run a conference on religious affections at the Huntington Library]
Benjamin F. Stevens Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society, 2016-2017
Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Washington University, Spring 2015 [declined]
Center for the Humanities Writing Group Grant: American Religions, Wash U, 2016-
Center for the Humanities Reading Group Grant: Literature and Religion, Wash U, 2014-
Walter Muir Whitehill Prize in Early American History, 2012.
Zuckerman Prize, finalist, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, May 2011.
Hagstrum Prize for Best Dissertation, Northwestern English Department, May 2011.
Mellon-Funded Warwick-Newberry Collaborative Programme: Reintegrating British and American History, 1660-1750. Newberry Library, July 2011.
R.M. McFarlin Junior Faculty Fellowship, Trinity University, Summers 2010-2012.
NEH Summer Institute, "From Metacom to Tecumseh: Alliances, Conflicts, and Resistance in Native North America," Newberry Library, 2010.
Presidential Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2008-2010.
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, 2008.

SELECTED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

"Puritan Ambition," American Political Science Association annual conference, 2026.
Panel Response, *Errand into the Wilderness at 70*. American Literature Association, 2026.
"Anne Bradstreet's Ends." Plenary Panel, Society of Early Americanists, 2025
State of the field paper on early Am lit, Literature and Religion Conference, BYU, 2025
Ducharme Lecture, "Word Made Fresh," Mount St. Mary's University, Fall 2024.
"Poems as Friends," Hutchmoot, October 2024.
Forum on *Awakening Verse*. Society of Early Americanists, June 2023.
"Poetry For All" for the Innovation Room for MLA, January 2022 [virtual].
"Christian Nationalism" for panel called "Early American Contexts for 21st Century Crises," Society of Early Americanists, Atlanta [virtual], March 2021.
"Twentieth-Century Pilgrims and Puritans," *Four Nations Commemoration, 1620-2020: The Pilgrims and the Politics of Memory*, Leiden, the Netherlands, August 2020. [canceled]

"Revisiting the Puritan Past: Twentieth-Century History Textbooks and The Remembrance of New England," Society of Early Americanists, Exeter, June 2020 [canceled]

"Political Theology," Roundtable, MLA, January 2020.

"The Governing Structures of Early American Anthologies," Charles Brockden Brown Society, October 5, 2019.

"The Digital Story of the City on a Hill," Society for US Intellectual History, Nov. 9, 2018.

"Transatlantic Conversations: New and Emerging Approaches to Early American Studies," Society of Early Americanists Workshop, Mainz, Germany. October 4-6, 2018.

Colloquy on *Sympathetic Puritans* at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. March 2017.

"Hop, Skip, and a Jump: Genealogies of Early American Literature." Society of Early Americanists. March 2017.

"Receiving *Feminization*." MLA. January 2017.

"Sentimentalism and Religion in America's First Novel." Sacred Literature, Secular Religion: A Conference on Cultural Practices. October 2015.

"Religion, Politics, and Print Culture." Chair and Organizer. Society of Early Americanists and Omohundro Institute Joint Conference. June 2015.

Roundtable: C19 Religion and Literature, the State of the Field. American Literature Association Symposium, "God and the American Writer." February 2015.

"Contesting the City on a Hill: Protestants, Catholics, and Visible Truth." American Society of Church History. January 2015.

"Legacies" (invited speaker for a colloquy on *Seasons of Misery*). American Studies Association. November 2014.

"The Puritans Today: Continuity or Contrast?" Society of Early Americanists. July 2014.

"Sympathetic Puritans: Calvinist Fellow Feeling in Early New England." American Society of Church History. January 2014.

"Finding and Founding a City on a Hill: Recovering Winthrop in the Nineteenth Century." MLA. January 2014.

"Of a Feeling Make: Sympathy, Character, and Choice in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*." MLA 2014.

"City on a Hill: Textual Form, Close Reading, and the Construction of American Culture." Return of the Text: A Conference on the Cultural Value of Close Reading. Sept. 2013.

"Sympathy as Sign in the Salem Witch Trials." Society of Early Americanists. March 2013.

"Love, Logic, and Seduction: Puritan Principles of Persuasion in the Antinomian Controversy." Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture. June 2012.

"Eliza's Disposition: Freedom, Free Will, and Religion in *The Coquette*." American Literature Association. May 2012.

"Resisting Authority, Establishing Rule: The Geneva Bible, the KJV, and John Winthrop's City on a Hill." Renaissance Comparative Prose Conference. September 2011.

"Affection and Election: The Political Assumptions of Sentimentalism." American Culture Association. April 2011.

"Tears Elect: Puritan Sensibilities in William Hill Brown's *The Power of Sympathy*." Society of Early Americanists. March 2011.

