

Wesley Garey, Ph.D.

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Department of English
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Education

Ph.D., English Literature, May 2020
Baylor University, Waco, TX

B.A., English and Philosophy, May 2013
Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA

Dissertation: “Rhetoric, Education, and the Affections in Seventeenth-Century Biblical Epic”
Director: Dr. Phillip J. Donnelly (Baylor University)

This dissertation considers the use of epideictic rhetoric—praise and blame—in three seventeenth-century biblical epics by John Milton, Abraham Cowley, and Lucy Hutchinson. Although epideictic rhetoric is often described as a merely ceremonial form of speech, I argue that these three authors deploy epideictic rhetoric in affectively powerful ways for the sake of social critique and the spiritual formation of their readers. These authors’ works demonstrate that epideictic speech is not only a disinterested or decorative use of language, but also a means of reshaping readers’ affections.

Teaching Appointments

Visiting Assistant Professor, Charleston Southern University (Fall 2021-present)

English Literature I (4 sections; in-person)
Composition and Rhetoric (2 sections; in-person)
Composition with Literature (2 sections; in-person)

Instructor, Department of English and Modern Languages, Houston Baptist University (Summer 2021)

Great Works I (1 section; online asynchronous)

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Department of English, Baylor University (Fall 2020-Spring 2021)

British Literature (3 sections: 2 in-person; 1 online asynchronous)
Writing & Academic Inquiry (5 sections: 3 in-person; 2 concurrent hybrid)

Honors Colloquia, Honors College, Baylor University (Spring 2020 and Spring 2021)

Salman Rushdie’s *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* (1 section; online synchronous via Zoom)
Annie Dillard’s *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (1 section; in-person)

Department of English, Baylor University (Fall 2015-Spring 2018)

British Literature (1 section; in-person)

Thinking, Writing, and Research (7 sections; in-person)

Thinking and Writing (8 sections; in-person)

Peer-Reviewed Articles Published and Under Review

“Epic Poetry.” In *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women’s Writing in English*. Accepted in press (2,500 words).

“An Echo of Manilius’s *Astronomica* in Abraham Cowley’s *Davideis*.” Accepted for publication at *Notes and Queries* (2,000 words).

“Rewriting Epic and Redefining Glory in Lucy Hutchinson’s *Order and Disorder*.” *Christianity and Literature*, vol. 69, no. 3, 2020, pp. 399-417.

“ ‘In every leaf, lectures of providence’: Lucy Hutchinson, Natural Theology, and the Emblem Book Tradition.” Under review for *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* (approximately 10,000 words).

Manuscripts in Progress

Epidectic Rhetoric and the Affections in Seventeenth-Century Biblical Epic. This monograph considers the use of epideictic rhetoric—persuasive speech of praise and blame—in John Milton’s *Paradise Regained*, Abraham Cowley’s *Davideis*, and Lucy Hutchinson’s *Order and Disorder*. Previous studies of Renaissance rhetorical poetics have shown the centrality of rhetoric to early modern intellectual culture, but rhetorical criticism of early modern verse has tended to focus on deliberative and forensic rhetoric while treating epideictic rhetoric as merely ornamental or ceremonial language. In response, I argue that epideictic rhetoric is central to these poets’ philosophies of language and persuasive aims as they seek to shape their seventeenth-century readers’ perspectives on contested theological, political, and scientific questions. I currently have a full draft and I plan to submit this manuscript to Palgrave Macmillan by the end of 2022.

The Protestant Afterlife of Medieval Poetics. As a longer-term project in its early stages, this monograph-length work in progress explores how early modern Protestant poetics has a much more nuanced engagement with medieval poetic theory—and its underlying theological aesthetics—than has always been recognized. Drawing on recently recovered poetry by early modern Protestant women such as Lucy Hutchinson and Elizabeth Melville alongside work by authors long treated as canonical, this project shows the widely diverging ways that early modern English Protestant authors negotiated their inheritance of medieval poetics, theology, and Scholastic philosophy within literary forms such as biblical epic, dream-vision, prose meditations, and lyric verse.

Presentations

International Presentations

- “Lady Anne Southwell’s Revisions of Sidneian Poetics.” 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies, online conference, May 2022 (accepted for presentation)
- “ ‘The beste rym I can’: Authorship, Performance, and the Sociable Text in Chaucer’s *Sir Thopas*,” 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, May 2016
- “Geffrey among the Poets: Intertextuality and Authority in Chaucer’s *House of Fame*,” 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, May 2015

