

EVERETT HAMNER

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor of English, Western Illinois University (2014-)

Summer Faculty, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada) (2016, 2018)

Assistant Professor of English, Western Illinois University (2008-14)

EDUCATION

PhD, MA, English, University of Iowa (2008, 2006)

MCS, Interdisciplinary Studies, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada) (2003)

MAT, Secondary English, Johns Hopkins University (2000)

BA, English and Hispanic Studies, Johns Hopkins University (1997)

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

20th- and 21st-century literature and film (esp. American and science fiction, broadly defined)

Science and technology studies (esp. medical humanities, genetics, climate change, ecology)

Religion, spirituality, and narrative (esp. postsecular theory)

Globalization and social justice (esp. Latinx and African-American cultures, immigration)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

WIU

Alternate, Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, University of Exeter, United Kingdom (2015-16)

Excellence in Social Responsibility, Western Illinois University, Quad Cities (2015)

Academic Excellence Award, Western Illinois University, Quad Cities (2013)

Honorable Mention, Pioneer Award, Science Fiction Research Association (2012)

Young Scholars in American Religion (Lilly Endowment), Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (2009-11)

Faculty Mentoring Grant (Ronald M. Green, Dartmouth College), Western Illinois University (2009-11)

8 Professional Achievement Awards, Western Illinois University (2010-16, 2018)

Faculty Summer Stipend Award, Western Illinois University (2011)

Educational Opportunity Award, Western Illinois University, Quad Cities (2011)

Outstanding Student Organization Advisor Award, Western Illinois University, Quad Cities (2011)

Pre-WIU

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Foundation (2007-08)

The Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College (2007)

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Provost's Council, University of Iowa (2006)

Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Iowa (2006, declined)

Stanley Fellowship, International Programs, University of Iowa (2005)

Presidential Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Iowa (2003-07)

Board of Governors' Prize & Interdisciplinary Studies Prize, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada) (2003)

The Beneficial-Hodson Merit Scholarship & Honors, Johns Hopkins University (1993-97)

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Editing the Soul: Science and Fiction in the Genome Age. Penn State University Press, "AnthropoScene" series (2017).

Edited Volumes

Special issue on *Orphan Black*, including attention to serial television, biotechnology, law, and gender/family issues, *Science Fiction Film and Television* 11.3 (2018): 359-415.

Special issue (co-edited with Lori Branch) on “Religion, Secularism, and Cultural Studies,” *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies* 7 (Fall 2005).

Journal Articles & Book Chapters

“Introduction: *Orphan Black* as Protest,” *Science Fiction Film and Television* 11.3 (2018): 359-65.

“Sterility, Abominations and the Optical Illusions of *Orphan Black*,” *Science Fiction Film and Television* 11.3 (2018): 411-15.

“Faith, Science, and Social Justice in Marilynne Robinson’s Gilead Triptych,” *CRUX* 52.3-4 (Fall/Winter 2016): 69-78.

“Virtual Immigrants: Transfigured Bodies and Transnational Spaces in Science Fiction Cinema,” *Simultaneous Worlds: Global Science Fiction Cinema*, eds. Jennifer L. Feeley and Sarah Ann Wells, University of Minnesota Press (2015): 154-70.

“Reframed Hope: Transcendent Technology and Spiraling Subjectivity in Dystopian Cinema,” *Hope and the Longing for Utopia: Futures and Illusions in Theology and Narrative*, ed. Daniel Boscaljon, Wipf and Stock (2014): 137-54.

“Remembering the Disappeared: Science Fiction Film in Post-dictatorship Argentina,” *Science Fiction Studies* 39.1 (March 2012, #116): 60-80.

“The Predisposed Agency of Genomic Fiction,” *American Literature* 83.2 (June 2011): 413-41.

“Determined Agency: A Postsecular Proposal for Religion and Literature—and Science,” *Religion and Literature* 41.3 (Autumn 2009): 24-31.

“Damning Fundamentalism: Sinclair Lewis and the Trials of Fiction,” *Modern Fiction Studies* 55.2 (Sum 2009): 265-92.

“The Religious and the Secular,” *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies* 7 (Fall 2005): 3-14.

“The Gap in the Wall: Partnership, Physics, and Politics in Ursula K. Le Guin’s *The Dispossessed*,” *The New Utopian Politics of Ursula K. Le Guin’s The Dispossessed*, eds. Laurence Davis and Peter Stillman, Rowman & Littlefield (2005): 219-31.

