

Curriculum Vitae: Samuel Smith

Address and Phone

Department of English
Box 3017, Messiah College
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Present Position

Professor of English, Messiah College (since 2001, term-tenured in 1996,
renewed in 2006, ranked faculty since 1989)

Education

PhD, English, University of Delaware (1989)

MA, English, Shippensburg University, PA (1983)

BA, Biblical Studies, Philadelphia College of Bible (1982)

Dissertation

“Milton and the Book of Revelation: Attaining ‘the Prophetic Strain’ in *Paradise Regained*.” Dissertation director: Elaine B. Safer. The dissertation is a genre study examining Milton’s poetic use of the Apocalypse in a way that would be recognized by his contemporaries, especially those sharing his Puritan sympathies. The dissertation was nominated by the University of Delaware Department of English for the Wilbur Owen Sypherd Prize in the Humanities for 1989.

Postdoctoral Study, Fellowships, Academic Awards

2004 Messiah College Scholarship Grant (sabbatical research)

2002 Messiah College Curriculum Development Grant (Scottish Literature)

1998-99 Dr. Robert and Marilyn Smith Award for Outstanding Teaching
(Messiah College)

1998 Messiah College Curriculum Development Grant (Contemporary Jesus
Jesus Fictions)

1996 Messiah College Excellence in Teaching Award

Postdoctoral Study, Fellowships, Academic Awards (cont.)

- 1993 Messiah College Faculty Scholarship Grant (Postmodern Fictions)
- 1991 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Grant:
“Renaissance and Reformation in Tudor-Stuart England,” directed by
Richard Strier (Chicago) at the University of Chicago
- 1991 Messiah College Scholarship Supplement Grant (NEH Seminar)
- 1990 Folger Institute Center for the History of British Political Thought Seminar
Grant-in-aid, “Petitioners, Preachers, and Prophets in the Age of Charles
I,” directed by Esther S. Cope (Nebraska) at the Folger Institute in
Washington, DC
- 1990 Messiah College Faculty Scholarship Grant (Folger Institute)
- 1988 Folger Institute for Renaissance and Eighteenth-Century Studies Seminar
Grant-in-aid, “Milton and Scripture,” directed by Mary Ann Radzinowicz
(Cornell) at the Folger Institute in Washington, DC
- 1988 Graduate Fellowship, University of Delaware
- 1986-87 Teaching Assistantship, University of Delaware
- 1982-83 Graduate Assistantship, Shippensburg University
- 1981-82 Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities

Teaching Experience

Messiah College, Grantham, Pennsylvania, 1989–:

- ENGL 348 Shakespeare (20 semesters)
- ENGL 242 Medieval & Renaissance English Literature (20 semesters)
- ENGL 142 Selected Works of British Literature (8 semesters)
- ENGL 244 Restoration and Early 18th-Century Literature (7 semesters)
- IDCC 260 Cross-Cultural Study Tour: Scotland (6 semesters)
- ENGL 148 Introduction to Shakespeare (6 semesters)
- ENGL 347 Milton (6 semesters)
- INS 2XX Christendom, Reformation & Enlightenment (5 semesters)
[Team-taught Interdisciplinary General Education course]
- INS 1XX Three Ancient Civilizations (4 semesters)
[Team-taught Interdisciplinary General Education course]
- ENGL 379 Topic: Postmodern Fictions (3 semesters)
- ENGL 124 Short Story (3 semesters)

Teaching Experience (cont.)

ENGL 162 Literature of the Ancient World (2 semesters)
 ENGL 344 Modern British Literature
 ENGL 349 Topic: Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*
 ENGL 349 Topic: Seventeenth-Century Religious Poetry
 ENGL 379 Topic: Contemporary Jesus Fictions
 ENGL 394 Literary Criticism [Critical Theory]
 ENGL 242 Early Modern English Drama
 IDCC 222 Cross-Cultural Study Tour: England
 IDCR 151 Created and Called for Community (3 semesters)
 THEA 1XX Ancient Theater
 IDFY 101A Shakespeare and the Reformation
 IDFY 101B Re-inventing Jesus
 IDFY 101C Shakespeare in Love
 IDFY 101D Signs of Life in the USA
 IDFY 101E Black Writers in Contemporary America
 IDFY 101F How the Scots Invented the Modern World
 IDFY 101G Hamlet!
 IDFY 101H Quest for the Christian Hero
 IDFY 101 I Skeptical Shakespeare

