

CURRICULUM VITA
David V. Urban
Associate Professor of English, Calvin College

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RECENT ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Calvin College: Associate Professor of English	Fall 2010-present
Calvin College: Assistant Professor of English	Fall 2003-Summer 2010
Oklahoma Baptist University: Assistant Professor of English	Fall 2001-Summer 2003

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English. University of Illinois at Chicago. 2001
Program: Literature
Preliminary Exams: Early Modern British Literature, 1500-1700; American Literature, Colonial through Civil War; History of Literary Theory, Classical through 1900; Bible as Literature.

M.Div. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Trinity International University, Deerfield, Illinois. 1998
Summa cum Laude

M.A., English. University of Illinois at Chicago. 1994
M.A. Qualifying Paper, "The Developing Language of Immortality in Wordsworth's Poetry."

B.A., English. Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. 1990
Departmental Honors. Phi Beta Kappa. Senior Honors Thesis, "Pastoral Images of Death and Rebirth in Milton and Herbert's Poetry."

DISSERTATION

"The Parabolic Milton: The Self and the Bible in John Milton's Writings." Director: Michael Lieb. Committee members: Stanley Fish, Robin Grey, Donald Marshall, Leland Ryken.
Nominated by English Department for University-Wide Alumni Dissertation Award

This dissertation examines Milton's self-identification with the subjects of a number of biblical parables and demonstrates the connections between his biblical hermeneutic and the portrayal of the Miltonic "self." By analyzing Milton's habit of identifying himself with figures represented in the biblical parables, this study enables the reader to become increasingly aware of Milton's developing attitudes towards himself, God, and society. Affirming that Milton is an intensely autobiographical writer who uses the parables to inscribe himself upon his works, this dissertation demonstrates how Milton's engagement with the parables is crucial to an understanding of his poetry and prose.

SCHOLARLY AWARDS

Sabbatical, Calvin College (2009-10; four course release total)
Subvention Grant from Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship (2009-10),
Summer Calvin Research Fellowship, Calvin College (summer 2005, 2006, 2007)
Diekema Fellow, Calvin College (fall semester, 2004 [one course release]; fall semester, 2006
[one course release]; spring semester, 2007 [one course release]; fall semester, 2008 [one
course release]; spring semester 2009 [one course release])
Dissertation Research Award, University of Illinois at Chicago (fall semester, 2000)

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Seven Who Care Award, Oklahoma Baptist University, 2003

BOOKS and BOOK PROJECTS

John Milton: An Annotated Bibliography, 1989-1999. Co-compiler (with Calvin Huckabay) and co-editor (with Paul J Klemp). Duquesne UP, 2011.

Visionary Milton: Essays on Prophecy and Violence. Co-editor (with Peter Medine and John T. Shawcross) and co-author of Introduction (with Peter Medine). Duquesne UP, 2010.

The Parabolic Milton: The Self and the Bible in John Milton's Writings. Book manuscript. To be sent to press in 2012.

Through the Real: Embracing or Evading the Finite in Sophocles, Shakespeare, and Modern Drama. In progress.

SCHOLARLY ARTICLES IN PRINT

"Confessions of a Milton Bibliographer: Reflections on the Past, Ruminations on the Present, and Hopes for the Future of Milton Bibliography." *Appositions: Studies in Renaissance/Early Modern Literature and Culture* 4 (2011). 26 paragraphs.
<http://appositions.blogspot.com/2011/05/david-urban-reflections-on-milton.html>

"Speaking for the Dead: C. S. Lewis Answers the 'New Milton Criticism'; or, 'Milton Ministries' Strikes Back." *Milton Quarterly* 45.2 (May 2011): 95-106.

"Erroneous Instruction: Hally's Misrepresentations of Tolstoy and Joe Louis in Fugard's 'MASTER HAROLD' . . . and the boys." *Notes & Queries* 58.1 (March 2011): 138-40.

"The Rhetoric of Rebuke and Community-Shaping in Paul's Epistle to the Galatians: An Aristotelian Analysis, with Jeremiah as an Alternative Interpretive Rubric." *Scandinavian Evangelical E-Journal for New Testament Studies* (Copenhagen Lutheran School of Theology) 1 (2010): 28-42. <http://www.see-j.net/index.php/SEE-JNTS/article/view/95/pdf2010Urban>

"Tolstoy's Influence in Fugard's 'MASTER HAROLD' . . . and the boys: Sam's Pacifist Christian Perseverance and 'a Case of Illness.'" *Renascence* 62.4 (summer 2010): 311-26.