“Gadamer as Literary Critic: Authentic Interpretation of a Rilke Sonnet,” *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* 56.4 (Summer 2004): 257-73.

“Relieving Jean-Paul Sartre’s *Nausea*: Semiotics, Suicide, and the Search for God in Walker Percy’s *The Second Coming*,” *Christianity and Literature* 52.2 (Winter 2003): 181-202.

Book Reviews

Science Fiction and the Imitation of the Sacred, by Richard Grigg, *Science Fiction Studies* (forthcoming).

Octavia E. Butler, by Gerry Canavan, *Extrapolation* 59.1 (2018): 111-13.

Green Planets: Ecology and Science Fiction, edited by Gerry Canavan and Kim Stanley Robinson, *Studies in the Novel* 46.4 (Win 2014): 514-15.

Private Bodies, Public Texts: Race, Gender, and a Cultural Bioethics, by Karla FC Holloway, *Philological Quarterly* 91.1 (Win 2012): 133-37.

Postmodern Belief: American Literature and Religion since 1960, by Amy Hungerford, *Religion and Literature* 43.1 (Spring 2011): 229-31.

Conversations with American Writers: The Doubt, the Faith, the In-Between, by Dale Brown, *Literature and Theology* 23.4 (Dec 2009): 464-66.

Apocalyptic Patterns in Twentieth Century Fiction, by David Leigh, *Religion and Literature* 41.1 (Spr 2009): 209-11.

Archaeologies of the Future: The Desire Called Utopia and Other Science Fictions, by Fredric Jameson, *The Hedgehog Review* 10.1 (Spring 2008): 31-33.

Culture and Redemption: Religion, the Secular, and American Literature, by Tracy Fessenden, *Literature and Theology* 21.4 (Dec 2007): 446-48.

Pink Beams of Light from the God in the Gutter: The Science Fictional Religion of Philip K. Dick, by Gabriel McKee, *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 16.3 (Fall 2005): 249-52.

Public Humanities

Los Angeles Review of Books, <https://lareviewofbooks.org>

“Here’s to Unsuicide: An Interview with Richard Powers” (interview, April 7, 2018)

“Epigenetic Television: The Penetrating Love of *Orphan Black*” (feature, June 9, 2017)

“Protest Unceasing, Redemption Unfinished: An Interview with *Orphan Black*’s Graeme Manson and Cosima Herter” (interview, September 12, 2017)

Orphan Black Season 5 weekly essays in <http://blog.lareviewofbooks.org/>

“‘The Few Who Dare’: Penetration, Selection, Sacrifice, Monsters” (June 11, 2017)

“‘Clutch of Greed’: Letting Go, Holding On” (June 18, 2017)

- “‘Beneath Her Heart’: Love-Hating Suburbia” (June 25, 2017)
- “‘Let the Children and Child-Bearers Toil’: Monsters All” (July 2, 2017)
- “‘Ease for Idle Millionaires’: Corporate Runs the Science” (July 9, 2017)
- “‘Manacled Slim Wrists’: What Man Has Done to Man” (July 16, 2017)
- “‘Gag or Throttle’: If Your Eye Causes You to Stumble” (July 23, 2017)
- “‘Guillotines Decide’: The Community is the Smallest Unit” (July 30, 2017)
- “‘One Fettered Slave’: Sexuality, Parenthood, Euthanasia” (August 4, 2017)
- “‘To Right the Wrongs of Many’: Real Men” (August 11, 2017)

History News Network, <http://hnn.us/>

- “A Humanist’s Reflections on Evolutionary Biology” (July 26, 2010)

Religion in American History, <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/>

- “Religion in American Literature, 2000-2010” (June 29, 2011)
- “Rereading Creation” (June 23, 2010)
- “Filmmaking Beyond the Film Classroom” (March 11, 2010)
- “A Critique of ‘Dignitas Personae,’ or, Two Misspellings in the Vatican’s Genetic Code” (March 23, 2009)
- “A Survey Experiment: Race, Religion, Politics, and Other Comfortable Topics” (October 22, 2008)
- “Graphic Therapy for the Religiously Afflicted” (August 6, 2008)

INVITED CONFERENCE/ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- "No More Dithering: What Climate Change Means for Creation Care," Evening Public Lecture, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada) (2018)
- “Biotech and Its Representations in Popular Culture—*Orphan Black*,” featured panel at the Health Humanities and Social Justice: Breath > Body > Voice Conference, Duke University (2017)
- “The Soul, the Cell, and Fiction since the Human Genome Project,” Evening Public Lecture, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada) (2016)

