

BRENT GIBSON

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CURRENT POSITION

Professor of English, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

PUBLICATIONS

“What is the ‘Good’ of Reading Good Literature?” *CCTE Studies*, vol. 82, October 2017,
pp. 21-26.

Review of *Continuing Bonds with the Dead: Parental Grief and Nineteenth Century
American Authors*, by Harold K. Bush, *Christianity and Literature*, vol. 66, no. 1,
December 2016, pp. 178-180.

“The Search for Meaning in the Films of Wes Anderson.” *Popular Culture Review* 27.2
(2016): 70-78.

“Katniss Everdeen, Role Model?: Morality and Ethics in the *Hunger Games* Trilogy.”
Popular Culture Review 24.2 (2013): 83-90.

“*Cold Mountain* as Spiritual Quest: Inman's Redemptive Journey.” *Christianity and
Literature* 55 (2006): 415-33.

An Annotated Walt Whitman Bibliography, 1976-1985. Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen
Press, 2001.

“Whitman’s Pre-*Leaves of Grass* Poems.” *Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J.R.
LeMaster and Donald Kummings. New York: Garland Press, 1998.

“William Hartshorne.” *Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J.R. LeMaster and Donald
Kummings. New York: Garland Press, 1998.

“Martin Farquhar Tupper.” *Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J.R. LeMaster and Donald Kummings. New York: Garland Press, 1998.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Wes Anderson’s Asteroid City: Art and the Search for Meaning.” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture. Institute for Faith and Learning. Baylor University, Waco, Texas. October 25-27, 2023.

“Jane Eyre on Film: Translating Spiritual Growth from Novel to Film.” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture. Institute for Faith and Learning. Baylor University, Waco, Texas. October 26-28, 2022.

“Incongruity Theory and Animal Empathy in Wes Anderson’s *Isle of Dogs*.” National Popular Culture Association. Washington, DC. April 17-20, 2019.

“The Ending of *Ender’s Game*: Towards a Theory of (Mis)Reading.” National Popular Culture Association. San Diego, California. April 12-16, 2017.

“What is the ‘Good’ of Reading Good Literature?” Conference of College Teachers of English. Hurst, Texas. March 2-4, 2017. (Winner of the Pedagogy Award in Literature from the Conference of College Teachers of English)

“Deconstructing *Ender’s Game*: Is Ender Wiggin a Good Person?” Conference of College Teachers of English. San Antonio, Texas. March 3-5, 2016.

“Is Competition a Good? Or, Will There Be Sports in Heaven?” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture. Institute for Faith and Learning. Baylor University, Waco, Texas. November 5-7, 2015.

- “Competition and the Christian Life: *Chariots of Fire*, *Warrior*, and Theologies of Competition.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton, Texas. October 1-3, 2015.
- “Existentialism in the Films of Wes Anderson.” National Popular Culture Association. New Orleans, Louisiana, April 1-4, 2015.
- “Transcendence and the Search for Meaning in the Films of Wes Anderson.” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture. Institute for Faith and Learning. Baylor University, Waco, Texas. October 23-25, 2014.
- “‘I guess I’m just a killer to the core’: Goodness, Innocence, and Love in *Ender’s Game*.” National Popular Culture Association. Chicago, Illinois, April 16-19, 2014.
- “Katniss Everdeen, Role Model?: Morality and Ethics in *The Hunger Games*.” National Popular Culture Association. Boston, Massachusetts, April 11-14, 2012.
- “The Evolution of Heaven: Representations of Heaven in Film since 1945.” National Popular Culture Association. San Antonio, Texas, April 20-23, 2011.
- “*Twilight* and *Romeo and Juliet*: The Portrayal of Love and Narrative Perspective.” National Popular Culture Association. St. Louis, Missouri, March 31-April 3, 2010.
- “Sex, Language, and Violence in the Movies: A Theology of Evangelical Responses.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Dallas Baptist University, September 2007.
- “The Adaptation of *Cold Mountain* from Novel to Film.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, University of Texas at Brownsville, September 2005.

“Inman’s Spiritual Journey in *Cold Mountain*.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Southern Nazarene University, Oklahoma City, September 2004.

“Conversion and the Ending of Walker Percy’s *The Moviegoer*” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR. September 2003.

“Charles Dickens’ ‘Instinctive’ Romanticism in *Hard Times*.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK. October 2002.

“‘Mine gefrage/Ic hyrde’ [as I have heard]: Narrative Intrusion and Human Knowledge in *Beowulf*” at Joint Conference of the Southeastern and Texas Medieval Associations. October 1996.

“C.S. Lewis’ Feminist Manifesto: Appropriating Myth, Obliterating Boundaries” at South Central Conference on Christianity and Literature. February 1996.

“The Custom House Quest for Knowledge in *The Scarlet Letter*” at Baylor University. Heteroglossia--Graduate Student Scholarly Symposium. March 1996.

“Walt Whitman’s Bible.” Baylor University Literary and Academic Conference. February 1995.

“The Portrayal of Jim in the Film Versions of *Huckleberry Finn*.” East Texas State University Conference on Language and Literature. July 1994.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

February 2026—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

October 2024—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

October 2023—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

October 2022—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

October 2018—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

October 2017—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

October 2016—Chaired Session at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture

November 2015—Chaired Undergraduate Session on Christianity and Competition
at Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture.

October 2015—Chaired Roundtable Featured Panel on T.S. Eliot—“Time,
Circularity, and Transcendence in T.S. Eliot’s *Four Quartets*” at Southwest
Conference on Christianity and Literature.

