

Michael Bryson

Professor of English
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Northridge, CA 91330
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Education

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|-----|----------------|-------------------------|------|
| PhD | English | Northwestern University | 2001 |
| MA | English | Truman State University | 1996 |
| BA | English | Truman State University | 1994 |

Publications

| | | |
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| Books | <i>Love and its Critics: From the Song of Songs to Shakespeare and Milton's Eden</i> (with Arpi Movsesian) Open Book Publishers. | 2017 |
| | <i>The Atheist Milton</i> Ashgate Press. Reprinted by Routledge, 2016. | 2012 |
| | <i>The Tyranny of Heaven: Milton's Rejection of God as King</i> U. Delaware Press. | 2004 |
| Book Chapters | "The Gnostic Milton: Salvation and Divine Similitude in <i>Paradise Regained</i>" <i>The New Milton Criticism</i> . Eds. Peter C. Herman and Elizabeth Sauer, Cambridge UP, 2012, 102-19. | 2012 |
| | "The Problem of God" <i>Approaches to Teaching Paradise Lost</i> . 2 nd ed. Ed. Peter C. Herman. MLA Press. 2012, 76-83. | 2012 |
| | "From Last Things to First: The Apophatic Vision of <i>Paradise Regained</i>" <i>Milton and the Visionary Mode: Essays on Prophecy and Violence</i> . Eds. Peter E. Medine and David V. Urban. Duquesne UP, 2010, 241-65. | 2010 |
| | "The Mysterious Darkness of Unknowing: <i>Paradise Lost</i> and the God Beyond Names" <i>A Poem Written In Ten Books: Paradise Lost 1667</i> , Eds. John Shawcross and Michael Lieb. Duquesne UP, 2007, 183-212. | 2007 |
| Journal Articles | "A Poem to the Unknown God: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and Negative Theology." <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , March 2008, Vol. 42, No. 1, 2008, 22-43. | 2008 |
| | "His Tyranny Who Reigns': The Biblical Roots of Divine Kingship and Milton's Rejection of Heav'n's King" <i>Milton Studies</i> 43, pp. 111-144. | 2004 |
| | "Dismemberment and Community: Sacrifice and the Communal Body in the Hebrew Scriptures" | 2003 |

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|------------------------|--|------|
| | <i>Religion and Literature</i> 35.1 (Spring 2003), pp. 1-21. | |
| | “That be far from thee': Divine Evil and Milton's Attempt to 'Justify the ways of God to men'” <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , May 2002, vol. 36, no. 2, pp. 87-105. | 2002 |
| | “The Horror is Us: Western Religious Memory and the Colonialist God in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>” <i>Henry Street</i> (9.1), Spring 2000, pp. 20-39. | 2000 |
| Encyclopedia Articles | “Thomas Shadwell” <i>The Age of Milton: An Encyclopedia of Major 17th-Century British and American Authors</i> . Ed. Alan Hager. Greenwood Press. | 2004 |
| Reviews | “The Artist as Critic: Two Modern Musical Responses to <i>Paradise Lost</i>.” <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , Vol. 51, No. 2, 2017, 146-52. | 2017 |
| | Review of Gordon Teskey, <i>The Poetry of John Milton</i>. <i>Spenser Review</i> 45.3.15 (Winter 2016). | 2016 |
| | Review of William Walker. <i>Antiformalist, Unrevolutionary, Illiberal Milton: Political Prose, 1644-1660</i>. <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , Vol. 49, No. 4, 2015, 275-79. | 2015 |
| | Review of Stephen Dobranski, ed. <i>Milton in Context</i>. <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , volume 46 issue 1 (March 2012), 39-31. | 2012 |
| | Review of Abraham Stoll, <i>Milton and Monotheism</i>. <i>Renaissance Quarterly</i> , volume 62 issue 4 (1 December 2009), 1391-1392. | 2009 |
| | Review of Victoria Silver, <i>Imperfect Sense: The Predicament of Milton's Irony</i> and David Loewenstein, <i>Representing Revolution in Milton and his Contemporaries</i> <i>Religion and Literature</i> 37.3 (Autumn 2005) 127-36. | 2005 |
| Websites | John Milton: Background, Summary, and Analysis http://www.michaelbryson.net/miltonweb/index.html Site dedicated to Milton's prose works in their historical contexts. | 2000 |
| Selected Presentations | “<i>Paradise Lost</i>: Love Against Tyranny in Eden, and the Authoritarianism of Critics.” Renaissance Society of America | 2018 |
| | “An You Be Mine, I'll Give You to My Friend: The Dawn Song, Marriage, and the Authority of the Father in <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> and <i>Paradise Lost</i>” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association | 2015 |
| | “The Gnostic Milton” Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies | 2010 |
| | “The Libertine Samson: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and the Rakes of Restoration Drama” Renaissance Society of America | 2006 |
| | “From Last Things to First: The Apophatic Vision of <i>Paradise Regained</i>” Modern Language Association | 2006 |
| | “<i>Samson Agonistes</i> And The ‘Intimate Impulse’: Negative Theology in Milton” Modern Language Association | 2005 |

