

Department of English
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James F. Wurtz

HIGHER EDUCATION:

Ph.D. – English (Concentration in Irish Studies) – University of Notre Dame, August 2005

M.A. – English – University of Notre Dame, January 2003

B.A. – English – John Carroll University, OH, May 1999 (*Magna Cum Laude*)

PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS:

Crossing Boundaries in Graphic Narrative and Sequential Art: Essays on Forms, Series and Genres. Eds. Jake Jakaitis and James F. Wurtz. McFarland Books 2012.

The Cock and Anchor: Being a Chronicle of Old Dublin City. By Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu. Ed. James F. Wurtz. A new critical edition. Valancourt Books 2010.

ARTICLES:

“‘Out there in the Asylum’: Physical, Mental, and Structural Space in Grant Morrison and Dave McKean’s *Arkham Asylum: A Serious House on Serious Earth*” – *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 56:4 (2011). 555-571.

“Visual Crossover: An Introduction” (with Jake Jakaitis). *Crossing Boundaries in Graphic Narrative and Sequential Art*. Eds. Jake Jakaitis and James F. Wurtz. McFarland Books 2012.

“‘I have had my vision’: Empire and the Aesthetic in Woolf’s *To The Lighthouse*” – *Woolf Studies Annual* 16 (2010). 95-110.

“Elizabeth Bowen, Modernism, and the Specter of Anglo-Ireland” – *Estudios Irlandeses: Journal of Irish Studies*, no. 5 (2010). 119-128.

“Representing the Great War: Violence, Memory, and Comic Form” — *Pacific Coast Philology* 44:2 (2009). 205-215.

“‘Scarce More a Corpse’: Famine Memory and Representations of the Gothic in *Ulysses*” – *Journal of Modern Literature*, 29:1 (Fall 2005). 102-117.

“‘liberation and oppression are inextricably bound’: Sports, Narrative, and the Colonial Experience in C.L.R. James and Roddy Doyle” – *Indiana English*, 28:1 (Fall 2005). 25-34.

REVIEWS:

Review of *The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift: English Political Writings 1711-1714: The Conduct of the Allies and Other Works*. Ed. Bertrand A. Goldgar and Ian Gadd. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. *The Eighteenth-Century Novel* Vol 8 (2011).

Conference Review, Bloomsday 100 Conference, in *The James Joyce Newslatter*. no. 97 (November 2004).

WORK EDITED:

Advisory Editor for the entry "Grant Morrison" in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* no. 393. (2016). 237-320.

Work in progress available on request

PRESENTATIONS:

- Presented paper "'Girl Power,' Goblins, and Graphic Narrative: *Courtney Crumrin and the (neo-Victorian) Night Things*" Presented at the National Conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in San Diego, CA. April 13, 2017.
- Presented paper "'of these things alone are we certain': Alan Moore and Eddie Campbell's *From Hell* as Neo-Victorian Historiography" Presented at the National Conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in Seattle, WA. March 24, 2016.
- Presented paper "From Nautilus to Albion Reach: Steampunk as Historiographic Metafiction in Alan Moore's *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*" Presented at the National Conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in Chicago, IL. April 17, 2014.
- Presented paper "Re-imagining the Book in Alan Moore's *From Hell* and *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*." Presented at the Tenth Annual Conference of the Cultural Studies Association, hosted by The University of California San Diego. March 29, 2012.
- Lectured on Robert Graves and the Soldier-Poets of the First World War and led discussion following the Caffeine Theatre's performance of *The Oxford Roof-Climber's Rebellion*, a play about Robert Graves and T.E. Lawrence at Oxford after WWI. March 17, 2012. **This was an invited lecture.**
- Presented paper "Charley's War or the "Great War?": Violence, Memory, and Representation in Graphic Narrative." Presented at the 2011 Midwest Conference of British Studies, hosted by Indiana State University. November 5, 2011.
- Presented paper "The Uses of Space in Grant Morrison and Dave McKean's *Arkham Asylum*." Presented at the Ninth Annual Conference of the Cultural Studies Association, hosted by Columbia College, Chicago. March 26, 2011.
- Presented paper "Batman's Dark Night of the Soul: Space and the Spatial in *Arkham Asylum*." Presented as part of the Landini Memorial Speaker Series. Indiana State University. November 11, 2010.
- Presented paper "Reading across Panels: Alan Moore and Graphic Narrative" at the 125th Annual MLA Convention, in Philadelphia, PA. December 28, 2009.
- Presented paper "Sheridan Le Fanu and the Nightmare of History." Presented as part of the Landini Memorial Speaker Series. Indiana State University. November 5, 2009.
- Presented paper "Sheridan Le Fanu's Green Spaces" at the 30th Annual Conference of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association in Milwaukee, WI. Hosted by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. March 26-28, 2009.
- Presented paper, "Jonathan Swift, Fascism, and the Dublin Stage, 1929-1939." Presented as part of

