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EDUCATION

Ph.D., English Language and Literature, University of Virginia, expected 2009
B.A., English Language and Literature *magna cum laude*, The George Washington University, 2004

DISSERTATION

In my dissertation, “‘That Great Burning Day’: Apocalyptic in Antebellum Literature and Culture,” I investigate the intersections of apocalyptic rhetoric and symbolism in literary and popular fiction, theological texts, sermons, and religious newspapers before the Civil War. Most literary studies of antebellum American apocalyptic have neglected its immediate historical and cultural roots in nineteenth-century evangelical eschatology, while most studies of nineteenth-century evangelical eschatology have neglected the imaginative engagement of period writers with the apocalyptic. I attempt to amend both oversights, using the prominence of the apocalyptic across period genres, authors, and ideologies to think about how scholars understand and constitute boundaries between sacred and secular texts—boundaries that are unclear in nineteenth-century works. I argue that apocalyptic rhetoric and symbolism bleed in, among, and between nearly all aspects of antebellum written culture, offering a space of sacred temporality from which authors and preachers both could engage and interpret emerging secular temporalities such as nationalism, reform, technology, and progress.

PUBLICATIONS

“Alcohol and Temperance” and “Harriet Beecher Stowe”
Encyclopedia of the Early Republic and Antebellum America. M.E. Sharpe, 2007
(forthcoming)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

“‘The Light Which Puts Out Our Eyes’: The Spring Apocalypse in Thoreau’s *Walden*”
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA), Bellingham, WA, 2007
 (“Promethean Visions and Communities of Belief in 19th-Century American Literature” panel)
“‘Dim and Wondrous Imagery’: *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* at the End of Time”
Popular and American Culture Associations in the South (PCAS/ACAS),
Jacksonville, FL, 2007 (“Uncle Tom’s Cabin and Antebellum Culture” panel)
“Mas’r isn’t good to *himself*: Temperance Rhetoric in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*”
American Literature Association (ALA), San Francisco, 2006 (“Future Directions in
Stowe Scholarship” panel, sponsored by the Harriet Beecher Stowe Society)
“*Henderson the Rain King* and the Fictionalization of Encounter”
University of Virginia Graduate Conference, Charlottesville, 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (teaching portfolio available on request)

Teaching Interests

19th and Early 20th Century American Literature
Religion and Literature
Composition

Courses Taught

The University of Virginia, Department of English

Science Fictions (composition), Fall 2007
History of English Literature III (discussion section leader for Professors Michael Levenson and Stephen Cushman), Fall 2007
Thoreau, *Walden*, and American Culture (composition), Fall 2006, Spring 2007
Academic and Professional Writing (advanced composition), Spring 2006
History of English Literature I (discussion section leader for Professor Elizabeth Fowler), Fall 2005

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Newsletter and Website Editor for the Harriet Beecher Stowe Society, 2006-present
Workshop Leader for “Grading Student Writing” seminars sponsored by the Teaching Resource Center, the University of Virginia, 2007-present
Tutor for the University of Virginia Writing Center, 2004–2007
Treasurer, Graduate English Student Association, University of Virginia, 2006-2007

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Research and Copyediting Assistant for Professor Mark Edmundson, 2007
Assistant to Professor Stephen Railton and the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, “Uncle Tom’s Cabin in the Web of Culture: A Multi-Disciplinary Conference,” 2007
Research Assistant and Creator of Electronic Texts for Professor Stephen Railton, “Uncle Tom’s Cabin and American Culture” website, <http://www.iath.virginia.edu/utc/>, 2005-2006
Grading Assistant for Professor Raymond Nelson, 2005
Grading and Research Assistant for Professor Mark Edmundson, 2004

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Literary Scholars and Critics
The Harriet Beecher Stowe Society

LANGUAGES

German, SGML, XML

REFERENCES (dossier available on request)

Stephen Railton, Professor, University of Virginia
Raymond Nelson, Arts and Sciences Professor, University of Virginia
Victoria Lowell, Assistant Professor, University of Virginia
Michael Levenson, William B. Christian Professor, University of Virginia
Stephen Cushman, Robert C. Taylor Professor of English, University of Virginia
Heather Warren, Associate Professor, University of Virginia