Regional Presentations

- “ ‘Concealed in types and shadows’: Lucy Hutchinson, the Emblem-Book Tradition, and Early Modern Hermeneutics.” South-West Conference on Christianity and Literature, online, October 2021
- “ ‘In every leaf, lectures of providence’: Lucy Hutchinson, Natural Theology, and the Emblem-Book Tradition.” South-Central Renaissance Conference, online, March 2021
- “Rewriting Virgilian Prophecy in Early Modern Biblical Epic,” 2020 Texmoot, Houston Baptist University, February 2020
- “ ‘These Rules Will Render Thee a King Complete’: Epideictic Rhetoric and Princely Education in Milton’s *Paradise Regained*,” South-Central Renaissance Conference, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, April 2019
- “Transforming Lucretius in Lucy Hutchinson’s *Order and Disorder*,” 2019 Braniff Conference in the Liberal Arts, University of Dallas, February 2019
- “Arranging Divine and Human Speech in Lucy Hutchinson’s *Order and Disorder*,” 2019 Texmoot, Baylor University, January 2019
- “Saints’ Lives and Liturgical Instruction for the Laity in John Mirk’s *Festial*,” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture, Baylor University, October 2017
- “ ‘I am no pickpurse of another’s wit’: Imitation and Originality in Sidney’s *Astrophil and Stella*,” South-Central Renaissance Conference, University of Texas-Austin, April 2017
- “ ‘Thou shall nat there lyghtly win prouesse’: Interpreting Chivalric Adventure in Malory’s ‘Tale of the Sankgreal,’ ” Texas Medieval Association, Texas A&M University, September 2016
- “ ‘Listeth, Lordes in good entent’: The Sociable Text in Chaucer’s ‘Sir Thopas,’ ” Southeastern Medieval Association, October 2015

“*Twelfth Night*, Religious Conflict, and Epistemological Skepticism,” Rocky Mountain MLA Convention, Santa Fe, NM, October 2015

“Simulation, Narrative, and Memory in Sarah Polley’s *Stories We Tell*,” Coastal Plains Graduate Liberal Arts Conference, University of Houston, April 2015

“Authority, Authorship, and the Matter of Rome in the *House of Fame*,” Southeastern Medieval Association, October 2014

“Moral Formation and the Renewal of Vision in C. S. Lewis’s Cosmic Trilogy,” Southeast Conference on Christianity and Literature, Covenant College, April 2013

Teaching Presentations

Co-Presenter, “Unit Planning and Lesson Planning,” Orientation for New First-Year Writing Teachers, Department of English, Baylor University, August 2017 and August 2018

Awards and Achievements

Teaching Capstone in Higher Education (TeaCHE), Baylor University, April 2019

Baylor University Graduate School Fellowship, 2013-2018

Professional Development

Teaching and Pedagogy

Reader, ETS AP Language & Composition Exam, College Board, Tampa, FL, June 2018-present

Graduate Assistant, Academy for Teaching and Learning, Baylor University, January 2020-May 2020

Graduate Assistant, Institute for Faith and Learning, Baylor University, August 2019-May 2020

Attendee, Forming Character in the Classroom Workshop Series, Institute for Faith and Learning, Baylor University, Fall 2017-Spring 2019

Attendee, Seminars for Excellence in Teaching Workshop Series, Academy for Teaching and Learning, Baylor University, Fall 2015-Spring 2021

Participant, Conyers Graduate Scholars Program, Institute for Faith and Learning & Graduate School, Baylor University, August 2015-May 2016

Graduate Tutor, Carroll Science Writing Center, Department of English, Baylor University

Undergraduate Peer Tutor, Covenant College Writing Center, Covenant College

Digital Scholarship Experience

Course Participant, History of the Predigital Book, Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, BC, June 2016

Searchable Document Proofreader, 19th Century Women Poets Collection, Armstrong Browning Library, Baylor University, May 2016-August 2018 (seasonal)

Professional Writing Experience

Non-Profit Grant Writing Intern, Charity Champions, TFNB, Waco, TX, August 2019-May 2020

Service and Community Involvement

Peer Reviewer, *International Journal of Christianity and Higher Education*, Summer 2020

Graduate Associate, Public Deliberation Initiative, Baylor University, Spring 2019

First-Year Teaching Mentor, Department of English, Baylor University, August 2018-May 2019

Graduate Student Association Representative, Baylor University, August 2016-May 2017

Service Committee Member, Graduate Student Association, Baylor University, August 2016-May 2017

Treasurer, English Graduate Student Association, Baylor University, August 2015-August 2016

Leadership Committee Member, Medieval and Renaissance Research Seminar, Baylor University, Fall 2014-Summer 2016

Volunteer Tutor, Friends of Refugees (after-school tutoring program), Atlanta, GA, Spring 2013

Volunteer Tutor, English Language Learners program, First Baptist of Lilburn, GA, Spring 2013

Volunteer Tutor, ELECT (after-school tutoring program), Chattanooga, TN, Fall 2012

Foreign Languages

German (reading knowledge); Latin (reading knowledge)

Professional Memberships

Milton Society of America
South-Central Renaissance Association
Conference on Christianity and Literature

Professional References

Dr. Phillip J. Donnelly
Professor & Director of Great Texts, Baylor University
(254)-710-7192
phillip_donnelly@baylor.edu

Dr. Katherine Calloway
Assistant Professor, English Department, Baylor University
(505)-977-4224
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Dr. Luke Ferretter
Professor, English Department, Baylor University
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