“Postsecular Imbrications of Religion and Science Fiction,” response to “Heavens Above: Envisioning Religion in Science Fiction,” Forum on Religion and Literature, Modern Language Association, Austin (2016)

“Atwood’s Madd Humanity and the Case of the Holy Sex Pillbox,” symposium entitled “Between Activism and Apocalypse: The Work of Margaret Atwood,” Indiana University-Bloomington (2015)

“Symbiology, Serpent Wisdom, and Margaret Atwood’s Ecofiction,” Modern Language Association, Vancouver, Anthropological Approaches to Literature Division and Presidential Theme panel (2015)

Plenary Talk, “Never Let Me Clone: Utopia, Religion, and the Genomic Scapegoat,” Religion, Literature, & the Arts annual conference, “Futures and Illusions: Hope and the Longing for Utopia,” University of Iowa (2012)

“The Virtual Immigrant: *Sleep Dealer*, Science Fiction Film, and the Borders of Biotech,” conference entitled “Visions of the Future: Global Science Fiction Film,” University of Iowa (2012)

OTHER CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Roundtable: “Kim Stanley Robinson: Fires and Floods,” Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, UC Davis (June 2019)

Session Organizer, “Climate Change, Resistance, and Narrative/Art,” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Toronto, Canada; also gave paper, “Imagining Unsuicide: Whither Climate Change Narratives?” (2018)

“Christianity, Climate Change, and Cinema,” A Clockwork Green: Ecomedia in the Anthropocene, A Nearly Carbon Neutral Virtual Symposium sponsored by the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment and UC Santa Barbara (2018)

Session Organizer and Contributor, “*Orphan Black* and Biotech 2.0” roundtable, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Tempe (2017)

“Roundtable: Science Fiction as Protest (II),” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Tempe (2017)

Session Organizer, Moderator, and Contributor, “*Orphan Black* and Biotech” roundtable, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Atlanta (2016)

Session Organizer, “Metaphors of Climate Change,” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Notre Dame; also gave paper, “Climate Change Fiction, Technology, and the Sacred (2013)

“From Cell to Planet: Synthetic Biology, Human Animals, and Social Justice in Kim Stanley Robinson’s *2312*,” Association for the Study of Literature & Environment, University of Kansas (2013)

“The Novel as Aerial Lens, Salt Dump, and Time Capsule: The Climate Change Interventions of Kim Stanley Robinson,” Association for the Study of Literature & Environment, University of Kansas (2013)

“Finding a Nondystopian Future: A Literary and Scientific Exchange,” Modern Language Association, Boston (2013)

Session Organizer, “Genre in the Genome Age,” Modern Language Association, Seattle, Presidential Theme panel; also gave paper, “*White Teeth*, *Middlesex*, and Genomic Fiction” (2012)

“Transnational Mutations: The Immigrant Genome in British and American Slipstream,” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Waterloo, Canada (2011)

Session Organizer, “Narrating Human Genomes,” Modern Language Association, Los Angeles; also gave paper, “Sequencing *Generosity*: Richard Powers and Genomic Testing” (2011)

“The Predisposed Agency of Genomic Fiction,” session on “Identity After Genetic Testing,” American Studies Association, San Antonio (2010)

“Keyword: Literature,” session on “Darwin in America: A Keywords Approach to the Darwin Bicentennial,” American Studies Association, Washington, D.C. (2009)

“Postsecular Evolution: From Levine and Dowd to Ayala and Miller,” Darwin in the 21st Century, University of Notre Dame (2009)

“Creationism, Scientism, and the Cinema of Synthetic Memory,” Film and History, Chicago (2008)

“Literature and the Science-Religion Dialectic,” Religion, Literature, and the Arts: Theology and Critique, University of Iowa (2008)

Session Organizer, “What Went Right? How Culture, Media, and Politics Created American Fundamentalism,” American Studies Association, Philadelphia (2007); also gave paper, “Damning Fundamentalism: Sinclair Lewis and the Trials of Fiction”

“Subverting the Scapegoat: Ralph Ellison and the Black Messiah,” Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College (2007)

“Negative Theology: The Mediated Messiahs of Science Fiction Cinema,” Christ and Contemporary Cultures Conference, Gordon College (2006)

“*Hombre mirando al sudeste*: Eliseo Subiela’s Fantastic Messiahs,” Latin American Studies Association, Puerto Rico (2006)

“Religion and Utopia in Ursula K. Le Guin’s *The Telling*,” The Science Fiction Research Association Conference, University of Guelph, Canada (2003)

“Science Fiction, Lament, and Hope: The Sober Faith of Mary Doria Russell’s *The Sparrow* and *Children of God*,” Mideast Conference on Christianity & Literature, University of Dayton (2002)

REFEREEING, BLURBS, & DISCUSSION GUIDES

W.W. Norton & Co.