- the Landini Memorial Speaker Series, Indiana State University. March 27, 2008.
- Presented paper, “The Role of Poetry in Irish Culture”. Presented at the Coffeehouse Forum for the Caffeine Theatre Company’s production of Brian Friel’s *Translations*. Gave a short presentation and then moderated discussion on the interrelations of classical and Irish language poetry within the context of Irish reactions to colonialism. Caffeine Theater, Chicago, IL, November 3, 2007. This was an invited talk.
 - Gave a short presentation and moderated discussion on the film “Behind the Lines” as part of Indiana State University Cunningham Memorial Library’s “War and Film” series. Presented at the Cunningham Memorial Library on October 31, 2007.
 - Presented paper, “Denis Johnston and the Dean on the Dublin Stage”. Presented at the Sixth Annual Dublin Symposium on Jonathan Swift, hosted by St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin, and The Catholic University of America Center for Irish Studies, October 19-20, 2007. This was an invited talk.
 - Presented paper, “‘The consequence of those transgressions’: W.B. Yeats’ *Purgatory* and the future of the Anglo-Irish”. Presented at the Midwest Conference of British Studies, hosted by Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. October 27-29, 2006.
 - Presented paper, “‘in a changed world and under changed conditions’: Elizabeth Bowen and the Specter of Anglo-Ireland” at the American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS) National Meeting, April 19-22, 2006.
 - Presented paper, “‘in a changed world and under changed conditions’: Elizabeth Bowen and the Specter of Anglo-Ireland” Always on Friday lecture series, November 18, 2005, Department of English, Indiana State University.
 - Presented paper, “Joyce, Memory, and the Gothic” at International James Joyce Symposium for the 100th anniversary of ‘Bloomsday’, June 12-19, 2004, Dublin, Ireland
 - Presented paper, “The ‘Other’ Within: Joyce, the Gothic, and Postcolonial Memory” at ACIS West Conference, October 12-14 2001, Tacoma, WA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Associate Professor of English, Dept. of English, Indiana State University, 2011-present.

Program Faculty, Multidisciplinary Studies, Dept. of Multidisciplinary Studies, 2011-present.

Designed and taught courses on 19th and 20th century Irish and British writing. In addition to the courses listed below, I also developed and taught new classes on Graphic Narrative and Sequential Art, Neo-Victorian Studies, and Literary Theory and Criticism, as well as General Honors classes.

Assistant Professor of English, Dept. of English, Indiana State University, 2005–2011

Designed and taught courses on 19th and 20th Century Irish and British writing, including general education, survey, and upper division courses as well as introductory and advanced academic writing courses. Class numbers: ENG 107, ENG 108, ENG 235, ENG 239, ENG 250, ENG 305, ENG 338, ENG 455, ENG 462, ENG 463

Member, Graduate Faculty, Dept. of English, Indiana State University, 2006- present.

