

## Michael Bryson

Professor of English  
Department of English  
California State University, Northridge  
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Northridge, CA 91330  
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### Education

PhD	<b>English</b>	Northwestern University	2001
MA	<b>English</b>	Truman State University	1996
BA	<b>English</b>	Truman State University	1994

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### Publications

Books	<b><i>Love and its Critics: From the Song of Songs to Shakespeare and Milton's Eden</i></b> (with Arpi Movsesian) Open Book Publishers.	2017
	<b><i>The Atheist Milton</i></b> Ashgate Press. Reprinted by Routledge, 2016.	2012
	<b><i>The Tyranny of Heaven: Milton's Rejection of God as King</i></b> U. Delaware Press.	2004
Book Chapters	<b>"The Gnostic Milton: Salvation and Divine Similitude in <i>Paradise Regained</i>"</b> <i>The New Milton Criticism</i> . Eds. Peter C. Herman and Elizabeth Sauer, Cambridge UP, 2012, 102-19.	2012
	<b>"The Problem of God"</b> <i>Approaches to Teaching Paradise Lost</i> . 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed. Ed. Peter C. Herman. MLA Press. 2012, 76-83.	2012
	<b>"From Last Things to First: The Apophatic Vision of <i>Paradise Regained</i>"</b> <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
	<b>"The Mysterious Darkness of Unknowing: <i>Paradise Lost</i> and the God Beyond Names"</b> <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	<b>"Carpe Diem: Love, Resistance to Authority, and the Necessity of Choice in Andrew Marvell and Elizabeth Cary"</b> <i>Humanities</i> 2018, 7(2), 61	2018
	<b>"A Poem to the Unknown God: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and Negative Theology"</b> <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , March 2008, Vol. 42, No. 1, 2008, 22-43.	2008
	<b>"His Tyranny Who Reigns': The Biblical Roots of Divine Kingship and Milton's Rejection of Heav'n's King"</b>	2004

	<i>Milton Studies</i> 43, pp. 111-144.	
	<b>“Dismemberment and Community: Sacrifice and the Communal Body in the Hebrew Scriptures”</b> <i>Religion and Literature</i> 35.1 (Spring 2003), pp. 1-21.	2003
	<b>“That be far from thee’: Divine Evil and Milton’s Attempt to ‘Justify the ways of God to men’”</b> <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , May 2002, vol. 36, no. 2, pp. 87-105.	2002
	<b>“The Horror is Us: Western Religious Memory and the Colonialist God in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>”</b> <i>Henry Street</i> (9.1), Spring 2000, pp. 20-39.	2000
Encyclopedia Articles	<b>“Thomas Shadwell”</b> <i>The Age of Milton: An Encyclopedia of Major 17th-Century British and American Authors</i> . Ed. Alan Hager. Greenwood Press.	2004
Reviews	<b>Review of Stephen Greenblatt, <i>The Rise and Fall of Adam and Eve</i>.</b> <i>Spenser Review</i> 48.2 (Spring-Summer 2018).	2018
	<b>“The Artist as Critic: Two Modern Musical Responses to <i>Paradise Lost</i>.”</b> <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , Vol. 51, No. 2, 2017, 146-52.	2017
	<b>Review of Gordon Teskey, <i>The Poetry of John Milton</i>.</b> <i>Spenser Review</i> 45.3.15 (Winter 2016).	2016
	<b>Review of William Walker. <i>Antiformalist, Unrevolutionary, Illiberal Milton: Political Prose, 1644-1660</i>.</b> <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , Vol. 49, No. 4, 2015, 275-79.	2015
	<b>Review of Stephen Dobranski, ed. <i>Milton in Context</i>.</b> <i>Milton Quarterly</i> , volume 46 issue 1 (March 2012), 39-31.	2012
	<b>Review of Abraham Stoll, <i>Milton and Monotheism</i>.</b> <i>Renaissance Quarterly</i> , volume 62 issue 4 (1 December 2009), 1391-1392.	2009
	<b>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></b> <i>Religion and Literature</i> 37.3 (Autumn 2005) 127-36.	2005
Websites	<b>John Milton: Background, Summary, and Analysis</b> <a href="http://www.michaelbryson.net/miltonweb/index.html">http://www.michaelbryson.net/miltonweb/index.html</a> Site dedicated to Milton’s prose works in their historical contexts.	2000
Selected Presentations	<b>“<i>Paradise Lost</i>: Love Against Tyranny in Eden, and the Authoritarianism of Critics.”</b> Renaissance Society of America	2018
	<b>“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>”</b> Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association	2015
	<b>“The Gnostic Milton”</b> Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies	2010
	<b>“The Libertine Samson: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and the Rakes of Restoration Drama”</b> Renaissance Society of America	2006

<b>"From Last Things to First: The Apophatic Vision of <i>Paradise Regained</i>"</b>	2006
Modern Language Association	
<b>"<i>Samson Agonistes</i> And The 'Intimate Impulse': Negative Theology in Milton"</b>	2005
Modern Language Association	
<b>"Embarrassed Into Silence: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> as Milton's Negative Theology"</b>	2005
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association	
<b>"The Satanic Samson"</b>	2005
Eighth International Milton Symposium	
<b>"The Negation of God: <i>Samson Agonistes</i> and Negative Theology"</b>	2005
Newberry Library Milton Seminar	
<b>"<i>Samson Agonistes</i> and Negative Theology"</b>	2004
Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Notre Dame	
Panel: <b>"Crossing Through Theory: The New Milton Criticism"</b>	2003
American Comparative Literature Association	
<b>"'Though ye rebel': The Motivation for Satan's Rebellion in <i>Paradise Lost</i>"</b>	2002
Seventh Annual International Milton Symposium	
<b>"To Prove that God is not the Devil": Kingship and Milton's Struggle to Re-Imagine God</b>	2002
Yale Divinity School Religion and Literature Symposium Series	
<b>"'That be far from thee': Divine Evil and Milton's Attempt to 'Justify the ways of God to men'"</b>	2001
Renaissance Conference of Southern California	
<b>"His Tyranny Who Reigns': The Biblical Roots of Divine Kingship and Milton's Rejection of "Heav'n's King"</b>	2000
Modern Language Association	
<b>"The Tyranny of Heav'n: Milton, Magistrates and the Rhetoric of Satan's Protestantism in <i>Paradise Lost</i>"</b>	1999
Renaissance Society of America	
<b>"Western Religious Memory and the Colonialist God in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>"</b>	1998
Northern Illinois University Conference on Language and Literature	

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Teaching

**Professor of English**

*California State University, Northridge*

2014-

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)

**16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Century Drama** (undergraduate)

**Restoration Drama** (undergraduate)

**Shakespeare** (undergraduate)

**17<sup>th</sup> Century Literature** (undergraduate)

**Writing About Literature** (undergraduate)

**Associate Professor of English** 2009-2014  
*California State University, Northridge*

**Assistant Professor of English** 2004-2009  
*California State University, Northridge*

**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 17<sup>th</sup> 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)

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Professional  
Memberships

Shakespeare Association of America  
Milton Society of America  
Modern Language Association  
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association  
Renaissance Society of America