

MICHAEL BRYSON
Professor of English
Department of English
California State University, Northridge
18111 Nordhoff St.
Northridge, CA 91330
818-677-5695
michael.bryson@csun.edu
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3383-8101>

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

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS (SCHOLARLY)	<i><u>The Routledge Companion to Humanism and Literature</u></i> (Ed.) Routledge.	2022
	<i><u>The Humanist (Re)Turn: Reclaiming the Self in Literature</u></i> Routledge.	2019
	<i><u>Love and its Critics: From the Song of Songs to Shakespeare and Milton's Eden</u></i> (with Arpi Movsesian) Open Book Publishers. Reprinted by Saint Philip Street Press, 2020.	2017
	<i><u>The Atheist Milton</u></i> Ashgate Press. Reprinted by Routledge, 2016.	2012
	<i><u>The Tyranny of Heaven: Milton's Rejection of God as King</u></i> U. Delaware Press.	2004
BOOKS (POETRY)	<i><u>The Suicide Café</u></i> Inner Core of Rage Press.	2020
JOURNAL ISSUES (EDITED)	<i><u>Humanities, Special Issue: "Translation and Relocation: Literary Encounters East and West"</u></i>	2021

MANUSCRIPTS
(IN PREPARATION)

Better Thou Hadst Not Been Born: Children as Property in Shakespeare

ARTICLES & BOOK
CHAPTERS

"Gilgamesh: The First Bildungsroman, or Portrait of the King Becoming a Man" in *The Monarch and the (Non)Human in Literature and Arts: Western and Global Perspectives*. Ed. Nizar Zouidi. (Routledge, 2023, 65-87) 2023

"The Old Argument: Humanism and Anti-Humanism." Introduction to *The Routledge Companion to Humanism and Literature*. (Routledge, 2022, 1-8) 2022

"Woman is the Measure of All Things: Authoritarianism and Anti-Humanism in the Criticism of Anglo-Saxon Poetry." *The Routledge Companion to Humanism and Literature*. (Routledge, 2022, 173-90) 2022

"The Quest for the Fiction of an Absolute': The Mystic's Movement from Ancient Sacrifice to Supreme Fiction in Wallace Stevens." *IJAH*, 6.2, 2020, 1-15. 2020

"Carpe Diem: Love, Resistance to Authority, and the Necessity of Choice in Andrew Marvell and Elizabeth Cary" *Humanities* 2018, 7(2), 61 2018

"The Artist as Critic: Two Modern Musical Responses to Paradise Lost." *Milton Quarterly*, Vol. 51, No. 2, 2017, 146-52. 2017

"On 'Sunday Morning'." *Modern American Poetry*. Eds. Bartholomew Brinkman and Cary Nelson, Framingham, MA: Framingham State University (2013). 2013

"The Gnostic Milton: Salvation and Divine Similitude in *Paradise Regained*" *The New Milton Criticism*. Eds. Peter C. Herman and Elizabeth Sauer, Cambridge UP, 2012, 102-19. 2012

"The Problem of God" *Approaches to Teaching Paradise Lost*. 2nd ed. Ed. Peter C. Herman. MLA Press. 2012, 76-83. 2012

