

CURRICULUM VITA

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in English and Humanities, Stanford University, 1997. Dissertation: “By These We Reach Divinity’: The Pursuit of Assurance in the Poetry of Donne and Herbert.” Director: Ronald A. Rebholz
- M.A. in English, Northwestern University: 1990
- J.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: 1985
- B.A. in English, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: 1982

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Director of Writing Programs 2016-2019
- Assistant/Associate/Professor of English, Furman University, Greenville, SC: 1996-present
- Tutor, British Studies at Oxford, St. John’s College, Oxford, UK: 2003, 2007
- State Education Director for Constitutional Rights Foundation (nonprofit law-related education foundation), Chicago, IL: 1988-1989
- Attorney specializing in securities regulation, Chicago, IL: 1985-1988

PUBLICATIONS

- Completed monograph under peer review with McFarland Publishing: *To Gender or Not to Gender: Gender Presentation in 21st Century Shakespeare*
- Essay on Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* in *Literary Journeys*, Black Dog & Leventhal, 2022.
- “Hardball Speaks to our Hard Times,” *Clue: A Journal of Detection*, March, 2022
- Review of Allison Machlis Meyer, *Telltale Women: Chronicling Gender in Early Modern Historiography*. Lincoln: U of Nebraska P 2021. *Sixteenth-Century Journal*.
- Review of Jennifer Richards, *Voices and Books in the English Renaissance*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2019: *Seventeenth-Century News*, 79 1&2 (2021)
<http://oaktrust.library.tamu.edu/handle/1969.1/94990>
- Review of Abraham Stoll, *Conscience in Early Modern English Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2017. *Seventeenth Century News* 77 (2019)
<https://oaktrust.library.tamu.edu/handle/1969.1/94990>
- Review of Thomas Keymer, ed., *Prose Fiction in English from the Origins of Print to 1750*, vol. I of the Oxford History of the Novel in English. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2017. *Seventeenth Century News* 77 (2019) <https://oaktrust.library.tamu.edu/handle/1969.1/94990>

- Essay on Willa Cather's *O Pioneers!* in *Literary Landscapes*, ed. John Sutherland. London: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2018. 60-61.
- Essay on Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* in *Literary Landscapes*, ed. John Sutherland. London: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2018. 164-167.
- Guest blog post "Beingism Not Humanism (Or Post, Anti, OR Trans)," *The Worrisome Words Blog* ed. Jennifer Harrison (October, 2017).
<https://theworrisomewordsblog.weebly.com/blog/guest-post-beingism-not-humanism-or-post-anti-or-trans-by-professor-margaret-j-oakes>
- Essay on J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* in *Literary Wonderlands*, ed. Laura Miller. London: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2016. 272-275.
- "Secret Domination or Civic Duty: The Source and Purpose of Magical Power in Harry Potter." *Reading Harry Potter: Critical Essays, Vol. 2*. Ed. Giselle Anatol. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2009.
- Review of Frederick Luis Aldama, *Why the Humanities Matter: A Commonsense Approach*. Austin: U of Texas P, 2008. *Studies in American Culture* (October, 2008)
- "'Entering Upon That One Path': Bacon's Knightly Quest for Knowledge." *Discoveries* (online publication of the South Central Renaissance Conference) 23.2 (2006).
<http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu/~nydam/scrc/discoveries/archives/232/oakes232pf.htm>
- "'To be thy praise / And be my salvation': The Duty to Praise in The Temple." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 47.2 (2005): 120-138.
- Review of Ronald W. Cooley, "*Full of all knowledge*": Herbert's Country Parson and Early Modern Social Discourse. *Seventeenth-Century News*. 62 (2004): 189-193.
- Review of Corrine Abate, *Privacy, Domesticity, and Women in Early Modern England*. *Sixteenth Century Journal* 35 (2004): 1127-1129.
- "Naming Cromwell: Marvell's Dilemma," *Discoveries: South Central Renaissance Conference News and Notes* 20 (2003): 1+.
- "Flying Cars, Floo Powder, and Flaming Torches: The Hi-Tech, Lo-Tech World of Harry Potter." *Reading Harry Potter: Critical Essays*. Ed. Giselle Anatol. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2003. 117-128.
- "'You are Harriet, and you are Black But Comely': Is That All Harriet Is?" *Sidelights on Sayers* (2001).
- Review of Frances Teague, *Bathsua Makin: Woman of Learning*. *Women's Studies International Forum* 22 (1999): 267-268.

