

## **Rob Browning**

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### **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D.** English Literature Indiana University, Bloomington, (August 2004)
- M.A.** English Literature University of British Columbia, CANADA (May 1994)
- B.A.** English Kenyon College (May 1990)  
University of St. Andrews, SCOTLAND (third year)

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, University of Montana. May 2005-Present. Fields of research and teaching include early modern British literature, especially Milton and Shakespeare; literature and astronomy; Ben Jonson; Anna Letitia Barbauld; science fiction; emblem books; and the history of literary criticism and theory.

**Assistant Professor**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette. August 2004-May 2005.

**Visiting Lecturer**, Indiana University, Bloomington. Fall 2002-spring 2003.

**Associate Instructor**, Indiana University, Bloomington. Fall 1997-spring 2002.

**Groups Program Instructor and Tutor**, Indiana University, Bloomington. Summers of 2001 and 2003.

**Foreign Expert**, Sichuan Union University, Chengdu, P.R. CHINA. Fall 1995-summer 1996.

**Foreign Expert**, Guangdong Foreign Studies University, Guangzhou, P.R. CHINA. Fall 1994-summer 1995.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

**"Anna Letitia Barbauld's 'A Summer Evening's Meditation' and the Cosmic Voyage since *Paradise Lost*."** *Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 39:3 (September 2016): 395-412.

**"*Immota Triumphans*': *Paradise Lost* and Caroline Corruptions of the Roman Triumph."** *Milton Studies*, 51 (2010): 101-135.

**“To serve my purpose’: Interpretive Agency in George Wither’s *A Collection of Emblems*.”** *Images of Matter: Essays on British Literature of the Middle Ages and Renaissance*. Edited by Yvonne Bruce. Newark: University of Delaware Press, 2005. 47-71.

**“My God, what has sound got to do with music?!: Interdisciplinarity in Works by T.S. Eliot and Charles Ives.”** *T.S. Eliot’s Orchestra: Essays*. Edited by John Xiros Cooper. New York: Garland Press, 2000.

## IN PROGRESS

***Varieties of Stargazing: The Aesthetics and Ethics of Contemplating the Universe in Early Modern Literature.*** (monograph)

**“Olaf Stapledon’s *Star Maker* and the Cosmic Voyage since *Paradise Lost*.”** (article)

**“Duck and Cover: Fact and Fiction of the Nuclear Age,”** an exhibit at the Mansfield Library, University of Montana. Planned for spring, 2016. My contributions include essays on three topics concerning science fiction during the nuclear age: “hope,” “destruction,” and “survivors.”

**“Possessing the Moon: Recent Views in Science Fiction on the Future of Lunar Exploration.”** (article)

## INVITED TALKS AND COLLOQUIA

**“Anna Letitia Barbauld’s ‘A Summer Evening’s Meditation’ and the Cosmic Voyage since *Paradise Lost*.”** Literature and Research Colloquium (LARC), University of Montana. April 25, 2014.

**“Possessing the Moon: Recent Views in Science Fiction on the Future of Lunar Exploration.”** Part of the University of Montana’s commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the Apollo 17 mission. Mansfield Library. December 14, 2012).

## CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED

**“The Number of the Beast”: Reconsidering the Contribution of *Paradise Lost* to Science Fiction.”** Pacific Northwest Renaissance Conference. Spokane, WA. May 2011.

**“Rite Reading: Masque and the Public Sphere in Ben Jonson’s *The Staple of News*.”** Pacific Northwest Renaissance Society Conference. Vancouver B.C. April 2008.

**“The Restoration of London’s Triumphs, 1655-59.”** London in Text and History, 1400-1700. Jesus College, Oxford University. September 2007.

**“Areopagitica on Reading the (Bad) Book of Spectacle.”** The Conference on John Milton, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. October 2005.

**“‘Quite a match for anyone’: John Milton on Physical Fitness and the Public Sphere.”** Southern Humanities Council, Richmond, Virginia. February 2005.

**“[A] very few inches’: Sir William Davenant’s Small Step from Humanist Epic to the Sensational Stage.”** Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois. November 2003.

**“Immota Triumphans’: Corruptions of Triumph in Paradise Lost and the Caroline Court.”** The Seventh International Milton Symposium, Beaufort, South Carolina. June 2002.

**“Interpretive Agency and Republicanism in George Wither’s A Collection of Emblemes, Ancient and Modern.”** The Eighth Citadel Conference on Literature (Icons of Change: Word and Image in the Middle ages and Renaissance), Charleston, South Carolina. February 2002.

**“Immota Triumphans’: Corruptions of Triumph in Paradise Lost and the Caroline Court.”** Center for Renaissance Studies Graduate Student Conference, The Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois. June 2000.

## AWARDS

**Summer Dissertation Fellowship**, Indiana University, 2004.

**English Department Dissertation Fellowship**, Indiana University, 2003 – 2004  
Academic Year

## COURSES TAUGHT

### University of Montana

*Shakespeare and Film* (FILM 220). Scheduled for the spring 2016 semester.

*Milton* (LIT 353). A survey of the author’s early poems and pamphlets followed by close study of *Paradise Lost*.

*Science Fiction: Other Worlds* (LIT 522). A graduate seminar focused on the cultural history of concepts of “the alien” from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Authors

studied include: Olaf Stapledon, Catherine L. Moore, Stanislaw Lem, Philip K. Dick, Samuel Delany, James Tiptree, Jr. (a.k.a., Alice Sheldon), and Octavia Butler. Theorists include Darko Suvin, Fredric Jameson, Patricia Monk, and Carl D. Malmgren.

*British Literature: Enlightenment to the Romantics* (LIT 221/ENLT 218). A survey lecture course spanning from Milton to Keats.