October 2014—Chaired session of Faith and Film Conference at Baylor University
“Interrogating the Western: Vengeance, Violence, and Mythology.”

2013-14—Served as Past-Past-President of the Conference of College Teachers of
English.

2012-13—Served as Past-President of the Conference of College Teachers of
English.

2011-12—Served as President of the Conference of College Teachers of English.

2010-11—Served as President-elect of the Conference of College Teachers of
English.

2008—Served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Southwest Region of the Conference on
Christianity and Literature.

2007—Served as President of the Southwest Region of the Conference on
Christianity and Literature.

2006—Served as Vice President of the Southwest Region of the Conference on
Christianity and Literature.

2006-2009—Served on the Executive Council of the Conference of College Teachers of English and *CCTE Studies*.

2002-2004—Served as Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Conference of College Teachers of English.

1995-1998—Served as Editorial Assistant for the *Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*.
Read entries for content, grammar, punctuation, and style; verified accuracy of all copy submitted; verified accuracy of all bibliographical information.

April 1996—Organized, as Co-Chairperson, the annual Graduate Student Conference at Baylor University--“Chaos, Death and Madness: The Use of the Disruptive in Literature and the Arts.” Plenary Speakers: Katherine Hayles, UCLA; Melissa Dowling, SMU. 45 papers presented by professors and students over a two-day period.

April 1997—Chaired session of Victorian Literature Conference at Baylor University “The Victorian Record of Protest.”

1995-1997—Served as Editorial Assistant for the *Journal of the American Studies Association of Texas*. Read entries for grammar, punctuation, and style; verified accuracy of all copy submitted; verified accuracy of all bibliographical information.

April 1996—Chaired nineteenth-century American literature session of Graduate Student Conference at Baylor University.

Fall 1994—Chaired nineteenth-century American literature session of TAMU/LSU Conference on Language and Literature.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University Committees

2000-present—Served on UMHB Honors Committee

2002-present—Served as lead teacher of Fall Honors Seminar ENGL 3110-01.

Chose topics, chose textbooks, wrote syllabi, planned course.

2013-2016—Served on Educational Technology Committee.

2010-2013—Served on Environmental Concerns Committee.

2009-2010—Served on UMHB Retention Committee.

2005-2009—Served as chair of UMHB Library Committee. Worked with IT,

Provost, and librarians in getting a library classroom and a faster internet connection for faculty research.

2002-2005—Served as secretary of UMHB Library Committee. Kept minutes of meetings; wrote committee response to student complaints about library holdings.

2007 and 2008—Served on Nominating Committee for Faculty Assembly.

Departmental Service

2007—Served as Chair of English department during Dr. Shelburne's sabbatical (Spring semester). Oversaw hiring of new professor (Dr. Jacky Dumas).

1999-2008—Textbook Committee—Researched, read, and chose departmental textbooks for ENGL 1330, ENGL 1360, ENGL 1321, ENGL 1322, and ENGL 3331. ENGL 1330 and ENGL 1321 are both Rhetoric and Composition I, and ENGL 1360 and ENGL 1322 are both Rhetoric and

Composition II, but the emphases of these courses changed when the numbers changed.

2004—Chose book (*Cold Mountain*) and organized UMHB Book Club.

Arranged panel to discuss the book's historical background, literary themes, and adaptation as a movie. Gave presentation on *Cold Mountain* as part of the panel.

2007—Gave presentation on *The Moviegoer* as part of UMHB Book Club panel.

2008-2009—Served on three-person Search Committee that led to the hire of Dr. Jessica Hooten.

2004-2005—Served on Search Committee that led to the hire of Dr. Cleatus Rattan.

2012—Gave presentation on *The Hunger Games* as part of UMHB Book Club panel.

Other Professional Service

2006-2009—Served on the Coordinating Board for all Departmental Visiting Committees of Abilene Christian University.

2003-2005—Served on the Visiting Committee for the English Department of Abilene Christian University.

2003—Served as Chair of the Visiting Committee for the English Department of Abilene Christian University. Coordinated and conducted interviews with administration, faculty, staff, and students; reviewed Departmental Budget and wrote report for the University.

Other Service Activities—Church

1994-Present—Served on the Adult Education Committee of the Crestview Church of Christ. Planned and chose curriculum for the 600-member church body. Served as teacher of adult Bible classes on both Sunday morning and Wednesday night. Led small group Bible study in home on Sunday nights.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

Taught multiple sections of all of the below.

ENGL 3322—American Literature since 1890
ENGL 3321—American Literature to 1890
HNRS 3110—Honors Seminar (Interdisciplinary Topics)
ENGL 4341—Literary Theory and Criticism
ENGL 2322—English Literature since 1785
ENGL 1321—Rhetoric and Composition I
ENGL 1322—Rhetoric and Composition II
ENGL 3331—Literary Genre
ENGL 3333—Major Authors: Hawthorne and Melville

Baylor University

ENGL 2300—British Literature before Burns—Taught one section of sophomore literature survey course—Spring 1999

ENGL 1302—Thinking and Writing—Taught four sections of first semester freshman English course—Fall 1994 and Fall 1997.

Texas A&M University

ENGL 301—Business and Technical Writing—Taught two sections of senior level English course—Spring 1994.

ENGL 104—Writing the Research Paper—Taught six sections of second semester freshman English course—Fall 1992 to Fall 1994.

DISSERTATION (Directed by Dr. J.R. LeMaster)

“Walt Whitman: An Annotated Bibliography, 1976-1985.”

EDUCATION

1994-99—Ph.D. in English from Baylor University.

1992-94—M.A. in English from Texas A&M University.

1986-90—B.S. in Biblical Studies from Abilene Christian University.