Also, the following ENG 497, 498 Senior Honors Theses directed

2009 George Herbert's Uncensored Grief (Karen Garven)
 2005 Milton's Environmental Ethic (Rebecca Buckham)
 2003 Kurt Vonnegut's Fiction (Marissa Brown)
 2002 Chivalry in Chaucer's "The Knight's Tale" (Nick Lauer)
 2001 Dante's Virgil in *The Divine Comedy* (Victor Sensenig)
 1999 James Joyce's *Ulysses* and Postmodernity (Renee Springman)
 1998 Umberto Eco's Fictions (Shawn Smucker)
 1998 The Novels of Virginia Woolf (Joy Wang)
 1995 Jacques Derrida: Early Writings (Ronald Loomis)
 1994 Reading Blake and Deconstruction (Jeffrey Erikson)

Primary Teaching Interests

Shakespeare
 Milton
 Early Modern British Literature
 Modern British Fiction (James Joyce)

Professional Memberships and Service

Modern Language Association of America
 The Milton Society of America
 1999 Chair, Publications Review Committee, Conference on Christianity and
 Literature
 1998 Member, Publications Review Committee, CCL

Publications: Essays & Articles

“The Son’s Bounded Solitude in *Paradise Regained*” (forthcoming in *Their Maker’s Image: New Essays on John Milton*. Edited by Mary C. Fenton and Louis Schwartz. Associated University Press, 2011)

“Redeeming Jesus: Reading Jose Saramago’s *The Gospel According to Jesus Christ* as Parable,” *On the Eve of a New Millennium: Belief and Unbelief as Expressed in Literature, Philosophy, Theology and the Visual Arts*, Denise Askin and Teresa Mendez-Faith, eds. (Saint Anselm College Press, 1999): 177-81

“Dodging the Dragon’s Tail: Apocalyptic Combat in *Paradise Regained*,” *Spokesperson Milton: Voices in Contemporary Criticism*, Charles W. Durham and Kristin P. McColgan, eds. (Susquehanna University Press, 1994): 57-67

“‘Christ’s Victorie Over the Dragon’: The Apocalypse in *Paradise Regained*,” *Milton Studies* 29 (1993): 59-82

“Words of Hope: A Postmodern Faith,” *Faculty Dialogue* 20 (Winter 1993-94): 131-45

Publications: Review Essays

“Recent Studies in the Renaissance”: of *Words That Matter: Linguistic Perception in Renaissance English*, by Judith H. Anderson, *Mapping Mortality: The Persistence of Memory and Melancholy in Early Modern England*, by William E. Engel, and *The Renaissance Bible: Scholarship, Sacrifice, and Subjectivity*, by Deborah Kuller Shuger. *Kritikon Litterarum* 27 (2000): 137-42.

“The Poet King on Stage and Page”: of *William Shakespeare: Richard II* [Writers and their Work series], by Margaret Healy and *King Richard II* [Shakespeare in Performance series], by Margaret Shewring. *In-between: Essays & Studies in Literary Criticism* 8.2 (September 1999): 187-93.

Publications: Book Reviews

The Curse of Cain: The Violent Legacy of Monotheism, by Regina Schwartz. *Kritikon Litterarum* 25 (1998): 59-60.

John Milton: The Self and the World, by John T. Shawcross. *Kritikon Litterarum* 24 (1997): 67-69.

Literal Figures: Puritan Allegory and the Reformation Crisis in Representation, by Thomas H. Luxom. *Kritikon Litterarum* 24 (1997): 69-70.

A Primer to Postmodernism, by Stanley J. Grenz. *Christian Scholar's Review* 26.2 (Winter 1996): 221-23.

Pilgrim's Progress, Puritan Progress: Discourses and Contexts, by Kathleen M. Swaim. *Kritikon Litterarum* 21 (1994): 182-84.

Milton and the Rise of Russian Satanism, by Valentin Boss. *Christian Scholar's Review* 22.4 (June 1993): 420-21.

Milton's Epics and the Book of Psalms, by Mary Ann Radzinowicz. *Kritikon Litterarum* 18 (1991): 97-98.

Remembering and Repeating: Biblical Creation in Paradise Lost, by Regina Schwartz. *Kritikon Litterarum* 18 (1991): 98-100.

Publications: Poetry

"Little tyrant." *The Christian Century* (July 27, 2010): 11

"Today," "Three Kisses for Judas," and "Death by Religion." *Spume* 3 (2004): 17-21

"Enoch." *The Christian Century* (December 27, 2003): 30

"That Bullet in the Brain," "Dialogue, One Part Missing," "Solitary Confinements," and "Buck Rub, Thanksgiving Day." *Spume* 2 (2003): 18-21 (published in Scotland).

"Jesus returns, only to tell a different story." *The Christian Century* (July 26, 2003): 8

"Beach Picnic." *The Rolling Coulter* 5.2 (Winter 1994): 19

Paper Presentations, Public Lectures, Readings, etc.