CONFERENCE PAPERS, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

- "Crisis and Change: Making the Case for the English Major," Panel on "Positioning the English Major: The Crisis of the Humanities and the COVID-19 Pandemic," SAMLA: November, 2020
- "To Gender or Not To Gender," Popular Culture Association of the South, Wilmington, NC: October, 2019
- "DASL at Furman," Small Liberal Arts College Writing Program Administrators Conference, Davidson, NC: January 2019
- "Reflective Practices in the Classroom," with Jean Schwab and Stephanie Knouse, Carolinas Writing Program Administrators Meeting, Charlotte, NC: January 2019

- “Can You Hear Me Now?": Preaching to the Masses in Early Modern London," South Central Renaissance Conference, Atlanta, GA: March, 2018
- “Pedagogical Development in Writing Instruction," Carolinas Writing Program Administrators Meeting, Charlotte, NC: January 2018
- The Rubber Meets the Road: Being a Real-Life Ethical Writer," Small Liberal Arts College Writing Program Administrators Conference, Daytona Beach, Florida: January, 2018
- “Making Internships a Liberal Arts Experience," Association for General and Liberal Studies Conference, Memphis, TN: October, 2017
- “Teaching the Consequences of Warfare With Shakespeare," Popular Culture Association of the South Meeting, Nashville, TN: October, 2016
- “God Save the Queen: Queenship and Prayerful Power," South Central Renaissance Conference, St. Louis, MO: March, 2016
- Dying with Donne: The Algebra of Death." South Central Renaissance Conference, Raleigh, NC: March, 2015
- “Boethius’ *Consolation of Philosophy* and Putting One’s Life into Perspective." Association of Core Texts and Courses “Intersection of Religious and Secular Cores Conference, Memphis, TN: October 2014
- “Teaching Shakespeare’s Europe." Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture Association of the South Joint Conference, Savannah, GA: October, 2013
- The Transylvania Seminar: one of 15 nationally invited liberal arts educators gathered to discuss and generate ideas to facilitate liberal arts education, Lexington, KY: July, 2013
- “Teaching Shakespeare Inside Out--An Internal Interpretation." Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Nashville, TN: October, 2012
- “Their scepters stretcht from east to western shore": Imagining a Global Queenship." South Central Renaissance Conference, New Orleans, LA: March, 2012
- “Consolation and Confirmation: The Dual Role of Elizabeth's Translation of Boethius." South Central Renaissance Conference, St. Louis, MO: March, 2011
- “Too Much Shakespeare?" Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Savannah, GA: October, 2010
- “First To Be Hanged And Then Confess’: Interrogating Love And Law In *Othello*." Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and Humanities Conference, Providence, RI: March 2010
- “Reader's Theater Is the New Performance." Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Wilmington, NC: October, 2009
- Invited Participant, “Rousseau and Smith on the Character of a Free Society." Liberty Fund Colloquium, San Destin, FL: March, 2009
- “First To Be Hanged And Then Confessed’: Interrogating Love And Law In *Othello*." Renaissance Society of America, Los Angeles, CA: March, 2009
- “Comus and Satan: Familiar Faces of Vice." Milton at 400, Stanford University, Stanford, CA: December, 2008
- “Teaching Shakespeare in Tandem." Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Louisville, KY: October, 2008
- “The Rhetoric of Place in War and Commonwealth Literature." South Central Renaissance Conference, Kansas City, MO: March, 2008

