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C U R R I C U L U M V I T A E

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

University of Notre Dame	
Professor of English	2020–
Fellow of the Medieval Institute	2013–
Associate Professor of English	2013–20
University College London	
Senior Lecturer in Medieval Scandinavian Studies	2012
Lecturer in Medieval Scandinavian Studies	2004–12
University of Cambridge	
Tutor and occasional lecturer for various courses, Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, and Faculty of English	2000–2004

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge (Robinson College)

PhD	“Representations of the Pagan Afterlife in Medieval Scandinavian Literature”	1999–2003
	Degree awarded 21 February 2004	
MPhil	Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic	1998–99
	Areas of concentration: Old English and Old Norse Dissertation: “Anglo-Saxon Influence in the Old Norse Homiletic Tradition” Overall Mark: 74% (Distinction)	
BA (Hons)	Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic	1995–98
	1st class honours with distinction	

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *Evergreen Ash: Ecology and Catastrophe in Old Norse Myth and Literature*. Under the Sign of Nature Series. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2019.
2. *Myths of the Pagan North: The Gods of the Norsemen*. London: Continuum, 2011.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. "At Home in the Fens with the Grendelkin." In *Dating Beowulf: Studies in Intimacy*, ed. Erica Weaver and Daniel Remein, 120–44. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2020.
2. "Kennings and Things: Towards an Object-Oriented Skaldic Poetics." In *The Shapes of Early English Poetry*, ed. Irina Dumitrescu and Erik Weiscott, 161–88. Kalamazoo: Medieval Institute Publications, 2019.
3. "Speaking in Tongues: Mutilation and Miracles in *Geisli* and the Prose Hagiographies of St Óláfr." *Viking and Medieval Scandinavia* 13 (2018): 21-46.
4. "Bee-Wolf and the Hand of Victory: Identifying the Heroes of *Beowulf* and *Völsunga saga*." *JEGP* 117 (2017): 387–414.
5. "Modeling Religious Experience in Old Norse Conversion Narratives: the Case of Óláfr Tryggvason and Hallfreðr vandræðaskáld." *Speculum* 90 (2015): 114-57.
6. "New Light on the Illumination of Grendel's Mere." *JEGP* 109 (2010): 198-216.
7. "Gylfaginning and Early Medieval Conversion Theory." *Saga-Book* 33 (2009): 5-24.
8. "Anglo-Saxon Homilies in their Scandinavian Context." In *The Old English Homily. Precedent, Practice, and Appropriation*, ed. A. Kleist, 425–44. Turnhout: Brepols, 2007.
9. "Aldhelm and the Two Cultures of Anglo-Saxon Poetry." *Literature Compass* 4 (2007): 1354-1377.
10. "The Errors in *The Rhyming Poem*." *Review of English Studies* 58 (2007): 1-9.
11. "Hel in Early Norse Poetry." *Viking and Medieval Scandinavia* 2 (2006): 1-29.
12. "Anglo-Saxon Influence in the Old Norwegian Homily Book." *Mediaeval Scandinavia* 14 (2004): 1-34.
13. "Scribal Authority in Skaldic Verse: Þórbjörn hornklofi's *Glymdrápa*." *Arkiv för nordisk filologi* 116 (2001): 1-19.

Chapters in Edited Collections, Encyclopedias, etc.