Poetry Reading, 29th Annual Wildwood Writer's Festival, Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA, 23 March 2009

"Refiguring Milton's Suspect Son: Samuel Wesley's Palimpsest of *Paradise Regained*," Ninth International Milton Symposium, Institute of English Studies at the University of London, 10 July 2008

"To See the World Feelingly: Shakespeare as Intellectual Hero," Presidential Scholars' Lecture, Messiah College, 24 April 2008

"The Son's Solitude in *Paradise Regained*," The 2007 Conference on John Milton, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 25 October 2007

"That . . . which might have been well compriz'd in one': Samuel Wesley's 1693 Reading of Milton's *Paradise Regained*," The 2005 Conference on John Milton, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN, 22 October 2005

Poetry Reading, Mid-east Conference on Christianity and Literature, University of Dayton, OH, 23 October 2004

"Dryden Shelves Milton's Bible," The International Milton Congress, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, 13 March 2004.

"Address to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns, Poet," 50th Annual Banquet of the Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, 24 January 2004

Poetry Reading, Mid-east Conference on Christianity and Literature, University of Dayton, OH, 19 October 2002

"Learning the Imagination: Truth and Ethics in Fiction," Presidential Scholars' Lecture, Messiah College, 2 November 2000.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils: Countering the Fallacy of Apocalypse in Tom Robbins' *Skinny Legs and All*," 12th Annual Meeting of the Far West Popular Culture and Far West American Culture Associations, sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Las Vegas, 5 February 2000.

Poetry Reading, East Shore Public Library, Colonial Park, PA, 9 December 1999.

Poetry Reading, East Shore Public Library, Colonial Park, PA, 10 December 1998.

Poetry Reading, Oregon Extension Campus, Ashland, OR, 5 December 1998.

Paper Presentations, Public Lectures, Readings, etc. (cont.)

“Redeeming Jesus: Reading Jose Saramago’s *The Gospel According to Jesus Christ* as Parable,” 1998 Northeast Conference on Christianity and Literature, Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH, 23 October 1998.

“Proliferating Jesus: Contemporary Jesus Fictions and the Quest for the Historical Jesus,” Presidential Scholars Lecture, Messiah College, Grantham, PA 10 September 1998

“Cain,” Poetry Reading as response to “What’s Wrong With Postmodernism,” by Caleb Miller, Presidential Scholars Lecture Response, Messiah College, Grantham, PA, March 1998.

“Childrearing and Political Vision in the Fiction of Alasdair Gray,” FIFS presentation, Messiah College, Grantham, PA, 9 October 1997.

“Queries Toward Academic Freedom at Messiah College,” Dean’s Day Forum, Messiah College, Grantham, PA, 15 May 1995.

“Storying Theology: Literature and Literalism and the Evangelical College Student,” Modern Language Association National Conference, San Diego, CA, 28 December 1994.

“The Political Polemics of Apocalypse: Another Context for *Macbeth*,” CEMERS Conference “Contextualizing the Renaissance,” State University of New York-Binghamton, Binghamton, NY, 22 October 1994.

“Becoming Postmodern on the Christian College Campus: Living Both/And in an Either/Or World,” Messiah College Philosophy Club Lecture, Messiah College, Grantham, PA, 4 November 1993.

“Shakespearean Apocalypics, or Macbeth, Hal Lindsey, and Me,” 5th Annual English Department Colloquium, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, 7 April 1992.

“The Apotheosis of Jonathan Wild: Fielding and the Irony of God,” East-Central Conference of the Association for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Millersville University, Millersville, PA, 27 October 1991.

“Christ’s Victorie Over The Dragon: The Apocalypse in *Paradise Regained*,” Southeastern Conference on John Milton, Murfreesboro, TN, 25 October 1991

“Pope’s *Essay on Man* and the Poetic Transformation of Biblical Revelation into the Discourse of Reason,” Southeastern Conference on Christianity and Literature, Collegedale, TN, 6 April 1990.

Institutional Service (Fall 1995 - Fall 2008)

Curriculum Committee (SOH department chair), Fall 2010-

Chair, Department of English, Fall 2008-

Senator, Community of Educators, Fall 2008-Spring 2009

Interim Chair, Department of English, Fall 2007

English Program Assessment Committee (Chair), 2002-3

Teacher Education Committee, 2001-2, 2003-5

Faculty Mentor: Milton Gaither, Spring 2001-Spring 2002

David Dzaka, Spring 2002-Spring 2003

Reid Perkins-Buzo, Spring 2007-Fall 2008

English Caucus Secretary, 1999-2000

Co-Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta (English Honors Society), Fall 2006-Spring 2008

Advisor, Messiah College Democrats, Fall 2005-Spring 2008

Advisor, *Minnemingo Review* (student literary journal), Fall 1999, Fall 2000,
2001-2002 (4 semesters)

First Year Seminar Director, 1995-96

Member, General Education Committee, 1995-96

Member (LLC representative), Academic Advising Committee 1995-2002