"Introduction." Co-authored with Peter Medine. In *Visionary Milton: Essays on Prophecy and Violence*. Peter E. Medine, John T. Shawcross, and David V. Urban, eds. Duquesne UP, 2010. Xi-xxv.

“Balancing the Antithesis: An Enduring Pedagogical Value of Worldview.” *After Worldview*. James M. Bonzo and Michael Stevens, Editors. (Dordt College Press, 2009). 119-27. Followed by a response by Roy Anker, 129-30.

“The Lady of Christ’s College, Himself a ‘Virgin Wise and Pure’: Parabolic Self-Reference in John Milton’s Sonnet 9.” *Milton Studies* 47 (2008): 1-23.

“‘Intimate Impulses,’ ‘Rousing Motions,’ and the Written Law: Internal and External Scripture in *Samson Agonistes*.” *Uncircumscribed Mind: Reading Milton Deeply*. Kristin Pruitt and Charles Durham, Editors (Susquehanna UP/Associated Univ. Presses, 2008). 292-306

“Talents and Laborers: Parabolic Tension in Milton’s Sonnet 19.” *Milton in France*. Christophe Tournois, Editor (Peter Lang, 2008). 61-71

“Trinitarian Community in Literature and the Classroom.” *Minds in the Making* 4.2 (Winter 2008): <http://www.calvin.edu/minds/vol04/issue02/durban.php>

“On Christian Doctrine: Teaching the Conflict and What’s at Stake.” *The MLA Guide to Teaching Milton’s Shorter Poetry and Prose*. Peter C. Herman, Editor (Modern Languages Association, 2007). 235-41.

Entries on “Hero Story,” “Imagery,” and “Irony” for *The Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible*. Kevin Vanhoozer, General Editor (Baker Academic/SPCK, 2005). 287-90; 319-21; 334-36.

*This volume was recognized as the top book for 2005 in the “Bible Reference and Study” category by the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association (ECPA) and was also awarded the ECPA’s highest award as the “Christian Book of the Year” for 2005.

“The Evasion of the Finite in Hawthorne’s ‘The Artist of the Beautiful.’” *Christianity and Literature* 54.3 (Spring 2005): 343-58.

“‘Out of His Treasury Things New and Old’: Milton’s Parabolic Householder in *The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce* and *De Doctrina Christiana*.” *Milton’s Legacy*. Kristin Pruitt and Charles Durham, Editors (Susquehanna UP/Associated Univ. Presses, 2005). 208-19.

*This volume was awarded the Irene Samuel Memorial Award by the Milton Society of America as the best “edition, bibliography, multiauthor collection of essays, [or] edited commentary” in Milton studies for 2005.

“The Talented Mr. Milton: A Parabolic Laborer and His Identity.” *Milton Studies* 43 (2004): 1-18.

“‘Rousing Motions’ and the Silence of God: Scripture and Immediate Revelation in *Samson Agonistes* and *Clarel*.” *Leviathan: A Journal of Melville Studies* 4.1 & 2. Special Double Issue on Melville and Milton. (March-October 2002): 91-111. Reprinted in *Melville and Milton: An Edition and Analysis of Melville’s Annotations on Milton*. Robin Grey, Editor (Duquesne UP, 2004). 87-107.

SCHOLARLY ARTICLES FORTHCOMING

Entries on “Matthew,” “Luke,” and “Sonnet 9” in *The Milton Encyclopedia*. Thomas Corns, General Editor (Yale UP).

SCHOLARLY ARTICLES UNDER CONSIDERATION

“Gaev’s Asperger’s Syndrome in Chekhov’s *The Cherry Orchard*: A Diagnosis and a Call for Character Reassessment and Legitimate Sympathy.”

“The Homosexual Temptation of the Son in Milton’s *Paradise Regained*: Setting the Record Straight on Historical Precedent (A Response to John T. Shawcross and Claude J. Summers)”

“Milton’s Identification with the Unworthy Servant in Sonnet 19: A Response to Margaret Thicksun.”

“Nora’s Desire for Christlike Love in Ibsen’s *A Doll House*.”

BOOK REVIEWS & REVIEW ESSAYS

Laura Lungers Knoppers (ed). *The Complete Works of John Milton, Volume II: The 1671 Poems: Paradise Regain’d and Samson Agonistes*. (Oxford UP, 2008). *Review of English Studies* 61.249, (April 2010): 305-08.