1. “Conversion and Christian History.” Forthcoming in *The Cambridge History of Old Norse-Icelandic Literature*, ed. Heather O’Donoghue and Eleanor Parker. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2. “Skaldic Ecopoetics.” Forthcoming in *Eco-Norse: Essays on Old Norse Literature and the Environment*, ed. Carl Phelpstead and Timothy Bourns. London: Viking Society for Northern Research.
3. “War-Fronts and Scattered Spear-Showers: The Meteorology of Battle in Skaldic Poetry.” Forthcoming in *Vikings, Knights, Elves, and Ogres: Essays in Honor of Shaun F.D. Hughes*, ed. Eric Bryan and Dorsey Armstrong. Kalamazoo: Medieval Institute Publications.
4. “Trolling in Old Norse: Ambiguity and Incitement in *Sneglu-Halla þátr.*” In *Words that Tear Flesh: Essays on Sarcasm in Medieval and Early Modern Literature*, ed. Alan Baragona and Elizabeth Rambo, 41–62. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2018.
5. “Einarr Skúlason, Snorri Sturluson and the Post-Pagan Mythological Kenning.” In *Eddic, Skaldic, and Beyond: Poetic Variety in Medieval Iceland*, ed. M. Chase, 44–61. New York: Fordham University Press, 2014.
6. “The ‘Two Modes of Religiosity’ in Conversion-Era Scandinavia.” In *Conversion and Identity in the Viking Age*, ed. I. Garipzanov, 21–48. Turnhout: Brepols, 2014.
7. Entries on “Skaldic Poetry” and “Snorri Sturluson.” In *The Literary Encyclopedia* <http://www.litencyc.com/> (2008-09).
8. “Snorri’s Invention of Hermóðr’s *helreið.*” In *The Fantastic in Old Norse / Icelandic Literature. Sagas and the British Isles. Preprint Papers of the 13th International Saga Conference, Durham and York, 6th-12th August, 2006*, ed. John McKinnell, et al., 22–31. Durham: University of Durham, 2006.
9. “In Search of Lost Time: Aldhelm and *The Ruin.*” *Quaestio: Selected Proceedings of the Cambridge Colloquium in Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic* 1 (2000): 35-49.

Work in Progress

1. *Experiments with Beowulf.* (Next monograph project, in progress. Manuscript aimed for completion by spring 2025.)

2. “*Beowulf* from Heaney to Headley: Trends in Twenty-First-Century Translation.” (Article intended for submission to *Review of English Studies*, winter 2023/24.)
3. “Imitating *Beowulf*.” (Article intended for submission to *Translation and Literature*, summer 2024.)

Reviews:

1. Review of Timothy J. Burbery, *Geomythology: How Common Stories Reflect Earth Events*. Forthcoming in *Folklore*.
2. Review of Bo Almqvist, *The Nordic Beowulf*. Forthcoming in *Arthuriana*.
3. Review of Leonard Neidorf, ed. *The Dating of Beowulf: A Reassessment*. *Saga-Book* 38 (2015): 133-37.
4. Review of Terry Gunnell and Annette Lassen, ed. *The Nordic Apocalypse: Approaches to Völuspá and Nordic Days of Judgement*. *Speculum* 89 (2014): 1144-47.
5. Review of Margaret Clunies Ross. *The Cambridge Companion to the Old Norse-Icelandic Saga*. *Saga-Book* 36 (2012): 146–47.
6. Review of Odd Einar Haugen and Åslaug Ommundsen, ed., *Vår eldste bok: Skrift, miljø og biletbuk i den norske homiliebok*. *Saga-Book* 35 (2011): 80–83.
7. Review of Stefan Brink and Neil Price, ed. *The Viking World*. *Scandinavica* 49 (2010):
8. Review of Mats G. Larsson. *Minnet av vikingatiden. De isländska kungasagorna och deras värld*. *Mediaevistik* 21 (2008): 508-9
9. Review of John McKinnell. *Meeting the Other in Norse Myth and Legend*, *Scandinavica* 47 (2008): 73-6.
10. Review of Martin Arnold. *The Vikings. Culture and Conquest*. *Saga-Book* 31 (2007): 89-91.
11. Review of Margaret Clunies Ross. *A History of Old Norse Poetry and Poetics*. *Scandinavica* 44 (2005): 229-31.
12. Review of Jonathan Adams and Katherine Holman, ed., *Scandinavia and Europe 800-1350. Contact, Conflict, and Coexistence*, *The Medieval Review*, November 2005.
13. Review of Geir T. Zoëga. *A Concise Dictionary of Old Icelandic. Notes and Queries* 52 (2005): 384-5.