Designed and taught graduate classes as well as served as a member of M.A. committees. Class numbers: ENG 555, ENG 635, ENG 669, ENG 691

M.A. Director/Committee Member, Department of English, Indiana State University

Directed eight graduate students’ final projects and conducted their defense of their work. I have also served as a committee member/reader for ten additional graduate students from 2006-present.

300-Level Teaching position, Department of English, University of Notre Dame, 2004-2005

Designed and taught “Irish Gothic from Union to Troubles”, a general education course focused on the use of Gothic forms and narratives throughout 200 years of Irish literature

Instructor, First-Year Composition, University of Notre Dame, 2000-2002.

Designed and taught First-Year Composition

Teaching Assistant, Department of English, University of Notre Dame, 1999-2000

Lectured, led discussion, provided assistance to students, and evaluated student writing and assignments for “British Literary Traditions I”, a survey course which focused on British literature

from the medieval period through the seventeenth century.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

Departmental Advisor, Department of English, ISU, Fall 2016 – present.

I am responsible for the academic advisement of approximately 70 English majors. I meet regularly with students to help them with academic issues, to plan for academic success, and to make academic choices that will allow them to achieve their career and/or personal goals after graduation. I maintain MySAM plans, and am required to have a thorough knowledge of the curricula of the three undergraduate programs in the Department of English. I also work to plan group advising and social events for our majors and minors in an effort to increase retention and build a sense of community among our students. This position places a premium on understanding College and University procedures, Departmental curriculum, and class scheduling as well as problem-solving, clear written and verbal communication, and interpersonal skills.

Interim Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, ISU, Spring 2016.

During the Spring Semester of 2016, I served as Interim Director of Graduate Studies for the Department of English, while Dr. Kit Kincade was on sabbatical. In this capacity, I also chaired the Graduate Curriculum Committee. My duties included recruiting new graduate students to our program, which entailed, among other things, promoting our program to our current undergraduates and to the University community at large. I also was responsible for attending meetings of Graduate Directors held by the Graduate School, and assisting with the various stages of graduation checkout from preliminary to the final awarding of the M.A. I aided students in putting together their graduate committees in preparation for defending their projects, as well as provided academic advising to continuing and incoming students. I also participated in the end-of-the-year honors and ceremonies. These duties required problem-solving, clear written and verbal communication, and interpersonal skills.

Faculty Fellow, University College, ISU, Spring, Summer & Fall 2015

Attended University College Council meetings as *ex officio*, attended various other meetings, including executive team meetings and Associate Dean's Council, developed and implemented a training program for New Student Orientation, drafted the University College's *Policies and Procedures* document, met to develop training for new UC employees, and various other ongoing responsibilities.

Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of English, ISU, Spring 2013.

During the Spring Semester of 2013, I served as Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department of English, while Dr. Jake Jakaitis was on sabbatical. In this capacity, I also chaired the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. My duties included moving several revisions to the Creative Writing program through the curricular process, distributing advisees to Departmental advisors, working with the Registrar's office and the College of Arts and Sciences to resolve issues regarding changes to the curriculum based on the Catalog year that approximately 25 English majors had to deal with, and providing academic advising to roughly 100 English majors.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Departmental Standing Committees

Department of English Policy Committee, 2006-2008, 2009-2011, Fall 2014 (*Elected Position*)

Department of English Personnel Committee, 2011-2013. 2017-2019 (*Elected Position*)

Department of English Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2012-Present.
(*Chairperson Spring 2013*)

Department of English Undergraduate English Scholarship and Awards Committee,
2005-2014.

Department of English Graduate Studies Committee, 2012-2017.

Department of English Advisement Committee, 2005-2016.

Department of English Expository and Technical Writing Committee, 2006-2012.

Department of English Recruitment and Retention Committee, 2006-2012 (*Chairperson
2007--2012*)

Department of English Pfennig Scholarship Committee, 2014-2017.

Interdisciplinary Studies/Multidisciplinary Studies Service

Interdisciplinary Programs Council of Programs, Multidisciplinary Studies
Representative, 2011-2013.