Palgrave Macmillan

Lexington Books/Rowman & Littlefield

Literature and Medicine (repeated)

Intellect Books (UK)

PMLA

Configurations: A Journal of Literature, Science, and Technology (repeated)

Routledge (*AFI Film Reader* series)

Religion and Literature (repeated)

Journal of American Studies

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Science Fiction Research Association

American Academy of Religion

Modern Language Association

TEACHING

Graduate Courses (selected)

Literature and Place: Narrating Climate Change

Topics in Literature: A Long History of Science Fiction

Issues in Disciplinary Studies: Literature, Medicine, & Biotechnology

Religion, Literature, & Film: Postsecular Meaning

Forms: Ecofiction

Literary Traditions and Influences: African American and Latin American Fictions

MA Thesis, Capstone, & Applied Project Direction & Reading

On gender fluidity in the modern ghost story (Nicole Steinbaugh, expected 2019, director)

A new English curriculum for unenthusiastic readers at a local high school (Raymond Knight, expected 2019, director)

“Fantasy as Philosophy: Psychoanalysis, Feminism, and the Taoist Double Helix of Ursula K. Le Guin’s *Earthsea*” (Raymond Norris, 2018, director)

“Grown in the Garden: Eco-Cosmopolitan Liberalism and Jamaica Kincaid’s Nonfiction” (Kirsten Dillender, 2018, reader)

“From Patriotism’s Christian Narrative to Ironic War Poetry” (Daniel Holst, 2018, reader)

“Old and New Orientalisms and Middle Eastern Responses” (Mohammed Al Musawi, 2018, reader)

“Liberal and Postcolonial Transactions: Theory and Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*” (Riyadh Mahdi, 2018, reader)

“Manufacturing Romance in Cinema” (Stephanie Hoover, 2017, director)

“I Want to Be Your Dog: Intimate Human/Canine Relationships in Fiction” (Allyson Borkgren, 2015, director)

“*Harry Potter* and the Third Wave: Recontextualizing the Series that Shaped a Generation” (Hayleigh Covella, 2015, director)

“A Peek at Quiet: Female Silence in the Last 200 Years of American Literature” (Heidi Norcross, 2015, reader)

- “Genre Mashing: 21st-Century Literary Television and the Case of *True Detective*” (Steve Long, 2015, director)
- “Saving the Future of Education with Earth’s Mightiest Heroes: The Formal Integration of Comics into Standard Secondary Curriculum” (Arron Rietz, 2014, director)
- “Stephen King’s Bad Place: Institutions, Spaces, and Gender in *The Shining* and ‘Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption’” (Regina Wilkerson, 2014, reader)
- “Representations of the Female Stripper in American Popular Culture” (Kris Souza, 2013, director)
- “The Gothic in Literature and Culture, 1764-2012” (Hannah Klepsteen, 2012, director)
- “*Pyebwa Lespwa*: Trees of Hope (A Small-Scale Community-Based Environmental Sustainability Initiative in Haiti)” (John McLaughlin, 2012, director)
- “Rewriting Monstrosity, Rereading Mary Shelley’s *Mathilda*” (Emily Mutchler, 2012, reader)
- “The Catholic Worker House in Davenport, IA” (John Wiesch, 2012, reader)
- "Flannery O'Connor's Dagger of Grace: A Derridean Glance at *The Violent Bear It Away*" (Travis Moran, 2011, director)
- “Midwestern Nature Writing: Leopold and Cather” (Leah Christensen, 2012, reader)
- “Autobiography in Dickens’ *Tale of Two Cities*” (Matt Lewerenz, 2011, reader)
- “Mapping the Beyond: A Postsecular Reading of Walker Percy's *The Second Coming* and *Lost in the Cosmos*” (Andrew Hoogheem, 2010, director)