GRANTS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

- University of Notre Dame, Faculty Research Support Program: Grant of \$100,000 to support production of new edition of the Old Norse-Icelandic Sermon corpus 2015
- Research Fellowship, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bergen (a competitive stipendiary award allowing me to spend four months in Bergen in the summer of 2012 [DECLINED]) 2012
- Snorri Sturluson Icelandic Fellowship (a grant to allow me to spend three months in Reykjavík doing research at Stofnun Árna Magnússonar) 2008
- Newton Trust Award (one award given annually to best graduate student in each department at Cambridge University) 2001-02
- Arts and Humanities Research Board Postgraduate Research Studentship 1998-2003

LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

1. “Norse Mythology and the Blue/Green Humanities.” Invited participation in seminar on “Blue/Green Humanities,” Northwestern University, September 2023.
2. “Astroturfing Dreamland: The Environments of Medieval Vision Literature.” Invited lecture, Indiana University—Bloomington, April 2020. (Cancelled because of Coronavirus.)
3. “*Vildurþú ekki heldur vera Eskímói?* A Welcome from the New World.” From Iceland to the Americas conference, University of Notre Dame, September 2018.
4. “How Depressed are the Speakers of the Exeter Book Elegies?” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2018
5. “Does *Beowulf*-Criticism have a Gender Problem? (Spoiler: Yes).” Roundtable participant, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2018

6. "The Æsir and the Anthropocene: Reading Norse Mythology at the End of the World." Invited lecture, Medieval Studies Program, UC Berkeley, April 2018
7. "Ragnarök: A Whodunit." Invited paper at Medieval Scandinavian Seminar, University College London, March 2017
8. "Walafrid Strabo's Gourds and the Life of Things in the Old English *Riddles*." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2015
9. "Locating and Dislocating *Beowulf*." Invited lecture to Medieval and Renaissance Studies Colloquium, Purdue University, October 2014
10. "Eddic Ecologies." Invited participant at international workshop on Eddic mythology, Oxford University, July 2014
11. "*Beowulf* as Hypertext and Hyperobject." Invited lecture to University of Notre Dame dissertation accelerator workshop, London, July 2014
12. "Tiddy Mun and the Vampyre of the Fens: Reading *Beowulf* on the Isle of Ely." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2014
13. "Conversion and Cognition: Changing Minds in Medieval Scandinavia." Conversion and Literature Workshop, University of Notre Dame, November 2013
14. "Rangarök and Climate Change: Reading *Völuspá* at the End of the World." invited participant at International Symposium on Norse Mythology, Harvard University, October 2013
15. "*Beowulf* in Hyperspace." Invited lecture, Department of English, University of Notre Dame, April 2012
16. "Conversion as Diffusion across Semi-Permeable Cultural Boundaries." Invited participant at "Christian Identities, Social Networks, and the Dynamics of Conversion across the Early Christian North (c. 820–1100)." Conference at Oxford University, January 2012
17. "Einarr Skúlason, Snorri Sturluson and the Post-Pagan Mythological Kenning." Invited participant at International Symposium on Skaldic Kennings, University of Cambridge, June 2011

18. "Archaeological versus Architectural Approaches to Norse Mythology." The Future of Medieval Scandinavian Studies, conference held at Fordham University, New York City, March 2010
19. "The Pleasures and Perils of Fake Philology: L. A. Waddell's *British Edda*." Invited lecture to the Viking Society for Northern Research, University College London, March 2010
20. "Old Norse-Icelandic Christian Literature." Invited lecture to AHRC Doctoral Masterclass in Old Norse and Viking Studies, University of Nottingham, January 2010
21. "The Earliest Christian Poetry in England and Scandinavia: What it can tell us about Conversion." Invited participant at International Workshop on "Conversion and Religious Identity on the Periphery of Northern Europe." University College London, September 2009
22. "Snorri Sturluson: Homilist." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2008
23. "How to make a myth, the Snorri Sturluson Way." Viking Society Student Conference, University College London, February 2007
24. "Snorri's Invention of Hermóðr's *helreið*." 13th International Saga Conference, University of Durham, August 2006
25. "The Performance Context of the Norwegian Homily Book." International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2006
26. "An Anglo-Scandinavian Textual Community? Worcester and Old Norse Homiletics." "Saints and Sermons in the Scandinavian Middle Ages." Seminar held at the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bergen, September 2005
27. "Myths to die by: *hel* in early Norse poetry." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2005
28. "The Eddicification of a Skald: Eyvindr's *Hákonarmál*." UCL Medieval Scandinavian Seminar, January 2005
29. "Was Eyvindr Finnsson a Plagiarist?" Oxford-Cambridge Symposium on Old Norse and Old English, University of Cambridge, May 2002
30. "Rhyme and the Presentation of Poetry in Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts." International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2002