Intake Advisor, Multidisciplinary Studies, 2012-2016.

College of Arts and Sciences Standing Committee

Academic Affairs Committee, 2007-2010. (*Vice-Chairperson 2009-2010*) (*Elected
Position*)

Other Service to the College of Arts and Sciences

Member of the CAS Strategic Planning Committee, 2011

Faculty Advisor, New Student Orientation, Summer 2010-2013

Calling Campaign for un-registered students, July 28, 2010

Member of the CAS Strategic Planning Work Group for Interdisciplinary Studies and
Teaching 2012-2013

Department of Multidisciplinary Studies Bylaws Committee, 2014 (Drafting bylaws for
the new department)(*Appointed Position*)

Service to the University College

Faculty Advisor, New Student Orientation, Summer 2014-2017

University Standing Committees

University Arts Endowment Committee, 2008-2013. (*Chairperson 2008-2009, 2009-
2010, 2012-13*)

University Archive Committee, 2008-2010.

Theodore Dreiser Distinguished Research/Creativity Award Committee, 2010-
2011

Faculty Justice, All-University Court, 2010-2013 (*Appointed Position*)

Other Service to the University

Faculty Interviewer, President's Scholarship Interview Day, 2006-2017

Faculty Liaison to the University Scholarship Office, 2012-2013. Helped draft materials for
Scholarship interviews, established rubrics for evaluating student writing for the purposes of
awarding scholarships, etc.

Laptop Scholarship Distribution, 2006-2017

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Judge, Lent and Inge Awards for best conference paper in Comics Studies, PCA/ACA Comics and Comic Art subject area
- Peer Reviewer, *European Comic Art*, Special Issue on World War I and Comics, 2015
- Organizer and Chairperson of panel, "Steampunk and Visual Culture" at the National Conference of the PCA/ACA, April 16-19, 2014.
- Organizer and Chairperson of panel, "Reading Material: Graphic Narrative, Classic Literature, and Reimagining the Book" March 29, 2012, at the Tenth Annual Conference of the Cultural Studies Association, March 29-31, 2012.
- Chairperson and Commentator for panel "Representations of the Other in 20th Century British Fiction," November 5, 2011, at the 2011 Midwest Conference on British Studies, November 4-6, 2011.
- Organizer and Chairperson of panel, "'Remembering again that I shall die': Trauma, Memory, and Literary Form," November 5, 2011, at the 2011 Midwest Conference on British Studies, November 4-6, 2011.
- Organizer and Chairperson of panel, "Crossover Crises: The Spatial, Political, and Literary in Graphic Narrative," March 26, 2011, at the Ninth Annual Conference of the Cultural Studies Association, March 24-26, 2011.
- Chairperson of panel, "What is my nation? Blurring National Identity", April 17, 2005 at the ACIS National Meeting, April 13-17, 2005.
- Received funding to attend The Irish Seminar 2000, July 3-29, Dublin, Ireland.
- Received funding to attend The Irish Seminar 2001.
- Received funding to attend The Irish Seminar 2002.
- Received funding to attend The Irish Seminar 2003

DISTINCTIONS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS:

- MAP Works Survey nominee for encouraging student success, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015.
- Certificate of Recognition, Indiana State University First Year Initiative of Res. Life, 2006

Distinctions, Fellowships, and Awards received during Graduate School available on request.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- Modern Language Association
- American Conference for Irish Studies
- International James Joyce Foundation
- Nineteenth Century Studies Association
- Cultural Studies Association
- Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

TEACHING INTERESTS:

- 19th and 20th Century British and Irish writing
- Irish Literature and Culture
- Modernist writing
- The 20th and 21st Century novel
- Gothic Fiction
- Postcolonial writing
- Graphic Narrative and Sequential Art

Neo-Victorianism
Literary Criticism and Theory
Composition and Rhetoric

More information available upon request.