

January, 2024

CURRICULUM VITAE

David Wayne Thomas
Associate Professor, Department of English
267 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556
Office: 267 Decio
Tel: 574-631-7122
Email: dthomas6@nd.edu

EDUCATION

Degree History:

Ph.D. in English, University of California, Davis. 1996.

Dissertation: Critical Positions: Oscar Wilde and the Subject of Literature
Director: Peter Allan Dale
Readers: Sandra M. Gilbert and Michael J. Hoffman

M.A. in English, University of California, Davis. 1991.

B.A.: summa cum laude. Majors in Philosophy and in the Four-Year Honors Program for Interdisciplinary Studies. University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. 1988.

Ancillary Studies:

"Minority Identities and Global Democracy." Retreat staged by the Project for the Future of Minority Studies. Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Summer 2003.

NEH Summer Seminar: "Literature and Values." Leaders: John McGowan and Allen Dunn. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Summer 2001.

The School of Criticism and Theory. Seminar with Judith Butler. Dartmouth College. Hanover, NH. Summer 1995.

Albert Ludwig Universität. Freiburg, Federal Republic of Germany. Enrolled independently to study German philosophy and literature. Academic year 1986-87.

Goethe Institute. Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany. Earned Middle-Level Certification in German Language (Mittelstufe II). Summer 1986.

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor of English. University of Notre Dame. 2005-present
Assistant Professor of University Writing. George Washington University. 2004-2005
Assistant Professor of English. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. 1997-2004
Visiting Assistant Professor of English. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. 1996-1997
Lecturer/Instructor. American Studies [Amerikanistik I]. Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Mainz, Federal Republic of Germany. 1992-93
Instructor and Teaching Assistant in English. UC Davis. 1989-1996 (excepting 1992-93 abroad)

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

MLA William Riley Parker Prize (for an outstanding PMLA essay). 1995.
 Phi Beta Kappa Commendation for Outstanding Scholarship. 1995.
 UC Davis Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award. 1995.
 Phi Beta Kappa. 1988.

PUBLICATIONS

Book:

Cultivating Victorians: Liberal Culture and the Aesthetic. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004.

Notices: TLS (June 25, 2004): 26; Choice 41 (July/August 2004): 2047; History: Review of New Books 32 (Summer 2004): 144; Nineteenth-Century Literature 59.3 (2004): 415-18; Studies in English Literature: 1500-1900 44.4 (Autumn 2004): 873-945; Victorian Studies 47.2 (Winter 2005): 309-11; Journal of British Studies 44.4 (Oct. 2005): 865-66; Victorian Poetry 43.3 (2005): 333-40; Journal of Pre-Raphaelite Studies 15 (Spring 2006): 104-07; Journal of Victorian Culture 11.2 (Autumn 2006): 373-76; Modern Philology 103.4 (May 2006): 571-75; Literature & History 14.2 (Autumn 2005): 69-141.

Articles:

"George Eliot's *Romola*: Historical Narration and the Communicative Dynamics of Modernity." In *A Companion to George Eliot*. Eds. Harry Shaw and Amanda Anderson. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013. 129-40.

"Liberal Legitimation and Communicative Action in British India: Reading Flora Annie Steel's On the Face of the Waters." ELH: English Literary History 76.1 (Spring 2009): 153-87.

"Replicas and Originality: Picturing Agency in Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Victorian Manchester." Victorian Studies 43.1(Autumn 2000): 67-102.

"The 'Strange Music' of Salome: Oscar Wilde's Rhetoric of Verbal Musicality." Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature 33.1 (March 2000): 15-38.

"Decadent Critique: Constructing 'History' in Peter Greenaway's The Cook, The Thief, His Wife & Her Lover." Perennial Decay: The Aesthetics and Politics of Decadence in the Modern Era. Eds. Liz Constable, Dennis Denisoff, Matthew Potolsky. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1999. 101-18.

"Technologies of the Sauce." Raritan: A Quarterly Review 15.3 (Winter 1995-96): 137-47. Excerpt reprinted in Harper's Magazine (November 1996): 36.

"Gödel's Theorem and Postmodern Theory." PMLA: Publications of the Modern Language Association 110.2 (March 1995): 248-61. Winner of the MLA William Riley Parker Prize for 1995.