31. “Anglo-Saxon England and the Sources of Old Norse Literary Culture.” International Society of Anglo-Saxonists, University of Helsinki, August 2001
32. “Food in the Icelandic Saga.” International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2001
33. “The Dialogue of the Damned in the *Gospel of Nicodemus* and Old English Literature.” “Apocryphal Texts and Traditions in Anglo-Saxon England.” Manchester Anglo-Saxon Conference, University of Manchester, July 2001
34. “*Þeim var ek verst, er ek unna mest: Laxdæla saga’s Bizarre Love Triangle Reconsidered.*” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2001

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT AT NOTRE DAME

For undergraduates:

ENGL 13186 Myth (University Literature Seminar)

ENGL 13186 Postapocalyptic Fictions for Apocalyptic Times (University Literature Seminar)

ENGL 24480 Piccadilly to Pimlico: Exploring London on the Page, Screen, and on Foot (Taught at London Global Gateway)

ENGL 30101 Introduction to Literary Studies

ENGL 40203 Introduction to Old Norse

ENGL 40212 Introduction to Old English

ENGL 40253 *Beowulf*

ENGL 40262 The Icelandic Sagas

For graduate students:

ENGL 70212 Translating Old English Poetry

ENGL 90103 Writing the Conversion of Northern Europe

ENGL 90201 *Beowulf*

ENGL 90271 The (Un)Natural World in Medieval Literature

ENGL 90209 The Old English Poems of the Exeter Book

ENGL 90214 Premodern Humor

EARLIER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES AT UCL:

- Introduction to Old Norse (1st year)
- Old Norse I (2nd year)
- Old Norse II (4th year)
- Medieval Scandinavian Mythology and Religion
- Myth

I also contributed to the following team-taught courses:

- Introduction to Literary Studies (1st year)
- Histories and Cultures of the Nordic Countries (1st year)
- European Cultures (2nd year survey course, for which I teach *Beowulf*)
- Nordic Landscapes
- Medieval Echoes in Modern Icelandic Literature

GRADUATE COURSES AT UCL:

- Introduction to Old Norse
- Advanced Old Icelandic Literature
- Medieval Icelandic Palaeography
- Medieval Scandinavian Mythology and Religion

AT CAMBRIDGE:

As a graduate student, I served as principal instructor for one term of Old Norse, as well as occasional lecturer and frequent supervisor in both Old Norse and Old English language and literature.

DISSERTATION SUPERVISION

AT NOTRE DAME:

As supervisor:

Julie Wilson (English): in progress

Shela Raman McCabe (English): in progress

William Beattie (Medieval Institute): in progress

- Rachel Hanks (English): dissertation (“Linguistic Discrimination in the Grammar Classroom: *Barbarismus*, Xenophobia, and Non-Standard Language in Early Medieval English Texts”) defended May 2021. Rachel is training to be a speech pathologist.
- Maj-Britt Frenze (Medieval Institute): dissertation (“Nature and the Supernatural in Medieval Romance: Translation and Transmission in England and Scandinavia”) defended March 2020. Maj-Britt currently works as a freelance translator.
- Marjorie Housley (English): dissertation (“Queer Time and the Ethics of Emotion in Medieval North Atlantic Heroic Literature”) defended May 2019.
- Richard Fahey (English): dissertation (“Enigmatic Design and Psychomatic Monstrosity in *Beowulf*”) defended May 2019. Richard is a high school teacher in Massachusetts.
- Leanne MacDonald (English; co-advisor with Kathryn Kerby-Fulton): dissertation (“Non-Binary Gender in Medieval English Saints’ Lives”) defended July 2018. Leanne is an assistant professor at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in British Columbia.
- Christopher Scheirer (Medieval Institute): dissertation (“The Roman Epigraphic Tradition and Anglo-Saxon Literature”) defended October 2017. Chris is a tenure-track assistant professor at Holy Cross College in Indiana.
- Melissa Mayus (English): dissertation (“Conceptions of Free Will in Old English Poetry”) defended June 2015. Melissa is an assistant professor at Trine University in Indiana.
- Jacob Riyeff (English): dissertation (“Imagination, Performance, and the Old English Poetry of Prayer”) defended March 2015. Jacob teaches at Marquette University in Wisconsin.
- Yvonne Mikuljan (PhD in Literature): dissertation (“Disability and Impairment in Anglo-Saxon Literature and Society”) defended February 2015. Yvonne has moved into academic administration and works for Notre Dame.
- Ben Reinhard (Medieval Institute): dissertation (“Wulfstan’s *Institutes of Polity* and Anglo-Saxon Legal Traditions”) defended September 2013. Ben is an associate professor at Franciscan University in Illinois.