Stephen B. Dobranski, Archie Burnett (intro), and P. J. Klemp (ed.). *A Variorum Commentary on the Poems of John Milton, Volume 3: Samson Agonistes* (Duchesne UP, 2009). *Review of English Studies* 61.248 (February 2010): 145-47.

Stephen M. Fallon. *Milton’s Peculiar Grace: Self-Representation and Authority* (Cornell UP, 2007). *Early Modern Literary Studies* 15.1 (2009-10). 14 paragraphs.
<<http://extra.shu.ac.uk/emls/15-1/revfallo.htm>>

Michael Lieb, *Theological Milton: Deity, Discourse, and Heresy in the Miltonic Canon* (Duchesne UP, 2006). *Christianity and Literature* 57.1 (Fall 2007): 130-35.

Kristin A. Pruitt, *Gender and the Power of Relationship: “United as one individual Soul” in “Paradise Lost.”* (Duchesne UP, 2003). *ANQ* 18.4 (Fall 2005): 53-56.

Ralph C. Wood, *Contending for the Faith: The Church’s Engagement with Culture* (Baylor UP, 2003). *Christianity and Literature* 54.1 (Fall 2004): 141-45

Review essay on four books devoted to Milton’s *Samson Agonistes*: John T. Shawcross, *The Uncertain World of “Samson Agonistes.”* (*Studies in Renaissance Literature*, Vol. 6. Brewer, 2001); Derek N.C. Wood, *“Exiled From Light”: Divine Law, Morality, and Violence in Milton’s “Samson Agonistes.”* (University of Toronto P, 2001); Joseph Wittreich, *Shifting Contexts: Reinterpreting “Samson Agonistes”* (Duchesne UP, 2002); Mark R. Kelley and Joseph Wittreich, Editors, *Altering Eyes: New Perspectives on Samson Agonistes* (U of Delaware P, 2002). *Religion and Literature* 36.2 (Summer 2004): 119-28.

Derek N.C. Wood, *“Exiled From Light”: Divine Law, Morality, and Violence in Milton’s “Samson Agonistes.”* (University of Toronto P, 2001). *Milton Quarterly* 37.1 (March 2003): 43-46.

Review essay on recent books on John Donne: Jeffrey Johnson, *The Theology of John Donne* (*Studies in Renaissance Literature*, Vol. I. Brewer, 1999); Theresa M. DiPasquale, *Literature and Sacrament: The Sacred and the Secular in John Donne* (Duchesne UP, 1999); R. V. Young, *Doctrine and Devotion in 17th-Century Poetry: Studies in Donne, Herbert, Crashaw, and Vaughan*. (*Studies in Renaissance Literature*, Vol. II. Brewer, 2000). *Cithara* 42.1 (November 2002): 55-58.

Larry R. Isitt, *All the Names in Heaven: A Reference Guide to Milton’s Supernatural Names and Epic Similes* (Scarecrow P, 2002). *Seventeenth-Century News* 60.3 & 4 (Fall-Winter 2002): 199-

201.

Victoria Silver, *Imperfect Sense: The Predicament of Milton's Irony* (Princeton UP, 2001). *Seventeenth-Century News* 60.1 & 2, Spring-Summer 2002. 34-38.

Barbara K. Lewalski, *The Life of John Milton* (Blackwell, 2000). *Christianity and Literature* 51.2, (Spring 2002): 489-92.

Robin Grey, *The Complicity of Imagination: The American Renaissance, Contests of Authority, and 17th-Century English Culture* (Cambridge UP, 1997). *Christianity and Literature* 51.1 (Winter 2002): 294-97.

Jameela Lares, *Milton and the Preaching Arts* (Duquesne UP, 2001). *Milton Quarterly* 35.4 (December 2001): 275-77.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"Samson's Late Call: Talents, Laborers, and Parabolic Tension and Resolution in Milton's *Samson Agonistes*" (longer version). Newberry Milton Seminar. May 10, 2008. Newberry Library. Chicago, Illinois.