Book Reviews and Miscellaneous Writings:

"Remarks in Tribute to Keith Hanley." Nineteenth-Century Contexts 45.5 (2023): 511-12.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08905495.2023.2274245>

Review of Nassar Hussain, The Jurisprudence of Emergency: Colonialism and the Rule of Law, and Rande W. Kostal, A Jurisprudence of Power: Victorian Empire and the Rule of Law. Victorian Studies 50.3 (Spring 2008): 479-481.

Review of Amanda Anderson, The Way We Argue Now: A Study in the Cultures of Theory. In Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies 3.3 (Winter 2007).

Review of Wendy S. Jones, Consensual Fictions: Women, Liberalism, and the English Novel. Victorian Studies 48.4 (Summer 2006).

Review of Suzy Anger, ed., Knowing the Past: Victorian Literature and Culture (Ithaca: Cornell UP, 2001). Victorian Studies 46.1 (Autumn 2003): 170-73.

Review of John Plotz, The Crowd: British Literature and Public Politics (Berkeley: U of California P, 2000). Victorian Studies 44.4 (Summer 2002): 678-80.

Forum comment on "Cultural Studies and the Literary." PMLA 112 (March 1997).

Review of Linda Dowling's Hellenism and Homosexuality in Victorian Oxford (Cornell UP, 1994). Style 30 (Fall 1996): 524-29.

Review of essay collection Sexual Knowledge, Sexual Science: The History of Attitudes to Sexuality (Cambridge UP, 1994), eds. Roy Porter and Mikulas Teich. Journal of the History of Sexuality 6.4 (April 1996): 604-06.

Internet Site:

Charles Booth's Descriptive Map of London Poverty (1889). A navigable map of 1880s London, created with technical assistance of Sabiha Ahmad. 1999-. <www.umich.edu/~risotto/>

Book in Progress:

The Public Sphere and a Communicative Unconscious: Cases from British India, 1870s-1930s.

Article in Progress:

"Victorian Liberalism." Oxford Bibliographies. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Planned final submission by April 2024, with appearance in 2024.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures:

"Kant for Theorists." Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. September 2009.

Seminar on my own work (ELH essay "Liberal Legitimation"). "British Modernities" study group. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. September 2009.

"Legitimation Crisis for British India? The Ilbert Controversy and Late-Victorian Higher Journalism." English Department Speaker Series. Purdue University. September, 2007.

"J.F. Stephen and the Ilbert Crisis." Conference on James Fitzjames Stephen: Cruelty and the Law. Editorial Institute. Boston University. April 2007.

"Imperial Rationalities: Literature, Law and Legitimation in Victorian British India." University of Notre Dame. February, 2005.

"A Conservative Liberal in Victorian British India: James Fitzjames Stephen and Legal Codification." Nineteenth Century Seminar. The George Washington University. November, 2004.

"Rethinking Imperial Rationality in Victorian British India." University Writing Program. The George Washington University. February, 2004.

"Empire's Reasons: Law and Literature in Victorian British India." Department of English. University of New England. January, 2004.

"Imperial Rationality in British India: Taylor's Confessions of a Thug." Department of English. Temple University. November, 2003.

"Who Cares about Literary Formalism?" Public lecture, internal seminar. Culture and Cognition: Program in Anthropology and Psychology. University of Michigan. January, 2002.

"Casts of Ruskin." Victorianist Study Group. Graduate Center, City University of New York. March, 2001.

"Oscar Wilde and the Subject of Literature." Guest lecture for a course in nineteenth- and twentieth-century British literature. UC Davis. February, 1996.

Conference Presentations:

"Imperial Legitimation and Social Networks in British India: From the Ilbert Bill to the Indian National Congress." VISA WUS conference (Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States) Seattle, WA. November, 2019.

"A Communicative Unconscious in Kipling's Kim." North American Victorian Studies Association. St. Petersburg, FL. Oct. 2018.

"Communicative Unconscious in the Historical Novel: Distance and Ethics in George Eliot's *Romola*." Supernumerary conference of the North American Victorian Studies Association and the Australian Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA/AVSA). Florence, Italy. May 2017.

"Three Administrative Crises in 1880s India: Politics, Cosmopolitics, and the Local." Presented at the supernumerary conference of with the leading Victorianist organizations from Britain, Australia and North America (BVSA; AVSA; NAVSA). Venice, Italy. June 2013.