"From Last Things to First: The Apophatic Vision of *Paradise Regained*" 2010

- Milton and the Visionary Mode: Essays on Prophecy and Violence*. Eds. Peter E. Medine and David V. Urban. Duquesne UP, 2010, 241-65.
- "A Poem to the Unknown God: *Samson Agonistes* and Negative Theology"** 2008
Milton Quarterly, March 2008, Vol. 42, No. 1, 2008, 22-43.
- "The Mysterious Darkness of Unknowing: *Paradise Lost* and the God Beyond Names"** 2007
A Poem Written in Ten Books: Paradise Lost 1667, Eds. John Shawcross and Michael Lieb. Duquesne UP, 2007, 183-212.
- "'His Tyranny Who Reigns': The Biblical Roots of Divine Kingship and Milton's Rejection of Heav'n's King"** 2004
Milton Studies 43, pp. 111-144.
- "Thomas Shadwell"** 2004
The Age of Milton: An Encyclopedia of Major 17th-Century British and American Authors. Ed. Alan Hager. Greenwood Press, 2004, 287-91
- "Dismemberment and Community: Sacrifice and the Communal Body in the Hebrew Scriptures"** 2003
Religion and Literature 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"** 2002
Milton Quarterly, May 2002, vol. 36, no. 2, pp. 87-105.
- "The Horror is Us: Western Religious Memory and the Colonialist God in *Heart of Darkness*"** 2000
Henry Street (9.1), Spring 2000, pp. 20-39.
-
- REVIEWS
- Timothy Rosendale, *Theology and Agency in Early Modern Literature*** 2019
Journal of British Studies 58.2 (Winter 2019), 430-32.
- Stephen Greenblatt, *The Rise and Fall of Adam and Eve*** 2018
Spenser Review 48.2 (Spring-Summer 2018).
- Gordon Teskey, *The Poetry of John Milton*** 2016
Spenser Review 45.3.15 (Winter 2016).
- William Walker, *Antiformalist, Unrevolutionary, Illiberal Milton: Political Prose, 1644-1660*** 2015
Milton Quarterly, Vol. 49, No. 4, 2015, 275-79.

Stephen Dobranski, ed. *Milton in Context.* 2012
Milton Quarterly, volume 46 issue 1 (March 2012), 29-31.

Abraham Stoll, *Milton and Monotheism.* 2009
Renaissance Quarterly, volume 62 issue 4 (1 December 2009),
1391-1392.

Victoria Silver, *Imperfect Sense: The Predicament of Milton's Irony and David Loewenstein, Representing Revolution in Milton and his Contemporaries* 2005
Religion and Literature 37.3 (Autumn 2005) 127-36.

WEBSITES

John Milton: Background, Summary, and Analysis 2000
<http://www.michaelbryson.net/miltonweb/index.html>
Site dedicated to Milton's prose works in their historical contexts.

SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS

Keynote Address – “Open Access Publishing and Digital Research: The Changing Landscape of Scholarship in the Internet Age” 2019
BUC Fifth International Conference. Technology, Language and Literature: Intersections and Convergences. Al Buraimi University College, Al Buraymi, Oman

“Paradise Lost: Love Against Tyranny in Eden, and the Authoritarianism of Critics.” 2018
Renaissance Society of America

“An You Be Mine, I'll Give You to My Friend: The Dawn Song, Marriage, and the Authority of the Father in *Romeo and Juliet* and *Paradise Lost*” 2015
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association

“The Gnostic Milton” 2010
Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies

“The Libertine Samson: *Samson Agonistes* and the Rakes of Restoration Drama” 2006
Renaissance Society of America

“From Last Things to First: The Apophatic Vision of *Paradise Regained*” 2006
Modern Language Association

- "Samson Agonistes And The 'Intimate Impulse': Negative Theology in Milton"** 2005
Modern Language Association
- "Embarrassed Into Silence: Samson Agonistes as Milton's Negative Theology"** 2005
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association
- "The Satanic Samson"** 2005
Eighth International Milton Symposium
- "The Negation of God: Samson Agonistes and Negative Theology"** 2005
Newberry Library Milton Seminar
- "Samson Agonistes and Negative Theology"** 2004
Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Notre Dame
- "Crossing Through Theory: The New Milton Criticism"** 2003
American Comparative Literature Association
- "'Though ye rebel': The Motivation for Satan's Rebellion in Paradise Lost"** 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 Paradise Lost"** 1999
Renaissance Society of America
- "Western Religious Memory and the Colonialist God in Heart of Darkness"** 1998
Northern Illinois University Conference on Language and Literature

EDITORIAL
ROLES

Editor-in-Chief, Literature and the Humanities section, *Humanities*
Reviewer, *PMLA*
Reviewer, *Milton Quarterly*
Reviewer, *Spenser Review*
Reviewer, *Renaissance Quarterly*
Reviewer, *Religion and Literature*
Reviewer, *Journal of British Studies*
Reviewer, *Anthem Press*
Reviewer, *McGill-Queen's University Press*
Reviewer, *Routledge*