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| “Embarassed Into Silence: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> as Milton’s Negative Theology” | 2005 |
| Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association | |
| “The Satanic Samson” | 2005 |
| Eighth International Milton Symposium | |
| “The Negation of God: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and Negative Theology” | 2005 |
| Newberry Library Milton Seminar | |
| “<i>Samson Agonistes</i> and Negative Theology” | 2004 |
| Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Notre Dame | |
| Panel: “Crossing Through Theory: The New Milton Criticism” | 2003 |
| American Comparative Literature Association | |
| “‘Though ye rebel’: The Motivation for Satan’s Rebellion in <i>Paradise Lost</i>” | 2002 |
| Seventh Annual International Milton Symposium | |
| “To Prove that God is not the Devil”: Kingship and Milton’s Struggle to Re-Imagine God | 2002 |
| Yale Divinity School Religion and Literature Symposium Series | |
| “‘That be far from thee’: Divine Evil and Milton’s Attempt to ‘Justify the ways of God to men’” | 2001 |
| Renaissance Conference of Southern California | |
| “His Tyranny Who Reigns’: The Biblical Roots of Divine Kingship and Milton’s Rejection of “Heav’n’s King” | 2000 |
| Modern Language Association | |
| “The Tyranny of Heav’n: Milton, Magistrates and the Rhetoric of Satan’s Protestantism in <i>Paradise Lost</i>” | 1999 |
| Renaissance Society of America | |
| “Western Religious Memory and the Colonialist God in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>” | 1998 |
| Northern Illinois University Conference on Language and Literature | |

Teaching

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| Professor of English | 2014- |
| <i>California State University, Northridge</i> | |
| Designed, taught, and evaluated | |
| Research Methods and Bibliography (graduate) | |
| Milton’s Gods (graduate) | |
| Shakespeare (graduate) | |
| Donne and Herbert (graduate) | |
| Milton (undergraduate) | |
| Bible as Literature (undergraduate) | |
| 16th and 17th Century Drama (undergraduate) | |
| Restoration Drama (undergraduate) | |
| Shakespeare (undergraduate) | |
| 17th Century Literature (undergraduate) | |
| Writing About Literature (undergraduate) | |
| Associate Professor of English | 2009-2014 |
| <i>California State University, Northridge</i> | |
| Assistant Professor of English | 2004-2009 |
| <i>California State University, Northridge</i> | |

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, *DePaul University*

2003-2004

Designed and taught courses in the department of English

Introducing Shakespeare (undergraduate)

Bible as Literature (undergraduate)

Composition (freshman year)

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, *Northwestern University*

2001-2003

Designed and taught courses in the departments of English and Religion

Topics in Religion (undergraduate)

Studies in 17th Century Literature (undergraduate)

Topics in Shakespeare (undergraduate)

Studies in Theory and Criticism (undergraduate)

Freshman Seminar—Heroes and Antiheroes (freshman year)

Introduction to Reading and Interpretation (undergraduate)

Professional
Memberships

Shakespeare Association of America

Milton Society of America

Modern Language Association

Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association

Renaissance Society of America