"Empire and 1880s Periodical Networks: From the Ilbert Bill to the Indian National Congress." Presented at the NAVSA conference (North American Victorian Studies Association). U of Wisconsin, Madison. September 2012,

"Law and Imperial Legitimacy: J.F. Stephen in the Late-Victorian Public Sphere." NAVSA: North American Victorian Studies Association. Yale University, New Haven. November 2008.

"Reading for Rights in Late-Victorian British India: Challenges Confronting a Habermasian Approach." INCS: Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. March 2008.

"Debating Political Legitimation in British India: The Ilbert Bill in Late-Victorian Periodical Discourse." Northeast Victorian Studies Association (NVSA). Harvard. March, 2007.

Formal Respondent. Session on "Political Economy and Empire." North American Conference of British Studies (NACBS). Cambridge, MA. November 2006.

"Debating Political Legitimation in British India: Views from Late-Victorian Periodical Discourse." Presented at North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA), Purdue. September 2006.

"Crisis of Liberal Imperialism: Sara Jeanette Duncan's Set in Authority." North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA). University of Virginia. Charlottesville, VA. Sept.-Oct. 2005.

"Faith, Agency, and Law in Victorian British India: W. D. Arnold's *Oakfield* in a Habermasian Light. Narrative Conference. Louisville, KY. April 2005.

"Contending Realisms in Victorian Law and Literature." Special Session on "Law and Literature: New Work on the Victorian Period." MLA Convention. San Diego. December, 2003.

"The Tichborne Case and Victorian Liberal Culture: Imagining Law in Broadides after the Second Reform Bill." Session of the Discussion Group "Law as Literature." MLA Convention. San Diego, CA. December, 2003.

"Imperial Liberalism: J.F. Stephen, Henry Maine and the Codification of Indian Law." NAVSA: North American Victorian Studies Association. Bloomington, IN. October 2003

"Imperial Liberalism: J.F. Stephen and the Codification of Indian Law." INCS: Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies. London, UK. July, 2003.

"Who Cares about Literary Formalism?" MLA Convention. New York City, N.Y. December, 2002.

"Who Cares about Literary Formalism?" Department of English Language and Literature. University of Michigan. March, 2002.

"Knowing Right from Wrong in Mid-Victorian Britain: Natural Law, Legal Positivism and Liberalism." INCS: Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies. George Mason University. Fairfax, VA. April, 2002.

"Replicating History: City Replicas in Exhibitions of the 1880s." Conference of the Dickens Project. University of California, Santa Cruz. August 2001.

"Defining the Self as an Original: John Ruskin's Modern Dilemma." MLA Convention. Washington, D.C. December, 2000.

"Oscar Wilde's Aesthetic Agency." Midwest Modern Language Association (M/MLA). Kansas City. November, 2000.

"Reflections of Agency in Ruskin's Venice." Ruskin Centenary Symposium. Lancaster University, England. July, 2000.

"Formalism and Agency in Literary Study." Special Session on "Agency, Emotion, Interest: Current Approaches to Literary Subjectivity." MLA Convention. Chicago. December, 1999.

"Originality and Replication in Victorian Art: The Case of Dante Gabriel Rossetti." Northeast Victorian Studies Association (NVSA). Yale University. April, 1999.

"Oscar Wilde and the Aesthetic of Critique." Special Session on "The Aesthetic in a Time of Cultural Studies." MLA Convention. San Francisco. December, 1998.

"Decadent Repast: Constructing the 'Cannibal' in Peter Greenaway's The Cook, The Thief, His Wife & Her Lover." Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society. George Washington University. November, 1996.

"On Critical Essentials: The Figure of Wilde, The Question of Wilde." Regular Session for Philosophical Approaches to Literature. MLA Convention. Chicago. December, 1995

"Interpretive Disinterest in a Time of Cultural Studies." Special Session, organized and chaired by myself. MLA Convention. Chicago. December, 1995.

"Parodic Masculinities." Conference of the IAPL (International Association of Philosophy and Literature). Villanova University. May, 1995.

"Cinematics and Narrative: Teaching Film in Literature Courses." Scholar's Symposium. University of California, Davis. May, 1995.