- “Teaching the Bad and the Ugly: Titus Andronicus, King Lear, and Troilus and Cressida.” Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Atlantic Beach, FL: September, 2007
- “Using Films for Shakespeare Class: How Not to OD on Kenneth Branagh.” Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Savannah, GA: September, 2006
- “‘Entering Upon That One Path’: Bacon’s Knightly Quest for Knowledge.” South Central Renaissance Conference, Houston, TX: March, 2006
- “Teaching Shakespeare’s Failed Leaders.” Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Atlantic Beach, FL: September, 2005
- “‘Not to be Mistress of One’: Reading Images of Margaret Cavendish.” Sixth Biennial Margaret Cavendish Conference, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario: July, 2005
- “Comus and Satan: Familiar Faces of Vice.” South Central Renaissance Conference, Malibu, CA: March, 2005
- “‘Yet I am a great Emulator’: The Authorial Portrait of Margaret Cavendish.” South Central Renaissance Conference, University of Texas: April, 2004
- “‘Yet I am a great Emulator’: Margaret Cavendish’s Visual Rhetoric.” Renaissance Rhetoric, Gender, and Politics, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland: April, 2003
- “Reading Images of Margaret Cavendish: The Creation of a Female Voice.” Eighth Citadel Conference “Icons of Change: Word and Image in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance,” Charleston, SC: February, 2002
- “Teaching the Problem Play: Sex in *Measure for Measure*.” Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Jacksonville, FL: October, 2001
- “‘For the Good Encouragement of Our Sex’: Margaret Cavendish Encounters Humanist Educational Philosophy.” Fourth Biennial International Margaret Cavendish Conference, Wheaton College: June, 2001
- “‘You are Harriet, and you are Black But Comely’: Is That All Harriet Is?” Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies, Stanford University: April, 2001
- “‘For Reason Put to Her Best Extension,/Almost Meets Faith’: The Flawed Dialectical Structure in Donne’s Sonnets.” Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Chicago, IL: March, 2001.
- “‘The Play’s the Thing’: Avoiding Shakespeare’s ‘Novels’.” Popular Culture Association of America/Popular Culture of the South Joint Conference, Nashville, TN: October, 2000
- “The King is Dead, Long Live the -- Who?” Philological Association of the Carolinas Annual Conference, Converse College: March, 1998
- “Courtly Women Blazing Interior Worlds” (workshop on Aemelia Lanyer, Margaret Cavendish and Madeleine de Scudery). Society for the Study of Early Modern Women “Attending to Early Modern Women” Conference, University of Maryland: November, 1997
- “The Phenomenology of the Divine: Milton, Hegel and Humboldt.” Philological Association of the Carolinas Annual Conference, East Carolina University: March, 1997

INVITED SPEAKING AND TEACHING ENGAGEMENTS

- Furman TEDx featured faculty speaker: “To Gender or Not to Gender: Questions of Gendering in Shakespeare”: January, 2021
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWhzeko36h0>
- Furman Women’s Leadership Institute faculty instructor: 2016, 2017, (Faculty Director) and 2019-present
- *Tolle, Lege** (“Take, Read”) Furman University Public Humanities Lecture Series: Summer 2020 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_HGZuthB58
- SC Humanities Facebook Watch lecture: “The Shakespeare You Love to Hate”: April 2020
- Invited lecturer on selected subjects through SC Humanities: 2006-present.
https://schumanities.org/speakers_speaker/oakesm/
- Invited lecturer on selected subjects through The Humanities Council of South Carolina: 2006-present.
<http://www.schumanities.org/index.php?c=projects&s=speakers&s2=speakers-list>
- “A Core Education in the Midst of Academic Change,” Association of General and Liberal Studies, Milwaukee, WI: September 2015. This address was presented as part of my being awarded the Association of General and Liberal Studies Jerry G. Gaff Award for Faculty Excellence in General and Liberal Education.
- Invited speaker at Lexington County, SC library branches, various topics: summer 2014 and 2015
- Keynote speaker to launch the Virginia Military Institute’s new humanities curriculum: April 2013
- Keynote speaker at “Spring for Fuman” admissions event: 2013 and 2014
- Instructor for team-taught pedagogical seminars to FYS/W instructors at Furman: May 2009-2011
- Instructor for Berkeley County Advanced Placement teachers, leading seminars on teaching Shakespeare: February, 2011
- Invited speaker annually for the Mere Christianity Forum
- Invited faculty speaker for the L.D. Johnson “What Really Matters?” series sponsored by the Furman University Chaplain’s office: April, 2010
- “Sir Walter Raleigh Seeing (and Showing) Himself: The Rhetoric of Early Modern Frontispieces.” Invited speaker for “Sir Walter Raleigh and the Atlantic Colonies” conference, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC: April, 2008
- Faculty member in the Liberal Arts Leadership at Furman program, educating business executives in leadership concepts through literature and film: 2006-present.
<http://www.furman.edu/cpd/LAL.htm>
- “What Are We Doing Here?” Keynote speaker to celebrate the “Year of the Humanities” at fall Convocation ceremony opening the university academic year: September, 2005
<http://www.furman.edu/press/pressarchive.cfm?ID=3687>
- “The Letters of Queen Elizabeth I.” Invited lecturer in series of talks and events accompanying traveling exhibit from the Newberry Library *Elizabeth I: Ruler and Legend*, Greenville SC: May, 2004