"Of Worldviews and Elephants." A response to James Sire's keynote address. After Worldview Conference. September 18, 2004. Cornerstone University. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Confessions of a Milton Bibliographer: Reflections on the Past, Ruminations on the Present, and Hopes for the Future of Milton Bibliography." 2011 Conference on John Milton. October 14, 2011. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

"Speaking for the Dead: C. S. Lewis Answers the New Milton Criticism; or, 'Milton Ministries' Strikes Back." 2009 Conference on John Milton. October 17, 2009. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

"Samson's Late Call: Talents, Laborers, and Parabolic Tension and Resolution in Milton's *Samson Agonistes*" (shorter version). 9th International Milton Symposium. July 11, 2008. London, England.

"*On Christian Doctrine*: Teaching the Conflict and What's at Stake." 2007 Conference on John Milton. October 26, 2007. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

"Talents and Laborers: Parabolic Tension in Milton's Sonnet 19." 2005 Conference on John Milton. October 21, 2005. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

"Parabolic Tension in Sonnet 7." An International Milton Congress. March 13, 2004. Duquesne University. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

"Milton's Parabolic Life With Father: The Parable of the Talents in *Ad Patrem*." (revised version). Modern Language Association Annual Convention, session on Milton and Allusion. December 28, 2003. San Diego, California.

"Rousing Motions and the Written Law: Scripture and Immediate Revelation in *Samson Agonistes*." 2003 Conference on John Milton. October 25, 2003. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

"John Milton, Himself a 'Lady Wise and Pure': The Parable of the Virgins in Sonnet 9 and

Comus.” 7th International Milton Symposium. June 8, 2002. Beaufort, South Carolina.

“‘Out of His Treasury Things New and Old’: Milton’s Parabolic Householder in *The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce* and *De Doctrina Christiana*” (revised version). 2001 Conference on John Milton. October 20, 2001. Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

“Sowing Broadly: Recent Parable Scholarship and Early Modern Literature.” Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. September 29, 2001. Baylor University. Waco, Texas.

“Milton’s Parabolic Life With Father: The Parable of the Talents in *Ad Patrem*.” Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. March 24, 2001. Chicago.

“‘Out of His Treasury Things New and Old’: Milton’s Parabolic Householder in *The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce* and *De Doctrina Christiana*.” Mideast Conference on Christianity and Literature. October 13, 2000. University of Dayton. Dayton, Ohio.

CONFERENCE PANEL MEMBER or DISCUSSION SECTION LEADER

Discussion group leader for conference on Russell Kirk’s *The American Cause*. November 13, 2011. Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.

Panel member for Staging Shakespeare’s *Tempest*. November 15, 2008. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Discussion leader for Festival Circle on Christianity and Literature. Festival of Faith and Writing. April 17 and 19, 2008. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

SERVICE PRESENTATIONS AT CALVIN COLLEGE

Panel member for Exploring Seminary Options forum. Organized by Matthew Lundberg, Professor of Religion and Congregational and Ministry Studies. Commons Lecture Hall. October 5, 2011.

Moderator for Student War Debate for the Calvin College War Awareness Week. Organized by the Paul Henry Institute, the Social Justice Committee, and Democracy Matters. Commons Lecture Hall. October 21, 2008.

Presentation on my DCM course, “Dramatic Families: Dreams, Dysfunctions, and Occasional Solutions in Shakespeare and Modern Drama,” for the Eastern and Midwest Councils of Calvin College. Organized by Lee Hardy, Director of DCM, and Provost Claudia Beversluis. Prince Conference Center. November 10, 2006.

Presenter/Panel Member for a faculty development luncheon on “How to Get Started in Research: Reflections from Early Career Faculty.” Organized by Janel Curry, Dean of Research and Scholarship. Alumni Association Board Room. March 2, 2006.

Presentation on John Milton’s “At a Solemn Musick” for the Oratorio Society. Organized by Joel Navarro, Director of the Oratorio Society. Fine Arts Center Auditorium. February 21, 2005.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS OR EVENTS ORGANIZED AND/OR CHAIRED

Organizer and presenter, Festschrift presentation for Michael Lieb. Newberry Milton Seminar. May 15, 2010. Newberry Library. Chicago, Illinois.

Chair, "A Reading by L. S. Klatt." Festival of Faith and Writing. April 15, 2010. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chair, "Religion in America: Jon Sweeney and Phyllis Tickle in Conversation." Festival of Faith and Writing. April 19, 2008. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chair, "Collaborations." Festival of Faith and Writing. April 19, 2008. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chair, "Christ and Creativity." Festival of Faith and Writing. April 21, 2006. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chair, "Spirited Traveler: Writing About Journeys, the Soul, and Sacred Places." Festival of Faith and Writing. April 22, 2006. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chair, "Religion in the Contemporary Novel." Festival of Faith and Writing. April 24, 2004. Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chair and organizer, "Milton's Sonnets." An International Milton Congress. March 13, 2004. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Organizer, "Milton's Sonnets." 7th International Milton Symposium. June 8, 2002. Beaufort, South Carolina.