LANGUAGES

Reading competency in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Occitan, Spanish, Italian, French, German

TEACHING

(COLLEGE AND
UNIVERSITY LEVEL)

Professor of English
California State University, Northridge

2014-

Associate Professor of English
California State University, Northridge

2009-2014

Assistant Professor of English
California State University, Northridge

2004-2009

Designed, taught, and evaluated
Studies in Shakespeare: Female Rage from Medea to Lady Macbeth (graduate)
Love and its Critics (graduate)
The Poet as Critic (graduate)
Renaissance Drama (graduate)
Shakespeare: Of Lovers and Tyrants (graduate)
Research Methods and Bibliography (graduate)
Milton's Gods (graduate)

Donne and Herbert (graduate)
Milton (undergraduate)
Bible as Literature (undergraduate)
Renaissance Drama (undergraduate)
Restoration Drama (undergraduate)
Shakespeare: Tragedy and its Comic Roots (undergraduate)
Shakespeare: History Plays (undergraduate)
Shakespeare: Problem Plays (undergraduate)
Shakespeare: Comedies (undergraduate)
Shakespeare: Fathers and Children (undergraduate)
17th Century Literature (undergraduate)
16th Century Literature (undergraduate)
Introduction to British Literature (undergraduate)
Introduction to Literature: Heroes and Antiheroes
(undergraduate)
Writing About Literature (undergraduate)

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)

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, *Northwestern University* 2001-2003

Designed and taught courses in the departments of English and Religion
Topics in Religion: The Struggle with God (undergraduate)
Studies in 17th Century Literature (undergraduate)
Topics in Shakespeare: (undergraduate)
Studies in Theory and Criticism (undergraduate)
Introduction to Reading and Interpretation (undergraduate)

English Instructor 2001-2003
Truman College, City Colleges of Chicago

Designed and taught English 102, a research-writing course, focusing content on evaluating sources, and forming a concise argument, and English 101, an introductory course focusing on reading and writing in response to reading.

AWARDS

CSUN English Department Excellence in Teaching Award	2017-2018
CSUN English Department Excellence in Teaching Award	2016-2017
CSUN English Department Excellence in Teaching Award	2015-2016
CSUN College of Humanities Polished Apple Award	2007-2008
DePaul Multicultural Student Affairs Teaching Award	2003-2004

ONLINE TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

Certificate in Teaching Online Using QLT, 2022

CSU Academic Technology Services, Online Course Services Program

Designer/Instructor of Fully-Online-Asynchronous University Courses, 2020-Current

California State University, Northridge

Designed and taught multiple FOA sections of English 255 (Introduction to Literature), English 316 (Shakespeare), English 417 (Shakespeare).

Designer/Instructor of Fully-Online-Synchronous University Courses, 2020-2022

California State University, Northridge

Designed and taught multiple FOS sections of English 420 (Milton) and English 620 (Graduate-level Shakespeare).

Instructional Designer and Online Instructor, 2004-2019

Wyzant.com and Freelance

Created and delivered course materials for individuals and groups addressing high school and university work, standardized test preparation, corporate (HR) projects and industrial report requirements. Clients included high-school/university students and working professionals.

Courses taught as FOA, FOS, and/or in-person.

**Instructional Designer and In-House Online Instructor,
2000-2001**

R.R Donnelly Corporation, Chicago

Worked with in-house design and instruction team on instructional videos and online classes for employees at various levels, from production through management.

Instructional Design Consultant 2000-2001

Iowa State University – Professional Communication Online Project

Consulted on instructional and interface design issues with a team of professors and graduate students working to produce an extensive series of online Rhetoric and Professional Communication courses.

Web Designer/Producer 1996-2001

American Medical Association, Chicago

Independently designed and produced the AMA's Directory of Physicians Product Support web site. Performed update and maintenance tasks as needed.