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Actor in *Sheepwell*, written by Theater Arts faculty Margaret Caterisano, presented at the SheNYCarts 2022 Theater Festival in New York, August 2022, winner of Best Production and Best Playwright of the Festival
- Jerry G. Gaff Award for Faculty Excellence in General and Liberal Education, national award presented by the Association of General and Liberal Studies: 2015
- Named one of the “300 Best Professors” nationally by the Princeton Review: 2012
- Faculty Member of the Year, Association of Furman Students: 2005-2006
- International Chapter Advisor of the Year, Sigma Tau Delta International English Honorary Society: 2004-2005 (nominated by the Furman chapter)
- Furman University Meritorious Advising Award: 2001-2002 (student and faculty-nominated award based on academic and career mentoring of students)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- Furman Advantage Summer Research Grant with student Noelle Warner: 2017
- Research and Professional Development Grant for travel to the Huntington Library for sabbatical project: 2009-2010
- Lilly Faculty Seminar “Science and Religion: A Dialogue for the 21st Century: 2007-2008
- Limited Editions Club Fellowship from the Harry Ransom Humanities Center at the University of Texas at Austin: 2006-2007 (one-month residential fellowship to conduct research in the print collection for research on Renaissance frontispiece portraits)
- Mellon Foundation Creative Advance Planning Grant: 2006-2007 (course release to facilitate completion of sabbatical project)
- Mellon Foundation Creative Advance Planning Grant: 2005-2006 (to study, propose, and implement revisions in the current interdisciplinary freshman humanities course sequence)
- Mellon Foundation Grants: summers 2002-1998 (faculty grants for teaching and course development)
- Mellon Foundation Dissertation Grant: 1995-1996 (Stanford University)

COURSES TAUGHT

- Upper Division Interdisciplinary Humanities courses: “Mortality and Selfhood in Times of Conflict” (2019), “Money and the Good Life” (2018), “Love, Happiness, and Politics” (2014), “The Golden Ages of Plato, Vergil, Dante, More, and Elizabeth” (2011), “What Constitutes the Good Life?” (2009), and “The Liberal Arts: Its History and Issues”(2005)
- Drama in Stratford and London
- Icons and Idols: Material Culture in Reformation Europe
- 16th and 17th Century British Literature
- Detective Fiction
- Major Authors: John Donne and Ben Jonson, Christopher Marlowe and Ben Jonson
- Shakespeare (including Shakespeare on Film)
- Survey of British and American Literature to 1789
- Freshman Writing Seminars: “The History of Detective Fiction” and “The History of the Liberal Arts”

- “British Studies at Oxford” summer program at St. John’s College, Oxford, sponsored by the Associated Colleges of the South, 2003 and 2007: courses in Shakespeare and 17th century poetry

RESEARCH INTERESTS

, Shakespeare, Margaret Cavendish, John Donne, John Milton. The interaction between literature and theology in seventeenth century England, law and literature, Reformation theology, detective fiction, children’s fantasy literature