Organizer, "Milton." Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. March 24, 2001. Chicago.

POETRY

"Haiku for Jim Vanden Bosch." *Dialogue* 37.1 (Fall 2004). 7.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Calvin College: Assistant Professor, English, fall 2003-2010; Associate Professor, English, 2010-present

- Shakespeare (ENGL 346)
- Milton (ENGL 347)
- Modern Drama (ENGL 322)
- American Literature I (ENGL 217)
- World Literature I (ENGL 210)
- Understanding Literature (ENGL 205)
- Written Rhetoric (ENGL 101)
- Developing a Christian Mind (IDIS 150)
- Prelude (IDIS 149)

Oklahoma Baptist University: Assistant Professor, English, fall 2001-spring 2003

- Critical Perspectives (400 level)

- European Literature (200 level)
- Modern Literature (200 level)
- English Composition: Exposition and Argument (100 level)
- English Composition II: Greek Literature (100 level)

University of Illinois at Chicago: Teaching Assistant, English, spring 1993-spring 1994; fall 1998-spring 2001; Visiting Lecturer of English, 1994-97, fall semesters only

- History of British Literature I, Beginnings to 1700 (200 level, assistant to Prof. Martin Wine)
- History of British Literature II, 1700-1900 (200 level, assistant to Prof. Nancy Cirillo)
- Understanding the Bible as Literature (100 level)
- Understanding Literature (100 level)
- English Composition for Non-Native Speakers of English (100 level)
- English Composition I (100 level)
- English Composition II: Research Methods (100 level)

Trinity International University (Deerfield, Illinois), REACH program for adult students: Adjunct Assistant Professor of English, 1999-2001; Adjunct Instructor of English, 1998-1999.

- Literature and Ideas (300 level course addressing religion and literature)

North Park University (Chicago): Part-time Instructor in English as a Second Language, 1996, 1997, 1999, summer semesters.

- Intermediate Composition
- Advanced Reading
- Intermediate Reading
- Advanced Conversation
- American Culture

Loyola University, Chicago: Part-time Instructor in English as a Second Language, summer 1998.

- Intermediate Composition
- Advanced Conversation

Roosevelt University (Chicago): Part-time Instructor, English Language Program, spring and summer semesters, 1995.

- Advanced Composition
- Fundamentals of Research Writing
- Intermediate Reading

Ort Technical Institute (Chicago): Part-time Instructor, English as a Second Language, March-August, 1995.

- “Level 2” ESL course (incorporates conversation, grammar, reading, and writing)

Nankai University (Tianjin, China): Foreign Instructor of English, 1990-92.

- Advanced English
- Introductory English
- American Film

HONORS THESES ADVISING

- David Greendonner (Milton), second reader, 2011-12
- Katherine Baker (Elizabeth Rowe), second reader, 2010-11
- Katherine Hendrikson (Shakespeare), 2009-10
- Hannah Bormann (Milton, Lanyer, Speght), 2008-09
- Rachel Van Harten (Donne), second reader, 2006-07
- Laura Peterson (Shakespeare), 2004-05

- John Cooper (Shakespeare), 2003-04

JOURNAL AND UNIVERSITY PRESS READER

Read and refereed book manuscripts/essays for the following university presses/journals:

- Catholic University Press (2009)
- *Christianity and Literature* (2007)
- Duquesne University Press (2004)
- *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies* (2008)
- *Milton Quarterly* (2011)
- *Modern Philology* (2008)
- *Pedagogy* (2007)
- *Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900* (2009 [twice])
- *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History* (2008)

EXTRACURRICULAR SPONSORSHIP

Faculty Sponsor, Prison Fellowship, Calvin College. 2006-09.

SEMINAR PARTICIPATION

Active Participant, Newberry Library Milton Seminar (Chicago), 1998-2001; 2003-2005; 2008-present.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Research Assistant for Dean Stanley Fish, University of Illinois at Chicago June-October 2000

- Acknowledged in *How Milton Works* (Harvard UP, 2001).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Milton Society of America