"George Meredith, The Egoist, and the Comic Chora." French-German Symposium on English Literature. University of Dijon. Bourgoigne, France. May, 1993.

"Theory and Transcendence: Gödel, Derrida, Steiner." For the conference "Persons, Passions, Powers." University of California, Berkeley. May, 1992.

GRANTS

Research:

Interim Travel to International Conferences Grant

ISLA Small Grant (for research time on John Ruskin at Pierpont Morgan Library, New York City, in August))

ISLA Mini-Grant. To fund colloquium on "Political Theory for Victorian Studies" in the Spring of 2008. University of Notre Dame. Spring 2007.

Grant from the Office for the Vice President of Research and the College of Literature, Science and the Arts. For summer research in London. University of Michigan. 2003.

NEH Award for Participation in NEH Summer Seminar: "Literature and Values." University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Summer 2001.

Grant from the Office for the Vice President of Research. For Summer research in London and Oxford. University of Michigan. 2000.

International Research Travel Grant. International Institute. University of Michigan. 1999.

Predoctoral Resident Fellowship. William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, UCLA. 1996.

UC Graduate Studies Fellowship, for study at The School of Criticism and Theory. 1995.

Fulbright-Hays Travel Award, for one-year lectureship in Germany. 1992-93.

Pedagogical:

Undergraduate College, "Teaching Beyond the Classroom" Grant, for College Seminar Field Trip (Sept. 8) to the Art Institute of Chicago

ISLA Graduate Student Summer Research Stipend. Supervising English graduate student Sean Mannion in research. University of Notre Dame. Summer 2007.

Faculty Development Fund Grant. Funded jointly by the Center for Research on Teaching and Learning; Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, College of Literature, Science and the Arts. University of Michigan. 1998. Used to produce internet site for Charles Booth's London map, in collaboration with graduate student Sabiha Ahmad. See "Internet Site" under "Publications" above.

TEACHING

Selected Undergraduate Courses Taught:

Freshman Writing about Literature
Freshman Honors Seminar for Engineering Students
College Seminar: What is Modernity?
What is Literature?
Literature of the British Empire 1830-Present
Literature of the British Empire 1660-Present
British Literature Survey, 1660 to the Present
Decadent Modernity
Reforming Literature: From the Industrial Novel to the Make-it-New Aesthetic
The Victorian Novel
British Romanticism and Human Rights
The Culture of Beauty
Dickens and Wilde
Victorian Popular Novel
Introduction to Theory and Criticism
Postcolonial Theory
Senior Research Seminar: Literature of the Raj, 1870s-1930s
Honors Colloquium: Drafting the Honors Thesis

Graduate Courses Taught:

The Social Novel in Nineteenth-Century Britain
British Internationalisms in the 19th Century
Introduction to Theory and Criticism
Identity and Agency in Post-Enlightenment Theory
Law and Literature: The Victorians
Imperial Liberalisms: Victorian Literature, 1840s-1890s
The Social Novel in Nineteenth Century Britain
Victorian Public Sphere
Preparation for the Profession: Article and Proposal Writing
Preparation for the Profession: Workshop for the Academic Job Market

Undergraduate Thesis Advising:

Bryan Daly, "Wilde Sex: A Socio-Historical Study of Sexuality In Film Adaptations of Oscar Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Gray (completed, Spring 2015)
Dan Sportiello, "Wittgenstein and Literary Criticism." English Honors Thesis. University of Notre Dame. Spring 2007.

Master's Thesis Advising:

Ann Mazur. English Department. University of Notre Dame. Spring 2009.
Jennifer Warfel. English Department. University of Notre Dame. Spring 2009.
Scott Hagele. English Department. University of Notre Dame. Spring 2007.

Dissertation Direction

Maggie Nerio, Ph.D. Program in English, University of Notre Dame. "Women, Religion and Reform in Victorian Liberalism."

Dissertation Committee Service:

Reader for Meagan Simpson, "One Flesh: Adam and Eve in the British Novel." Defended April, 2019.
Reader Melissa McCoul, "Come Play With Me: Theorizing Child's Play, Narrative World-Building And Imaginative Embodiment In Literature, 1749-1911." Defended March 10, 2017.

Reader for Jessica Hughes, "The Quest For A Novelistic Jesus: Literary Relationships With Jesus In Victorian Realism" (completed July 2015).

