

**Jennifer Hardy Williams**  
**curriculum vitae**

Assistant Professor of English  
Calvin College  
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Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
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**Employment History (post-doctoral)**

**July 2005 – present:** Assistant Professor of English, Calvin College. I carry a 3-1-3 load, teaching literature surveys and upper-level courses on British and American modernism.

**September 2004-July 2005:** Lecturer, Humanities Core Course, University of California, Irvine.

**Questions Concerning Religion**

Platform for research, teaching, and collaboration on matters of religion and critical theory.  
<http://questionsconcerningreligion.org>

**Education**

Ph.D., English Literature, University of California, Irvine, 1997-2004

Dissertation: *Ghosts in the Machine: Modernism's Religious Other*, directed by J. Hillis Miller

This dissertation examines the use of religious tropes in fictions from 1843 to 1946. Chapters on Kierkegaard, Conrad, and Stein analyze religion's potential to act, through modes of play, irony, and contingency, as a mediating strategy between the particular and universalist concerns of humanity.

Dissertation Committee: J. Hillis Miller (Chair); Jacques Derrida; Karen Lawrence; Julia Reinhard Lupton

M.A., English Literature, University of California, Irvine, 1995-1997

B.A., summa cum laude, English Literature. Minor: European History, University of California, Irvine, 1991-1995

**Fields of Specialization**

Twentieth-century British literature, Critical Theory, Religious Studies and Religion and Literature, Ethics, Twentieth-century Aesthetic theory, Mixed Media Arts

**Fellowships and Honors**

Calvin Research Fellowship, Calvin College, 2008-2009

Calvin Research Fellowship Summer Stipend, Calvin College, Summer 2008

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship Major Grant, Calvin College, 2007-2008

Calvin Research Fellowship, Calvin College, 2006-2007

Graduate Research Assistant to Jacques Derrida, UC Irvine, Spring 2000 to Spring 2003

Regents' Dissertation Fellowship, UC Irvine, Winter 2003

Alternate for the American Association of University Women American Fellowship, 2003- 2004  
 Graduate Research Assistant to Karen Lawrence, UC Irvine, Spring 2001 to June 2002  
 Full Fee Waiver, Graduate Studies, UC Irvine, Winter 2002  
 Humanities Center Summer Stipend Research Grant, UC Irvine, Summer 2002  
 School of Humanities Travel Grant, UC Irvine, 2000  
 School of Humanities Summer Dissertation Fellowship, UC Irvine 2000  
 School of Humanities Travel Grant, UC Irvine, 1998  
 University of California's Regents Fellowship, UC Irvine, 1995-1996  
 National Endowment for the Humanities Younger Scholars Award, 1994

### **Peer-reviewed Essays and Book Chapters**

"The Known World." In *The Emmas Readers: Encountering Fiction with Spiritual Eyes, Vol. 2*, edited by Susan Felch and Gary Schmidt. Paraclete Press, forthcoming, Spring 2009.

"The Yiddish Policemen's Union." In *The Emmas Readers: Encountering Fiction with Spiritual Eyes, Vol. 2*, edited by Susan Felch and Gary Schmidt. Paraclete Press, forthcoming, Spring 2009.

"Road to Perdition." In *The Emmas Readers: Encountering Fiction with Spiritual Eyes*, edited by Susan Felch and Gary Schmidt. MA: Paraclete Press, 2008.

"Modernism's Religious Other." In special issue of *English Language Notes: Literary History and the Religious Turn*. 44.1 (Spring 2006): 67-74.

"Hillis's Charity." In *Provocations to Reading: J. Hillis Miller and the Democracy to Come*, edited by Barbara Cohen and Dragan Kujundzic. Bronx: Fordham University Press, October 2005.

"The Prayers and Tears of Ignatius Loyola: Archival Effacement and Memory." In *Alphabet City #8: Lost in the Archives*, edited by Rebecca Comay. Toronto, ON: Alphabet City Media Inc., 2002.

### **Other Publications**

"What is Publishing: One-of-a-Kind/ Some-of-a-Kind Scrapbook." In *Indie Publishing*, edited by Ellen Lupton. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, forthcoming.

"Prayer Book for Janet," "Worship Theatre," "Prayer Board," "Nested Testaments," "Illuminated Hymnal," "Dedication Shadow Box," "Ordination Scrapbook," and "Shepherding Circle Journal." In *Faith Books & Spiritual Journaling: Expressions of Faith through Art*, by Sharon Soneff. Gloucester: Rockport Publishing, forthcoming October 2006. Images of the artwork can be viewed at: <http://questionsconcerningreligion.org/secret/secret.html>

"Photo Albums." Co-authored with Julia Reinhard Lupton. In *D.Y.I.--Design it Yourself*, edited by Ellen Lupton. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, October 2005.

"Tragedy and Nihilism." In *Modern Reformation Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2005.

### **Conference Papers**

Chair and organizer of special panel "The Appearance of Saints in Literature." Twentieth-Century Literature Conference. University of Louisville, Kentucky. February 23-25, 2006.

“A Circus of Saints and the Flight of Souls: Gertrude Stein’s *Four Saints in Three Acts*.” In “The Appearance of Saints in Literature” panel. Twentieth-Century Literature Conference. University of Louisville, Kentucky. February 23-25, 2006.

“J is for Justification by Reading: Caritas in J. Hillis Miller and Joseph Conrad.” J: Around the Work of J. Hillis Miller. University of California, Irvine. April 18-19, 2003.

“Derrida avec Levinas.” MLA 2000 Conference. Washington D.C. December 26-28, 2000.

Chair for panel “Literature and Ethics.” PAMLA 2000 Conference. University of California, Los Angeles. November 2000.

“Neither Enemy Nor Brother: Levinas’s Trace of the Other in Conrad’s *The Secret Sharer*.” PAMLA 1999 Conference. Portland, Oregon. November 5-7, 1999.

“The Fantastic as Entropy: E.T.A. Hoffmann’s *The Sandman* and the Role of Ambiguity in the Emergence of the Fantastic.” Charting Literary Anthropology: A Conference on the Work of Wolfgang Iser. University of California, Irvine. May 21-22, 1999.

“Virtual Personae: Shifting Identities of Students and Teachers on the Web,” as part of a roundtable discussion entitled “Everyday Users: Tactics of Visible Agency in the Electronic Community.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Annual Convention. Atlanta, Georgia. March 24-27, 1999

“Through the Looking Glass and the Performative World That Alice Found There.” The Lewis Carroll Phenomenon. The University of Cardiff, Wales. April 1-5, 1998.

## References

J. Hillis Miller, UCI Distinguished Research Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697

Jacques Derrida, Professor of French, Philosophy and Comparative Literature, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697. Letter on file.

Wolfgang Iser, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697. Letter on file.

Karen Lawrence, President, Sarah Lawrence College, 1 Media Way, Bronxville, NY 10708

Julia Reinhard Lupton, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697

Henry Sussman, Professor of Comparative Literature, SUNY-Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260-4610

Elizabeth Losh, Writing Director Humanities Core Course, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697