AT UCL:

Anna Zanchi, “Dress in the *Íslendingasögur*”

Frog, “The Myths of Baldr and Lemminkäinen”

Hugh Atkinson, “Circum-Polar Narrative Traditions about Shamanic Practices”

Lars Schlereth, “Victorian Myth Theory”

UNIVERSITY SERVICE / COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

AT NOTRE DAME:

English Department: Undergraduate Studies Committee (2013–14, 2020–21)
English Department: Graduate Studies Committee (2022–)
English Department: Chair’s Advisory Committee (2019–20)
English Department: Director of Graduate Studies (2018–19)
English Department: Chair of search committee, Middle English appointment (2015–16)
English Department: Committee for Appointments and Promotions (2014–15)
English Department: Chair of ad hoc committee charged with producing self-study document in advance of external review of the department (2014)
College of Arts and Letters: Elected member of Council (2017–2019)
Medieval Institute: Director of Graduate Studies (2015–19)
Medieval Institute: Faculty Committee (2017–19)
Medieval Institute: Graduate Studies Committee (2013–15)

AT UCL:

Deputy Head of Department and Chair of the Departmental Teaching Committee (2009-10), with special responsibility for teaching administration and curriculum development
Departmental Tutor (September 2007-January 2008) with overall responsibility for undergraduate degree programmes and pastoral care for undergraduate students in Scandinavian Studies
Departmental Graduate Tutor (October 2005-September 2007)
Programme tutor for the BA degree in Viking Studies, with oversight responsibility for recruitment, admissions, curriculum and course development
Chair of the board of examiners for the MA in Language, Culture and History (Scandinavian Studies); also served as Chair of the board of examiners for all undergraduate courses during Spring 2006
Member, Faculty Teaching Committee and Faculty Library Committee
Member of UCL’s interdepartmental Medieval Studies Committee

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Peer Review: I have reviewed book manuscripts for Oxford University Press (twice), University of Toronto Press (three times), Brepols (three times), University of Notre Dame Press, Dunedin Academic Press, Longman, Medieval Institute Publications, Hackett, De Gruyter, Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, Fordham University Press (twice), and the University Press of Florida; journal submissions for *PMLA*, *Speculum*, *JEGP*, *Traditio*, *Scandinavica*, *Viator*, *Folklore*, *Networks and Neighbors*, *ANQ*, *Neophilologus*, *The Marburg Journal of Religion*, *Scandinavian Studies*, *Viking and Medieval Scandinavia*, and *Saga-Book*.

Member, Old Norse Forum Executive, Modern Language Association (2015-20)

Book review editor for *Speculum* (2015-18). Deputy editor of *Scandinavica* (2008-10).

Mentor for Junior Faculty, Wallace Johnson First Book Program in Early Medieval Law (2021–22).

Expert assessor for tenure and promotion cases at Georgia State University, Arizona State University, the University of Mississippi, Missouri University of Science and Technology, and the University of Victoria. External assessor for grant programs, Icelandic National Research Support Fund. I have also reviewed research funding proposals for Ohio University and Notre Dame's Faculty Research Support Program.

Member of the program committee for the Medieval Academy of America meetings at Notre Dame in 2015 and 2024.

External examiner for PhD dissertations at the University of Oxford and University College London.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Contributor to various television programmes: 'The Viking Boat Race', documentary broadcast on Channel 4 (UK) and the History Channel (USA), 2006; 'The One Show', BBC1 (UK), 2011; 'Tony Robinson's Gods and Monsters', Channel 4 (UK), 2012

Regular participant in Bright Club, UCL's academic stand-up comedy showcase (2010-11)

AFFILIATIONS

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment

Medieval Academy of America

Modern Language Association

Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship

Viking Society for Northern Research (formerly Assistant Secretary and Membership Coordinator)