**Instructor, Content Developer, Instructional Designer
1999-2000**

UNext.com

Wrote, co-designed, and served as instructor for two series of internet-delivered courses: one on Shakespeare and leadership, the other on web design, usability engineering, and e-commerce, both offered as part of a distance-learning MBA program.

Internet Design Consultant 1998-1999

Rauland-Borg Corporation

Researched, wrote, and presented a 45-page report in June of 1998 analyzing how Rauland-Borg could redesign its web site in order to consistently achieve higher rankings in

search engine queries. Created asynchronous in-house training class to teach principles of SEO for web design. Produced monthly follow-up reports and analyses for a period of one year.

Researcher, Writer, Web Site Designer 1997

Northwestern University

Collaborated with Dr Lawrence Lipking of Northwestern University on prototype for the Norton Anthology of English Literature 18th-century literature and culture site. Included interactive learning experiences for site users.

Researcher/Writer 1996

The Monument Project

Researched, compiled, and organized content for a Chicago-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting religious tolerance. Created interactive learning experiences for site users.

ACADEMIC
MENTORSHIP

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS (INTERNATIONAL)	External Examiner for Abishek Ghosal, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India	2022
SCHOLARSHIPS (CSUN)	Sponsor for Modje Taavon, Sally Casanova Pre-Doc Scholarship Recipient	2018-2019
MA THESES (CSUN)	MA Thesis Chair for Cesar Osuna	2018-2019
	MA Thesis Chair for Karen Casady	2018-2019
	MA Thesis Chair for Modje Taavon	2018-2019
	MA Thesis Chair for Diana Shamiryan	2010-2011
	MA Thesis Chair for Katayoun Torabi	2010-2011
	MA Thesis Chair for Kathleen Reynolds	2010-2011
	MA Thesis Chair for Stephen Peluso	2008-2009
	MA Thesis Chair for Alexandra Dimakos	2007-2008
	MA Thesis Chair for Stacey Barcelata	2005-2006

MA Thesis Reader for Ty Ung	2012-2013
MA Thesis Reader for Morgan Mayreis	2009-2010
MA Thesis Reader for Ripsime Ter-Kazaryan	2009-2010
MA Thesis Reader for Jane Minogue	2008-2009
MA Thesis Reader for Judith Saunders	2008-2009
MA Thesis Reader for Christina DiSalvo	2007-2008
MA Thesis Reader for Elana Fink	2007-2008
MA Thesis Reader for Heather Penrod	2007-2008
MA Thesis Reader for Elsa Yamamoto	2006-2007

HONORS THESES	Honors Thesis Chair for Kelli Lynn Forsch	2009-2010
	Honors Thesis Chair for Patrick Horn	2007-2008
	Honors Thesis Chair for Victoria Browne	2007-2008
	Honors Thesis Chair for Sean Macintyre	2006-2007
	Honors Thesis Chair for Virgile Borderies	2006-2007
	Honors Thesis Chair for Gene Hart	2005-2006

UNIVERSITY SERVICE	Tseng College Oman (BUC)-CSUN Partnership	2006-2024
	Coordinator, Humanities Research Lab	2022-2024
	Awards and Amenities Committee Chair	2020-2021
	University Research and Grants Committee	2018-2021
	Department Sabbatical and Peer Review Committee, Chair	2019-2020
	External Review Ad Hoc Response Committee, Co-Chair	2018-2019
	MA Thesis Pilot Program Committee, Co-Chair	2018-2019
	Informal Department Research and Writing Support Group	2017-2019
	Department Personnel Committee, Chair	2018-2019
	Department Sabbatical and Peer Review Committee, Member	2018-2019
	Department Personnel Committee, Chair	2016-2017
	Department Sabbatical and Peer Review Committee, Member	2015-2016
	Department Personnel Committee, Member	2014-2015
	Department Personnel Committee, Member	2012-2013
Honors Program Director	2009-2012	

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS	Shakespeare Association of America
	Milton Society of America
	Modern Language Association
	Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association
	Renaissance Society of America
	American Comparative Literature Association