*Introduction to Literary Studies* (LIT/ENLT 201). An introduction for majors to the field of literary studies and to the conventions of literary analysis in reading and writing.

*Milton and the Romantics* (ENLT 520). A seminar devoted to the study of prominent works by Milton (*A Mask Performed at Ludlow Castle*, "Lycidas," *Areopagitica*, and *Paradise Lost*) and examination of how romantic authors (Barbauld, Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Percy Shelley, and Mary Shelley) variously engaged with Milton's legacy and texts.

*Science Fiction* (LIT 370). A study of science fiction's origins followed by a selection of short stories and novels representing major trends in genre during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

*British Literature: Medieval to Renaissance* (LIT 220)

*History of Literary Criticism and Theory* (LIT 421/ENLT 420).

*Shakespeare* (ENLT 320).

*Literature, Media, and the Public Sphere* (ENLT 421).

*Seduction, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries* (ENLT 323). Examination of representations of seduction in poetry, drama, prose fiction, and historical documents of the early modern period.

*British Literature through 1800* (ENLT 222).

*British Literature 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries* (ENLT 223).

*Introduction to Literary Interpretation* (LIT 110/ENLT 120).

**Independent studies overseen:** *Paradise Lost* (undergraduate and graduate); *Science fiction and the sublime* (undergraduate); Shakespeare and film (undergraduate); Literature and the public sphere (twice at the graduate level); Narrative strategies in computer gaming (graduate); *Virtual Reality in science fiction* (undergraduate)

## University of Louisiana at Lafayette

*Seventeenth-Century Studies* (ENG 520). A graduate seminar devoted to the topic of “Ritual and Ceremony in Seventeenth-Century English Literature and Culture.” Authors included: Shakespeare, Donne, Lanyer, Jonson, Browne, Herbert, Herrick, Marvell, and Milton. Study of current theories about the intersection of literature and ritual.

*Shakespeare: The Later Plays* (ENG 424). A selection of plays from *Hamlet* to *The Tempest*.

*Shakespeare* (ENG 312). A selection of Shakespeare’s comedies, histories, sonnets, and tragedies.

*Freshman Honors* (ENG 115). A course exploring the theme of “seduction” in literature from Spenser to the present. Developed out of the course described just below. Covers all the major genres.

## Indiana University

*Literatures in English, 1600-1800*. A course focusing on the theme of “seduction.” Includes works by Shakespeare, Donne, Herbert, Jonson, Milton, Bunyan, Behn, Defoe, Pope, Paine, Jefferson, and Mathew Lewis.

*Introduction to Poetry*.

*Introduction to Shakespeare* (L220), with Professor Peter Lindenbaum.

*Composition for Non-Native Speakers* (W131). An intensive introduction to analytical reading and writing, with special attention devoted to the differences between “Western” and non-Western approaches to these skills.

*Elementary Composition, Basic Skills* (W131). An intensive introduction to the basic skills needed in analytical reading and writing for students who would benefit from a more methodical and time-intensive approach to composition than they would find in the standard version of this course.

*Elementary Composition* (W131). An intensive introduction to analytical reading and writing with special focus on texts and issues derived from popular culture.

## Courses Taught in the People’s Republic of China

*20th-century American Literature*. A graduate-level survey covering poetry and prose by authors including Williams, Eliot, Stein, Frost, Hemingway, Faulkner, R. Lowell, Plath, and Ginsberg.

*American Art History.* A graduate-level survey of American painting, sculpture, and architecture from the Colonial era to the late-twentieth century. Our primary textbook was Wayne Craven's *American Art: History and Culture*.

*American History of the Fifties and Sixties.* A graduate-level seminar covering the major historical events, social trends, and cultural tensions in these iconic decades. With the aid of film recordings provided by the American Consulate, I devised a substantial unit on the culture of political dissent.

*Post-World War Two British Poetry.* A graduate-level seminar focusing on the poems of Larkin, Hughes, Plath, Levertov, and Heaney.

*Survey of British literature.* Two-semester course for fourth-year undergraduates, including works by Chaucer, Bacon, Shakespeare, the Romantic poets, several nineteenth and twentieth-century novels, Williams, T. S. Eliot, and Angela Carter.

## **SERVICE**

English department literature committee. 2005-present.

English department scholarships committee. 2010, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2017.

Literature subcommittee for assessment. 2008-2010, 2014-15.

Literature subcommittee for developing Introduction to Literary Studies (LIT/ENLT 201) sub-committee. 2008-2009.

English department subcommittee for drafting an adjunct professors bill of rights. 2009.

Organizing Committee, Graduate Student Faculty Research Conference. University of Montana. Fall 2007- Spring 2008.

Academic Standards & Curriculum Review Committee. English Department Representative. Fall 2006, Spring 2008.

Judge and Panel Chair, Graduate Student Faculty Research Conference. University of Montana. April 2007.

Sophomore English Committee, Chair. University of Louisiana at Lafayette. 2004-05.

Graduate Faculty Committee. University of Louisiana at Lafayette. 2004-05.

Eighteenth and Nineteenth-century British Women Writers Conference, abstract reader. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, April 2005.

## LANGUAGES

Reading proficiency in Latin and French  
American Sign Language  
Also studied Italian, Chinese, and Classical Chinese

## REFERENCES

Robert Baker            Professor of English, University of Montana (406-543-4135)  
Director of Literature  
[robert.baker@mso.umt.edu](mailto:robert.baker@mso.umt.edu)

Ashby Kinch            Professor of English, University of Montana (406-243-4462)  
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Casey Charles           Professor of English, University of Montana (406-218-9585)  
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John Hunt              Professor of English, University of Montana (406-243-5352)  
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John Glendening       Professor of English, University of Montana (406-728-1530)  
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