Reader for Jean Borger, "'The Artist was a Woman': Image, Text, and Gender in the Work of Anna Jameson, George Eliot, and Michael Field." Defended May 2003.

Reader for Michele H. Champagne, "'This Wild Gypsy Dream': Fantasies of the Gypsy in the Nineteenth-Century British Middle Class." Defended May 2002.

Dissertation Defense:

Maria Arenilla. Outside member in Dissertation Defense, Romance Languages. Dir. María Rosa Olivera-Williams. University of Notre Dame, July 2010.

Other Teaching, only at University of Notre Dame (2005-present):

Directed Reading on "Marxism" with Graduate student Sean Mannion. U of Notre Dame. Fall 2007.

Remote Supervisor for Research at Oxford by Jessica Morton. U of Notre Dame, Spring 2007.

SERVICE

University of Notre Dame English Department

Graduate Committee. 2005-06; 2006-07.

Job Placement Coordinator. 2006-07; 2007-08.

Organizer and Convener for Ward-Phillips Lecture, for Spring 2008.

College Service at University of Notre Dame

Chair, College of Arts & Letters Honesty Committee

Leader for Kaneb A&L Graduate Student Job Workshop. September 2006.

College Council, 2010

University Service at University of Notre Dame

Faculty Senate: English Department Representative

Editorial:

Co-editor of Nineteenth-Century Contexts. Summer 2008-2015.

Scholarly Manuscript Assessment:

Book manuscripts for Blackwell, Broadview, Cambridge, and Oxford

Essay manuscripts for Victorian Studies and Nineteenth Century Contexts.

Fellowship Proposal Assessment:

Evaluated research proposal for Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium: "The Imagination of the State in 19th century British and German Literary-Intellectual Discourse. A Case Study: Matthew Arnold on Education," by Ortwin de Graef, et al. May 2006. (Proposal was subsequently funded.)

Tenure Reviewing:

Evaluated Joseph Bizup for a Boston University appointment to tenure, 2009.

Evaluated Hina Nazar for a University of Illinois tenure case, 2010-11.

Conference Organization:

- Organizer for Colloquium on "Political Theory for Victorian Studies." Featuring Amanda Anderson, Regenia Gagnier, Lauren M.E. Goodlad, Andrew H. Miller, and others. University of Notre Dame. March, 2008.
- Local Organizer, with Maria Frawley, for the conference of the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals (RSVP). George Washington University. September 2005.
- Member of Program Committee for the conference of the Northeast Victorian Studies Association (NVSA). For Conference of April, 2005.

Conference Panels Arranged:

- Organizer and Chair, Special Session for the MLA: "Law and Literature: New Work on the Victorians." San Diego, CA. December, 2003.
- Organizer and Chair, Special Session for the MLA: "Who Cares about Literary Formalism?" New York City. December 2002
- Organizer and Chair, Special Session for the MLA: "Sublimity, Emotion, Originality: Current Work on Agency and Literature." Washington, D.C. December, 2000.
- Organizer and Chair, Special Session for the MLA: "Agency, Emotion, Interest: Current Approaches to Subjectivity." Chicago. December, 1999.
- Organizer and Chair, Special Session for the MLA Convention: "The Aesthetic in a Time of Cultural Studies." San Francisco. December, 1998.
- Organizer and Chair, Special Session for the MLA Convention: "Interpretive Disinterest in a Time of Cultural Studies." Chicago. December, 1995.

Other Conference Service:

- Session Chair for INCS, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies. "Speaking Nature." March, 2011.
- Session Chair for John Ruskin and Cultural Travel," INCS, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies. At the Venice International University, Venice, Italy. September, 2008.
- Session Chair. Special Session for the MLA: "Victorian Tropicopolitanisms." Washington, D.C. Dec. 2005.
- Session Chair. "Transforming Ideas of Progress and History." MVSA: Midwest Victorian Studies Association. Chicago, IL. April, 2003.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies (INCS)
Modern Language Association (MLA)
North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA)
Northeast Victorian Studies Association (NVSA)
Research Society for Victorian Periodicals (RSVP)

LANGUAGES

- German (speaking, reading, writing); French (reading) and Ancient Greek (reading)