Student Internship Supervision

- Marketing, Girl Scouts of America (Madeline Van De Sompele, Spring 2019)
- Special Collections, Davenport Public Library (Nicole Steinbaugh, Fall 2018)
- Grant-writing, Putnam Museum (Claire Possin, Summer 2018)
- Grammar Curriculum Revision, Bettendorf High School (Raymond Knight, Summer 2018)
- Children’s Department, Moline Public Library (Alexia Avena, Summer 2018)
- Graduate Student Co-Teaching Experience, WIU-QC (Nicole Steinbaugh, Spring 2018)
- WQPT PBS Television Station (Kasi DeFrieze, Spring 2014-Spring 2015)

Moline Public Library (Victoria Anderson, Fall 2014)

Grant-writing, Putnam Museum (Caitlen O'Day, Fall 2014)

Education Department, Putnam Museum (Kiscena Minter, Summer 2014)

Grant-writing, Putnam Museum (Leann Weiss, Fall 2013)

Undergraduate Courses (selected)

Ethnic Literature of the United States: Black Lives Mattering

Senior Seminar: Imagining Revolutions

Introduction to Film: Money, Work, and the Meaning of Life

Issues in U.S. Literature: Dystopia, Apocalyptic, Horror, & Gender

Introduction to the Liberal Arts and Sciences: Globalization

Introduction to the Liberal Arts and Sciences: Evolution

Introduction to Fiction: Postapocalyptic

Critical Methods of Reading and Writing: Beyond Binaries

Contemporary American Literature: Climate Change Fiction

Forms of Biblical Literature: Ancient Genres and Modern Debates

Film & Literature: Memories of the Future

Summer Faculty, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada)

Climate Change, Literature & Theology (Summer 2018)

Global Religions in Contemporary Literature & Film (Summer 2018)

Strange Grace: Science Fiction & Theology (Summer 2016)

Pre-WIU

Instructor, University of Iowa, six independently taught courses (2004-06)

Teaching Assistant and Grader, Regent College (Vancouver, Canada) (2001-02)

English/Spanish teacher, Grade Dean, The Boys' Latin School of Maryland (1997-2000)

Spanish instructor and site leader, Students International, Guatemala (1995-96)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

QC English and Liberal Arts Coordinator (one course release annually for outreach, programming, and local internship site development, 2017-)

Interim Associate Director, Liberal Arts & Sciences, Quad Cities (2013-14) and
Administrative Intern, Liberal Arts & Sciences, Quad Cities (2012-13)

Coordinated scheduling for College of Arts & Sciences courses at QC campus

Built initiative that tripled CAS internships completed annually at QC campus

Designed new CAS webpages for QC campus and initiated new outreach events

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

WIU

Coordinating Committee, English Department (2016-)

Chair, Academic Integrity Committee, English (2016-)

Faculty Advisor, Interdisciplinary English and the Arts Society (2016-)

Chair, Michaela Romano Scholarship Committee (QC CAS faculty) (2017, 2018)

Persistence and Completion Team, QC (2014-15)

Search Committee, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Quad Cities (2014)

Internships Committee, College of Arts & Sciences (2013-15)

Search Committee, Assistant Director of Graduate Admissions, QC (2012)

BRDGS (Building Respect for Diverse Genders & Sexualities) (2011-13)

Quad Cities English Major Development Committee (2011-12)

Search Committee, English Education position (2011-12)

Faculty Advisor, Liberal Arts and Sciences Student Organization (2010-15)

Search Committee, Admissions Counselor (2010)

Honors Advisory Committee, Centennial Honors College (2009-13)

Faculty Council, Quad Cities campus (2008-) (Executive Committee, 2011-14, 2014-15)

Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English and Journalism (2008-11)

Liberal Arts and Sciences Program Committee (2008-12)

University of Iowa

Liberal Arts and Sciences Teaching Awards Committee (2006-08)

Graduate College Academic Grievance Committee (2007)

Secretary, Geneva Lecture Series Committee (2003-05)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Administrative Official, USA Swimming, on behalf of Scott County Family YMCA (2018-)

Head Coach, Bettendorf Diamond Kings & Barnstormer Bolts (travel baseball teams, 2012-)

WIU-QC Organizer, MillionTrees Project, Living Lands and Waters (2013-)

Discussion leadership and presentations at local public libraries

Han Kang's *The Vegetarian*, Global Gathering: Korea series, Bettendorf Public Library (November 15, 2017)

Octavia Butler's *Kindred*, *Created Equal* and *Changing America* series, Moline Public Library/NEH program (April 3, 2014)

Helon Habila's *Oil on Water*, Global Gathering: West Africa series, Bettendorf Public Library (September 14, 2013)

"The Blues and Gospel Music," *America's Music: A Film History of Our Popular Music*, Rock Island Public Library (April 16, 2013)