"Performing Sincerity: Religious Affections in *The Eliot Tracts*." Scholl Seminar in Early American History and Culture, Newberry Library. October 2010.
"Writing to Prove, Speaking to Move: Native American Confessions in Puritan New England." Rhetoric Society of America. May 2010.
"Performing Sincerity: The Centrality of Amerindian Conversions in New England." Early American Borderlands Conference for the Society of Early Americanists. May 2010.
"Puritanism and the Power of Sympathy." American Literature Association. May 2009.
"Demonstrating the Spirit: The Emotional Design of Puritan Preaching." College English Association. March 2009.
"Advertising the Domestic: Anne Bradstreet's Domestic Politics." SEA. March 2009.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

"Comparative Colonialisms in Early America" (co-taught with Stephanie Kirk), Spring 2024
"Markets and Morality" (Beyond Boundaries, co-taught with Peter Boumgarden), 2020-2025
"Introduction to Graduate Studies" (graduate seminar), Fall 2019
"Marilynne Robinson" (graduate seminar), Spring 2019
"Literature and Religion" (graduate seminar), Spring 2016.
"Literature in English: Early Texts and Contexts (pre-1800)" (English 2151), Spring 2015.
"City on a Hill: The Concept and Culture of American Exceptionalism" (AMCS 3081), 2014-2018
"Puritan Formations in American Culture" (graduate seminar), Spring 2014.
"First Encounters: Natives and Newcomers in Early America" (English 423), Spring 2013.
"Literature, Spirituality, and Religion" (English 171), Washington University, 2013-14.
"Early American Literature" (English 425), Washington University, Fall 2012, Spring 2015.
"American Literature to 1865" (English 321), Washington University, Fall 2012.
"Early American Novels" (English 4323), Trinity University, Spring 2012.
"The Puritans" (English 4325), Trinity University, Fall 2011.
"Natives and Newcomers: Cultural Contact in Early America" (English 3370), Trinity, 2011.
"American Literature: Colonization to 1900" (English 2303), Trinity University, 2011-2012.
"Writing Workshop" (English 1302), Trinity University, 2011-2012.
"The Power of Sympathy" (American Studies 310), Northwestern University, Fall 2010.
"Dealing with Death: Literary Approaches to the End of Life," Medical Humanities, 2009-10.
"What is Higher Education?," Freshman Seminar, Northwestern University, Spring 2008.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Program Committee, Society of Early Americanists, 2022-2023, and 2026-2027
Director and Organizer, Society of Early Americanists Special Topics Conference: "Religion and Politics in Early America." St. Louis, March 2018. 225 participants.
Selection Committee for NEH long-term fellowships at the Massachusetts Historical Society
Selection Committee for NEH Public Scholars Award

Selection Committee for the 1921 Prize in American Literature
Program Committee, Joint Conference of Omohundro and Society of Early Americanists, 2015.

Manuscript reviewer (monographs):

Bloomsbury Press
Bucknell University Press
Cambridge University Press
New York University Press
Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture (with UNC Press)
Oxford University Press
University of Chicago Press
University Press of New England
Yale University Press

Manuscript reviewer (articles):

American Literature
American Quarterly
Atlantic Studies
Calvin Theological Journal
Church History
Christianity and Literature
Early American Literature
Early Music History
Journal of the Bible and Its Reception
Literature and Theology
Modern American History
New England Quarterly
Religion and Literature

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Department Service

Department Chair, 2022-2026
Director of Graduate Studies, 2018-2021
Curriculum Committee, 2018-2021
Executive Committee, 2014-2015, 2018-2021
Co-Chair, Job Placement Committee, 2014-2016, 2019-2020
Hurst Committee, 2014-16
Research Committee, 2014-16

Search Committees (as member and chair), 2012-2013, 2022-2023
Founder and Facilitator, Religion and Literature Reading Group, 2014-
Founder and Facilitator, American Religions Writing Group, 2016-

University Service

Steering Committee, WashU/Warwick Arts and Humanities Collaborative, 2026-2028
Executive Committee, Center for the Humanities, 2025-2028
Faculty Fellow for Undergraduate Educational Initiatives, Provost's Office, 2023
Chair, Civic Engagement and Public Engagement Curriculum Committee, 2023
Dean's Advisory Committee, 2022-
WashU Leads Curriculum Development Committee, 2022
Co-Chair, Strategic Planning for Arts and Sciences, 2021-2022
Dean's Fellow for Educational Innovations and Initiatives, 2021-2022
Interim Director, American Culture Studies, 2019-2020
Director of Graduate Studies, American Culture Studies, 2019-2020
Director, Humanities Graduate Recruiting Weekend, 2019-2020
Faculty Library Committee, 2018-2020
Marshall Scholarship Review Committee, Fall 2015
First-Year Reading Program, 2013

GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING

Advisor

Sara Flores (defended April 2026)
Thomas Howard, co-chair with Steven Meyer (defended May 2023)
Naomi Kim, co-chair with Chris Eng (fifth year)
Paulo Loonin (defended August 26, 2019)
Hannah Wakefield (defended May 21, 2018)

DLA Thesis Advisor, University College

Mary Bartling (defended April 18, 2018)

Dissertation Committee

Lauren Barbeau (defended August 20, 2015)
Ethan Bennett, History (defended April 10, 2020)
Kenyon Gradert (defended April 2017)
Asher Gelzer-Govatos, Comparative Literature (defended spring 2020)
Ann Marie Jakubowski (defended June 13, 2024)

Benjamin Meiners (defended August 23, 2018)
Nicholas Miller (defended December 9, 2014)
Esei Murakishi (defended August 2023)
Dan Normandin (defended spring 2020)
Margaret Tucker (defended April 17, 2018)

External Examiner

Taylor Kraayenbrink, Western University (defended February 20, 2020)